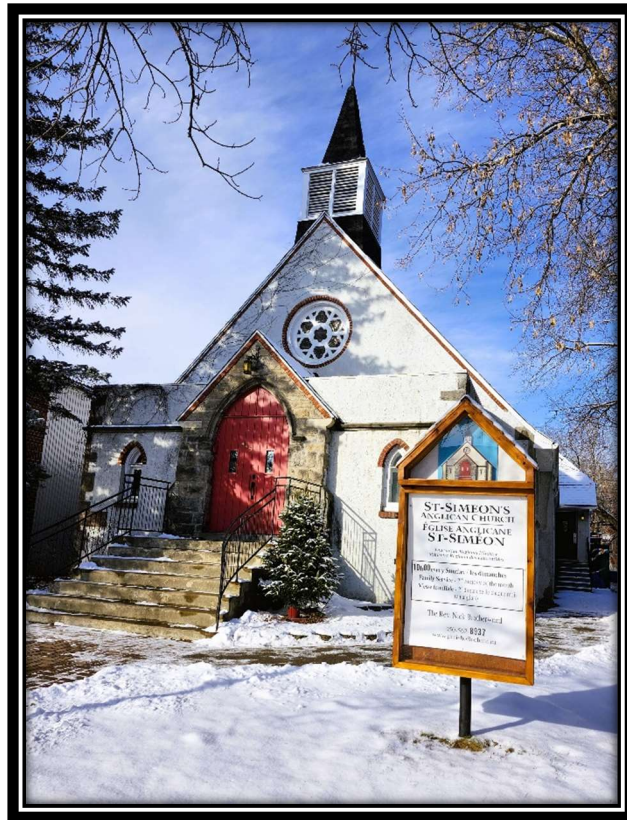


St. Simeon's Anglican Church
Annual Vestry Meeting
February 9, 2025



Agenda
Minutes
Reports

St. Simeon's Anglican Church

Church address: 445 rue Principale,
Lachute, Quebec

Mailing address: 4 Mady Street,
Lachute, Quebec J8H 3B9

Website: <https://stsimeonsanglican.ca>

Telephone:

Church 450 -562 -8937

Priest in Charge:

Administration:

People's Warden	Andy Mason
Deputy People's Warden	Karen Napp
Rector's Warden	Susan Sioui
Treasurer	Herb Sioui
Vestry Clerk	Karen Napp

Groups:

Women's Fellowship	Ann Mason
Bible Study	Susan Sioui

Worship Service:

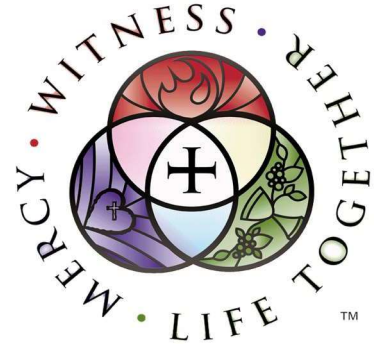
Lay Assistants	Edna Hall, Andy Mason, Joan Painter, Jenna Sioui, Susan Sioui
Alternate Service	Gordon McPhee & Susan Sioui
Altar Guild	Edna Hall
Music	Janis Morrill
Hosts and Readers	Joan Painter
Coffee Hour	Donna Silversen
Web Site	Susan Sioui



St. Simeon's Annual Vestry Meeting

February 9, 2025

1. **Opening Prayer**
2. **Welcome and Thanks**
3. **Appointment of the Vestry Clerk**
4. **Adoption of the Agenda**
5. **In Memoriam**
6. **Minutes of the Annual Vestry meeting 2024**
7. **Business Arising from the minutes**
 - 7.1
8. **Reports**
 - 8.1 Clergy
 - 8.2 Rector's Warden
 - 8.3 People's Wardens
9. **Treasurer's Report**
10. **Group Reports:**
 - 10.1 Lay Assistants
 - 10.2 Alternate Service
 - 10.3 Altar Guild
 - 10.4 Music
 - 10.5 Hosts and Readers
 - 10.6 Women's Fellowship
 - 10.7 Coffee Hour
 - 10.8 Website
 - 10.9 Bible Study
 - 10.10 A) Acceptance of Reports
11. **Appointments**
12. **Nomination Committee Report**
13. **Prayer of Dedication**
14. **Financial Stewardship**
 - 14.1 2025 Budget
15. **New Business**
 - 15.1
16. **Adjournment**
17. **Closing Prayer**



St. Simeon's Anglican Church

Annual Vestry Meeting Year 2023 February 25th, 2024

In attendance: The Reverend Nick Brotherwood, Susan & Herb Sioui, Ann & Andy Mason, Janis Morrill, Richard Pink, Constance Brown, Catherine Brown, Darren Prentice, Karen Napp

This meeting was held in person at St. Simeon's Church.

