

# **St. Peter's-on-the-Rock**

## **Minutes of the 2021 Annual Vestry Meeting**

[These minutes remain in draft form until approved by the members at the 2022 Annual Vestry Meeting]

**Held August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at the Church**

Present: Ward Strickland, Senior Warden and Chair of the Meeting  
Attended by 15 additional members of the St. Peter's community

### **1. Welcome, Call to Order and Approval of the Agenda**

Ward Strickland offered words of welcome to all those present. The Agenda was accepted with the addition of a report from Sheila Gallagher on Inside Flowers.

### **2. Opening Prayer**

Rev. Matt McMillan provided an opening prayer for our meeting. Thank you, Matt!

### **3. Approval of Minutes of the 2020 Annual Vestry Meeting held virtually October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

MOTION: Mark Cooper      SECONDED: Sheila Gallagher      CARRIED.

### **4. Warden's Report**

Ward Strickland's full report on our progress this year is appended to these minutes at page 5.

### **5. Clergy Search Committee**

Ward Strickland provided a verbal update on this process. Rev. Matt McMillan will shortly conclude his term of four years (which was extended one year due to the pandemic) and must be replaced as August Minister in 2022. Rev. Don Aitchison has one more year on his lengthened term and must be replaced as July Minister in 2023.

A Selection committee composed of Ward, Carol Corner (Junior Warden) and Cindy Sibold (congregation member) has met several times to review potential candidates. We now have a short list of five, which will be reviewed with Bishop Shaw upon her return from vacation in September. Our Bishop may well add some names to that list, and then the Selection Committee will do outreach and interviews. It was suggested by a participant in the meeting that we give due consideration to diversity in making our selections.

### **6. Treasurer's Report**

Pat Bunting's full written report is appended to these minutes at page 9. This report provides a detailed summary of our financial situation, as well as rationale for expenses and revenues in the proposed 2022 budget. There was extensive, and at times heated, discussion from some of the meeting participants about

the status and management of the Endowment Fund. This fund is administered independently of the Wardens, and both Ron Drake and Mark Cooper (two members of the three-member Oversight Committee for the Endowment Fund) were present to respond to questions and concerns. Some members of the meeting also expressed concern that the financial statements did not reflect expenditures by account, but rather presented expenditures as a consolidated item.

A number of motions arose from Pat's report, as follows:

*Motion #1: That the 2020 financial statements issued by St. Peter's accountant Kevin A. Dunn CA be accepted as written, that future financial statements will reflect expenses incurred by account, and that the Treasurer will solicit quotes from three auditors, and recommend selection of a new auditor to the Wardens, no later than September 30, 2021.*

MOVED: Pat Bunting    SECONDED: Rachel Corbett    CARRIED.

*MOTION #2: That the 2022 St. Peter's General Operating Expense Budget be approved in the amount of \$33,500 with the condition that any funding requirements that exceed this amount will require the advance approval of the Wardens. Reports to provide budget status updates will be made to the Wardens on an ongoing basis.*

MOVED: Pat Bunting    SECONDED: Swatty Wotherspoon    CARRIED.

*MOTION #3: That \$1,000 be approved for the 2022 maintenance of the Memorial Garden, to be funded from the Memorial Account, and that any additional expenditures would require Wardens' approval.*

MOVED: Pat Bunting                      SECONDED: Rachel Corbett                      CARRIED.

*MOTION #4: That the capital budget for St. Peter's on-the-Rock for the year 2022 be approved in the amount of \$83,600, of which \$79,100 is to be funded from designated donations raised through fundraising, for the purposes of re-siding the Church and Clergy Cottage by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Reports providing fundraising and budget status updates will be made available to the Wardens on a regular Basis.*

MOVED: Pat Bunting                      SECONDED: Swatty Wotherspoon                      CARRIED.

## **7. Endowment Fund and Music Scholars Fund**

Mark Cooper and Ron Drake spoke to these two funds briefly.

The General Endowment Fund had a balance of \$142,124 on July 31, 2021. Over the previous year it has returned 24.08 percent and since its inception it has returned 10.49 percent. The fund pays a management fee of 1.25 percent.

The Music Scholar's fund had a balance of \$31,515 on July 31, 2021. Over the previous year it had earned 12.12 percent and since its inception it has earned 7.31 percent. This fund is a mutual fund and pays a management fee of 2.06 percent.

The Oversight Committee will be meeting shortly with the fund manager to review performance and future needs. Please note that the full reports on the two funds will shortly be made available through the St. Peter's web site in the section devoted to the Endowment Fund.

A member of the meeting queried whether the Oversight Committee could consider investing these funds in environmentally responsible investments. Mark and Ron said that this can be considered, although the main

goal is to maximize fund performance.

## **8. Physical Property**

The meeting engaged in general discussion on the immediate and long-term capital and maintenance needs of our island, Church and Clergy Cottage. The re-siding of the Church and Clergy Cottage is a high priority, and the Wardens provided the rationale to proceed with this work using AM Construction (Andrew McDermott). The re-siding work would include new pre-stained 'Maibec' cladding, new trim on all windows and doors, repair of door lintels and frames, and any needed repairs to the window shutters. The project will not result in any changes to the interior appearance of the church building. AM Construction has done a full scoping and costing for this project and has provided a budget estimate of \$79,100 which includes a comfortable contingency should it be required.

