



150 St Marks Road, Tecumseh

## **Vestry Report February 2, 2025**

The annual meeting will take place after the 10:30 am service

**Please join us**

***This is your time to discern your church's future!***

***Let's look forward together!***

# ***St. Mark's by the Lake***

## **Annual Vestry Meeting**

**Sunday, February 2, 2025**

### **Agenda**

1) Opening Prayer

2) Territorial Acknowledgement

*We acknowledge that the land on which we serve is the traditional territory of the Ottawa, Chippewa, Potawatomi, and Caldwell nations of the Three Fires Confederacy, and the Huron/Wyandot nation. We also acknowledge that we are parties to Treaty 116 (1786), McKee Treaty 2 (1790), Treaty 12 (1800), Treaty 35 (1833), Cession #85 – Peach/Peche Island (1857), and the Caldwell Settlement (2011) signed by our forebears and contemporaries.*

3) Election of Vestry Clerk

4) Minutes of 2024 Annual Vestry Meeting

5) Business Arising from the Minutes

6) Bishops Letter

7) Reception of Narrative Reports – comments, questions

8) Rector's Report – comments, questions

9) Treasurer's Report

10) 2025 Budget Report

11) Financial Review

12) Nominating Committee Report

13) New Business

14) Closing Prayer / Adjournment

# Minutes of the 2023 Annual Vestry Meeting

January 28, 2024

1. The Meeting was called to order by Rev'd Ryan Boivin offered prayer.
2. Acknowledgement of Caldwell First Nations  
*We acknowledge that the land on which we serve is the traditional territory of the Ottawa, Chippewa, Potawatomi, and Caldwell nations of the Three Fires Confederacy, and the Huron/Wyandot nation. We also acknowledge that we are parties to Treaty 116 (1786), McKee Treaty 2 (1790), Treaty 12 (1800), Treaty 35 (1833), Cession #85 – Peach/Pecche Island (1857), and the Caldwell Settlement (2011) signed by our forebears and contemporaries.*
3. Election of the Vestry Clerk – Christie Paulton was nominated by Dawn Dean, seconded by Nathan Dean. Carried
4. Minutes of the 2023 Vestry Meeting  
Motion to accept the minutes made by Janet Forster, seconded by Nancy Nosanchuk. Carried.
5. Business Arising from the Minutes
  - a. None at this time
6. Bishops letter to Vestry was summarized.
7. Reception of Narrative Reports – Motion to receive those narrative reports moved by John and seconded by Laura. Carried.
  - a. Rev'd Ryan thanked everyone who served on the 2023 parish council and commended his report
8. Treasurer's Report – Mark Charlton
  - a. 2023 finances reviewed
  - b. Increased Costs for internet, parking lot
  - c. Jim Durling – gave his review on financial review
  - d. Payroll from diocese was incorrect for Jack, Bryan and Christie throughout the yearMotion to accept Treasurers report for council – moved by Christian Paulton, seconded by Arla Peters. Carried
9. 2024 Budget
  - a. Notes – suspect offerings will go down
  - b. Salary increase – 4.1% diocese recommendedMotion to accept 2024 Budget for council – moved by Janet Forster, seconded by Angie Tuovinen. Carried
12. Nominations to Council
  - a. Thanks to Coni for being on council for the past few years. Thanks to Christian and Fraser for serving as wardens and are thankful that they will continue on council.
  - b. Dawn Dean was nominated and accepted the position for Volunteer Coordinator
  - c. Harold is also on the property committeeMotion to close nominations – moved by Laura Bird and seconded by Andrea Morosin. Carried

13. New Business

- a. Furnace – we have made temporary repairs to the systems, however it is not going to last much longer. We will need to start fundraising for a new furnace

Ryan gave notes of thanks for gifts and talents

14. Motion to adjourn – moved by Chris McVeigh

- i. Closed with the grace.



The Diocese of Huron ~ The Anglican Church Of Canada  
**The Right Reverend Todd Townshend, Th.D.,**  
Bishop of Huron

January 2025

Dear friends in Christ,

I give thanks to God for you and pray for you every day, and wish you every blessing as you prepare for your annual meetings of Vestry.

It is an uncertain time, to say the least. Many continue to feel anxious about the future—and we should, in some ways. At the same time, our Christian faith compels us to center our lives in Christ and to live and act according to the way of his kingdom and his reign. This reign is real— and it is not out somewhere out in the future. It is now. This means that there will be a necessary weeping, confession, and acts of resistance until the fullness of time.

We also know this: God the Creator of the universe has a great dream, a plan, a design for the whole creation. It is the reconciliation of all things in Christ. This is the sure “end”, or outcome, of all that is. Our individual and communal speech and acts, done in faith, are signs to the world of this great truth, above all truths. Thanks be to God.

The primary work of an annual church meeting is to build up the witnessing work of the church for the sake of the world around us. Our constant goal is to deeply understand what being church is, and needs to be, for this time and place. It is time to assess the resources you have and the mission in which you participate.

Our Diocesan Plan is entitled “Turning to Grace” because that is what we do. In everything, we turn to God, find grace, and recognize that “it” is more than we need, more that we asked for, or even imagined. I encourage you to find ways in which your life together is aligned to the elements of this promise and/or to be challenged by it. I pray that you will continue to find hope, peace, strength, and encouragement in the face of Christ our Lord.