1. **Opening Prayer:** Rev. Nick Brotherwood opened the meeting with prayer.
2. **Welcome & Thanks:** Rev. Nick welcomed and thanked those in attendance (11) for St. Simeon's Annual General Vestry Meeting for the year 2023.
3. **Appointment of the Vestry Clerk:** Herb Sioui nominated Karen Napp. Karen accepted. Seconded by Richard Pink. All in favour.
4. **Adoption of the Agenda:** Susan Sioui moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by Herb Sioui. All in favour.
5. **In Memoriam:** We remember and pray for loved ones lost this past year: Lorraine Tilsley & Garth Morrill
6. **Minutes of the last Annual General Vestry Meeting:** Approval of minutes from February 12th, 2023, for Year 2022. Andy moved to accept the minutes. Seconded by Herb. Thanks were expressed to Karen for these minutes. All in favour.
7. **Business arising from the minutes:** No business arising.

8. **Reports:**

8.1 Clergy Report: Rev. Nick B. spoke to the clergy's report presented in the AVM booklet. Nick expressed thanks to all for their support, especially to Edna, Herb, and Andy. Susan commented how much we, at St. Simeon's, appreciate Nick's ministry here in Lachute, it's a gift to all of us.

8.2 Rector's Warden: Report attached. Edna gave thanks to people who contributed in the past year in one way or another and to Nick for his support and leadership, leaving St. Simeon's a resilient and forward-looking community.

8.3 People's Warden: Report attached. Andy thanked Karen for her help as Deputy People's Warden, everything is working well.

8.4 Ukrainian Outreach: Andy thanked people for their generosity in donating to this outreach. Nick thanked Ann and Andy for initiating and organizing this project, it was very successful.

9. Treasurer's Report: Herb presented the Treasurer's Report for the year 2023, report attached. Total Revenue for 2023: 55 618\$, Expenses for 2023: 63 495\$, leaving an Operating Deficit of 7 877\$. Congregation Equity is: 1 428 239\$

Herb thanked Andy Mason for verifying the treasurer's financial report. Andy thanked Herb for his tremendous amount of work all year long on financial reports, etc. Herb moved for acceptance of the Financial Report for 2023, seconded by Darren. All in favour.

10. **Group Reports:**

10.1 Lay Assistants: Report attached. Susan spoke to Joan's report, expressing thanks to Edna for scheduling lay assistants and providing all the necessary information to them. We always look forward to receiving volunteers into the lay assistant ministry.

10.2 Family Service: Report attached. Susan expressed how grateful and blessed we are to have Gordon. He prepares the whole service which has now evolved into an “Alternate Service” for adults.

10.3 Altar Guild: Report attached. Ann spoke to the report on behalf of Judy. Thanks expressed to all who help in this ministry. All is going well.

10.4 Music: Report attached. Janis appreciates the help from Andy playing the clarinet and from the congregation with their singing. We hope to re-introduce the triple Amen at the end of the service and the Glory.

10.5 Hosts & Readers: Report attached.

10.6 Women’s Fellowship: Report attached. Ann commented on their reduced activities but still are very meaningful in our community and outside.

10.7 Coffee Hour: Report attached. All is going well with the support of parishioners who very willingly prepare and serve coffee and snacks.

10.8 Website: Report attached. Susan keeps the website up to date and current. Thanks were given to Susan for her very professional looking presentation of the website.

10 A: Acceptance of Reports: Richard Pink moved acceptance of the above and attached reports. Karen & Herb seconded, all in favour.

11. Appointments: Rev. Nick noted that he is not yet ready to appoint a Rector’s Warden as Edna retires from that responsibility that she has undertaken for several years. Nick stated that there could be a re-allocation of responsibilities of the Rector’s Warden and re-distribution of duties is needed for future. Chalice administrators appointed are Edna Hall, Susan Sioui, Joan Painter, Richard Pink, Andy Mason, and Jenna Sioui. Herb Sioui was appointed as treasurer by the Corporation of St. Simeon’s. The verifier of St. Simeon’s annual financial reports is Andy Mason. All appointed.

