

VESTRY REPORTS FOR THE YEAR 2017



**St. Matthew**  
**the Apostle Oriole**  
Anglican Church

80 George Henry Blvd.  
North York, ON M2J 1E7

[www.stmatthew.ca](http://www.stmatthew.ca)

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING  
on  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2018  
at  
11:30 a.m.  
Fellowship Hall  
(Following the 10:00 a.m. Eucharist)

*Please bring this report with you to the meeting.*

# Vestry - Year 2017

## A Look Back



## Vestry - Year 2017

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| <b>AGENDA</b> |
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1. Welcome and Opening Prayer
2. Appointment of Vestry Clerk
3. Approval of the Minutes of the 2017 Annual Vestry Meeting held on February 26, 2017
4. Approval of the Minutes of the 2017 Special Vestry Meeting held on March 26, 2017
5. Pastoral Letter from Archbishop Johnson
6. Pastoral Letter from Bishop Robertson
7. Incumbent's Report
8. Churchwardens' Report
9. Archdeacon's Report
10. Financial Report for 2017
11. Envelope Secretary's Report
12. Appointments and Elections
13. Parochial Reports
14. Presentation and Approval of 2018 Budget
15. General Business
16. Adjournment
17. Closing Prayer

# Vestry - Year 2017

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**Minutes of the 2017 Annual Vestry Meeting**  
**St. Matthew the Apostle-Oriole Anglican Church,**  
**Sunday, February 26, 2017**

1) The annual Vestry meeting was called to order at 11.45 a.m. by the Rev. Lisa Newland.

2) Attendees were welcomed and thanks were extended to Margaret (Allen) and her team for providing lunch. Rev. Lisa then opened the meeting with a prayer.

Rev. Lisa noted that the new sound system was installed yesterday and that a mounted projector has also been installed. It is anticipated that work will commence in the Sanctuary this week and that the work will be complete by Easter.

3) Rev. Lisa moved a motion to appoint Angela Braund as Vestry Clerk. **Carried**

4) Approval of the Minutes of February 28, 2016.

The minutes and Vestry reports were circulated prior to the meeting. Rev. Lisa asked if there were any corrections to the 2016 Vestry report.

- Page 6 should read “Bishop Yu shared much of this...”

A motion to accept the minutes moved by Peter Holleley and seconded by Ray James. **Carried**

### 5) Archbishop Colin Johnson’s Pastoral Letter to Vestries.

The letter was included with the Vestry report (*page 16-17*) Rev. Lisa highlighted the major themes:

- 3 New Bishops
- Work on the new strategic plan “Growing in Christ” and 5 priorities that were identified
- Synod made the first step towards amending the Marriage Canon.

### 6) Bishop Kevin Robertson’s Letter to Vestry

The letter was included with the Vestry report (*page 17-18*) and was read by Rev. Lisa.

### 7) Incumbent’s Report & Parish Statistics (*page 20-24*) - Rev. Lisa Newland

Rev. Lisa noted that despite challenges we have seen God at work through stewardship, the Sunday School and nursery, raising funds for refugee sponsorship and our own education around First Nations issues, the Good Food Market and Parish Ministries.

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The new website is a work in progress and we have met to talk about the Montessori School lease not being renewed after 2017.

Rev. Lisa thanked everyone for their ministry and faithfulness.

Questions were invited and focused on the statistics. Lloyd Leonard asked about the average Sunday attendance which increased by 1 to 87 in 2016. Rev. Lisa responded that this figure includes the three services on Sunday and extra services but not Weddings and Funerals.

Ray James asked if information about Finances appearing in the bulletin. Rev. Lisa noted that numbers are still pending and that this will continue.

Bill Found thanked Rev. Lisa for all her efforts, generating an enthusiastic round of applause.

### **8) Wardens' Report** (*page 25-26*)

Clifford Wong, Rector's Warden, noted that the Warden's report was a synopsis of the year and thanked everyone who assists in these ministries. Questions were invited.

Peter Hollely asked if there were regrets from the other folks listed but are not in attendance today? Rev. Lisa responded that regrets were received from Val Seales and Raine Liliefeldt, who are both away. This was duly noted.

Sign-in sheets confirm the presence of Margaret Gordon-Allen, Kakra Winful and Norma Walker-Roberts.

Cliff asked for a motion to accept the report, this was moved by Kakra Winful and seconded by Peter Hollely. **Carried**

### **9) Deacon's Report** (*page 27*) – **Rev. Kyn Barker**

Deacon Kyn reminded Vestry of our Baptismal promise noting that many were busy volunteering in the community and church, letting their lights shine. St. Matthew's works in partnership with the community.

Father John Wilton noted that we are blessed to have Kyn, resulting in another round of applause.

A motion to accept the report was moved by Lesley Huether, seconded by Margaret Gordon-Allen. **Carried**

### **10) Financial Report for 2016 – Cliff Wong**

The Auditor's report was circulated at the start of the meeting. The bank balance was \$137,162 at the end of 2016. Cliff drew attention to the following items:

- No more funds are due from Our Faith Our Hope (OFOH)
- Memorials are up
- Capital Reserves down
- Parking Lot Fund has been established.

### **Income**

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In anticipation of questions surrounding the various components of the budget Cliff gave an overview of the income sources and what the funds include.

Special funds:

- Deacon's discretionary funds (left by Father Brad) for the Deacon's use.
- Music – donation given by a parish family for the organist's use.
- Accessibility – donations from congregation
- Special Donations – not designated
- Communication – Diocese funding
- Rectory Basement Fund - \$100 remaining
- Fort McMurray – to go to PRDWF
- Refugee Fund - \$4382 as of December 31, 2016

Ray James asked if the special donations could be used for anything? Cliff responded that it's customary to go to the family to ask if they approve of the planned use – we don't want to use these funds for building maintenance.

Donna Lam asked what happens if the family cannot be located? Rev. Lisa noted that if the family or estate makes an undesignated donation there is a conversation at this time and we let them know how their loved one will be honoured. She added that smaller donations may be used for ongoing expenses.

General Funds include maintenance and operations expenses. Cliff used a graph to illustrate how we worked our way out of the 2012/2013 deficit years.

Cliff noted that our income from envelopes and licensing fees in 2016, reminding Vestry that licensing fees can not exceed 30% of the total income. However, expenses, property costs and the Diocesan assessment also increased in 2016.

Margaret Gordon-Allen asked what caused the increased costs? Cliff responded that property costs, most notably maintenance and a \$24K hydro bill (resulting from the meter not being read) were the main reason for the increase over 2015.

Ray James asked why the meter was not read? Cliff responded that the electronic meter was defective, adding that they were able to get the amount reduced to \$14K and that this was paid over 3 months without incurring interest.

Rev. Kyn Barker noted that the Diocesan Assessment was \$5K higher. Cliff explained that the assessment is based on the church income, licensing fees are taxed at a higher rate, there are some expenses, such as clergy salary which are deducted but maintenance costs are not deducted. He added that we have no control over this and that our assessment is likely to increase in 2017.

Anne Creighton asked if the assessment for licensing and envelope income is different? Cliff confirmed this is correct. He added that the envelope income is a combination of what is donated through the website in addition to envelope giving.



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Fundraising income decreased again in 2016. This needs to be reviewed seriously.

Cliff also noted that the income from the Clothing Sale will not be a source of income in 2017 as this ministry has concluded. He also reminded Vestry that York Rectory Funds are a historic fund from the Diocese.

Anne Creighton asked if we lose money on the license income and if there are concerns about the impact of the loss of the income from the Montessori School? Cliff responded that he will answer this later.

### **Expenses**

Property Costs were \$92,498

Diocesan Assessment \$36,561 Rev. Kyn noted that \$5,831 was fund raised.

Cliff noted that the Montessori School paid \$32.9K last year after all expenses were deducted the church received \$11K. This was after a 12% increase in fees were approved. Further discussion was deferred to General Business.

Peter Hollely asked what has to happen to repave the parking lot. Cliff responded that the estimated cost is \$120K. A Parking Lot Fund has been created and Advisory Board and the Wardens have agreed that all fees from parking will be designated to this fund.

Cliff moved a motion to accept the 2016 financial report, this was seconded by Peter Holleley. **Carried**

### **10) Financial Report for 2016 – Virendra Singh**

Virendra noted that the only concern with the Auditor's report was the reclassification of some funds, such as the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary funds being moved from "special" to "general" funds. Our operating income in 2015 was greater than our expenses so we are now in the "black".

Virendra drew attention to the following:

- Surplus increased to \$6.1K in 2015
- Income – all budgets were met except for fundraising and open offerings.
- Property costs were less than in 2014, but still above budget.
- Outreach recipients were listed on the screen presentation.
- Envelopes, licensees and open offerings are our main sources of income.

Delores Lawrence asked if the 4% increase in utilities (electricity) has been passed in to the licensees? Virendra responded that the licensees (renters) have all accepted a 5-12% increase. This discussion will be held at this point of the meeting since it pertains to the 2016 budget.

Rev. Lisa asked for a motion to accept the 2015 Financial Report. This was moved by Jane Couchman and seconded by Glen Bishop. **Carried**

Rev. Lisa extended thanks to Gordon Mount our Auditor.



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### **11) Envelope Secretary's Report (page 34) – Patrick Allen**

Patrick noted that the line for on-line donors is new – there were 3. Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) payments account for 42% in 2016. The decrease in weekly envelopes is offset by an increase in monthly envelopes. The average weekly donation is \$24.

He also noted that the Projection noted on page 34 should be for 2017.

So far there have been two on-line donations in 2017. Cliff asked if they were new donors. Patrick could not confirm.