I am not just thanking God for you and praying for you, I am cheering for you. The world needs what we do—and you have been faithfully doing ministry in your community for a long time. May the Holy Spirit deliver you from all that draws you from the love of God, may the Holy Spirit fill you with the divine, life-giving Spirit, and may the Holy Spirit send you into the world in witness to the love of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Peace in Christ,

+ *Todd Townshend*

**The Rt. Rev. Todd Townshend**  
**Bishop of Huron**

# 2025 Reports

## Warden's Report

God is in every moment, every loving heart, and in wonderful people like you

This is how we begin our Vestry Reports because it truly embraces the spirit of St Mark's by the Lake.

Church life always encompasses more than our weekly Sunday services. In 2024, we joyously celebrated the weddings of Jeremy Dressler and Lauren Lee, and Robert Adams and Laura Dexter. Through baptism, we welcomed into the household of God Avery Lynn Durance-Jacquot, Benjamin Alexander Kloska, Chloe Marie Dishman, Alora Donna Jacquot and Mavis Jean Ireland. We also helped Rev. Canon Geoff Dibbs celebrate his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and seven members of SMBTL had pride of place at his service in Arizona. Sadly, we said goodbye to several parishioners and friends including Keith Moore, Margaret Blackmore, William Spencer, Henry Tuovinen, Susan Long, Donna Wallace and Monica Willis. There will be jewels in their crowns in heaven.

Several years post-pandemic, we still have members who have not returned to in-person worship, and we continue to encourage people to try coming back to church. If you know of anyone who would like a visit from Ryan and Jack, please let the office know. We are blessed to have welcomed new members in 2024. Please continue to consider inviting a friend to join us for worship or at one of our events. All are welcome.

We are blessed at St. Mark's by the Lake to have such wonderful congregants who give tirelessly of their time, talent, and treasure. We had many special events this year including the Golf Fun Day, the Turkey Dinner, the Pig Roast, a Roast Beef Dinner, a Spring plant sale, the used book sale, a pancake supper, pumpkin carving, meat pie making, Dinner Church, and more. These events would not be possible without our faithful volunteers. A huge thank you to Brooke White for running PAC. Mark Charlton, our illustrious volunteer Treasurer, deserves our heartfelt thanks for continuing to diligently ensure our financial security. Coni Moore has provided strong leadership to the Chancel Guild, and we have some new members of this team as well. The Pastoral Care Team members have continued to faithfully reach out to members of the congregation who are unable or not yet ready to return to in-person worship. The Outreach Team offered many mental health workshops and we thank Bev Watson for her team leadership and Sharon Pyke for liaising with the community partners. The Property Committee had a busy year – maintaining the grounds, cutting trees, researching the new boiler, etc., and thanks to your generosity, we now have a new boiler and will be able to enjoy our services, coffee hours and events in a nice warm and toasty environment. There are many ministries at SMBTL, and we ask those involved to continue to spread the good word about each ministry with a focus on what each entails in terms of time and talent. If you have an interest in a specific ministry, please speak with one of the Wardens, Parish Council members or Christie.

Thanks to all the Parish Council Members for their dedication and hard work throughout the year. Special thanks go to our outstanding staff. Parish Administrator, Christie Paulton, who has worked in the office and at home throughout the year. In 2024, Christie also took on the role of Parish Caretaker and we have received a tremendous amount of positive feedback about how sparkly the church looks. Christie is truly a Godsend who conducts all her tasks and responsibilities beautifully, quietly, and always with a smile. Andrea Morosin continues to provide us with wonderful music, and the choir always shines with their beautiful anthems. Jane Cornett continues to provide extensive programming for the youth of SMBTL and has had some welcome assistance this year with Laura and Taryn. Additional team members are always welcome. We are truly

blessed to have Ryan as our minister. His faith and dedication to SMBTL is exemplified in all that he does. He is a shining example of lifting up others.

As of this Vestry meeting, Carolynne Mastellotto and Amanda Dibbs will step down from their long-term roles as Wardens. They both look forward to continuing as active members of the SMBTL family.

As we continue to grow, it is imperative that we have current information for all our parishioners. If you move, please call, or email the office with your new address. If you are ill, please ask a friend or family member to let us know. It is vital that we continue to keep in touch with one another. We are hoping to put together a photo directory of parishioners in 2025.

SMBTL is more than a congregation – we are a family, and every member is valued, appreciated, and loved. Throughout 2025, let us all remember that no matter what, each year is a gift from God...

In the joyful moments, thank Him

In the busy moments, bless Him

In the trying moments, trust Him

In the quiet moments, praise Him

Faithfully submitted by your Wardens:

Amanda Dibbs, Carolynne Mastellotto, Sharon Pyke, Daniel Hofgartner

#### A Message from Amanda Dibbs

I remember receiving a phone call from Kevin George inviting me to join Parish Council and I soon became a warden (a five-year term). Shortly after that, I was asked to join a committee that would look at growing SMBTL both in terms of congregation and physical space. It has been an absolute honour to serve SMBTL for the past **twenty years**. Over the years, I have worked with some outstanding partners including the inestimable John Anderson, Christian Paulton (my “Bad Warden” twin ... always watch out for “Preacher’s Kids”), and Carolynne Mastellotto (the self-proclaimed “Mean Warden”, although I’ve never seen any evidence to support that title). Throughout the years, I was a member of two selection committees and we were well blessed - first by having Rob Lemon join us and now with Ryan and his lovely family.