12. Nomination Committee Report: The nominations committee, Andy Mason and Jenna Sioui, presented their nominations for 2024. Susan moved to accept people as nominated, seconded by Andy. All in favour. The committee nominates the following people to the various offices:

People’s Warden	Andy Mason
Deputy People’s Warden	Karen Napp
Host Family & Readers Co-coordinator	Joan Painter & Judy Evans
Coffee Hour Co-coordinator	Donna Silverson
*Synod Delegate	* Herb Sioui (if held online)

Ann and Andy asked Nick if he would approach the organizers of the annual Synod conference if it could be held online or a hybrid version.

13. Prayer of Dedication: Rev. Nick said a prayer for all nominations.

14. Financial Stewardship:

14.1 Budget for 2024: Report attached. Herb presented the budget for 2024. Expenses at \$60 380 for an Operating Deficit of \$10 950. We will be receiving interest income from our investments of approximately \$22 000, which will be a big help to our financial situation for the coming year. The reality of the budget is an operating deficit. Herb commented expenses are basically ministerial costs, assessment fees have dropped from last year by almost \$3 000, insurance has increased by \$800. Herb moved for acceptance of the 2024 budget, seconded by Darren. All in favour.

15. New Business: No new business.

16. Ministerial Priorities for 2024: Rev. Nick commented that we have to see how we can join other churches to worship together. We have to open up discussion with United Church as its present location has been sold and that church community will have to find a new location for worship.

17. Adjournment: The Annual General Vestry meeting of 2024 for the Year 2023 was adjourned at 12:50 p.m. by Rev. Nick, seconded by Ann Mason. All in favour.

Susan expressed heartfelt thanks to Edna for all that she has done as Rector's Warden of St. Simeon's with efficiency and thoughtfulness. All agreed.

18. Closing Prayer & The Grace: Rev. Nick thanked all for coming and closed with a prayer and The Grace was said by all in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Napp,
Vestry Clerk

Clergy Report

During the year I continued to lead Wednesday morning hymn sings at the Lachute Residence usually on the first Wednesday of the month, often joined by members of St. Simeon's, Edna Hall, Janis Morrill, Ann and Andy Mason. Alongside other members of St. Simeon's, I was involved in the leadership of the in-person Lent and Advent studies, both being held at the Rotary Apartments. They continued to be very much appreciated by all who were there, and I hope that it will be possible to continue them in 2025.

I was very appreciative of the efforts made on the part of many people to make sure we are able to continue to have regular Sunday services each week. Especially those who continued to lead the Morning Prayer services, as well as Gordon McPhee and the team who lead the Alternative Services. The commitment of all the members of the parish council and others has been excellent. I want to especially thank Susan Sioui who agreed to serve as Rector's Warden for the second time in my time at St. Simeon's, it was a joy to work alongside her. Thank-yous are also due to Andy serving as People's Warden, and to Herb continuing to serve as our Treasurer.

St. Simeon's commitment to outreach continued with the Christmas collection to Centre d'Entraide d'Argenteuil organised by Judy Evans

Summer saw us sharing services with the United Church, it is always good when we meet together with our United sisters and brothers in Christ.

I was able to attend the annual clergy conference in September as well as an ordination at the beginning of October.

My connection with the church dates back to summer 1981, it has been a privilege for me to have been able to serve St. Simeon's in different capacities since July 2018. We certainly been through some interesting times together. I have appreciated the various talents represented in the congregation, its ability to adapt to changing times, and its incredible generosity shown to me in many different ways, but especially in the gift and reception given to me to mark my retirement.

I look forward to seeing you again, maybe even on a summer's Tuesday at Lachute Market!

"I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work in you will continue to complete it until the day of Jesus Christ." (Philippians 1v6. NRSV)

Respectfully submitted,
Nick Brotherhood

Rector's Warden Report

2024 has been a year of change and adaptation. I became Rector's Warden in May, 2024, trying my best to step into the very capable, skillful, and accomplished shoes of Edna Hall. I thank her for her patient encouragement over the past months. I am humbled to serve in this role, and I hasten to add that working with Nick, Andy and Karen has been a true blessing to me.

No work gets done anywhere without the willingness of others to share their individual gifts. We are blessed with many people who serve quietly in the background ensuring that our ministry continues.

We are thankful to the Lay Assistants who take an important leadership role in the services; Edna, Andy, Joan and myself; for Gordon and his creative direction and his musical gifts in the alternate services. St. Simeon's is blessed with the talents of many musicians: Janis who faithfully plays the organ and chooses the hymns each week; Andy who accompanies Janis with his clarinet; Nick and his bodhran on percussion, and the occasional visit from the Smith family with their wonderful musical talents. Now and then, we are even blessed by a trumpet-playing John Matheson. I agree with Joseph Fielding Smith when he wrote: "My soul is always lifted up, and my spirit cheered and comforted, when I hear good music. I rejoice in it very much indeed."