Ray James and Anne Creighton has questions about on-line donations. Patrick advised that Canada Helps gets 2% of the donation, noting that there is also a charge for PAR. Donna Lam added that the PAR cost is 50 cents per payment.

It was also noted that the envelopes cost \$600 to \$700 per year, which is about \$5 per set.

Brian Edmonds asked what is the best way to donate. Patrick responded on-line is easier to process noting there are some challenges with envelopes.

Father John suggested this be investigated. Rev. Lisa noted that PAR helps develop consistency.

A motion to accept the report was moved by Patrick Allen seconded by Peter Holleley. **Carried**

### **12) Nominations and Appointments**

Rev. Lisa drew Vestry's attention to the list of Nominations and Appointments on page 44 of the report. She asked if there were any further nominations.

Lloyd Leonard asked about the function of the Parish Tribunal. They ensure that registration, ballots and voting are carried out in observance of the canons.

Wendy Blatchford noted that Janice Sanders name is spelt incorrectly twice under nominations. Rev. Lisa confirmed that Archivist is an appointment and the correction was noted.

Rev Lisa asked for a motion to accept the officers presented. Peter Holleley moved the motion, Brian & Helen Edmonds seconded. **Carried**

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## Parish Officers 2017

### Elected Positions:

|                                 |                       |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Peoples Warden                  | Margaret Gordon-Allen |
| Deputy Warden                   | Norma Walker-Roberts  |
| Deputy Warden                   | Kakra Winful          |
| Deputy Warden                   | Raine Liliefeldt      |
| Vestry Clerk                    | Angela Braund         |
| Member of Synod (1)             | Delores Lawrence      |
| Alternate Member of Synod       | Steve O'Keefe         |
| Envelope Secretary              | Shyamal Ray           |
| Auditor                         | Gord Mount            |
| Property Managers               | Elan Seales           |
|                                 | Robbie Roberts        |
| Parish Tribunal                 | Brian Edmonds         |
|                                 | Helen Edmonds         |
| Fundraising Coordinators        | Donna Lam             |
|                                 | Devon Physick         |
| Hospitality                     | Valerie Seales        |
|                                 | Margaret Allen        |
| Outreach Co-chairs              | Deacon Kyn Barker     |
|                                 | Anne Creighton        |
| Sidespersons Chair (8:00 a.m.)  | Roland Wood           |
| Sidespersons Chair (10:00 a.m.) | Valerie Seales        |

### Positions Appointed by the Incumbent:

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Rectors Warden                    | Valerie Seales                                  |
| Treasurer                         | Patrick Allen                                   |
| Archivist                         | Janice Sanders                                  |
| Screening Coordinator             | Janice Sanders                                  |
| Church School                     | Susan Porter                                    |
| Nursery                           | Diane Wilton                                    |
| Custodian                         | Elan Seales                                     |
| Advisory Board - Members at Large | Claudette Blake                                 |
|                                   | Nigel Jansz                                     |
|                                   | Sherry Jansz                                    |
| Altar Guild                       | Wendy Blatchford – appointed by the Altar Guild |

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### **13) Parochial Reports** (pages 28-42)

Rev. Lisa invited questions and comments on any of the reports.

Lesley Huether spoke regarding the community clothing sale, noting that the decision to end this ministry was bitter-sweet. Although the sales work was completed on November 27, there was a lot of other work to be done. Clothing was distributed to other charitable organizations and the books went to the Church of the Incarnation. Racks and the majority of the hangers were given to Geoff Newland for projects with the Pinball Clemons Foundation/ Children's Aid. The racks and cupboards in the clothing sale room were dismantled. Christmas items were given to Value Village, kitchenware went to the kitchen and children's clothing went a shelter.

A motion to move the reports as written was moved by Wendy Blatchford, seconded by Bill Found. **Carried**

### **14) Presentation of the 2017 Budget – Clifford Wong**

Hard copies will be distributed later. The figures were presented on the screen.

Cliff proposed that the operating budget will be increased to \$263.1K, which represents a 1.5% increase on last year and that our income be increased to \$267.1K, which is a 1.4% increase.

These figures reflect the anticipated increases in personnel costs and the parish assessment as well as ensuring there is increased funding for worship and parish education for both children and adults.

The goal is to increase our income by \$4K. Cliff noted that income from fundraising has declined from \$17.7K in 2006 to \$9.4K in 2016, so the fundraising budget had been cut by \$6K. To offset this, we hope to increase envelope givings to \$153.9K. It must also be noted that there will be no income from clothing sales in 2017.

Joe Smith noted that there could be less income from the Montessori school if the move out in June 2017. Cliff responded that the projection is based on them staying until the end of the lease (December 2017) however, if they do leave there will be an immediate cost saving in costs (electricity, water, cleaning etc.)

Ray James asked if additional work was needed to the Rectory Basement. Cliff responded that this was complete, however, the deck still needs some work and the Parish has offered some help with this.

Felicia Roberts asked if the Montessori school leaves in June are they required to pay until the end of their lease? Cliff confirmed that 2 months of notice is required, noting that if they did opt to leave before December 31, 2017 we would allow them to do this without penalty. Dennis Chalmers asked for further clarification on the impact. Cliff referred to the analysis that was completed confirmed that we are not making much money – the shortfall from 6 months less income would be \$4K, but we would have the space back as well as reduced expenses.

Cliff again apologized for the lack of hard copies of the 2017 budget. He moved a motion to accept the 2017 budget. Veda Lindsay seconded. Carried.

Cliff thanked Vestry for its support.

### **15) General Business**

Two motions were put to Vestry:

#### **Truth and Reconciliation Motion 2017 – Continuing the Call for Reconciliation**

Deacon Kyn Barker introduced the motion, which comes from the Diocese and was moved by Bill Found (page 43 of Vestry Report for 2016)

“We, the vestry of St. Matthew the Apostle, Oriole commit ourselves to work to implement the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. As part of this effort, we call on the Government of Canada’s commitment to address the Call to action #43: to fully adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the framework for reconciliation. In particular, we call upon the Government of Canada to immediately develop policies requiring free, prior and informed consent be obtained from Indigenous communities in Canada and abroad with respect to developments affecting their lands and resources, as outlined in Articles 10, 19 and 32 of the Declaration.”

Bill read the motion and noted that this year’s motion is more aspirational since we are not telling the Government how to do this. The motion addresses the fact that there is no formal way of dealing with this matter. This motion aims to reverse the trend and encourage consultation with Indigenous people.

Anne Creighton noted that this affects both land and resources. While there has been some treaty protection in place since the 1812 war, the current treaties do not always benefit First Nations people, so free, prior and informed consent does not seem like a lot to ask.

Lloyd Leonard expressed a different viewpoint citing his experience growing up in Northern Ontario, where Article 10, which concerns not forcing Indigenous people off their lands, resulting in many temporary relocations due to the constant flooding of their land. Non-aboriginals could be forced to relocate permanently. He stated that he believes that reconciliation should take place and recognizes that Indigenous people have been taken advantage of and not always been treated fairly, he can’t support this motion.

Dennis Chalmers also stated that he agrees with Lloyd. While acknowledging bad things have happened, this motion is too vague.

Delores Lawrence asked how many people are aware of Articles 10, 19 and 32? It was stated that some people have read the articles and that Rev. Kyn Barker has copies. Delores suggested the motion be deferred until people can make an informed decision.

Bill Found acknowledged the situation is complicated. The motion is about land next to treaty lands, where industrial activity could have an impact upstream could affect the Reserves. There are no procedures in place to deal with this. The UN has not stated the case clearly, making a gap that is difficult to deal with.

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Delores Lawrence asked if there was anyone willing to second a motion to defer this. Peter Holleley indicated he would second this motion.

Janice Sanders asked what will happen if the motion is deferred, noting that if the motion is deferred we have to take action to ensure that people are informed.

Delores Lawrence moved a motion to defer the motion, as presented, for 30 days for further education. Peter Holleley seconded.

This motion was carried with 21 in favour and 10 opposed.

It was noted that the time will be taken seriously with a workshop to educate Vestry.

Andrew Barker asked if there was a church policy regarding the posting of motions. Rev. Lisa confirm that there was not a canon concerning this, but it could be taken to Advisory Board.

It was agreed that we need to clarify what land the motion includes and that the motion, plus links to the resources and UN Articles should be posted on the website. It was also noted that this motion came from the Diocese.

Father John Wilton reminded Vestry that as Rev. Kyn noted in his introduction that we are on Aboriginal lands. He suggested information could be included in the bulletin and in the service.

Jane Couchman noted that it an aspirational concept and that the Social Justice committee would be able to provide educational information to the congregation. Rev. Kyn confirmed that a lot of information is available on line and these links can be made available.

### **Parking Lot – Rev. Lisa Newland**

Rev. Lisa reported that the problem with the parking lot goes beyond the surface. The soil beneath is clay, which holds water and provides no drainage as it slopes towards the building.

Dalton Engineering looked at this (as part of the Accessibility study) and it will be a large amount. Repaving will not solve the issue as it is more complex.

Anne Creighton recognized Delores Lawrence's recent the Lifetime Achievement Award from the African Canadian Association.

Peter Holleley wanted to raise two items: Firstly, he moved a motion, on behalf of the congregation, to formally thank the Montessori School for their tenancy and express appreciation for having them here. Claudette Blake seconded. Carried.

Secondly, regarding outreach, he noted that the statistics on page 24 are flat yet the catchment area contains more residents than ever. He encouraged more outreach, noting that Agnes, who is such a charm, should be encouraged to reach out to children and they would come in droves.

Rev. Lisa thanked Peter for his suggestions and noted that the next motion related to this.