In looking back over the past twenty years, several memorable events stand out. I was the one presenting the wardens’ report at Vestry when Kevin infamously took the microphone to the facilities with him. I couldn’t understand why people were laughing at my report. The next year, we decided to adopt Vestry reports as written! After Kevin left, I remember having a conversation with Jack about how he would be finished as Interim by Christmas – we just didn’t specify which Christmas! After I retired and started spending time in Arizona, every year, I would send Rob an email offering to step down as warden so that he could appoint someone who was here year-round. Every year, my offer was refused! When in-person church started after Covid, but I was not yet comfortable attending in-person, I offered to step down so that Rob could have a warden who actually attended church. Once again, my offer was refused and Rob even appointed me as Rector’s Warden! When Ryan arrived, Carolynne and I met with him and offered to step down so that he could appoint new wardens. Ryan kept us on for 18 months with the understanding that he would let us step aside but with the caveat that we become Warden Emerita (a very kind and much appreciated gesture).

It truly has been a privilege to serve SMBTL over the years. I am looking forward to continuing as a member of Parish Council and to working with Sharon, Dan, Barb and Laura as they help shape the direction of our beloved church.

Every Blessing

Amanda

A Message from Carolynne Mastellotto

Goodbye but not farewell

Little did I know that when I received a call from, then Warden, John Anderson shortly after Kevin George departing St. Mark's, what lay ahead. John asked me to Chair the Selection Committee searching for a new Rector. We definitely didn't know it would take us 2 years to 'find' Rob Lemon and then I became a Warden. Due to Covid and other unusual circumstances, a position it's been my honour and privilege to fill for 10 years.

Being a Warden gave me an opportunity to understand the meaning of CHURCH in its wider context and to get to know parishioners on a deeper level.

St. Mark's is a wonderful Parish and we are truly fortunate to have Rev. Ryan as our Rector.

I will continue to serve God and St. Mark's in many ways. Thank you for helping me grow in the life of the Church.

Carolynne Mastellotto



## Pastoral Care Report

We are a group of ten parishioners that stay in touch with our members. We send cards, we make calls, we visit. Our visits can be to a private home, a retirement or nursing home or hospital. Our contact is very appreciated, as everyone we visit or call always appreciates the contact. Even when the family is attentive, people are still lonely and sometimes just want someone to talk too. We bring them news of St. Marks which many are happy to receive. This is a very rewarding ministry. We are always looking for more volunteers, if interested please contact Bev Watson or myself.

Barbara Lyons

## Knit-wits Report

Our Knitt Witts are just outstanding. This past year we created **1,280** items to donate! This total included:

52 Lap Blankets, 80 Prayer crosses, 2 Wheelchair shawls, 13 Walker pockets, 402 Adult/Teen hats, 37 Adult/Teen hat sets, 4 Mitten/scarf sets, 12 pr. Mittens, 50 Headbands, 146 Scarves, 211 Child hats, 4 Child hat sets, 110 Baby hats, 40 Baby Sweaters sets, 34 Baby blankets, 67 Baby hat/mitt sets, 10 dish clothes and 6 specially made Feel Better Friends dolls.

These items were donated to: The Salvation army, Drouillard Place, Canterbury College, Maryvale, New Beginnings, St. Mary's Church, All Saints church, Home Instead, Met. Hospital Baby NICU, Met. Hospital Pediatric Unit, Ronald McDonald House, Met. Chaplin, Guadalupe House, Nursing Homes (Brouillette Manor, Aspen Lake, Heron Terrace, Extendicare Southwood Lakes, and Extendicare Tecumseh), Public Schools (Bagley, John Campbell, , Dougall, Roseville and Eastview Horizon), and the 6 dolls were specially made for 6 children. We also placed prayer crosses for the funerals of our fellow Knit-wits: Susan Long, Monica Willis and Donna Wallace.

We would like to thank The Maycourt Club for their wonderful support with yarn and generous cheque and the members of our church family also for year and financial support.

# Chancel Guild Report

St Mark's by-the-Lake Chancel Guild is a group of thirteen individuals who are divided into 4 teams. Each team is on duty for a week and responsible for preparing for all the services that week. Preparations include setting up Communion for the two Sunday services as well as the Wednesday mid-week service and any Funerals, Weddings or Baptisms that occur that week. We decorate the church for many occasions throughout the year including Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. We also get together (along with any Parish members interested) to fold palms into Palm Crosses that are distributed on Palm Sunday

On a weekly basis we are responsible for ensuring that everything needed for a service is in place before the service begins. This includes:

- Ordering wine, wafers and candles
- Setting up the altar for Communion
- Polishing and maintaining the Communion vessels and candle holders
- Refilling the processional candles with liquid paraffin
- Ensuring that the correct Liturgical colours are in place
- Washing and ironing the linens
- Arranging the altar flowers and distributing them following the Sunday service

We sadly lost Maggie Blackmore from our Chancel Team this year. We were however fortunate to add 3 new members. We would gladly welcome anyone who may be interested in working in a team environment with a wonderful group of women and men.

Thanks as always to Bev Watson who prepares our Chancel schedule. Also thank you to all of the Chancel team members who went over and above to ensure we had adequate coverage through the Christmas season.

Coni Moore

Chancel Guild Co-Ordinator

## Choir and Church Music Report

2024 was a great year for our choir and music ministry at St. Mark's By-The-Lake. There have been many lovely moments during our Lenten season, "All Souls" service and Advent/Christmas season. We are so blessed to have a group that is willing to share a diverse range of worship music styles and songs. It has brought me great joy to have my daughters share their growing knowledge of piano, trombone and violin during special services. Collaborating with our wonderful choir members such as Al and Christian, is a real pleasure as they elevate our services with glorious trumpet fanfares and musical talent. Thank you to our rotation of psalmists and featured soloists this year.