We are thankful to Herb Sioui, our treasurer who makes sure that our bills are paid, government forms are filled out and receipts are sent out. Herb prepares a financial statement for our monthly Parish Council meetings and for the year end.

St. Simeon's had three outreach programs throughout the year: A Lay team in collaboration with Nick, organized two Bible studies, one in Lent and one in Advent, held at the Rotary Apartments. We have been very encouraged with the participation from both the residents

and our own parishioners. Under the leadership of Nick, St. Simeon's took responsibility for a service of worship at the Residence on the first Wednesday of each month. Nick encouraged the involvement of Janis and Andy offering their gift of music and Ann and Edna who caringly accompany the residents during the service. Finally, Judy Evans initiated a collection at Christmas for our local community organization, Centre d'Entraide. The money raised will help the needy in our area.

Thanks to Joan, Donna and Judy for providing readers, host families and coffee providers every Sunday. We have a power point presentation to help follow the service each week. The Altar Guild not only sets up the altar each and every Sunday, but they beautifully decorate the church for our festivals.

Our Sunday services have maintained their pattern of worship. On the first Sunday of each month, we have a Morning Prayer service led by one of our Lay Assistants. On the third Sunday, we have an alternate worship led by Gordon McPhee and the team of lay people. The second and fourth Sunday are Eucharist services which have been led by Rev'd. Nick Brotherhood.

In the month of July, St. Simeon's took a sabbatical, and our parishioners worshipped with other congregations in the area. In August, we worshipped with the Lachute United congregation alternately hosting both congregations with our respective priests. This is a tradition that has been upheld for many years now and the benefit for all is a sense of growing ecumenism in our community.

Andy and Karen with the competent help of Drummond Hall and Darren Prentice work to preserve our building's integrity and maintenance. The result of their hard work is always evident. Not only has Karen taken on many responsibilities with building maintenance, but she has also faithfully worked

as custodian and Vestry Clerk. Thanks to Karen for all of her hard work.

Andy has been an incredible support to me over the past months. I am thankful for his dedication to St. Simeon's and his patience and compassion for all.

The list goes on and on. I would however like to add my sincere gratefulness to Edna Hall for organizing and leading our Christmas Eve service at 4 pm. This service attracted over 60 people from the community, and it was a warm, thought-provoking celebration of the birth of a child in a manger.

My final word of appreciation goes to Nick Brotherhood whose words and actions are a constant reminder of what it means to be a true disciple of Christ. His humility, his patience, his wisdom were traits that brought us all a little closer to understanding what God is calling all of

us to do. Nick has moved into a new and exciting chapter of life, his retirement. We will miss his involvement and his compassion and his sense of humour, but we do wish him well on his journey and we recognize that he has equipped our Parish well simply because of his presence with us.

St. Simeon's has always held a very special place in my heart. It is a compassionate, resourceful and faithful group of people who come together to express their faith in a loving God. May we continue to grow together in the years to come. We go forward with confidence in a God of grace and mercy knowing that God has a plan for the people of St. Simeon's – and it is good!

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Sioui

People's Wardens Report

During 2024, much of the People's Wardens responsibilities again involved general maintenance of the building.

We have been very fortunate to have had in recent years, Darren Prentice as a member of our congregation.

A major roof repair was completed by Darren's company within the projected budget of 7500\$. In addition, Darren donated his time and resources to complete several other projects including general repair and updates on one of the bathrooms.

The new sign board in the front of the church property, a superb example of Darren's work and creativity, was donated by him. Thank you, Darren.

A thank you must also go to Drummond Hall and Herb Sioui for their valuable input in any and all maintenance concerns and work.

Again, this year snow removal is being carried out by Corey Haldimand.

At this point no major projects are being scheduled.

A shift in tasks will obviously take place during our present interregnum. We are looking forward to working closely with those involved in the selection of a new rector for St. Simeon's.

Respectively submitted,

Andy Mason, People's Warden
Karen Napp, Deputy People's Warden

Lay Assistants

2024 has been another successful year for St. Simeon's Church thanks to the hard work and creativity of the members in general and the lay assistants in particular. Changes in service format were put into operation and both services continue to run smoothly. All lay assistants worked hard to make sure our services were relevant and interesting to the congregation.