Andrew has been taking care of our recent capital needs, does opening and closing and dock work for us, and recently completed nearly identical cladding work for the Stony Lake Yacht Club. Fundraising will be necessary, and this appeal will begin immediately. The steeple also requires repair or replacement, and due to the metal roof, this can only be done safely using a lift or scaffold, so will be included as part of the siding project. The small boat dock will have minor repairs done in 2022, but entirely new decking will be needed in 2023 at a cost of approximately \$20,000.

There was unanimous agreement at the meeting to proceed with the re-siding project, and accompanying fundraising campaign, as presented by the Wardens.

## **9. Clergy Cottage**

June Cooper and Patty MacDonald provided a verbal report. The cottage has undergone extensive improvements over 2020 and 2021 and our Clergy have been very appreciative. There are still some items to be completed but overall, the Cottage is in better condition than it has ever been.

## **10. Secretary Report**

Rachel Corbett's full report on her activities as Secretary is appended to these minutes at page 13.

## **11. Director of Music Report**

Helen Batten's full report on her activities as Director of Music is appended to these minutes at page 15. The participants at the meeting expressed their great appreciation for the quality music that Helen has been able to produce despite all the restrictions imposed by Public Health and our Diocese.

## **12. Wedding Report**

Carol Corner's full report on 2022 weddings is appended to these minutes at page 16. It is looking to be a busy year for weddings!

### **13. Music Scholar's Report**

Bern Kelly's full report on his activities with this program in 2021 is appended to these minutes at page 17. Bern was thanked for the incredible work that he is doing keeping this program alive and thriving.

### **14. Report on Sunday School**

Betsy McGregor's full report on Sunday School is appended to these minutes at page 18.

### **15. Report on Alternative Worship**

Rachel Corbett's full report on Alternative Worship is appended to these minutes at page 20.

### **16. Report on Inside Flowers**

Sheila Gallagher's report on her work coordinating inside flowers is appended to these minutes at page 22. She is particularly concerned about communication with wedding parties as to their floral arrangements. Some weddings leave us flowers for the altar niches (much appreciated!), but these arrangements are not always suitable nor to the standard that we have established. Rachel and Carol noted that they will be revising the wedding package that goes out to prospective wedding parties, and this package will provide more clarity around floral arrangements. This matter requires further discussion between the Wardens and Sheila prior to next season.

### **17. Nominations to Vestry for 2022**

It is with great pleasure that the Wardens announce that **Aaron Thompson** has agreed to be Junior Warden in 2022. Welcome Aaron! Rachel also noted that some additional gaps need to be filled in our Vestry portfolios – these were not needed during the pandemic but will be required next season. Namely, a coordinator for coffee hour and a coordinator for readers. An idea is that the Sexton role could be expanded to include coffee and hospitality. In any event these gaps will need to be addressed prior to next summer.

*MOTION: That in 2022 St. Peter's on-the-Rock have a maximum of four signing officers for dealings with the Royal Bank, that all cheques have two signatures and that for 2022 the Past Warden Ward Strickland, the Senior Warden Carol Corner, the Junior Warden Aaron Thompson and the Treasurer Pat Bunting be the designated signing officers.*

MOVED: Pat Bunting

SECONDED: Swatty Wotherspoon      CARRIED.

### **18. Survey on Outreach Partners**

Meeting participants were asked to complete the brief survey included in their package. The survey is appended to these minutes at page 23. Survey results will be shared with the Wardens at a later time.

### **19. Adjournment**

Rachel Corbett moved that the meeting be adjourned.

# St. Peter's on-the-Rock

## Senior Warden's Report for 2021 Annual Vestry Meeting

Sunday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### INTRODUCTION

Greetings to everyone. It is with honour and humility that I serve as Senior Warden of St. Peter's on-the-Rock during this 108<sup>th</sup> year of building community, and furthermore that I am able to address this Annual Vestry Meeting in-person .... for the first time in two years.

I reflect happily on Sundays in 2019, when the church was full. We certainly had no idea what challenges were waiting for us headed into 2020. When I was approached by Tony Whittingham and Kathy McNeil to be Junior Warden, I gladly agreed as life at Stony and St. Peter's was pivotal in my youth.

St. Peter's is a church for all. Although operating within the Anglican Diocese of Toronto/Trent-Durham, we welcome everyone: the churched, the unchurched and those seeking a place of quiet reflection and spirituality. Many call St. Peter's **their only** church.

During these past two years of unprecedented challenge brought on by the global pandemic, we have tried our best to maintain our spiritual presence on the lake. This year, we were able to open our doors, which required finding a balance between exuberance and prudence, as we have had to respect medical guidelines and protocols. It has been quite the learning experience!

Taking everything into consideration, I am very pleased to report that our beloved St. Peter's on-the-Rock continues to be both financially and spiritually blessed. Everyone's tremendous generosity and dedication will secure our future viability.

Special thanks to this year's Executive, comprised of Junior Warden **Carol Corner**, Past Warden **June Cooper**, Treasurer **Pat Bunting** and Secretary **Rachel Corbett**, for your dedication and meaningful contributions.

