

St. Simeon's Anglican Church

Annual Vestry Meeting

February 12, 2023



Agenda

Minutes

Reports

St. Simeon's Anglican Church

Church address:

445 rue Principale
Lachute, Quebec

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Telephone:

Church – 450 -562 -8937



Priest:

The Reverend Nick Brotherhood – Priest-in-Charge 514-246 -5796

Administration:

People's Warden - Karen Napp 450-562-1210
Rector's Warden - Edna Hall 450-562-6147
Treasurer - Herb Sioui 450-562-8451

Envelope Secretary - Donald Hamilton
Vestry Clerk - Karen Napp

Groups:

Women's Fellowship - Ann Mason

Worship Service:

Organist and Choir Master - Janis Morrill
Lay Assistants - Edna Hall, Andy Mason, Joan Painter, Richard Pink, Jenna Sioui,
Susan Sioui
Altar Guild - Edna Hall
Family Service - Gordon McPhee & Susan Sioui
Hosts and Readers - Joan Painter
Coffee Hour - Donna Silverson
Web Site - Susan Sioui

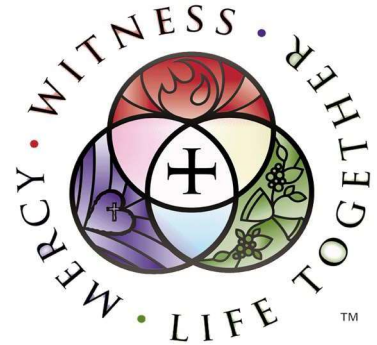
Representatives:

Cemetery Committee - Herb Sioui , Richard Pink

St. Simeon's Annual Vestry Meeting

February 12, 2023

1. **Opening Prayer**
2. **Welcome and Thanks**
3. **Appointment of the Vestry Clerk**
4. **Adoption of the Agenda**
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 - 10.9 Lachute Protestant Cemetery
 - 10.A) Acceptance of Reports
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12. **Nomination Committee Report**
13. **Prayer of Dedication**
14. **Financial Stewardship**
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16. **Ministerial Priorities for 2023 – Nick**
17. **Adjournment**
18. **Closing Prayer**



St. Simeon's Anglican Church

Annual Vestry Meeting Year 2021

February 27, 2022

In attendance: The Reverend Nick Brotherwood, Edna & Drummond Hall, Susan & Herb Sioui, Ann & Andy Mason, Gordon & Rolanda McPhee, Judy Evans, Richard Pink, Donnie Hamilton, Janick Tremblay-Bouchard, Joan Painter, Karen Napp

This meeting was held on Zoom, an on-line video-conferencing platform.

1. **Opening Prayer:** Rev. Nick Brotherwood opened the meeting with prayer, Hebrews 10: 24-25.
2. **Welcome & Thanks:** Rev. Nick welcomed and thanked those in attendance (15) for St. Simeon's Annual General Vestry Meeting for the year 2021.
3. **Appointment of the Vestry Clerk:** Edna Hall nominated Karen Napp. Karen accepted. Seconded by Ann Mason. All in favour.
4. **Adoption of the Agenda:** Judy Evans moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by Richard Pink. All in favour.
5. **In Memoriam:** We remember and pray for loved ones lost this past year:
George Deacon, S. McCall, B. McGuire, Wayne Neill, Evelyn Pink, Jean Parker, Cecile Thompson
6. **Minutes of the last Annual General Vestry Meeting:** Approval of minutes from February 7th, 2021, for Year 2020. Susan moved to accept the minutes. Seconded by Joan Painter. 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 that it has been a very strange year as far as his appointments during the past year. He is pleased to be back at St. Simeon's and we are very happy that Nick is once again at St. Simeon's.

8.2 Laurentian Regional Ministry: Report attached. Andy reported that the LRM did not meet a viable situation amongst all the churches of the LRM. Nick commented that the regional ministry was a bold experience. Thanks were expressed to Susan and Andy for being our LRM representatives for numerous years, and we are grateful to all who served in this ministry. Andy commented that the LRM did not quite work out as we had hoped but we will deal with the results and carry on again to our best ability. Andy appreciated the support from all who helped in the discussions on the covenant.

8.3 Rector's Warden: Report attached. Edna reported that 2021 was an eventful and challenging year. Edna thanked all who hold leadership positions, especially to Nick for his leadership and calmness. We have tried to keep connected with everyone in the parish and community during this pandemic time. Thanks were expressed to Edna for leading us through this difficult time. Susan commented on Edna's very informative Rector's Warden Report.

8.4 People's Warden: Report attached. Karen commented that the rectory is now vacant (as was also mentioned in the Rector's Warden report) and St. Simeon's must now face the future challenges associated with the rectory's purpose and upkeep. A rectory committee has been formed to discuss the options available for the rectory and its use. Karen thanked Drummond for his continuing help and support in all building related matters. Special thanks also to Edna for her tireless efforts in organizing and managing the many details of worship and business

at St. Simeons. And thank you to Nick for his leadership and encouragement during these past challenging years. And to everyone who has supported St. Simeons in every way possible, and certainly as a team we will continue to move forward.