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Warden's motion

“Vestry Authorizes that the Incumbent and Churchwardens, as outlined in Canon 6, consult with the York Region Area Bishop, the Rte. Rev. Kevin Robertson, for the purpose of seeking approval to begin the process of possible building/structural alterations to the Christian Education Wing following the conclusion of the Montessori Education Centre's license December 31, 2017”

The motion was moved by Margaret Gordon-Allen and seconded by Norma Walker-Roberts.

Delores Lawrence asked, in addition to the motion, as part of the Accessibility Committee, there are some accessibility issues that are on hold, such as the doors, that need to be done in a timely manner.

Father John Wilton noted that, from his experience with Canon 6 at St. George on Yonge, the most important thing is that form follows function. People have to get involved by attending meetings and be part of the conversation – they must participate.

Ray James asked if there would be work on the rooms downstairs. Rev. Lisa responded that this motion is for the Christian Education Wing. The motion could be amended to “primarily” this part of the building since Canon 6 comes into play when obtaining building permits.

Lloyd Leonard asked if this only involves this part of the building. Rev. Lisa clarified that this includes the Welcome room. Another motion would be required to do major work elsewhere. We can tackle some of the Accessibility issues into this.

Brian Edmonds asked if there is anything for the long-term future, looking at a larger scale? Rev. Lisa referred to the Strategic Planning in 2015, noting that we can't have conversations without this. Advisory Board has discussed this. Brian asked if this can be expressed in broader terms.

Rev. Lisa reminded Vestry that this motion is giving permission to approach the Diocese with our hopes. Then other conversations can take place.

The motion was read again.

Helen Edmonds asked if this is too narrow can we vote against it and does this mean that the discussion will not consider an elevator? Rev. Lisa responded that this does not preclude other information but it was felt that the \$600K to put in an elevator was not the best use of funds as everything else would be left untouched. Helen Edmonds noted that at what point do you decide to make a silk purse out of a sow's ear?

Delores Lawrence noted that the price will have increased. The Accessibility Committee, in particular (the late) Gerry Kileeg, did a lot of work and research. Dalton Engineering was engaged, due to their experience with the Diocese, giving drawings on what it could look like if the east wall was removed so that an elevator could be added to access the lower hall.

Rev. Lisa reminded Vestry that the Christian Education Centre availability has prompted

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us to re-evaluate the needs of the Parish.

Father John Wilton added that Canon 6 ensures that Parishes talk to the Diocese before embarking on a project. Where it goes does not matter, this just gives permission to open the dialogue.

Jane Couchman asked if some of the accessibility issues can be better solved by this method for less money? Yes

Donna Lam noted that the motion specifically refers to the Christian Education Wing, but could be amended to church, with a focus on the Christian Education Wing.

The motion was amended and moved by the Wardens.

“Vestry Authorizes that the Incumbent and Churchwardens, as outlined in Canon 6, consult with the York Region Area Bishop, the Rt. Rev. Kevin Robertson, for the purpose of seeking approval to begin the process of possible building/structural alterations to the property with a focus on the Christian Education Wing following the conclusion of the Montessori Education Centre’s license December 31, 2017”.

Anne Creighton seconded the amended motion.

**Carried**

Donna Lam followed up on Fundraising – noting that we will look for new ways of fundraising in 2017, inviting us all to think about how and to come forward with new ideas.

### **16) Motion to Adjourn**

There was no other business so Rev. Lisa thanked everyone who prepared and set up the lunch. She then asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Andrew Barker moved this motion.

The meeting concluded with the Grace at 2.04 p.m.

### **Regrets:**

Val Seales

Raine Liliefeldt

Steve O’Keefe



# Vestry - Year 2017

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## Special Vestry – March 26, 2017

Voting requirements were explained during the announcements. Information and a sign-off sheet were circulated before the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 11.20 am chaired by Rev. Lisa Newland. The meeting opened with a prayer.

The deferred Diocesan motion (appearing in the bulletin) will be voted on today. There will be no further deferral.

Rev. Kyn Barker opened the meeting with a brief recap of the motion with respect to land. Bill Found, who moved the original motion at Vestry moved the motion again:

“We, the vestry of St. Matthew the Apostle, Oriole commit ourselves to work to implement the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. As part of this effort, we call on the Government of Canada’s commitment to address the Call to action #43: to fully adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the framework for reconciliation. In particular, we call upon the Government of Canada to immediately develop policies requiring free, prior and informed consent be obtained from Indigenous communities in Canada and abroad with respect to developments affecting their lands and resources, as outlined in Articles 10, 19 and 32 of the Declaration.”

The motion was seconded by the Rev. Kyn Barker.

Bill noted that while the motion is complex it makes sense to those who have attended the four meetings led by Kyn & Gwynne Barker and some guest speakers. There has also been a visit to Christian Island (ceremony) and four film presentations last Fall. In addition to the presentation two weeks ago links to the website were also provided.

Rev. Lisa opened the meeting to the floor, with a 2-minute limit on each speaker.

**Dennis Chalmers** acknowledged the opportunity for questions and difference in opinion and expressed his concerns:

The wording in the UN Declaration “informed consent” is too vague.

Article 10 concerns over forced movement, noting in cases of frequent flooding causing damage and destruction there may be a health and safety benefit in relocating.

Equality for all – no group should be placed above any other.

We don’t need the UN’s blessing to do the right thing. Noting that many organizations and the courts play a role in Charter Rights and Freedoms.

**Jane Couchman** thanked Dennis for his remarks, noting that it is good that we can hold different opinions and vote as makes sense. Jane noted that the Truth and Reconciliation report from 2015 was presented after 7 years of study of the Residential Schools. She quoted Murray Sinclair’s patience and recognition of people being in different places with this troubled relationship which will take many years and generations to heal. She also noted that the use of territory without consultation is imperfect but we must do our best to consult with both respect and dignity.

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**Lloyd Leonard** added that he shares Dennis' comments. Adding that we should look forward to how Government interacts with Aboriginal people now. Resource projects should not get built without consultation. He cited an example where a reserve lost out as a result of a bribe. He felt this was politicization and will be voting against the motion.

**Delores Lawrence** noted that it was she who originally deferred the motion (at Vestry). She did not attend the sessions but is aware of and knowledgeable of the past. We need to move forward, beyond the wrongs. Canada has the constitution to do the right thing. For this she will be voting for the motion.

There were no further comments so Bill was asked to read the motion (from page 18 of the bulletin) again. Bill Found moved the motion, Deacon Kyn Barker seconded. Voting followed:

- There were 28 votes in favour of the motion.
- There were 7 votes opposed to the motion.
- There were 10 abstentions.

The motion was passed.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was moved by Dennis Chalmers at 11.40 a.m.



**Diocese of Toronto**  
Anglican Church of Canada

## **Archbishop's Pastoral Letter to Vestries, 2018**

to be read or circulated on the Sunday of the parish's annual vestry meeting

To the Clergy, Churchwardens and Parishioners  
**My Sisters and Brothers in Christ,**

Grace and peace in the name of Our Saviour Jesus Christ.

I am joined with the Area Bishops in bringing you greetings and assurance of our prayers as you gather in the annual Vestry Meeting to set parish priorities and budget and choose churchwardens and officers to lead your ministry together. I am so grateful for the commitment and contributions that these people make to the life of the Church and the mission of Christ in the community you serve. Thank you, especially, to those who are finishing their terms of office or moving into different responsibilities. My prayers are offered for those of you who are taking on new ministries today.

Today, as has been the custom for several years, I ask you to consider a Vestry motion advocating for affordable housing and dealing with homelessness. We, as a church, have a long and effective history of providing both temporary and emergency housing, long term housing projects and counselling and support for the under housed. These programs are vital for providing relief on a day-to-day basis for many who do not have access to affordable housing. However, any effort to address the long-term needs underlying this crisis requires more resources than churches and community agencies can provide alone. The church has an advocacy role as well as providing front-line service. The two go together; both make a difference. Whatever you decide to do today, I think it is important that we discuss in our meetings to conduct the “business” of our parishes, the issues that affect the well-being of our whole community.

A key priority in our diocesan strategic plan, Growing in Christ, is leadership development and formation. In my Charge to Synod, I asked every parish to participate in at least one intentional formation programme during the year. May I invite you to join me this Lent in Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John. Resources are available on-line and can be used by individuals and groups. I commend several other programmes – some developed in the Diocese – that will help you to be more intentional and confident in your Christian discipleship. Suggestions will be also available on-line.

I will retire at the end of this year. It has been an incredible honour to have served for some fifteen years as your bishop and over forty years in ordained ministry in this diocese. What a joy it has been to be invited into people's lives at the most profound level – at moments of deep joy or sorrow, at times of vocational discernment, at times of challenging crisis or productive stability. In all this, to witness the faith and compassion

## Vestry - Year 2017

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and engagement of Anglicans has strengthened my faith, expanded my horizons and confirmed my love of Christ and his Church. This June, Synod will choose a coadjutor bishop who will automatically succeed me on my retirement, becoming the 12th Bishop of Toronto. I posed some questions at Synod for people to consider in preparation for the election:

- From your own experience of bishop(s), what are two qualities you have admired in a bishop?
- What are two critical issues affecting the life and mission of this Diocese today?
- Considering that, what two qualities (maybe the same or different from #1) does the next bishop need to have to lead this Diocese in its mission into the next decade?

Please pray for the members of Synod that they may discern wisely and faithfully for this challenging and complex role of leading the largest and most diverse diocese in North America.

I hope to have the opportunity over this year to thank you for entrusting me with this awesome responsibility.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colin R. Johnson", with a cross symbol to the left of the name.