### SUMMARY & OVERVIEW OF KEY ASPECTS OF OUR CHURCH

#### 1. CLERGY AND CHURCH FUNDAMENTALS

*"... on this rock I will build my church ..."* ~ Matthew 16:18

- ❖ We are blessed ... to have the ongoing wisdom and guidance of our Bishop of Trent-Durham, The Rt. Rev. **Ryscilla Shaw** who has generously supported our church via many 'ZOOM' meetings and phone calls over the past many months, assisting your Wardens with sometimes delicate navigation through turbulent waters. She 'has our backs'.

Bishop Ryscilla has shared our plans with other churches in the Diocese. Bishop Ryscilla has a special love for St. Peter's as you may remember, she was Clergy for us and it was during her tenure that she had the 'call' to serve as Bishop. St. Peter's is one of 57 parishes under her 'wing'.

- ❖ We are blessed ... to have been able to welcome back to St. Peter's, Maj. The Rev. Canon **Don Aitchison**, Chaplain at Trinity College School in Port Hope, as our July Clergy. We were delighted to welcome Don earlier this year as his time at St. Peter's was cut short in 2020, as he was called by the Canadian Armed Forces to assist in support of front line workers in the first wave of the pandemic. Don will be with us for the summer of 2022 as we have, with a nod from the Bishop, extended his term by one year. We are grateful for his imagination and spiritual contribution.
  
- ❖ We are blessed ... to have The Rev. **Matthew McMillan** and family with us this August of 2021 as we continue with our carefully measured church opening plans. Thank you for gracing us with your wisdom and guidance, and the special joy of having your wife Pam and children with you in Clergy Cottage. Alas, this is Matt's last year with us at St. Peter's on-the-Rock. Please come and bid a fond farewell to the McMillan family at our last summer service, to be held on September 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 hrs.
  
- ❖ We are now embarking on a search for a new person to serve as Clergy for St. Peter's in August of 2022. Your Clergy Search Committee, comprised of Carol Corner, Cindy Sibold, June Cooper and your Senior Warden has been active in its pursuit of a fitting candidate. Five names have been submitted to Bishop Ryscilla for her recommendations. Furthermore, we expect her to add one or two additional prospective candidates to our list. We will be reconnecting with our Bishop in early September. At that point, we will narrow the list and make personal approaches.

## 2. MUSIC & CULTURE

- ❖ We are blessed to have our Director of Music, **Helen Batten**, applying her professional musical talents on piano, organ and yes, on the bagpipes. In addition, Helen astutely plans each of our service musical offerings both virtually and now, in-person. Helen collaborates with our Clergy on an ongoing basis to ensure a flow between liturgy and music. Much gratitude, Helen!
  
- ❖ We are blessed to have Bern Kelly invested in heading up our musical outreach program, **St. Peter's Music Scholars** Program. Although we were not able to operate the program via live music in 2020, Bern has continued virtually and now, as we finally gather in-person, he is connecting us with bright young musicians. Thanks so much to **Don Walter** and family for initiating this program and providing continuing financial support.
  
- ❖ We continue to be blessed to have had other gifted musicians, including our beloved Fr. **Don Aitchison** on voice and keyboards, **Bruce Cole** on saxophone, **Bob Trennum** on piano and guitar, and my daughter, soprano **Morgan Strickland**. Thanks to all of you.
  
- ❖ We have been blessed in our success in securing funds to further facilitate our audio/video capabilities through the **Anglican Diocese Reach Grant**. Our pitch to the Diocese committee was successful. St. Peter's was awarded \$4,500 to purchase much needed technology. Thanks to our team and especially to Rachel Corbett for her crafting of our presentation, Fr. Matt for alerting us to the grant's availability and to

Bishop Ryscilla Shaw for her strong support.

### 3. FINANCES

- ❖ St. Peter's continues to be blessed by everyone's generosity. My personal gratitude to our donors who have supported our church throughout a challenging time is insufficient. With this in mind, I will defer to **Pat Bunting** as our dedicated Treasurer who will offer a comprehensive accounting of our financial position in his report to follow. The bottom line is that we are financially healthy. Thanks to many other volunteers and special donors who have happily stepped forward to assist.

### 4. CHURCH BUILDINGS & MAINTENANCE

- ❖ We are blessed to have many volunteers who quietly maintain our infrastructure at St. Peter's. Unfortunately, as COVID unraveled our normal routine and impacted so many businesses, we had to accept the departure of **Nathan Chambers**. Nathan dedicated himself selflessly to key requirements of church maintenance such as opening and closing, including docks being secured, as well as numerous on-going maintenance needs. Thank you, Nathan. In the meanwhile, your Wardens have elected to hire **Andrew McDermott** as a paid contractor to address the key elements of the property portfolio. Suffice to say, there have been no further volunteers to fill this required duty. Andrew is on the lake, has a love for St. Peter's, and delivers high quality work in a timely and cost-effective manner.
- ❖ We are blessed to have many volunteers who daily address the needs to keep our island beautiful and welcoming. Huge shout-outs to team St. Peter's, with special mentions to **Taylor Dalton**, our cheerful summer student and her mentor, **Rachel Corbett** for organizing her schedule which includes opening and closing the church daily, keeping the grounds and church tidy, performing minor maintenance and coordinating audio/video production. Thanks to **Martha Hunt** for exterior floral arrangements. And thanks to **Sheila Gallagher** for magnificent Sanctuary flower arrangements and coordination of donors.
- ❖ Other special property needs will be addressed separately in this meeting, such as the church and Clergy cottage siding deterioration and 'insurance to value' reassessment.