9. Treasurer's Report: Herb presented the Treasurer's Report for the year 2021. A hard copy of this report may be requested from Herb. Total Revenue for 2021: 52 514\$, Expenses for 2021: 3 871\$, leaving an Operating Surplus of

8 643\$. Congregation Equity is: 1 441 302\$

The Allen organ is not depreciated; it's left at the same amount each year. 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 expressed thanks to Susan for her work on the preparation and presentation of the financial reports for this general meeting.

Herb moved for acceptance of the Financial Report for 2021, seconded by Ann and Gordon. All in favour.

10. Group Reports:

10.1 Lay Assistants: Report attached. Joan expressed thanks to lay assistants who have contributed so well and so positively. Nick thanked Joan for her contributions to this ministry.

10.2 Family Service: Report attached. Susan reported that there have been a few changes in the past year for this service and it is a more relaxed service. This service is now on the third Sunday of each month. Susan expressed thanks to Gordon and Rolanda McPhee for their leadership and willingness with this service. Thanks also to Nick for his support and encouragement.

10.3 Altar Guild: Report attached. Judy expressed her gratefulness to all who helped during her times of absence.

10.4 Choir: Report attached submitted by Janis Morrill. Andy reported there is still no formal choir in the choir stalls so there are no wrong notes being sung or no disharmony! Nick is grateful to Janis and Andy for providing music during services and also to Herb and Sue for recording the music when necessary.

10.5 Hosts & Readers: Report attached. Joan reported that we all manage to fill the void along the way. Thanks to all who agree to host or read at services.

10.6 Coffee Hour: Report attached. Edna commented that Donna Silverson, coordinator, does a lot work behind the scene to round up coffee hour servers and we thank Donna for all her efforts.

10.7 Women's Fellowship: Report attached. Ann commented that the Fellowship has only had one meeting in two years. But the fellowship carries on with phone calls and social media, etc. to keep connected with one another.

10.8 Seniors' Luncheons: Report attached. Andy reported that the committee has not met in some time and have actually closed the bank account for the seniors' luncheons and made a donation of the remaining funds to La Citad'Elle. The idea of serving these soup luncheons to seniors started approx. 25 years ago by Garth and Janis Morrill. Andy thanked all who have helped in this program and made it very much appreciated by seniors who attended.

10.9 Website: Report attached. Susan would appreciate feedback as to what people would like to see on the website to make it more interesting and a current site.

10.10 Lachute Protestant Cemetery: Report attached. Herb reported that the Cemetery committee was busy this past year with the removal of the asphalt road and replacing with crushed stone, tree trimming, and the spring time planting of 10 additional trees. The committee has lost 3 of its members and three new members will replace.

10 A: Acceptance of Reports: Edna thanked each group for representation on the team that we are and for taking on the responsibilities associated with each group. Nick commented that St. Simeons is well represented on online services and there is a great appreciation for the evening prayer services. A motion was made to accept these group reports that have been duly received and commented on. Richard Pink and Donnie Hamilton approved acceptance of the reports. All in favour.

11. Appointments: Rev. Nick appoints Edna Hall as Rector's Warden. 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 2022. Andy moved to accept persons as nominated, seconded by Judy. All in favour. The committee nominates the following people to the various offices:

People's Warden	Karen Napp
Envelope Secretary	Don Hamilton & Lorraine Forget
Host Family & Readers Co-coordinator	Joan Painter
Coffee Hour Co-coordinator	Donna Silverson
Cemetery Representatives	Herb Sioui & Richard Pink
LRM Council Representative	Andy Mason
*Synod Delegate	*Herb Sioui will allow his name to stand until a replacement is found

13. Prayer of Dedication: Rev. Nick said a prayer for all nominations and added that it is nice that our AVM is interspersed with prayer.

14. Financial Stewardship:

14.1 Budget for 2022: Report attached. Herb presented the budget for 2022. Revenues at \$35 600, Expenses at \$63 986 for an Operating Deficit of \$28 386.

The reality of the budget is an operating deficit. Herb commented that parishioners have been loyal and generous this past year as if they were actually attending in-person church services. No repair projects are forecast for this coming year. The money in the bank is approx. 90 000\$ and this could be used up in approx. 3 years for regular administrative and maintenance costs. Nick commented that this deficit will be a challenge and thanked Herb for advising us what is ahead for St. Simeon's. Herb moved for acceptance of the 2022 budget, seconded by Edna and Joan. All in favour.

15. New Business: No new business.

16. Ministerial Priorities for 2022: Rev. Nick commented on the new challenges and ideas for life facing us following a pandemic. This could include hybrid services; will this be the new normal? We are all getting older, are we willing to make room for younger support? By working together we can face challenges and changes together.

17. Adjournment: The Annual General Vestry meeting of 2022 for the Year 2021 was adjourned at 12:19 p.m. by Judy Evans, seconded by Joan Painter. All in favour.