The Most Rev'd Colin R. Johnson  
Archbishop of Toronto

# Vestry - Year 2017

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The Right Reverend  
KEVIN ROBERTSON  
Area Bishop of York-Scarborough  
Bishop Suffragan of Toronto



The Incorporated Synod  
of the Diocese of Toronto

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January 18, 2018

The Feast of the Confession of St. Peter

Dear friends in York-Scarborough,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. (2 Cor. 1:2)

I recently marked the first anniversary of my consecration as a bishop. In reflecting on the past twelve months, I am reminded of the tremendous privilege of serving as your area bishop. I am pleased to say that I have now visited most of the 58 parishes and missions in York-Scarborough. These visits have included being with you for Sunday morning worship, ordinations, confirmations, celebrations of new ministry, anniversaries, and meetings with parish leadership. Thank you for your warm welcome as I have travelled across the area. I have been grateful for your prayers and good wishes, and your desire to be co-workers together, for the glory of God and the extension of God's reign.

One of the priorities I identified a year ago was getting to know the clergy and people in my episcopal area. I am pleased to say that I have now met with all the active clergy, including our deacons, and many lay leaders as well. I have heard your hopes and concerns, and have tried to offer words of encouragement and guidance in these rapidly changing times. In spite of the challenges around us and within, I see signs of life and growth everywhere I go. There are renewed efforts to engage our neighbours and share the good news of God in Christ. I see clergy and lay people recommitting themselves to study and Christian formation in order to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ. Anglicans are mobilizing and collaborating with people of other faiths and traditions to feed the hungry and give shelter to the homeless, often doing more with less. These are all signs of the Kingdom of God in our midst. We are also now being guided by our diocesan strategic plan, *Growing in Christ*, which I hope will set the stage for healthy and more dynamic ministries across the area. You may be interested to know that 25% of the parishes in the Diocese of Toronto are growing, and many of them are right here in York-Scarborough.

The past year was a time of change in the York-Scarborough episcopal office. We said farewell to Karen Isaacs, who had briefly served as my Administrative Assistant. Karen left last spring in order to respond to a call to ordained ministry. We then welcomed Sue Willoughby as the new Administrative Assistant, and she has been tremendous. Sue does a great job of managing my calendar and correspondence, and ensuring that I am able to stay on top of 58 very different and dynamic communities. Sue works closely with our exceptionally capable synod office staff, who are always just a phone call or email away!

## Vestry - Year 2017

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I want to acknowledge the excellent work of our five Regional Deans: the Reverend Ian LaFleur (Eglinton), the Reverend Greg Carpenter (Scarborough), the Reverend Sherman Hesselgrave (St. James), the Reverend Shelley McVea (Toronto East) and the Reverend Heather Gwynne-Timothy (York Mills). Along with our area liturgical officers - the Reverend Geoffrey Sangwine and the Reverend Greg Carpenter - they are excellent resources for parishes, and provide me with invaluable advice.

Our area is also blessed with many youth ministers, who are ably led by our two York-Scarborough Youth Facilitators, Jillian Ruch and Ian Physick. In the fall of 2017, we made the decision to increase their time in that ministry, and we are already seeing the fruits of that decision. Just a few weeks ago, I attended the York-Scarborough Youth Leaders' Summit, where those involved in this important ministry were able to share ideas and strategies for ministry with our youth.

One of the joys of being a bishop in the Diocese of Toronto is our College of Bishops, with whom the joys and burdens of episcopal ministry are shared. I am grateful to work alongside wonderful colleagues: Archbishop Colin Johnson, Bishop Peter Fenty (York-Simcoe), Bishop Riscylla Walsh-Shaw (Trent Durham), Bishop Jenny Andison (York-Credit Valley), and Canon Mary Conliffe (Diocesan Executive Assistant).

As we look ahead to a new year, we face significant change. Archbishop Colin Johnson has announced his intention to retire at the end of this year. His leadership over the past few decades has left an indelible mark on our Diocese and on the wider Church. He has provided wise, steady and faithful leadership in a time of immense change, and we look forward to opportunities to express our thanks to Archbishop Colin and Ellen in the coming months. On June 9, we will elect a coadjutor bishop, who will become the new diocesan bishop at the beginning of 2019. Please keep this process and the candidates in your prayers.

In the coming months, a number of events will be of interest to the clergy and people of our area. Firstly, I am teaching a Lenten course called Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John, which comes to us from the Society of St. John the Evangelist in Boston, and was recommended by the Archbishop at our recent synod. The clergy of the Church of the Resurrection will join me in leading this study, which runs for five Monday evenings, beginning on February 26. On Saturday, March 3, I invite all of you to a York-Scarborough Visioning Day at St. Andrew, Scarborough, where we will share ideas and develop strategies for mission and growth in York-Scarborough. On April 30 and May 1, I will be gathering the area clergy together for an overnight retreat for the purposes of study and mutual support. We haven't done this in many years, and I look forward to restoring this annual time away.

Finally, I want to express my thanks to all of you, and especially those who exercise leadership in your own parishes. Whether you are stepping down from a particular ministry, or continuing on, or taking up a new role at this annual Vestry meeting, thank you for your commitment and faithfulness. You are a blessing to the Church in our Diocese.

## Vestry - Year 2017

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I am writing this letter on the Feast of the Confession of St. Peter. As our Church celebrates Peter's claim that Jesus is "the Christ, the Son of the Living God" (Matthew 16:16), may we have boldness in our own proclamation, so that others may come to the knowledge and love of God in Christ.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Robertson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

The Rt. Reverend. Kevin Robertson  
Area Bishop of York-Scarborough  
Bishop Suffragan of Toronto



### INCUMBENT'S REPORT

*“Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering,  
for he who has promised is faithful.”  
(Hebrews 10:23)*

As I write this report we are just beginning our forty-day Lenten journey. A journey we make each year as we once again follow Jesus to the cross and grave meant to prepare us for our Easter celebrations - the Paschal victory over the grave through Jesus' dying and rising again. A victory we share in as those baptized into his death and resurrection. This is the hope spoken of in the above verse from Hebrews we are called to hold fast to without wavering. Something made possible because God is faithful. We can hold fast, we can have hope, and we can be unwavering because God is faithful. As the lyrics for one of the songs we sing at the 5:00 p.m. Sunday service says, “Not because of who I am, but because of what You've done, not because of what I've done, but because of who You are”.

With the constant and rapid state of change around us – in the world, our communities, our work places, our families, our individual lives – it is good to remember that God is faithful. That God keeps his promises. That God is at work, no matter how challenging it might be to see this at times, always moving this world closer to God's vision for it. And the same is true for the Church. Both within our own parish and the larger Church we are a part of. This past year was a time of steady change but in the midst of it all, God has been faithful. Through the power of God's Spirit working in and through (and sometimes despite!) us, we continue to “press on toward the goal” (*Philippians 3:14*).

In January we welcomed our newly consecrated bishop of York-Scarborough, the Rt. Rev. Kevin Robertson. We were delighted that Bishop Kevin chose our parish as one of his first Sunday visits and look forward to our shared ministry together in this area of the diocese. In January our parish also welcomed our student intern, Brittany Cartwright, who was with us full time until April. I know many of you appreciated her ministry among us, especially those who took part in her special project – Tea, Coffee and Questions. We wish Brittany all the best in her future endeavours. And last but certainly not least, our parish was thrilled to learn at Diocesan Synod this past November that our deacon was appointed Archdeacon of Toronto by Archbishop Johnson. This was in recognition of Kyn's ministry at the diocesan level as Coordinator of Deacons. Congratulations to the now Venerable Kyn Barker!

Just prior to Easter, we were finally able to have our new audio system installed in the worship space. This was in addition to a new audio-visual system that was also installed in the Fellowship Hall in time for the annual vestry meeting last year. Together, both those systems marked the completion of the first two of four stages of communications upgrades needing to be done. Neither would have been possible without the very generous grant of \$25,000.00 we received from the diocese through the Our Faith Our Hope funds.

## Vestry - Year 2017

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There were several important fundraising events that were organized this past year that not only helped to raise much needed funds to support the on-going ministry here at St. Matthew's but were also a lot of fun! In April the Growing Healthy Stewards Committee with the help of additional volunteers held a wonderful Spring Time, Talent and Treasure Dinner and Auction featuring guest speaker, Elizabeth McCaffrey, Diocesan Volunteer Co-ordinator. Many wonderful items and skills were also auctioned off. Another very successful parish Walk-a-thon was also organized at the end of September, and a revamped Christmas Market was held in November that blended both old and new ideas. A profound word of thanks to all those who were involved in the planning, organizing and carrying out of these events and to those who supported them.

For the third summer in a row we were able to offer the Good Food Market to our neighbourhood. This not-for-profit market is run entirely by volunteers who order all the produce, receive the delivery, price, bag and display it, not to mention set up the tents and tables. And that's before anything is sold. Our thanks to the market co-ordinators as well as both the parish and community volunteers who make such a market possible. And of course the weekly shoppers without whom there would be no point!

Our relationship with the Henry Farm Community Interest Association continues to be a very positive one, helping to position our parish as one invested in the local neighbourhood. The HFCIA holds their monthly executive meetings at our parish and we were also the host site for several community events they organized, specifically the Spring Community Potluck Dinner, Neighbour's Night Out, the HFCIA AGM and Children's Halloween Party. I am pleased to serve as a member at large on the Executive alongside another one of our parishioners.