### 5. EMPHASIS ON CHILDREN & YOUTH

- ❖ It is of highest priority to the longevity of our beloved St. Peter's that full participation of children and youth be nurtured. We are grateful for the enthusiasm of **Betsy McGregor** in this period of not having Sunday School, as she has coordinated wonderful virtual presentations. St. Peter's future rests on our youth.

## 6. COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- ❖ St. Peter's continues to support our community in need by financially assisting our partners such as Camp Kawartha, the Diocese, Lakefield Community Food Bank, Kawartha Land Trust as well as one-time support of local community needs. We are blessed to have Carol Corner looking after weddings. We continue to have enquiries about baptisms, and this August a small, private baptism was conducted.

## 7. COMMUNICATIONS & SOCIAL MEDIA

- ❖ As a core element to engage more people and to increase awareness of St. Peter's on-the-Rock, we have expanded our digital presence substantially. My heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has contributed to this effort.

## 8. CLOSING REMARKS

There are many helping hands that have made this year a truly successful year at St. Peter's on-the-Rock. I have not mentioned numbers, nor have I mentioned everyone by name, but your devotion to this our spiritual home is truly appreciated.

Thank you for putting your trust in me and your **faith** in St. Peter's on-the-Rock.

Respectfully submitted,



Ward Strickland

Senior Warden 2021,  
St. Peter's on-the-Rock  
Stony Lake, Ontario.

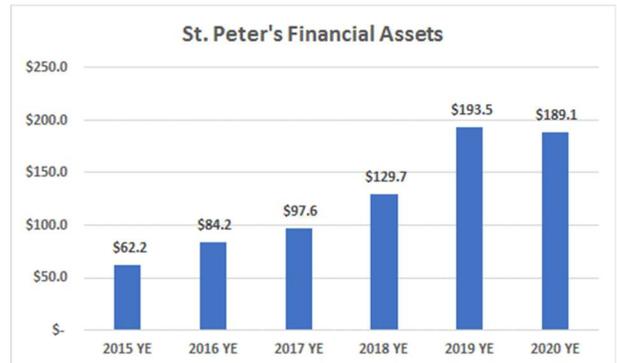
# Treasurer's Report – Pat Bunting

## St. Peter's Financial Statements for 2020

The 2020 statements, issued by Kevin A. Dunn, Chartered Accountants, as a separate copy, were shared with the meeting.

### Key Messages

- Statement of Financial Position Net Assets:
  - 2020 vs 2019 asset reduction attributed to a reduced year end cash balance reflecting vestry cottage capital expenditures.
- Statement of Change in Net Assets:
  - \$4.4K decrease 2020 vs. 2019 (-2%)
- Statement of Operations Donations & Investment Income:
  - 2020 overall revenue down \$46.9K versus 2019 (2019 included large endowment donations).
- 2020 General & Memorial Accounts revenue up 21% reflecting significant Memorial Account donations.



*To-date 2021 General + Memorial Revenue (received and committed, all mail in) in line with 2020 giving*

- Statement of Operations -Expenses:

- Total (all accounts) 2020 expenses were \$12.4k higher than 2019, reflecting expenses associated with capital budget related expenditures.



*MOTION: To move that the 2020 Financial Statements issued by St. Peter's accountant Kevin A. Dunn CA be accepted as written and that going forward, the report reflect expenses by account.*

### General Operating Expense Budget

#### 2019/2020/2021 General Operating Expenses

- 2020 General Operating Account expenses (HST in) favourable to budget with increases noted.
- A General 2021 Operating Expense budget (ex Memorial, ex Capital) of \$30.5K was approved with \$30.2 spent to-date.

ST. PETER'S ON-THE-ROCK GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSE SUMMARY						
	K\$	2019 Actual	2020 Budget	2020 Actual		
1	Church	\$ 12.5	\$ 13.3	\$ 11.6	Outreach up \$1.0K	
2	Administration	\$ 2.9	\$ 2.4	\$ 3.1	Accounting up \$0.8K	
3	Operating	\$ 5.3	\$ 5.3	\$ 6.3	Insurance up \$0.6K	
4	Property	\$ 8.9	\$ 7.5	\$ 4.4		
5	Cottage	\$ 2.3	\$ 0.2	\$ 1.3	Cleaning 0.7K	
<b>Annual Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 31.9</b>	<b>\$ 28.7</b>	<b>\$ 26.7</b>		
1	Coffee, maintenance, honoraria, outreach, printing					
2	Office supplies, newsletter, professional fees,					
3	Telephone, insurance, taxes, hydro					
4	Sexton, septic, plumbing, docks, boats, marina					
5	Maintenance, supplies, furniture, equipments, cleaning					