Our choir is a dynamic, kind, open, joyful, and enthusiastic group and I love them for it! We are blessed with members old and new, of all ages, who share their talents freely, enabling us to sing in 4-part harmony. It has been invigorating to see our choir grow this year with the addition of new members. New members are always welcome to join us! No audition or formal training necessary, just a willingness to sing.

I am thankful for the anchors of our church who keep us moving forward and enable us to be resilient during times of change. We are thankful to Ryan for his ministry and support. It has been an easy transition and that is a testament to his leadership and kindness. His support of the choir and music needs has been appreciated by all. Jack is not only a tremendous help and a fantastic colleague but also a treasured choir member.

Jane's support of the choir and our youth who are participating in the choir is amazing. It is wonderful to see so many little ones joyfully singing and adding life to our services. We also appreciate Nathan's help with our preparations for services on Sunday morning. Thank you to Bev for helping us stay organized, keeping track of our sheet music and communicating rehearsal schedules.

We are very thankful for the music ministry of Amanda Dibbs and Joan Hartley, who generously give of their time and talent. I so appreciate their willingness to play for our congregation in my absence. Thank you also to the wardens for their support and kindness and flexibility with our busy family life. Thank you to Christie who helps keep us organized. Thank you to Mark with supporting music needs in his treasurer role.

This year will mark my 25<sup>th</sup> year of music ministry. It is comforting to feel after so much time here that we continue to have a loving community gather each week that is truly engaged, present and supportive our worship. I am grateful for the constant, comforting presence of this place during so many chapters of my life thus far.

We hope to continue to offer relevant worship music and infuse Sundays with new hymns and anthems and look forward to a great year ahead.

Andrea Morosin

## PAC Reports

Activities continued to flourish in 2024 due to the many parishioners who volunteered their time and talents to support our events. Strong attendance by our parishioners and the local community was instrumental in contributing to their success.

New this year was the very successful stand-alone Book Sale in April, coordinated by Sharon Pyke and her team of volunteers. Attendees were lined up down the street prior to our opening time and many thanked us for meeting the need of local booklovers for a used book sale.

Our Kentucky Derby Party proved to be a returning favourite this year thanks to the efforts of Mark and Sally Charlton and their team of volunteers. The Spring Market and Plant Sale showcased our largest number of vendors to date as well as a healthy variety of plants donated by our parish members.

The Pork Luau made for a colourful venue in which to enjoy the delicious pork meal prepared by Christian and Christie Paulton, volunteer salad makers and bakers.

Sunday Funday Golf coordinated by Daniel Hofgartner, was held for the third consecutive year and again included a delicious steak dinner. Special shoutout here to Elaine Janosik and Jane Martin who tirelessly ladle out the food for these events with love and good humour.

Our pancake dinner, Thanksgiving Dinner and Pot Roast Dinner continued to be annual favourites within our church and larger community. Loads of thanks to Dawn Dean, Arla Peters and their teams of volunteers.

Our final event of the year was Trinkets and Treats, a new event coordinated by Jane Cornett. Donations of gorgeous jewelry, scarves and purses poured in and were eagerly purchased by attendees. Many people commented on the quality of the items that were available. Many thanks to the team of volunteers who sorted, cleaned and set up the displays for us, and to the bakers who generously contributed awesome baked goods for the treats.

To reiterate, these activities would not be possible without the support of our parish family members. Those who volunteer, those who attend and those who make financial contributions are vital to the success of these events. Activities are planned that include not just fundraising but opportunities for fellowship among our parish community.

Looking forward to the 2025 activities that are shaping up and to continued offerings from our Holy Rollers and kitchen magicians!

Brooke White

## Lay Delegates Report to Vestry

After being a Lay Delegate for several years the things I look forward to most is the beautiful service in the Cathedral at the start of Synod, reconnecting with old friends and making new ones.

After the Service this year there was a hospitality suite in the Hall afterwards organized by Dean Kevin where I was lucky enough to purchase a jar of Churchyard Bees Honey which is made at St Aidan's.

Turning to Grace was the theme of Synod this year. During his Charge the Bishop asked us "What is your Gift to give?" Definitely something to think about in the times.

The church needs the encouragement and engagement of Lay People to organize for the needs of today and tomorrow. He mentioned there is a lot to do with fewer people. There are for example aging properties which need to be developed and reused spaces to be remained and resources to consolidate in strategic and creative ways.

This is a time of uncertainty but we cannot be afraid of new ways.

We have a lot to learn.

The complete charge can be found on the Diocesan website. During the day on Saturday we heard the Finance Report, Faith Witness reports, report on Camp Huron, report on Indigenous Ministries and Nominations to General Synod which happens next year.

Dean Kevin sent us home at the end of the afternoon

Signed Respectfully  
Christine McVeigh

## Children's and Youth Ministry Report



As I look back on 2024 and all the wonderful events that have happened, I am excited to report on the wonderful year of growth we have had! For me, these two pictures, taken during First Communion classes in April, speak about who we are as Christians. When reading 1 Corinthians chapter 12, we learned that we have each received a variety of gifts from the Holy Spirit. We come together, as the body of Christ, sharing our gifts with one another. Together, in our uniqueness, we become the Church. We are One Body with Many Parts! We all have talents to share for one another.



This past year, the children shared their gifts and their energy to help bring the Gospels to life in so many ways! They certainly had some fun answers for Rev. Ryan during children's focus. They are eager to learn and share stories!