Building on our parish's desire and commitment to better educate ourselves on First Nations' issues and possible responses to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Report, parishioners had the opportunity to attend various events and ceremonies. These included the Keepers of the Water Vigil Lament and Thanksgiving in January (approximately 10 attended), the Chippewas of Georgina Island Pow Wow in August (attended by parishioners from Epiphany St. Mark and 15 of our own parishioners), an Advent Study series featuring four different films about First Nations issues, and our annual Open House fundraiser in support of the Rev. Canon Paul William's ministry in Kugluktuk, Nunavut. In addition to the funds raised at the Open House, we were especially delighted to have Fr. Paul's sister, Lyn, with us again to give us an update on his family, and despite the technological glitches, Skype with Fr. Paul himself in between his church services. We were also delighted to welcome the Rev. Chris Harper, the diocese's Indigenous Native Priest, as our guest preacher on the Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord last January.

In the midst of these and the many other ongoing, daily ministries, our parish undertook a refugee sponsorship. This experience of sponsorship has been one of the highlights of my ministry and I think I can speak on behalf of the entire committee by saying it has truly been a life transforming experience for us all. Although the family didn't arrive until June 1, months of preparation and fundraising led up to their arrival. We are most grateful to all those who have donated money, household items and furniture, and offered time and support to our newcomers. We are especially appreciative of St. Christopher's and St.

## Vestry - Year 2017

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John's, Willowdale, who held a very successful fundraising event and whose parishioners contributed individually. Many community members and friends and family of our own parishioners were also very generous, offering not only financial help but various other forms of assistance. We have been constantly amazed at the ways God has been at work through this experience! As the formal sponsorship comes to an end in May of 2018 we look forward to walking alongside our newcomers informally as they continue to settle into their new life here in Canada. And a special thank you to all the members of the Sponsorship Committee.

Looking ahead to 2018 there will be a major change as the Montessori Education Centre's licence agreement comes to an end on June 30. After 25 years we are very much looking forward to having all of that space available to us and the opportunities for ministry such space will provide. We wish the school well as they find a new location and look forward to upcoming conversations involving the renovation of that space including long-overdue accessibility upgrades and what ministries we would like to offer to the parish and beyond. Another major transition will happen at the diocesan level as a Coadjutor Bishop is elected on June 9, God willing. This person will become the next diocesan bishop upon the retirement of Archbishop Johnson at the end of December. Leading up to the election, the Nominating Committee has asked for all of us to consider four questions about the future leadership of our Diocese, proposed by Archbishop Colin Johnson at the end of our Regular Session of Synod in November 2017:

1. What are two qualities you've most admired in a bishop?
2. What are two critical issues affecting the life and mission of this Diocese?
3. What are two characteristics a bishop should have to lead this Diocese in its mission over the next decade?
4. What would you need in a process to figure out if a candidate had those characteristics?

You are invited to email your thoughts on these questions to [synod@toronto.anglican.ca](mailto:synod@toronto.anglican.ca). Your feedback will help shape the Nominations Committee's conversations over the coming months.

There is much more I could share with you that God is doing in our midst. God is faithful and so we can have hope. I am most grateful to share in the ministry of this parish with all of you and give thanks for the support, generosity and faithfulness of each of you. To close I'd like to offer both a word of thanks and a word of encouragement. First, my thanks especially to the clergy, staff, wardens and parish leaders who quietly and tirelessly do Christ's work in this place and beyond. And secondly, a word of encouragement for others to step forward who may not yet or currently be involved, to offer their gifts and talents to help share the load and privilege of leadership. We are all enriched by one another's presence and benefit from the wisdom and perspective of diverse voices. A healthy parish requires this.

Yours in Christ,  
*The Rev. Lisa Newland+*

## Vestry - Year 2017

|                          |
|--------------------------|
| <b>PARISH STATISTICS</b> |
|--------------------------|

(As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017)

|                            | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Families                   | 78          | 73          | 75          | 73          |
| Individuals                | 104         | 106         | 101         | 109         |
| Total Families/Individuals | 182         | 179         | 176         | 182         |
| Church School Registration | 14          | 14          | N/A         | 5           |
| Nursery Registration       | 7           | 5           | N/A         | N/A         |

|                           | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> | <u>2014</u> |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Average Weekly Attendance | 94          | 97          | 97          | 107         |
| Average Sunday Attendance | 86          | 87          | 86          | 96          |
| 8:00 a.m.                 | 16          | 17          | 17          | 16          |
| 10:00 a.m.                | 61          | 68          | 69          | 80          |
| 5:00 p.m.                 | 13          | 14          | N/A         | N/A         |
| Easter Attendance         | 231         | 225         | 254         | 174         |
| Easter Communicants       | 224         | 205         | 243         | 170         |
| Baptisms                  | 2           | 6           | 2           | 3           |
| Confirmations             | 0           | 0           | 0           | 0           |
| Marriages                 | 0           | 1           | 4           | 1           |
| Deaths                    | 10          | 6           | 1           | 5           |

### BAPTISMS

Maya Taylor Ferguson  
Maxwell Sing Nana

### DEATHS

Hartley Anthony French  
Kenneth Arthur Morgan  
Jean Agatha Brown  
Jessie Young Fralick  
Dorothy Patricia Suzuki  
Joseph Gordon Vokey  
Pamela Carole Hew  
Ivan Thomas Kistoo  
Nancy Ann Jacques  
Mary Elizabeth Douglas

## Vestry - Year 2017

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### WARDENS' REPORT

2017 is now a memory. The year started with a well attended Dinner and Auction hosted by the Growing Healthy Steward committee. The event raised almost \$4,000.00 toward the Refugee Sponsorship and the general funds of the parish. Thanks to all who were involved.

We introduced the new sound system with sermons available on the internet. At Pentecost we had a very successful Parish Ministry Fair with BBQ and games for the children. Kudos to all the volunteers who assisted at this event.

In Early Spring we ended our agreement with Rossi and hired a new Landscaping company that did not work out after a few months. Our new Cut and Plow company has been on the job for over 4 months and seems to be working out very well.

As you are all aware, Montessori Education Centre's (MEC) lease expires on June 30th 2018. We met with MEC a few times during the year to make sure they understood that there will be no more extensions given and that they need to start talking with their parents about their moving date and future plans. Their final 6 months extension lease was signed December 2017 with specific stipulations of MEC paying 60% of the Utilities and the school doing their own cleaning in the East Wing. We will be meeting with them soon, to talk about their exit strategy for June 30th 2018.

We thank Virendra Singh and Clifford Wong for stepping up to the plate and helping with our financial reporting, following the resignation of our Treasurer.

In the Summer of 2017 we started apartment hunting for our Newcomers Neema and Chance. They moved into their new apartment in mid September 2017 and have been doing great learning English and getting use to their surroundings. Thank you to the entire Refugee/Newcomers Sponsorship committee for their continued commitment and dedication and to all who continue to support them financially and otherwise.

Thanks to Gwynne and Kyn for another successful year of the Good Food Market. Even during the very rainy Summer months of 2017, folks came out to buy and volunteers helped to make the market a success. An 'appreciation dinner' was well attended in September.

We had a successful Open House, thank you to all who donated food and funds to support Canon Paul Williams in Kugluktuk. Lyn Atkins did an excellent job updating us on Paul's activities, while Kyn had Fr. Paul up on the overhead via Skype.

Our first annual Christmas Market coordinated by Joanne Barker and Devon Physick was very successful. The Chili cook off was a hit along with the photos with Santa, Rector's Table, Wreath sales and the sweet table. Thanks to everyone who helped to make this event a great success.

## Vestry - Year 2017

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Thanks to Janice and her walking group, October 1st we had another successful and enjoyable scavenger hunt and walkathon.

Congratulations to Deacon Kyn Barker on his appointment as the Archdeacon of Toronto at Diocesan Synod in November.

Finally, we would like to thank our Rev. Lisa for being our great leader during these changing times and to also congratulate her on her appointment by Archbishop Johnson to Diocesan Council. Thank you Lisa for the sermons you preach and the prayers you lift up, for the wise counsel and words of encouragement and for the sacrifice. Thanks for the person you are in Christ. We will continue to keep you in our prayers. We cannot forget to thank Geoff and Agnes as they continue to bring joy and knowledge to all during 'Children's Talk'. Thanks to all our volunteers and paid staff for another great year.

On behalf of all your wardens, we thank you all for your continued dedication and commitment.

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Seales, *Rector's Warden*  
Margaret Allen, *People's Warden*  
Norma Walker, *Deputy Warden*  
Kakra Winful, *Deputy Warden*  
Raine Liliefeldt, *Deputy Warden*

## Vestry - Year 2017

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### ARCHDEACON'S REPORT

The Deacon's main job is to help us all realize our Baptismal promise to "Seek and Serve Christ in All Persons." As you've seen at the 10 am (and sometimes at 8:00 a.m.) service, I have a number of roles in the Eucharist, including proclaiming the Gospel, setting the table, and standing beside to assist the Presider during the Great Thanksgiving. All of these actions are symbolic examples...meant to encourage all of us to find ways to be of service. After the Recessional Hymn, I as the Deacon, say the dismissal: "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!" The emphasis is on the word GO.... Since it is time to leave our worship, but we are all supposed to act upon what we have seen and heard...and that means to find ways to serve.

At Synod last fall I was named "Archdeacon of Toronto," in recognition and support of my diocesan role as Coordinator of Deacons for Toronto. I encourage and help build up the "Community of Deacons" across the diocese-there are now more than 50! I visit parishes who are interested in "raising up a deacon," and assist them through the process.

I was excited and grateful for the huge St Matthews representation at the "Collation of Archdeacons" on January 21. I thank all of you who contributed to my new Archdeacon vestments.