ST. PETER'S ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSE SUMMARY						
	K\$	2020 Actual	2021 Budget	2021 Actual (to-date)		2022 Budget Estimate
1	Church	\$ 11.6	\$ 13.3	\$ 10.9		\$ 14.3 Outreach +\$1.0
2	Administration	\$ 3.1	\$ 2.4	\$ 5.5	Communications equipment paid from Reach Grant	\$ 2.5
3	Operating	\$ 6.3	\$ 5.3	\$ 6.0	Insurance up \$1.6K	\$ 7.2 Insurance
4	Property	\$ 4.4	\$ 7.5	\$ 7.5	Sexton paid from Diocese grant	\$ 7.5
5	Cottage	\$ 1.3	\$ 2.0	\$ 0.3	Delta due cleaning, pest control	\$ 2.0
<b>Annual Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 26.7</b>	<b>\$ 30.5</b>	<b>\$ 30.2</b>		<b>\$ 33.5</b>

- A 2022 General Operating Expense budget of \$33,500 has been reviewed by the Wardens and is recommended for 2022 assuming a full return to normal.

*MOTION: To move that the 2022 St. Peter's General Operating Expense Budget be approved in the amount of \$33,500 with the condition that any funding requirements that exceed \$33,500 would require the advance approval of the Wardens. Reports to provide budget status updates will be made to the Wardens on an ongoing basis.*

### Memorial Account

- Ways to reduce annual maintenance costs of the memorial Garden are in place.

Memorial Budget Planned Expenditures	2019 Actual	2020 Budget	2020 Actual	2021 Budget	2021 Actual To-Date	2021 Budget Request
Memorial Garden Maintenance	\$ 2,293	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,659	\$ 2,000	\$ 791	\$ 1,000
Virtual Service			\$ 5,376		\$ 200	
Banking Fees			\$ 176		\$ 55	
	\$ 2,293	\$ 2,500	\$ 7,211	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,046	\$ 1,000

*MOTION: It is moved that \$1,000 be approved for the 2022 maintenance of the Memorial Garden, to be funded from the Memorial Account. Any additional expenditures would require Warden approval.*

### Capital Costs

#### 2018/2019/2020/2021/2023 Capital Costs

- 2020 Capital Costs favourable to budget

Capital Budget Planned Expenditures	Total 2020 Budget Allowance	2020 Actual	2021 Budget	2021 Added Scope	2021 Revised Budget	2021 Actual	2022 Budget Request	2023 Outlook				
Cottage furnishing & upgrades	\$ 10,000	\$ 11,474		\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000		\$ 4,000		Carry over from 2020/2021			
Decking small dock	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500		\$ 500		\$ 500	\$ 20,000				
Cottage washrooms, floors	\$ 2,000	\$ 4,000			\$ -							
Metal handrail replacing rope at church entrance	\$ -	\$ -			\$ -	\$ 12,430			Offset with major donation			
Church / Vestry Cottage Exterior	\$ -				\$ -		\$ 79,100		Maibec siding			
Contingency	\$ 7,500	\$ 2,944	\$ 4,500		\$ 4,500				Flooring, paint, UV sterilization system			
	\$ 20,000	\$ 18,918	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 12,430	\$ 83,600	\$ 20,000				

- 2021 Budget was revised to complete Vestry Cottage interior upgrades which have now been pushed to 2022.

- Metal church handrails costs fully offset by a major donation.

*MOTION: It is moved that the Capital Budget for St. Peter's on-the-Rock for the year 2022 be approved in the amount of \$83,600 of which \$79,100 to be funded from designated donations raised through fundraising. Reports providing fundraising and budget status updates will be made available to the Wardens on an ongoing basis.*

### **Signing Authority**

*MOTION: To move that in 2022 St. Peter's have a maximum of four signing officers for dealings with the Royal Bank, that all cheques have two signatures and that for 2022 the Past Warden Ward Strickland, Senior Warden Carol Connor, Junior Warden Aaron Thompson and the Treasurer Pat Bunting be the designated signing officers.*

# St. Peter's on-the-Rock Church

## Report of the Recording Secretary

Submitted by Rachel Corbett

I was elected to the position of Recording Secretary at the 2019 Annual Vestry Meeting and set out from that moment to focus my efforts on governance matters and record-keeping. As the global pandemic unfolded, we realized we had to better align our email address, social media accounts, web site and google drive so that we could more easily communicate with our Parish members, as well as store and provide easy access to important documents. Today our web site is quite comprehensive, and visitors can tap into governance and financial documents going back to 2016. We also have archived some interesting historical material on our web page.

Once the pandemic set in fully and it became evident that we would not be worshipping in the church for the summer of 2020, my role shifted as I volunteered to take on the novel and slightly overwhelming task of producing online/virtual worship services. That effort is documented in my lengthy report to the Annual Vestry Meeting last year. My efforts to deliver Alternative Worship drew me away from my intended focus on developing a 'governance guide' for Vestry, and related position descriptions so that we could better clarify the many roles, responsibilities and tasks that are necessary for the smooth functioning of our summer church.