The children and youth are an active and intentional part of congregational life as witnessed by their eagerness to help on Sunday mornings: by ringing the bell, processing with the Gospel down the aisle, making artwork for senior homes, even dancing the hula to promote the Luau! In Sunday school, the children



instinctively assist one another- some by reading to the younger ones, others by making stories come alive with drama and art projects. During communion a few weeks ago, the children anointed parishioners with the sign of the cross and a blessing of 'You are a child of God'. The Spirit is alive in our young ones!

Several events offered outside of Sunday mornings included an Epiphany party, Deanery bowling, youth attending a performance of 'A Wrinkle in Time', children assisting Rev. Ryan to burn palm crosses in preparation for Ash Wednesday, attending our Walk through Holy Week program, First Communion classes, participating in the Terry Fox run, apple picking (and making apple crisp), parish pumpkin carving and Gingerbread House making. These events helped families spend more time getting to know one another.

During the summer, classrooms were remodelled and ready to go for our increased numbers of children attending Sunday school. With a weekly average of 12-16 children and youth, we now offer two classes: younger class for those 4-8 and one for those 8 and above. We also have a nursery available for those under 4 if needed. We are so blessed to have Laura Bird and Taryn Murray on board to teach and share their many talents to bring the stories alive to the children! You are both amazingly gifted individuals!

We are blessed to have several youth- Emma, Victoria, Sophie, Avery, Nyles and Kaitlyn who rotate to help in nursery and the younger class. We are so thankful for all that you do to care for the children! You are modeling what it is like to act as a servant of God.



We currently have approx. 35 children and youth registered and attending church on a fairly regular basis. In the Fall, we took our time to learn about the stories of Creation, Adam and Eve and of Noah’s Ark. The children even dressed up as animals for Halloween! Thanks to Lily who provided facepainting for the children that day!

Many thanks to Debbie Monette who helps to care for our littlest ones in the nursery. We

currently need 2-3 additional adult volunteers willing to assist once a month in the nursery to care for those under 4 yrs. All volunteers are screened and follow Safe Church policies.

We are blessed to have the talents of Christie and Christian Paulton who helped prepare our Walk Through Holy Week, using their creativity to tell this important story. Many thanks to Coni Moore who knit Easter chicks and gave one to each child! I also want to thank Angie Tuovinen for co-



ordinating a fun gingerbread house decorating event! Thanks to Dawn Dean for always being ready to assist with the various family programs offered this year. Thank you all for your continued dedication and love you show to our church families!



I want to especially thank Nathan Dean for his continued dedication as head server each week. He celebrates his 15<sup>th</sup> year as a server this year! Let’s all congratulate him for sharing his time and talents (including bringing Wi-Fi signals to the Sunday school rooms!). Thanks also to Victoria and Emma who very capably serve as well! We look forward to training more young people to assist at the altar in the next few years.

Rev. Ryan, Laura Bird and I are currently conducting Confirmation classes for young people and are preparing 7 candidates from the Deanery to make their confirmation during the Bishop’s visit on July 6<sup>th</sup>. Please keep these young people in your prayers and they continue to learn more about their faith. Thank you for supporting them and helping them on their journeys! I give thanks for Rev. Ryan’s leadership and guidance with the Children’s and Youth Ministry. You set a wonderful example and you and your family are a true blessing to St. Marks! I am excited to see what 2025 will bring and look forward to working together to provide a strong ministry!

Respectfully submitted by Jane Cornett

## Outreach Report

St. Mark's by-the-Lake's Outreach committee has focused its work with children and youth mental health education for our parishioners and community members. Additionally, we continue to collect food goods to donate to two food banks: St. John's and St. Mary's.

Our partnership with Maryvale has seen growth in numbers of participants learning from two skilled mental health professions. We would like to thank our two speakers, Jamie and Lori, who sensitively and without judgement led the following six sessions:

March 27 – Encouraging positive coping strategies: Kids and adults

April 24 – Understanding and coping with self-injurious behaviours

May 29 – Avoiding emotional outbursts while remaining calm

September 25 – Dealing with kids' emotions as they transition to school

October 30 – Anxiety coping strategies

November 27 – Coping with kids' emotions while avoiding adult burnout

New this year was the creation of parent/caregiver support groups: October 16 and November 13. The open friendly atmosphere of our church hall provided this group of parents the opportunity to openly wrestle with the issues that they were encountering with their teens as well as asking advice from our two Maryvale professionals. All participants wanted to be able to continue with these types of parent forums and we hope to continue this type of support in 2025.

Additionally, we are so fortunate to be able to engage MediaSmarts for a session on February 28 – The Parent Network: Social Media and Your Kids MediaSmarts. Thank you Kara Brisson-Boivin for leading this workshop.

We are so grateful to have such dedicated members of the Outreach Committee because without their commitment to setting up, cleaning up, arranging snacks and promoting the events, and welcoming registrants, we would not be able to offer these timely and educational experiences. Please consider joining our committee as we plan for 2025. A special thank you to Christie who has great skills in creating the posters and keeping the registration roster organized.

Beverly Watson and Sharon Pyke



## Rector's Report



What an absolute joy and a privilege it is to serve alongside you here at St. Mark's by-the-Lake. I thank God every day for every single one of you, for the wonderful people that you are, for the ways you give of yourself for others, for the ways you continue to commit yourself to serving God, God's people, and God's creation, near and far. You are a blessing to so many people, and especially those who are in need of an act of kindness, generosity, and grace. You continually show me that the Spirit is active and working in and through each of us and the loving service we offer. You inspire me every day to strive to be the best version of myself I can be, so that together we can share the Good News of God in Jesus, not just in this place, but out in the world and with everyone we meet. For all these things, and for so much more, I am deeply grateful.