Once again, Gwynne and I had the full and wonderful experience this last summer coordinating the "Good Food Market." We broke even-that is the cost of fruits and vegetables was covered by customer purchases. It's also noteworthy that half the volunteers are regular St Matthews' people, but half are not parishioners but come from our surrounding community

I continue to volunteer on the front counter at "Community Information Fairview" (near the TD Bank in the mall) which church members, including Tom McQuiston, founded more than 40 years ago and which St. Matthews supports financially. Please drop by especially Wednesday afternoons and Friday mornings, when I am there.

I'm a member of the board of Flemingdon Community Health Centre, which has a satellite at 5 Fairview Mall Dr. offering both primary care to those in need, and programmes for all to encourage better health.

I appreciate Rev. Lisa's guidance and the opportunities to work together.

I am grateful for your prayers and your comments...

Respectfully submitted,

Kyn

*(The Venerable Kyn Barker*

*Archdeacon of Toronto*

*Coordinator of Deacons)*



**PASTORAL CARE TEAM REPORT**

*“Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.” (James 5:13-14)*

The role of the pastoral care team is to provide emotional and spiritual support as well as practical assistance to parishioners in times of sickness, crisis and celebration. Members of the team also regularly visit parishioners who, due to health challenges or other reasons, are unable to attend Sunday services. At these visits, Holy Communion is usually offered as well as anointing for healing and wholeness. As a further way of helping those who can't physically join us for worship stay connected to St. Matthew's, current bulletins, newsletters, and seasonal devotional booklets are given out along with the altar flowers, when available.

In 2017 there were 17 people on the regular visitation list with visits taking place in private residences, retirement homes and long term care facilities across the city. This is in conjunction with other visits that come up throughout the year to see those who are sick, either in hospital or at home.

As part of pastoral care, the ministry of anointing is offered on the last Sunday of each month at both the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. services for any parishioners who desire prayers and anointing for healing and wholeness.

Respectfully submitted by,

*The Ven. Kyn Barker  
The Rev. Lisa Newland  
Clifford Wong*

## OUTREACH REPORT

### 1. St. Matthew's has reached out to help our neighbours in many ways:

- Annual Open House for Rev. Paul William's Ministry: Kugluktuk (\$1,000.00)
- AURA (Anglican United Refugee Alliance) (\$500.00)
- FaithWorks
- Information Fairview
- Toronto Urban Native Ministry (\$500.00)
- Moorelands (baby bundles)
- Oriole Food Space-North York Harvest Foodbank (\$500.00)
- Primate's World Relief and Development Fund
- Refugee Sponsorship

### 2. St. Matthew's Outreach Activities:

- Oriole Food Space-North York Harvest Foodbank (4 volunteers)
- Good Food Market
- (St. Matthew's parish volunteers, in partnership with Food Share, offer a not-for-profit food market to the community in the summer. The sale of fresh and healthy produce at an affordable price addresses the issues of food access, scarcity and affordability in the local area.)
- Forest Manor Reading Program
- (St. Matthew's parish volunteers run the after-school reading program at Forest Manor Public School for 30 weeks a year. They read one-on-one with grade one students and help improve reading and language skills.)

### 3. Refugee Sponsorship

St. Matthew's own Refugee Sponsorship group is called ACTS4Refugees (Anglicans Coming Together in Sponsorship For Refugees). St. Matthew's refugee sponsorship came out of a motion at Vestry in February 2016 to sponsor a refugee family. Since that time, a group of committed volunteers have met about every four weeks to work on the refugee sponsorship process.

As a Refugee Sponsorship group, our responsibilities included finding accommodation, furnishings, clothing, language help, education, medical and dental care, employment opportunities and offering emotional support. Our team's responsibility was to raise the required \$40,000.00 to support the family for the first year. St. Matthew's was working in partnership with St. Christopher's Anglican Church and with St. John's Anglican Church, Willowdale.

During the first six months in Canada, our refugee family was eligible for partial support from the Canadian government. The refugee sponsorship group was financially responsible for all costs that a family has for the first year. This included 12 months of rent, as well as a rent deposit, all furniture, linens, 12 months of utilities

## Vestry - Year 2017

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costs, as well as any deposits and installation costs required, clothing for all the seasons, food for one year, all necessary household items, medical costs, and a \$1,750.00 per person payment to the federal government to pay all settlement costs. Although a Canadian refugee family will be entitled to OHIP and prescription drugs, any dental costs are covered by the sponsorship group. Families fleeing unstable countries often have not been to the doctor or dentist in some time and will have many medical and dental needs that need to be paid for by the sponsorship group.

#### 4. Update from Refugee Sponsorship Fundraising

- Fundraising dinner on Dec. 17, 2016 at St. John's Willowdale (\$5,000.00)
- St. Christopher's Our Faith Our Hope (\$1,000.00)
- St. John's donations (\$3,000.00)
- St. Matthew's Faithworks (\$3,500.00)
- St. Matthew's Healthy Stewards' Fundraising Dinner in March, 2017 (\$1,900.00)
- Dianne, John, and Gwynne's events (\$400.00)
- Government payments to family (6 months x \$1,500.00 = \$9,000.00)
- Donations to St. Matthew's Refugee Sponsorship (\$10,000.00) including money that has been pledged and the money that will come from the Dec. 17 dinner, we have over \$15,000.00 in pledged and raised dollars to date.

Thank you to all members of St. Matthew's who pledged and donated money.  
Respectfully submitted,

Kyn Barker,  
Anne Creighton,  
*Co-Chairs*

## Vestry - Year 2017

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### GOOD FOOD MARKET

St Matthew's Good Food Market had a successful third season in the summer of 2017. The Market ran from June 15 to September 14, on Thursdays from 3-6:00 p.m. This was a change of time to try to accommodate shoppers who preferred not to travel during busy traffic times but to still coincide with parents picking up children at Montessori and Kumon classes.

While the Market offers fresh produce at good prices, the main goal is to have St. Matthew's known as a welcoming centre in our community and to bring neighbours together for fellowship. The bubbles, sidewalk chalk, basketball and other children's activities were popular. Cold drinks and sometimes cookies on the Hospitality table encouraged visitors to stop and chat and look at the community information pamphlets or share recipes for cooking unfamiliar vegetables. We were fortunate to have live guitar music at many markets giving the afternoons a festive air.

We participated in the May Fair at Forest Manor Public School to promote the Market to the wider community.

Once again produce was ordered from Food Share and was delivered to the north parking lot. \$4,000.00 of fruit and vegetables was ordered and was paid for with the proceeds of the sales. Unsold food was taken to CHIRS, Community Head Injury Resource Services of Toronto, who bought it for their meals. With the money from these sales we were able to break even at the end of the season, which was the goal. Some unsold produce was donated to Oriole Food Space for the Food Bank. We found the quality of the produce better than the previous year and the process at FoodShare more efficient. Their warehouse moved in August 2016 which likely contributed to this.

A huge benefit to the Market this year was the donation of a refrigerator to store perishable food between the delivery time and the market opening. It also allowed us to keep less perishable produce from week to week, improving our sales totals. Thanks to Margaret Allen for finding the fridge and to Elan Seales for delivering it.

Since each market required about 50 hours of volunteer time, we are extremely grateful to the dedicated volunteers who worked in the heat and this year often in the rain, to bring fresh, affordable produce to the community. About half of the volunteers are from St. Matthew's. Some of the rest are from the Henry Farm Community and others are from Parkway Forest and the wider community. Thank you so much to these 'Friends of St. Matthew's Market.'

Depending on the weather and holiday weekends, the Market served between 50 and 90 people each week. Some came every week. Others stopped in as they drove or walked past. The canopies in the parking lot and lots of folks milling about helped to make the market and St. Matthews visible in our community. Shoppers were community members, families of Kumon and Montessori students and St. Matthew's church families.

## Vestry - Year 2017

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Hosting a market is hard work, but good company and lots of laughter made the tasks feel lighter.

Thank you to the volunteers and to the shoppers for supporting the Good Food Market at St. Matthews.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Gwynne and Kyn Barker*

### CHOIR REPORT

Although we worked hard again last year, as Christmas approached we were all wondering if we could present all that we had practiced. Not one member of the choir escaped the rather nasty cold that made itself at home in November and December. However, by Christmas Eve it was clear that God was at work and we were able to sing every carol and descant as planned.

At Easter we introduced a new Gloria, which was written by John Bell, whose music we have become quite fond of in recent years. Like anything new it doesn't appeal to all, but we are committed to expanding the variety of the music you hear week by week. From the ancient chants, contemporary hymns, old favorites and occasionally Elvis (thanks Dennis and Joy!)

Everyone is welcome to join us on that last Sunday of the month at 7.30 p.m. for a short organ recital. If you're able, we welcome a donation for the food bank. As I mentioned last year, there are usually a few spare seats! We usually enjoy conversation, a cup of tea and a snack afterwards.

As you now know, February 16, 2018 marks my 25th year at St. Matthew's. Thank you all, and especially the choir, for travelling with me. The journey continues as we embark on another Lent and look forward to Easter.

I recently asked Nevaeh what's better than singing? She couldn't think of anything better and neither can I.

Respectfully submitted,  
David Braund,  
*Music Director*

## Vestry - Year 2017

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### ALTAR GUILD REPORT

Our members of the Altar Guild have again had a busy year performing our duties for the church. We have dusted, polished, swept and laundered and ironed the linens.

We have made sure the church is dressed in the proper colours of the seasons and have dressed it up for special occasions. We have attended weddings, baptisms and funerals.

When no flowers have been given by the congregation our members have gone out and bought some. This helped enhance our surroundings. People seem to notice if no flowers are present.

The day before Palm Sunday we met and made 250+ palm crosses

We attended all Holy Week services.