We all know that most clouds have a silver lining. Without the dark cloud of the pandemic, we would not have enhanced our digital footprint, thus creating better channels for communication within our community. There is also a saying in organizational development that **'There is nothing like a crisis to clarify who does what'**. This also happened to us at St. Peter's: the pandemic was a major crisis and we quickly learned that to address it we had to be swift, nimble and clear on lines of authority. This involved returning to the foundations of our organizational structure (the Canons of the Anglican Church of Canada) and communicating regularly with our Area Bishop, Riscylla Shaw. What emerged from this exploration was the understanding that our three Wardens, and they alone, have full authority over the operations of St. Peter's, subject only to any higher authority exercised by our Bishop or by the larger Diocese.

Our journey through the pandemic was thus guided by our three Wardens (June Cooper, Ward Strickland and Tony Whittingham in 2020, joined by Carol Corner in 2021 as Tony, our former Past-Warden, moved off the cycle). They received support from our Treasurer and from me, as Recording Secretary. As a group, the five of us assumed the mantle of 'Executive Committee', as provided for in the Canons. The term 'Select Vestry' was dropped as there is no provision for such a distinction in the Canons. The simple term 'Vestry' is used instead and is consistent with other parishes. We also removed our Director of Music (Helen Batten) from Vestry, as it represented a conflict of interest for her to be both a paid contractor and a volunteer leader within the parish. (It should be noted that Helen was quite happy with this change).

From a governance perspective, the volunteers at St. Peter's remain very active and dedicated to strong leadership of our affairs. Over the course of 2020, the Executive Committee met 18 times. So far this year, the Executive Committee has met nine times and will meet several more times as we work on Clergy recruitment for future years, filling vacancies in Vestry portfolios, refining job descriptions for all volunteers, and planning a major capital campaign. Notes from the Executive Committee meetings are regularly shared with all members of Vestry, thus ensuring full transparency in our decisions and actions.

Looking forward it is my hope that I can once again become simply a 'Recording Secretary', with a mandate to support our Wardens in their goal of ensuring St. Peter's on-the-Rock functions smoothly and successfully, and to support our members of Vestry in the performance of their respective duties.

*Rachel Corbett, August 12th, 2021*

# St. Peter's on-the-Rock

## Music Report

### 2021 Annual Vestry Meeting

August 2021

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- Our Phoenix digital pipe organ is in its 18<sup>th</sup> year of service and is in excellent condition. No service visit was required this year.
- Our Technics electronic piano is in its 11<sup>th</sup> year of service and is in excellent condition.

Continuing from last year's pattern of providing pre-recorded services online, in the absence of in-person services the summer started with the first on the May long weekend. July's services were also online. The first in-person family service was held on August 1<sup>st</sup>.

Pandemic protocols include having only one person singing in the church at a time, without a mask, physically distanced from anyone else. Everyone in the congregation must wear a mask.

Without regular congregational hymn singing, and respecting that everyone is wearing a mask, the format of the services was shortened. To have the semblance of congregational signing, several strong singers were invited (and graciously accepted) to lead the hymns from the front of the church, with only one person at a time with their mask off. Many thanks to the following people for their terrific voices and willingness to help lead the hymns:

*Don Aitchison, Reid Brownscombe, Ron Drake, Phil Hunt, Bern Kelly, Ward Strickland, Tony Whittingham*

And our utmost appreciation goes out to all musicians who participated in our services this summer:

*Bruce Cole, saxophone  
Rachel Corbett, music producer  
Taylor Dalton, piano  
Bethany Duketow, piano  
Tina Moore, trumpet  
Millie Shadgett, fiddle  
Murray Shadgett, guitar  
Morgan Strickland, voice  
Bob Trennum, guitar & voice*

#### End of Report

With hope for a more 'normal' year in 2022!

Helen Batten

Organist, piper

# St. Peter's on-the-Rock Church

## Wedding Report 2021

Submitted by Carol Corner

In 2021 we had 12 weddings booked. Due to COVID-19, seven re-booked to 2022. One had a home wedding and one chose a different location. In the end only three weddings will take place at the church this year.

We have eight weddings booked for the summer of 2022. They are as follows:

- Saturday June 25<sup>th</sup>
- Saturday July 9<sup>th</sup>, rehearsal Friday July 8<sup>th</sup> \*
- Saturday July 16<sup>th</sup>, rehearsal Friday July 15<sup>th</sup>
- Friday July 22<sup>nd</sup>, rehearsal Wednesday July 20<sup>th</sup> \*
- Saturday July 30<sup>th</sup>, rehearsal Friday 29<sup>th</sup> \*
- Saturday August 6<sup>th</sup>, rehearsal Friday 5<sup>th</sup> \*
- Saturday August 20<sup>th</sup>, rehearsal Friday 19<sup>th</sup> \*
- Saturday September 3<sup>rd</sup>, rehearsal Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> \*

\* These weddings require the organ, and I will connect Helen with each couple.

# **St. Peter's on-the-Rock**

## **Report on the Music Scholars Program**

Submitted by Bern Kelly

August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021

The St. Peter's Music Scholars Program was the idea of **Don** and the late **Margaret Walter**. Its intention is to inspire musical youth by providing them with the opportunity to perform for a diverse audience while enriching our worship and supporting outreach.

This year we have had two participants in our program:

August 15<sup>th</sup> - **Bethany Duketow** of Lakefield performed 'How Great Thou Art' on piano. Bethany comes from a large and very talented family. Bethany started playing piano when she was very young, and recently completed her Level 10 Practical Piano exam through the Royal Conservatory of Music. Bethany has performed many times at festivals and at her church in Lakefield.