There are a few particular thanksgivings I would also like to extend. First, to Amanda and Carolynne who have been the wardens here at St. Mark's for many years now, and who are now the first two who will be given the Warden Emeritus title (as we continue to transition to a three year ministry cycle for our wardens). Thank you both for all that you have done, some of which has been clearly visible for all to see, most of which is done in the background making sure all things run smoothly here at our parish. As sure as St. Peter was the rock upon which the Church was founded, so the two of you have been rocks upon which this particular church community has continued and endured under your faithful leadership these past years.



While there are likely other milestones in ministry that could be celebrated, the next two are ones that at this moment I am aware of, and so will share them with you. Andrea Morosin has now been our music director here at St. Marks' for 25 years! And Nathan Dean has been serving during Sunday worship (as server, head server, and now verger) for the last 15 years! God has blessed us richly by the ministry you uphold here at St. Mark's.



In recognition and celebration of their ministries here, Amanda and Carolynne, Andrea and Nathan, on behalf of this whole church community: we love you, we are so incredibly thankful for you and for the gifts you offer and share with us, and we look forward to continuing to journey alongside you here at St. Mark's in the years ahead.

This time last year I drew inspiration for my charge to vestry from the opening chapters of the Gospel of John, where Jesus calls his first disciples and tells them to 'Come and see'. I challenged our community here, at St. Mark's by-the-Lake, to the do the same: to invite others to 'Come and see' just what it is that we do here. To invite others to 'Come and see' why gathering in this place for worship, fellowship, learning, outreach, and the many other reasons we gather here, is so meaningful in our lives. Reflecting upon this past year I think we did well—we saw new people join us for worship and fellowship and times of fun; we saw the return of others who have been away for a time; we did things in different ways (like when we offered Ashes to Go on Ash Wednesday and Dinner Church on Fridays during Lent) to try and accommodate those for whom Sunday worship is just not logistically possible. In the year ahead, I hope that we continue to follow Jesus' example and invite others to 'Come and see'. More than that, however, I want this to be the year that we 'go and do' with God's help, in Jesus name.

At the very end of Matthew's Gospel, we find the disciples going to the mountain in Galilee where Jesus instructed them to go. And they went, probably with trepidation and with fear, with uncertainty and even doubt...nonetheless, they went, and they encountered the risen Jesus there, as he said they would. Matthew's

Gospel ends with Jesus speaking these words to the disciples on that mountain: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20, NRSVUE). The last thing Jesus tells them to do (while reminding them that he is and will be with them always and through everything) is just like the dismissal that we get at the end of worship every Sunday: Go, therefore, and do as I have told you, as I have showed you.

When Bishop Todd Townshend visited us and celebrated Easter with us last year, I half-jokingly said to the children during the children’s focus that morning, that I felt one of, if not *the* most important part of our worship service each and every Sunday, is the Dismissal (‘Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God). Not because I’m glad worship is done for the day; not because singing together and praying communally for the needs of others aren’t important and worthy of our time; not because being fed by the Word of God and by the body and blood of Jesus at the Lord’s table aren’t so foundational to understanding who are and what we do as Christians; not for any other reason besides the fact that coming to worship is for the very purpose of being sent back out into the world to live and serve, to love and do as Jesus would have us do. We come to this church, our church, St. Mark’s by-the-Lake, for the very purpose of being fed and nourished spiritually, inwardly, by the grace and love of God, so that we can be sent back out into the world as the Church, the Body of Christ.

It's no coincidence that these two actions or invitations (‘come and see’ and ‘go and do’) lead one to the other. It is precisely in our coming to this place and seeing what the grace and love of God are all about that we are then sent out into the world to go and do in Jesus’ name. And it’s precisely in our going out into the world as Church and doing in the name of Jesus where we can be living examples of God’s grace and love. When we encounter others in the world who witness something of the Spirit working through us, then we can, once again, extend the same invitation to them: ‘Come and see’.

My friends, this year we will take the dismissal of the disciples at the end of Matthew’s Gospel to heart, and put it into practice in our own lives and ministry; this will be the year that the dismissal at the end of our worship becomes the moment when we begin the start of a new week of living like Jesus in the world. We will come to worship specifically for the purpose of being nourished for the journey ahead, and then dismissed to go into the world, not just serving ourselves and our own needs, but to do the good work of disciples, seeking and serving Christ in all person, loving our neighbours as ourselves. Because we are the Church. We are the Body of Christ. We are the disciples, who go up the mountain to meet Jesus, sometimes with fear and trepidation, sometimes with uncertainty and even doubt. But always with hope that Jesus will meet us there, will meet us here, at St. Mark’s by-the-Lake, and in each other. Then, promising to be with us, day after day after day, right up to the end of the age, Jesus will send us on our way again: Go to the world! (Common Praise 598, see text below).

Yours in the peace of Christ,  
Ryan+

*Go to the world! Go into all the earth.  
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life’s worth,  
baptizing as the sign of our rebirth. Alleluia!*

*Go to the world! Go into every place.  
Go live the word of God’s redeeming grace.  
Go seek God’s presence in each time and space. Alleluia!*

*Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;  
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.  
As servant church, you follow Christ's own way. Alleluia!*

*Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,  
for I am with you will the age shall end,  
when all the hosts of glory cry, 'Amen!' Alleluia!*

## **Appendix to Rector's Report**

### **Statistics for 2024**

Baptisms: 5

Weddings: 2

Funerals: 7

Average Sunday Attendance: 92

Average Weekly Attendance: 96

#### **Given Christian Burial by Clergy of This Parish:**

Keith Moore, Margaret Blackmore, William Spencer,

Henry Tuovinen, Susan Long, Donna Wallace and Monica Willis.