We decorated for Easter.

In June we had our meeting/pot luck supper at Zoe McOstrich's house. Thank-you Zoe for hosting us so graciously. I officially stepped down as co-ordinator. I received a beautiful picture frame. Wilf took some lovely pictures for us. Unfortunately no one agreed to become our new leader at that time.

We looked after the summer services.

In September some of us attended the funeral of Nadine Stableforth who was the first Altar Guild president of St. Matthew's.

We decorated the church for Thanksgiving. Thank-you to everyone who contributed food. After services it went to the food bank. It was very much appreciated.

In October we had a meeting to plan for Christmas. At this meeting there was still nobody willing to volunteer to become the new co-ordinator. Gwynne Barker said she would take on the responsibilities for one year. Hopefully by then someone new will feel comfortable enough to volunteer to do the job.

In November we celebrated with Usha and Virenda Singh when their grandson Maxwell was baptized.

Calendars for 2018 were ordered and sold. A few more were picked up and also sold.

A request for help getting the Christmas trees and greenery was issued. Father John and Diane Wilton answered the call. A big thank-you to them for doing that.

Thanks also to Elan Seales and Robbie Roberts for their help throughout the year.

We very much appreciate all the advice and guidance received from Rev. Lisa and (Arch)Deacon Kyn.

My personal thanks to all the members of the guild who have served so faithfully all year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wendy Blatchford,  
*Co-ordinator*



## Vestry - Year 2017

### ENVELOPE SECRETARY REPORT

|                                | Issued 2017          | Used 2017 | Issued 2016          | Used 2016 |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|----------------------|-----------|
| Weekly Envelopes               | 78                   | 70        | 79                   | 74        |
| Monthly Envelopes              | 27                   | 23        | 25                   | 24        |
| Regular Pew Envelopes          |                      | 17        |                      | 15        |
| Pre-Authorized Payments        |                      | 17        |                      | 12        |
| Online Donors                  |                      | 3         |                      | 2         |
| <b>Weekly Average Donation</b> | <b>2017: \$24.23</b> |           | <b>2016: \$24.01</b> |           |

First I must say thanks to you all for your support throughout 2017. There were several projects that the church started and it was your quick and kind response that made it possible. As you can see, the church introduced online donation that is operated by Canadahelps.org. Anyone that wants to make donation online can go to the Church website, where there is a Link to Canadahelps.org or log onto Canadahelps.org to do so.

Secondly, you can note the increase in the number of members using our Pre-Authorized Payments to make donations. The members using pre-authorized payments have increased by 42% in 2016. With this method, the donated amount is deducted directly from the person's bank account on the 15th of the month. If you are interested in using this method for your donation, please do not hesitate to contact the Office for an application form.

New Members who require envelopes, please put in your request to the office stating your full name, address, telephone number and state the type of envelopes you want (weekly or monthly). Members who have changed address and telephone number please inform the office so that the database is updated with the new information. This will ensure that your Tax Receipts and other correspondence are mailed to your correct address.

#### **Projection-2018**

In order to maintain the total envelope donations amount as in prior years the church will have to ensure the following happens:

- Existing envelope Donors increase contribution in 2018. And/or
- Membership increase to replace those members who have departed or no longer attending this church.
- Alternatively Funding Raising activities will have to be increase to make up for any shortfall from envelopes giving.

#### **Envelopes Issued for 2018 to date:**

**Weekly – 66      Monthly – 23      PAR – 19      PEW- 17**

Thank you for your cooperation over the years and the trust you put in me to maintain the envelope records for the church.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shyamal Ray,  
*Envelope Secretary*

**SIDESPEOPLE REPORT**

*“Bless the Lord, all you His hosts. You who serve Him, doing his will.”*

*(Psalm 103: 21)*

We are truly grateful to everyone for your dedication and commitment to this ministry. Each one of you continue to do a fabulous job of welcoming and assisting our priest and our congregation to prepare for the weekly services. Roland Wood and his team at the 8am service continue to do a fine job welcoming and ushering as well.

We are always recruiting new members especially at this time; please consider becoming part of this exciting ministry. If you wish to become a Sidesperson, please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Sides teams or myself.

Thanks again to everyone for your continued dedication and support and we look forward to another exciting year.

*“Remember to always appreciate all the different people in your life”*

Sincerely submitted by

Valerie Seales, 10:00 a.m.

Roland Wood, 8:00 a.m.

## Vestry - Year 2017

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### SYNOD

On November 25, 2017 I had the privilege of representing St Matthew's along with Rev. Lisa and John and Deacon Kyn at the 157 the Regular Synod session which was attended by over 600 clergy and Laypeople

In his opening charge to the Synod Archbishop Johnson talked about the history of the Diocese of Toronto notably the 150 anniversary of the death of Bishop John Strachan, the first Bishop of the Diocese. Archbishop Johnson touched on the similarities of the challenges the church faces today with those of Bishops Strachan's time. At the end of the archbishop's address he announced the names of new canons as well as the new Arch Deacons for the Diocese, no one other than, our very own Kyn Barker which brought about universal applause and appreciation from the synod gathering. Needless to say Lisa, John and I were equally as proud and enjoyed having the Venerable Kyn Barker at our table which made us all feel younger!

Here is a short summary of my thoughts and observations from the Synod weekend.

Synod is an interesting event somewhat steep in tradition and very much scripted. For the most part, Archbishop Johnson presides over the entire one and half days, sitting in front of synod and with the help of the Secretary of Synod and Chancellor manages the agenda and keeps the large audience very much engaged. My hat is off to the Archbishop who did a masterful job.

Like most conferences of this nature, there are a few dry spots in the agenda looking at things like past Synod minutes, financial reports, motions to tweak some canons etc. that can be tedious, but thankfully there was free coffee !!! In my mind there were four key items that came out this year's Synod:

1) THE Election of a Coadjutor Bishop. In September of this year, Archbishop Colin Johnson, Diocesan Bishop of Toronto and Metropolitan Bishop of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario, announced he will be retiring in December 2018 and asked members of the Diocesan Council and Synod to concur with his request for the election of a Coadjutor Bishop for the Diocese of Toronto. This Coadjutor bishop would assume the Archbishop's position at the end of the 2018 upon Archbishop Johnson's retirement. By having a Coadjutor Bishop in place the transition period for our new bishop will be significantly smoother. This motion passed and there will be an Electoral Synod to be held in June of 2018.

2) There was a review of Diocese of Toronto 2016 -2021, 5 Year Strategic plan which consists of 5 focus areas:

- Leadership and Formation
- Trust and Culture
- Innovation based on Evidence
- Governance & Decision Making
- Stewardship of resources

## Vestry - Year 2017

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A short presentation on progress of each of the initiatives was given. (a pamphlet is available if anyone would like to read more)

A small note on Stewardship that surprised me, the Diocese owns approx. \$1.5 Billion of property.

3) As per the Constitution of the Diocese of Toronto and The Constitution of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario, Synod elected four clergy and four lay members to serve as members of the Provincial Synod. The next Provincial Synod will be held in 2018 in Ottawa, Ontario

#### **4) Discussions on the Marriage Canon Changes and same gender marriages**

In July 2016, General Synod passed on first reading an amendment to the Marriage Canon to allow for same-sex marriage in our Church. Because it is a Canon about doctrine, consideration of the matter is required in "two successive sessions of the General Synod." Therefore, the matter will be before the General Synod in 2019. In the meantime, it is referred "for consideration to diocesan and provincial Synods." In the spirit of this direction from General synod, there was continued discussion on this topic with a working session on what additional information needs to be considered as part of the Diocese considerations before General Synod in 2019. There was considerable discussion on this issue however there were no decisions or positions taken on this matter. I suspect this will an ongoing discussion within the Anglican Church over the next 2 years.

Respectfully submitted

Steve O'Keefe,

*Alternate Lay Member of Synod*

# Vestry - Year 2017

## FUNDRAISING REPORT

Thank Heaven for Christmas!

This year because of the energy, enthusiasm and leadership of Joanna Barker and Devon Physick our Annual Fall Bazaar morphed into the innovatively successful Christmas Market. The pair worked tirelessly to secure donated prizes valued at over \$2,500. Agnes and her sidekick, Santa Claus thrilled the young ones, and some adults, too, posing with all who wanted pictures taken, by two of his elves, Robbie and Felicia, who gladly snapped away. The honoured traditions of the bottle, jewellery, and baked goods tables continue to be crowd pleasers.

Once again the Annual Walkathon, in September, under the steady leadership of Janice Sanders enjoyed yet another successful year, with participants taking in the beautiful fall weather, and ending the walk at the church, where they all enjoyed hot dogs and drinks.

The Spring Time, Talent Auction Dinner, a catered affair, put on by the Growing Healthy Stewards Committee, under the guidance of Delores Lawrence, was a huge hit with parishioners and their friends. The Fellowship Hall was transformed into an elegant dining room, with white linen tablecloths, adorned with vases of live flowers, white “china” and “silver” utensils. Our tired, old wooden chairs were unrecognizable, resplendent in floor length white covers.

A Christmas concert featuring live performances was scheduled, but had to be postponed to Spring 2018 because of low tickets sales.

| Parish Fundraising in 2017  |                            |               |
|---|----------------------------|---------------|
| EVENT   |                            | ACTUAL        |
| Spring Time, Talent Auction Dinner<br><i>(50% to Refugee Sponsorship)</i> | \$3,710.13<br>(\$1,855.06) | \$1,855.07    |
| Walkathon   |                            | \$2,920.00    |
| Christmas Market  |                            | \$6,540.00    |
| Christmas Concert <i>(postponed to April 2018)</i>                        |                            | \$747.00      |
| <b>PROPOSED</b>   |                            | <b>ACTUAL</b> |
| \$6,000.00  |                            | \$11,972.07   |

This year, we almost doubled our projected fundraising goal. Well done! A huge thank you to all who helped make our events such a success.