Sincere thanks to Susan Sioui, Edna Hall, Andy Mason, Joan Painter and Jenna Sioui, for being determined and helpful lay assistants through out 2024. Special thanks to Gordon and Rolanda McPhee for organizing special family services with homilies that were always thought provoking and interesting. Thank you, Gordon, for another year of your hard work and inspiring presentations. The duties of a lay assistant are varied and challenging but with continued guidance and leadership we look forward to

more participation from members willing to be a lay assistant which will help our future Sunday services to flow with creativity and strong Christian worship.

There is always a need for more volunteers to agree to serve as a lay assistant and the church welcomes anyone who feels called to this special ministry given during the regular Sunday services of Holy Communion and Morning Prayer. The variety of prayers and individuality of the lay assistant contributes to bring warmth and concern for others into our regular services. We thank all who have given their service in 2024 and welcome volunteers to consider sharing their faith in prayer and serving as a lay assistant.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Painter

Alternate Service

Once a month, on the third Sunday, St. Simeon's offers an alternate form of worship. This informal service evolved from our regular Family services, which were geared toward children and families. A faithful team of worship leaders have worked together since 1999, transforming the elements of worship as the needs required. Gordon McPhee has been involved since its inception, and for the past several years, he has taken on leadership of both the worship and the music (with his guitar). We are so thankful for his insightful homilies, his gift of music, and for his example of faith and trust in God. Many other people participate in the services, reading the lessons, leading prayers,

the responsive liturgy and many other parts of the service

What a blessing it is to have such dedicated and talented people: Ann Mason, Edna Hall, Jenna Sioui, Rolanda McPhee, Susan Sioui all work happily with Gordon to serve God in this celebration of faith.

Please join us on the third Sunday of each month from September to June at 10 am. We invite you to grow with us.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Sioui and Gordon McPhee

Altar Guild

The weekly duties of the Altar Guild are shared by Judy Evans, Ann Mason and myself. We are grateful for the help of Karen Napp, Andy Mason and Drummond Hall when decorating for special seasons of the year, including Easter, Thanksgiving and Advent/Christmas.

New members are always welcome. We consider it an honour and privilege to serve on this committee.

Respectfully submitted
Edna Hall

Music

Although there is no official 'choir' anymore, I believe that the hymns are appreciated and enjoyed. We have three hymns at the services most Sundays. I play the organ and Andy enhances the sound with his clarinet. This is such a help to me and very much appreciated. The singing from the congregation seems to be stronger now. I believe the power point display has a lot to do with this. Thank you, Susan.

One Sunday each month, Gordon McPhee conducts an 'Alternate Service" and leads the service with his guitar and great voice. The music on these Sundays is a bit more casual and up-beat.

All in all, I think the music at St. Simeon's is fine.

Respectfully,
Janis Morrill, Organist

Hosts and Readers

Sincere thanks to Judy Evans for helping ensure that our services ran with care and concern. Judy took over the organization of readers and hosts for nearly six months and her organizational skills were greatly appreciated. Thanks also to those who volunteered to accept responsibility for reading and/or hosting our weekly services. A few changes in presentation were made and

all volunteers were successful in ensuring each service was well presented by our readers throughout the year and that our hosts were helpful to newcomers. Continued assistance from those who volunteer is greatly appreciated and encouraged.

Respectfully,
Joan Painter

Women's Fellowship

At our four meetings in 2024, the Fellowship members came together for friendly discussions and reminiscing. We learned about Parish Council decisions, Church services and activities. We listened to and reflected on a devotion or moving story.

As each year comes to a close, the Fellowship makes a donation to Tyndale St George's.

Come and join us in March for a warm and interesting time together with coffee, tea and refreshments.

In February, on or about St. Valentine's Day, the group remembered friends at the Rotary Apartments, by baking and distributing cookies.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Mason, President

Coffee Hour

Coffee Hour is going well. I would like to thank everyone for their support in helping and taking turns serving coffee, tea and all the delicious snacks. I also thank anyone who brings treats to be served. It is greatly appreciated.

Wishing everyone a healthy happy New Year.

Donna Silverson,
Convener

St. Simeon's Website

Our website has been on the net for many years now. I am not sure how many of our parishioners look at the calendar or read the articles, but I do know that people are checking us out. I can tell that by the number of "hits" each article has – some have many hundred, some have a few. For instance, an article on our history has 450 hits and some of Gordon's sermons have over 150 hits. That indicates that people are finding our site and they are reading about what is happening in our church. I have kept the calendar up to date with services and

tried to keep the site current by posting newsletters and notices.

Is there something that you would like to see on our website? I am happy to consider any input and creative writing to add to the reading material on our site.

Please check us out:

<https://stsimeonsanglican.ca> and let me know what you think.

Susan Sioui,
Webmaster

*May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God
and
the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all evermore.
Amen*