August 22<sup>nd</sup> - **Tina Moore** of Peterborough performed 'Be Thou My Vision' on trumpet, in an arrangement by James Curnow. Helen Batten accompanied Tina on piano. Tina has always had a passion for music from a very young age, and when it came to choosing an education path Tina was drawn to music. Tina has performed for the Queens University Wind Ensemble, Symphony Orchestra and Queens Musical Theater. She plans on pursuing her master's degree in music.

The summer 2021 participants Tina Moore and Bethany Duketow will be considered for the single \$500.00 scholarship, which will be announced shortly.

We are also fortunate to have two former Music Scholars perform for us this year:

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, in our virtual service, we heard **Taylor Dalton** perform a solo piano piece by Felix Mendelssohn, 'Andante Sostenuto'. In addition to her musical interests and talents, Taylor has also been our employee this summer, working with St. Peter's on audio-visual production and serving in the role of Sexton, responsible for the care of the church grounds and buildings, including daily opening and closing.

On August 29<sup>th</sup>, **Millie Shadgett** returned to perform on fiddle. Millie goes by the stage name of 'Irish Millie' and in a CBC interview said she got her inspiration from a square dance she attended at Juniper Island with her family when she was three years old. She recounted seeing the Leahys perform and was completely caught up in the performance and the music.

The Committee for this program consists of **Blair Mackenzie, Bob Trennum, Tony Whittingham** and Chairperson **Bern Kelly**.

If you know of any students who you think might be interested in this opportunity, please suggest it to them and encourage them to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Bern Kelly ([bernkelly2222@gmail.com](mailto:bernkelly2222@gmail.com))

## **St. Peter's on-the-Rock**

### **Sunday School Report 2020-2021**

Dr. Betsy McGregor, Leader of the Sunday School Team

#### **COVID Summers 2020/2021 & Sunday School**

In the Summer of 2020, Sunday School pivoted with the Executive Committee in the lead, to contribute an ongoing presence of young children in our church. To illustrate our church commitment to children a small group of us put together a Sunday School clip for inclusion in the virtual services of the Summer of 2020.

Simultaneously, I worked with June Cooper, then Warden of St. Peter's, and her committee focused on the design of the church cottage to better accommodate the lessons and arts and crafts of Sunday School. This Summer of 2021, Sunday School recordings were filmed by Taylor and incorporated into two of the four July virtual services offered online.

In the first week of August 2021, as St. Peter's transitioned from online to in-person services, I attended the 10:30 am August 8<sup>th</sup> August. Those present, signed in, wore masks and sat rows apart. Still, children remain unvaccinated, and Sunday School is not scheduled for this Summer.

This pause is permitting time to plan for the new Sunday School space in the cottage. June Cooper and I took a tour of the cottage and discussed equipment for children Sunday School inside and outside including new picnic tables to be placed outside at the "refreshment" coffee table area under umbrellas. Also, inside, tables and little chairs, a TV monitor and stand, fans in the room and a full screen door are among items under consideration. Sufficient budget will need to be allocated to achieve the vision for children in their Sunday School space.

Looking forward to Summer 2022 and the new additional vision of giving each child a children's Bible as a gift to be taken back to the Lake from St. Peter's on-the-Rock.

*Betsy McGregor*

*(705) 772-0621*



# St. Peter's on-the-Rock Church

## Report on our Alternative Worship Program

Submitted by Rachel Corbett

As 2020 rolled into 2021, the Executive Committee (made up of the three Wardens, supported by our Treasurer and by me, our Recording Secretary) looked ahead with a strategy of 'expect the worst' and 'hope for the best'. The worst would be a repeat of last year, where we were not allowed into our church, and we would instead broadcast virtual services on our YouTube channel. The best would be permission to enter our island church building and offer in-person worship with masks and social distancing. In our hearts we knew we would land somewhere in between – and that is what happened!

To prepare for our 2021 Alternative Worship program, we pursued additional resources in the form of a Diocese grant for updated audio-visual equipment, and a Canada Summer Jobs grant to enable us to hire a young person for the summer. This is in contrast to last year, when our Alternative Worship program was financed by memorial contributions from our Parish members. Through the efforts of myself, Ward Strickland and Carol Corner, we were successful in winning both grants! Our jobs grant was \$3,865 and our Diocese grant was \$4,500.

Many of you will have met **Taylor Dalton**, our summer employee. She is a former St. Peter's Music Scholar and is active on the lake in the sailing program of the SLYC. Under my guidance and with the support of a large cast (see below), she put together five quality online services. She has also carried out the role of 'Sexton' with the us, which entails opening and closing the church daily, assisting as required with weddings, taking care of flowers and the island grounds, and doing painting, varnishing and other maintenance work on the island.

In total, six online services were prepared this year, as we also did a 'season opener' on the May 24<sup>th</sup> holiday weekend. This video was compiled by our videographer from last year, Emily Schnurr from Upper Stoney, and for her services we provided her with an honorarium. For the balance of services led by Rev. Matt, we are also preparing mini-videos featuring the lesson, the sermon and musical performances. It is also possible that we will decide to prepare a full online service for Thanksgiving, as well as in-person service, although this remains to be decided.