The success of these events are wonderful examples of what we can achieve when we **all** put our heads together - we can do so much more, **together!**

Respectfully yours,  
Donna Lam and Devon Physick  
*Co-ordinators*

*“..they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means...for the privilege of sharing in this ministry... (2 Corinthians 8:3-4)*

## Vestry - Year 2017

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### CHRISTMAS MARKET

The Christmas Market was coordinated by Devon Physick and Joanna Barker, with the support of the entire parish of St. Matthew's. They met throughout the spring of 2016 to formulate a plan for the market, which included an outreach plan, community engagement activities and revitalization of the successful bazaar of the past. These ideas were further discussed and approved by Rev. Lisa.

The objective for the 2017 Christmas Market was to honour the traditions of previous bazaars while innovatively rebranding the experience for the St. Matthew's community. This revitalization would target the growing number of young families attending St. Matthew's by incorporating such activities as Santa family pictures, crafts, etc. In addition, Joanna and Devon were aware that the loss of the clothing sale could impact the overall fundraising target and attempted to fill the void with other innovative pursuits. Joanna and Devon organized three community engagement activities and fundraisers; namely, a games night at Willie Stouts, along with a Pickling Workshop and a Christmas Wreath Workshop at the church. The funds raised at these events supported with costs associated to the Market (decorations, materials, etc.) and/or created items for sale at the event. An essential outcome of these activities was that parishioners joined together and time was shared with one another to support and foster relationships.

Outreach and advertising of the event took on many forms and was well received. In addition to the traditional methods of flyers, posters and advertisements in local newsletters, the coordinators also expanded the advertising to many online publications. Traditional posters advertising the Christmas Market were posted at schools, daycares, local community centres, condominium notice boards and many church events such as the Good Food Market. Digital flyers were featured on social media platforms, online newspapers such as the 24 Hours and Toronto Star, Kijiji, etc. As a result, there was an excitement and buzz around the Market within our community and beyond!

- Revitalization activities of the Market included a Chili Cook-Off, Raffle, Christmas Wreaths, A full Children's Section, including Santa, the Elf Workshop and Toys, as well as Artisan Crafts including Rev. Lisa's beautiful pictures and Devon and Joanna's crafts and baked goods. These activities were very successful for their first year:
- Santa welcomed 12 children and generated \$120.00, while the children's toys brought in \$250.00. The craft table was an enjoyable experience for the young congregation. More promotion around the area schools will help create a buzz for future years.
- We saw great enthusiasm for the Chili Cook-Off, which brought in \$277.00. The winner received a very lovely basket of items and gift certificate to a local eatery. The friendly competition and liveliness were felt throughout the lunch room! Many visitors expressed positive comments on the experience.

## Vestry - Year 2017

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- Christmas Wreaths – The ladies and gentlemen of the church all created masterpieces. These were located downstairs, which may have affected their visibility. Placement of the wreaths by the artisan tables in a more high traffic location may help with selling of the items in 2018.
- Artisan Crafts - Rev. Lisa's rock art and other creative pieces were loved by many! The items by Devon and Joanna, including homemade hostess/teacher gifts, Christmas ornaments and dog cookies were also appreciated. The tables together joined forces to raise just shy of a \$1,000.00!
- Raffle – 20 donations were received by local vendors, stores, hotels, entertainment/tourist attractions across Toronto, local eateries, spas and grocery stores. We were continually surprised and in awe of the amount of donations. The prizes/items that were donated were over \$2,500.00 in value. Raffle tickets purchased amount to \$948.00. Reducing the number of items may help generate more money next year. It should also be noted that Joanna and Devon both sold a high quantity of tickets at their places of work which helped with raising funds. Selling raffle tickets leading up to the Market may support in revenue.
- The honoured traditions continued to bring in large amounts of revenue such as the bake table (\$700.00) and jewellery table (\$840.00). All together the bottle table, bake table, jewellery, home décor, vintage Xmas, jams, games and knitting, etc. raised \$4,000.00!!

We do not have a formal number of guests, but an estimate would probably be around 200-300 people. In the future, having an admission of \$1 per family/person with an admit ticket that goes in for a door prize will help keep track of the count.

Our grand total for the Christmas Market was \$6,540.00 the highest amount we have experienced since 2012. The success is all due to all the amazing volunteers that donated their time, creativity and spirit to the market!!!

Respectfully submitted,  
Devon Physick and Joanna Barker  
*Co-ordinators*

## Vestry - Year 2017

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### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School runs from September to mid-May, breaking for the school Christmas holidays, and we used a lectionary based curriculum.

With the leadership of Mr. David Braund the children learned hymns to sing at the Easter service and Christmas Family Service, where they took an active part with the Christmas pageant. They also participated in the Thanksgiving Family Service.

Two Activity Days were held, one before Easter and one in Advent.

We had various crafts and activities for the children to do to help them prepare for the two main Christian festivals. A lot of their work was included in the services.

We had an average attendance of five children, ranging from kindergarten to grade 2.

We are still a small but very important ministry in the parish and we are very grateful to the many people who help, including the Sunday assistants, and all who help with the activity days and pageant.

Respectfully submitted  
Susan Porter,  
*Sunday School Director*



## Vestry - Year 2017

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### NURSERY

The Welcome Room continued to have the furniture, toys and books for the children. 7 children from the Parish were eligible to attend with an approximate average of 2 per week, increased during special events and school holidays when all Parish children are invited to attend the all age setting for worship and learning. An arm chair is used by parents and caregivers who are welcome to stay to help settle the children. The Spark Church School curriculum was used with an illustrated children's Bible, teacher's manual and stickers for a take home lesson.

The morning is structured with free time then circle time with prayers, songs, Bible story and then craft before we come back to receive communion with our Church Family. The parable in the vineyard was reinforced when the children picked plastic grapes and were offered the same amount of "money". During the summer we made pretzels and baked them to share with the congregation at coffee time. A special gold painted wooden box held the Parable of the Mustard Seed felt tree, birds and a magnifying glass to view the tiny mustard seeds in a tiny specimen box.

Our twins Nia and Christopher gave Anglican Foundation "Hope Bears" to our Bishop's twin children when they visited and attended Church School with us. Diane made the bears mitres just like their Dad wears.

*Special Events were held:*

Thanks to Robbie Roberts for making blocks to use for building the city of Jerusalem at our Lenten Saturday event. The children had passports and received stickers to put inside whenever they participated in events: making Resurrection rolls, building Jerusalem, painting a poster, etc. On Good Friday we used a wooden 8 section coloured board and playing pieces to represent a palm branch, a basin for the Last Supper and the other Holy Week items.

Advent Day-two hours on a Saturday were spent learning about the journey to Bethlehem, with various stations including Shepherd's field and the importance of the shepherd's staff and baking bread for the Christmas Eve service to reinforce the meaning of Bethlehem as "house of bread".

We look forward to being able to move the Nursery back into the room across the hall this year where we can decorate with Church season posters and children's art work and add a rocking chair for parents and a player for music (donations in the future please).

Respectfully submitted,  
Diane Wilton,  
*Nursery Supervisor*

**PROPOSED VESTRY MOTION**

**Social Justice Vestry Motion 2018  
Affordable Housing and Homelessness**

All levels of government need to work together to build and sustain affordable housing. We, the vestry of St. Matthew the Apostle, Oriole in the Diocese of Toronto, urge the provincial government to:

1. Develop and implement a comprehensive plan to increase and maintain the available stock of affordable housing in Ontario.
2. Develop specific strategies to address the needs of communities and populations experiencing disproportionately high levels of inadequate housing, including members of Indigenous and racialized communities, newcomers to Canada, seniors, youth, survivors of domestic violence, and people living with mental illness or addictions.
3. Work with the federal government to maximize the impact of the National Housing Strategy on housing in Ontario.
4. Work with municipalities to ensure that emergency shelters are adequately funded to meet the needs of their communities.

# Vestry - Year 2017

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## NOMINATION COMMITTEE REPORT

**Members of the Nomination Committee:** Val Seales (Chair), Margaret Gordon-Allen, Angela Braund, Claudette Blake, Delores Lawrence, the Rev. Lisa Newland

**ELECTED BY VESTRY:**

Peoples' Warden  
Deputy Wardens

Margaret Allen  
Norma Walker  
Kakra Winful  
Raine Liliefeldt  
Angela Braund  
Steve O'Keefe  
Delores Lawrence

Vestry Clerk  
Lay Member of Synod (1)  
Alternate Lay Member of Synod  
Envelope Secretary  
Parish Tribunal

Janice Sanders  
Brian Edmonds  
Helen Edmonds

Auditor  
Property Managers

Gord Mount  
Elan Seales  
Robbie Roberts

Hospitality

Valerie Seales  
Margaret Allen

Outreach Co-chairs

The Ven. Kyn Barker  
Anne Creighton

Sidespersons Chairs

Roland Wood  
Valerie Seales

Stewardship Chair

Delores Lawrence

**APPOINTED:**

Rector's Warden

Valerie Seales

Treasurer

TBA

Archivist

Janice Sanders

Newsletter Editor

Donna Lam

Church School

Susan Porter

Nursery

Diane Wilton

Advisory Board – Members at Large

Claudette Blake

Shyamal Ray

Nigel Jansz

Sherry Jansz

Altar Guild Chair

Gwynne Barker – appointed by the Altar Guild