*Rest eternal grant unto them O Lord and let light perpetual shine upon them.*

*May their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace.*

# 2024 Financial Report

## St. Mark's by-the-Lake

Summary Financial Statements

December 31, 2024

		Outreach &				
<u>Budget</u>		Operating	Capital	Youth	Total 2024	<u>2023</u>
<b>Balance Sheet</b>						
Bank & Interfund		28,214	25,306	5,671	<b>59,192</b>	53,136
Other Assets		-	2,059,579	-	<b>2,059,579</b>	2,059,579
total assets		28,214	2,084,885	5,671	<b>2,118,771</b>	2,112,715
Payables		2,779	2,501	185	<b>5,465</b>	7,241
Parishioners		-	118,220	-	<b>118,220</b>	141,720
Reserves		20,331	22,806	5,486	<b>48,623</b>	40,794
Equity		5,104	1,941,359	-	<b>1,946,463</b>	1,922,960
total liabilities & equity		28,215	2,084,885	5,671	<b>2,118,771</b>	2,112,715
<b>Income Statement</b>						
Donations	200,658	199,775	34,282	1,440	<b>235,497</b>	222,512
Fundraising	20,000	31,181	6,671	-	<b>37,853</b>	18,980
Other Income	13,250	17,064	-	-	<b>17,064</b>	14,841
Reserves	1,000	5,269	(13,511)	414	<b>(7,829)</b>	4,388
Interfund transfers		(27,431)	21,361	6,070	<b>-</b>	
total funding	234,908	225,859	48,802	7,924	<b>282,585</b>	260,721
Administration	7,500	10,810	-	-	<b>10,810</b>	12,283
Apportionment	32,418	32,418	-	-	<b>32,418</b>	31,120
Loan interest	2,798	-	2,798	-	<b>2,798</b>	2,798
Ministry	15,400	10,057	-	7,924	<b>17,980</b>	15,548
Property	44,576	34,244	19,450	-	<b>53,694</b>	51,400
Salaries	132,213	141,381	-	-	<b>141,381</b>	94,962
total expenditures	234,905	228,910	22,248	7,924	<b>259,082</b>	208,112
Surplus (Deficit)	3	(3,051)	26,554	-	<b>23,503</b>	52,609

## St. Mark's by-the-Lake

Notes to financial statements for the year ending  
December 31, 2024

### 1. Accounting policies

Capital assets represent historical costs of buildings, major renovations, furniture and equipment. Values are not amortized to operations.

During the year voluntary services were provided. These services are not normally purchased by the Church. Because of the difficulty in determining their fair value, donated services are not recognized in these statements

2. Parishioner loans are due in 2026. Interest rates vary from 0 to 3.25%.

### 3. Outreach & Youth reserves

	<u>Youth</u>	<u>Outreach</u>	<u>Jubilee</u>	<u>2024 total</u>	<u>2023 total</u>
opening	\$ 2,394	\$ 1,304	\$ 2,202	\$ 5,900	\$ 6,700
spending	(948)	(341)		(1,289)	(800)
donations		875		875	
closing	\$ 1,446	\$ 1,838	\$ 2,202	\$ 5,486	\$ 5,900

### 4. Capital Reserve:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
opening	\$ 9,295	\$ 12,883
insurance proceeds boiler	13,511	
parking lot		(8,588)
allocation from surplus		5,000
closing	\$ 22,806	\$ 9,295

### 5. Capital Equity - represents net assets through Capital fundraising

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
opening equity	\$ 1,914,805	\$ 1,867,859
Parishioner debt decrease	23,500	50,000
Interest payable	3,054	(3,054)
closing equity	\$ 1,941,359	\$ 1,914,805

### Treasurer's Report

Significant events during 2024 include:

- Replacement of Hall boiler
- Appeal to clear deficit (offering shortfall)
- Debt reduction
- Receipt of Insurance proceeds to Capital Reserve
- Cleaning moved to staff position
- Salary increases delayed to mid year (Ryan+ and Christie)

Looking ahead; we should focus on:

- Paying down debt
- Building reserves for discretionary and capital
- Be more intentional with fundraising

## St. Mark's by-the-Lake

profile of donations

<u>Stratified Donations</u>	2023			2024		
	#	\$	avg	#	\$	avg
> \$ 2,500	16	62,504	3,907	25	123,940	4,958
> \$ 1,500	20	38,316	1,916	22	41,888	1,904
> \$ 1,000	25	31,389	1,256	27	33,019	1,223
> \$ 500	28	22,313	797	20	14,484	724
> \$ 100	36	12,050	335	37	8,215	222
< \$ 100	36	1,990	55	28	1,345	48
	161	168,562	1,047	159	222,891	1,402

<u>Key giving categories</u>	2023			2024		
	#	\$	avg	#	\$	avg
PreAuthorized Pmt	54	73,480	1,361	48	74,545	1,553
Seasonal	49	8,310	170	73	7,647	105
Capital	11	5,230	475	9	4,760	529
Sundays	106	68,124	643	112	84,811	757