Unlike last year, we were permitted to film in the church this year, and we were also permitted to open the church to visitors (although not to do services, initially). As July moved on and some restrictions were lifted, we devised a strategy for a 'soft-opening' of St. Peter's (or in sport parlance, in recognition of the Tokyo Olympic Games that were underway, a 'test event'). Under Rev. Don's guidance, early services were offered on July 18<sup>th</sup> and July 25<sup>th</sup>. Then, after submitting all the required paperwork to our Bishop, we opened for a family service on August 1<sup>st</sup> ... the first 10:30 service since Thanksgiving 2019.

This was an emotional day for all concerned. Attendance was light, in part due to weather (36 participants) but it has grown steadily since that day. Mask-wearing is mandatory, as is social distancing and a sign-up sheet, but Rev. Matt reminds us that we are best-ventilated parish in the entire Diocese of Toronto!

I would like to thank the following 39 people who stepped up to be a part of our Alternative Worship program this year:

*Don Aitchison, James Aitchison, Helen Batten, Emma Bothwell, Kevin Bothwell, Leslie Bothwell, Reid Brownscombe, Chris Bunting, Bruce Cole, Carol Corner, Katharine Dalton, Taylor Dalton, Diane Faulkner, Lauren Faulkner, Mac Faulkner, Mae Faulkner, David Hubbs, Jackie Hubbs, Spencer Hubbs, Phil Hunt, Bern Kelly, Janie Kelly, Caitlyn Levere, Emily Levere, Betsy McGregor, Matt McMillan, Riscylla Shaw, Cindy Sibold, Heather Stelzer, Hans Stelzer, Ward Strickland, John Sloane, Chad Tranter, Judy Tranter, Aaron Thompson, Molly Thompson, Olivia Thompson, Bob Trennum, Helen Ziomecki and Jasper the dog.*

# St. Peter's on-the-Rock

## Report on Outside Flowers

Submitted by Sheila Gallagher

August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021

It seems I have been the designated 'flower girl' for St. Peter's inside arrangements now for about 16 years. Over that time, it has become more difficult to secure commitments from our parishioners to volunteer their artful inputs.

This is due to several issues:

- Our devoted parishioners and fellow cottagers have weekend guest and family commitments and often participation in weekend lake activities...much of this frequently being last minute. On top of that there can be weather issues, boat uncertainties and not of least importance, the timely sourcing of appropriate fresh flower material.
- You may think all of the above somewhat irrelevant and easy to overcome but with most volunteers (myself included) aging gracefully and with very few of the next generation stepping forward, considerable prodding is necessary of our existing helpful & faithful standbys to commit much ahead of time.

### The Process:

In addition to the install process, there are certain preferred and outlined requirements/requests we encourage our volunteers to follow. For those few who aren't familiar with this I communicate the requests/standards via email well in advance.

Our installations must take place on the Saturday to be ready for the Sunday services.

When weddings are booked which are most often on the Saturday, the flower co-ordinator must be advised of the names of the bride and groom along with their emails and all contact numbers in order to determine & confirm their plans or otherwise for flowers for their ceremonies. This is necessary to determine their exact timing of rehearsals (which has been known to change) as well as their actual services and what they are planning on leaving, if anything, in the way of decor.

Furthermore, in relation to whether they plan on offering to leave flowers after their ceremony due to their flower preferences vs. our preferred framework and guidance, some results have proven to be unacceptable and not in keeping with our standards.

In summary, we need to have some control/determination to satisfy our parishioners' expectations. This can only be accomplished by my direct communication with the participants. It is also imperative that the Sexton be advised/requested to remove by the Wednesday (following each Sunday service) what remains in the niche vases, rinse and wipe out the vases in preparation for the next installation.

In that there are several weddings booked for 2022 it is imperative that a plan be formulated to coordinate with the wedding participants to streamline the process.

I look forward to suggestions.



## PARISH SURVEY ON OUTREACH PARTNERS

August 29, 2021

St. Peter's on-the-Rock supports several local charities. There is a core group of outreach partners that we support on a yearly basis, and occasionally we make a contribution that is warranted by a special need or circumstance.

For example, in 2019 we supported **'Wounded Warriors Canada'** in recognition of the work of first responders following the boating tragedy on Young's Bay that took two lives. In 2020 we supported **'Sayers Grocery Store'** in Apsley, which burned to the ground, leaving a large rural community without any full-service grocery store. And in both 2020 and 2021 we supported the **'Kawartha Land Trust'** in recognition of the newly-protected Christie Bentham Wetland and other environmental initiatives.

Our core outreach partners evolve over time. Currently, we are seeking Parish input on our charitable giving. For each of the core partners below, please rank them according to priority where a '1' means high priority and a '3' means low priority. We have also left room for you to suggest any other charitable causes that we might consider supporting in the future. All ideas are welcomed!

### CORE OUTREACH PARTNERS

Faithworks (Diocese of Toronto) – typical gift is \$2,500 Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Lakefield Community Food Bank – typical gift is \$500 Rank \_\_\_\_\_

Camp Kawartha – typical gift is \$2,500 Rank \_\_\_\_\_

### OTHER SUGGESTIONS

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### FURTHER COMMENTS?

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