### Ways to Donate

- 1 Sunday collection plate
- 2 Mail in Cheques
- 3 eTransfers - [stmarksdonate@gmail.com](mailto:stmarksdonate@gmail.com)  
[smbtl eTransfer procedures.pdf \(stmarkschurch.net\)](https://stmarkschurch.net/smbtl_eTransfer_procedures.pdf)
- 4 Share Donations - transfer to Diocesan Broker
- 5 PreAuthorized Payment - automated monthly withdrawals through Diocese  
[PRE-AUTHORIZED \(stmarkschurch.net\)](https://stmarkschurch.net/PRE-AUTHORIZED)
- 6 InKind - provide needed supplies for events or equipment
- 7 Canada Helps - online  
[Donate Now - ST MARK'S by the Lake Anglican Church \(canadahelps.org\)](https://canadahelps.org/Donate-Now-ST-MARK'S-by-the-Lake-Anglican-Church)

# 2025 Proposed Budget

## St. Mark's by-the-Lake

### Draft Budget to Vestry for 2025

#### Certainty Spectrum

Planned	Predict	Possible
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notes		actual 2022	actual 2023	final 2024	Proposed 2025	\$ chg	% chg
	<b>Funding</b>						
1	Offerings	175,439	163,562	177,575	180,000	2,425	1.4%
2	Other Income	11,222	14,841	17,064	15,650	(1,414)	
3	Fundraising	12,448	18,980	37,853	32,000	(5,853)	
4	Special Donations	5,015	58,950	43,846	2,500	(41,346)	
	From (to) Reserves	(153)	4,388	5,682	1,000	(4,682)	
	<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>203,972</b>	<b>260,721</b>	<b>282,020</b>	<b>231,150</b>	<b>(50,870)</b>	
	<b>Expenses</b>						
5	Apportionment	28,832	31,120	32,418	29,486	(2,932)	-9.0%
	Bank Charges	106	114	120	360	240	
	Chancel Guild	2,990	3,576	4,762	3,500	(1,262)	
	Ministry - Other	3,304	3,292	3,875	6,000	2,125	
	Music Supplies	927	1,746	919	1,200	281	
	Office	7,269	12,169	10,691	9,140	(1,551)	
	Youth Ministry	175	1,764	2,404	1,200	(1,204)	
6	Rector - Salary	43,775	18,000	48,990	52,412	3,422	7.0%
6	Rector - Benefits	30,636	13,138	34,785	36,360	1,575	4.5%
7	Staff	42,482	63,824	57,607	60,076	2,469	4.3%
8	Property	17,428	28,583	30,093	9,520	(20,573)	
8	Utilities & Insurance	19,048	22,817	23,600	24,419	819	3.5%
	Outreach	3,683	5,169	5,455	3,500	(1,955)	
	Evangelism	-	-	-	1,000	1,000	
	Loan interest	3,315	2,798	2,798	2,067	(730)	
9	Loan principal	10,000	50,000	23,500	-	(23,500)	
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>213,969</b>	<b>258,111</b>	<b>282,017</b>	<b>240,240</b>	<b>(41,777)</b>	<b>-14.8%</b>
	<b>Surplus/(deficit)</b>	<b>(9,998)</b>	<b>2,609</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>(9,090)</b>		

29,486		
	360	
	3,000	500
1,200	2,200	2,600
527	673	
4,900	4,240	
	800	400
52,412		
36,360		
60,076		
2,545	4,000	2,975
11,000	13,419	
	3,000	500
		1,000
2,067		
-		
<b>200,573</b>	<b>31,692</b>	<b>7,975</b>
<b>83.5%</b>	<b>13.2%</b>	<b>3.3%</b>

- 1 Offerings reflect a modest increase from 2024
- 2 Other income reflects HST refund and rent revenues
- 3 Fundraising is down to 'refresh' some events
- 4 Special Donations are Outreach appeals
- 5 per final Diocesan worksheet on website
- 6 Full year with 3.6% for inflation and 1% for experience
- 7 increased for full year of cleaning hours; no increases
- 8 regular maintenance and 4% insurance increase
- 9 Interest only unless contributions increase

## Nominating Report Vestry 2025

Warden	Sharon Pyke (appointed by Rector)
Warden	Daniel Hofgartner (nominated)
Deputy Warden	Barbara Richards (appointed by Rector)
Deputy Warden	Laura K. Bird (nominated)
Warden Emeritus	Amanda Dibbs
Warden Emeritus	Carolynne Mastellotto
Parish Administrator	Christie Paulton (Appointed by Wardens)
Treasurer	Mark Charlton (Appointed by Wardens)
Deputy Treasurer	Emmanuel Abugu
Lay Delegate to Synod	Mark Charlton
Lay Delegate to Synod	Laura K. Bird
Alt. Lay Delegate to Synod	Chris McVeigh
Alt. Lay Delegate to Synod	Ann Cochrane
Children & Youth Ministry	Jane Cornett
Youth Delegate	Taryn Murray
Property Chair	Harold Horneck
Parish Activities Coordinator	Brooke White
Parish Council Members	Carolynne Mastellotto (appointed)
	Amanda Dibbs (appointed)
	Emmanuel Abugu (appointed)
	Harold Horneck (appointed)
	Jane Cornett (appointed)
	Brooke White (appointed)
	Ruth Meyer (nominated)
	Arla Peters (nominated)
	Nelly Schuurman (nominated)
	Christian Paulton (nominated)
	Steve White (nominated)
	Ed Sears (nominated)
Council Member Emeritus	John Anderson
Financial Reviewer	Marge & Jim Durling
Pastoral Care Coordinators	Barbara Lyons and Bev Watson
Outreach	Bev Watson
Chancel Guild Coordinator	Coni Moore
Hospitality & Fellowship	Angie Tuovinen
Music Director	Andrea Morosin
Verger	Nathan Dean