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

2022 was my first full year as priest-in-charge of St. Simeon's. 2022 was also the third year of the Covid 19 pandemic, and for St. Simeon's it proved to be a year of gradual emerging from the restrictions (some of which were self-imposed) of the first two years. The re-introduction of wine at communion, (albeit in individual cups), the return to the communion rail to receive, and the restoration of the coffee hour, have been achieved with great regard for the safety of the community. I and the wardens would like to thank you all for your patience and support which we have enjoyed throughout the past three years.

Not all our members have returned to Sunday morning worship for various reasons, and we keep in touch by phone, email and newsletters. A working group of the parish council led by Karen Napp did a fantastic job dealing with the diocese over the sale of the rectory, which was successfully concluded. Susan Sioui did a massive amount of research on updating our audio-visual equipment and arranging for its purchase and installation. I feel that the introduction of a flat screen TV in place of the hymn board and the creative use of power point slides, have enhanced our worship.

I was involved with four interments of ashes, two at Lachute Protestant Cemetery and two at St. Andrew's East protestant Cemetery. After Covid restrictions were lifted in May, I led seven monthly Wednesday morning hymn sings at the Lachute Residence. Alongside other members of St. Simeon's, I was involved in the leadership of the Lent and Advent online studies we shared with other churches.

As a church community we are smaller than we were before the pandemic, and I am 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. The commitment of members of the parish council and others has been excellent. We continue to wrestle with many challenges but as we do so we look to God with great thankfulness for the way he has enabled us to cope with the past few years, and trust that he will continue to do so as we look to the future.

Thank you for your support and encouragement which you show me in so many ways as we follow the way of Jesus together.

"...let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith,..." (Hebrews 12.1b-2a)

Respectfully submitted,
Nick Brotherwood

Blessings

Rector's Warden Report

As I write this, I am struck by how much St. Simeon's has accomplished during the past year even though we are still living under the shadow of Covid. Our perseverance is an expression of our collective faith at work.

We began the year with online services but since March 6, have been able to return to weekly in person services: Morning Prayer on the first Sunday of the month, Family Service on the third Sunday and Holy Communion on the second and fourth Sundays.

We are blessed to have a dedicated Worship Team. Rev. Nick leads Communion services and provides Pastoral Care while offering encouragement and support to all. Gordon and the team organize and lead an informal Family service each week. The Lay leaders offer Morning Prayer services. We are grateful for Rev Nick and each of the leaders, all of whom brings unique skills and insights to our services.

In addition, our Lay Assistants are very faithful. Their willingness to serve in this capacity adds a variety of approaches and enrichment to our worship. Our services are enhanced through music by our faithful organist, Janis. Her dedication adds such a valuable component to our worship. We are grateful to all who give of their time and energy to provide meaningful worship each week and to all who are able to attend.

Worship Services have changed format with the installation of a new Audio Visual System. Services are now on screen. We are indebted to Susan Sioui who prepares the slides for the weekly services. The website is also being revamped. Thank you Susan, for your beautiful presentations.

Evening Prayer continues online. We are most appreciative of the faithful leaders who serve the wider community as it has built a comradery among those who attend.

The Church year has been marked with special services. Two online series with PLL and St. Simeon's shared leadership were presented. During Lent the series was titled 'Singing the Journey' based on favourite hymns and during Advent the theme was carried through with Christmas Carols. Holy Week was observed with in person services on Passion Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. In May, we participated in the service held at Ste. Anastasie to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

The church business continues through monthly Parish Council Meetings. Many thanks to Herb, our Treasurer, who keeps our financial affairs in excellent order and to all who attend these meetings. As we discuss and look for innovative ways to enrich the life of our church community, each person's contribution is valued. The Annual Vestry Meeting was held on line last year.

A major decision about the rectory was made this past year. Because we no longer have a full time priest who lives in the rectory and after consultation with parishioners, it was decided to sell the rectory. The sale was completed last summer. Many thanks to all who were involved in this process.

St. Simeon's as with any parish, has two wardens to share the responsibilities with the Priest. We are fortunate to have Karen Napp as People's Warden who diligently and quietly looks after the upkeep of the property and other church business. We thank you for your dedication Karen.

A church is a body of worshippers. May God keep St. Simeon's ever faithful and ever vigilant in proclaiming the Good News in this community.

Respectfully,
Edna Hall, Rector's Ward

People's Warden Report

Maintenance Projects at St. Simeon's Church and Rectory 2022:

Projects **completed** at the Rectory in 2022:

- Ongoing preventive extermination for ants, etc.
- Removal and cleanup of tree in the back yard
- Repair of water leak in the garage

Projects **completed** at the Church for 2022:

- Renewal of rental agreement with Pub Sir John for use of church's back yard.
- Repair of blocked toilet at church, partially resolved by plumber, further repair by City
- Renewal of ongoing use of church hall by La Belle Gang, local theatre group, for their rehearsals

Projects **considered** for the Rectory in 2023:

The rectory was sold in October 2022 and St. Simeon's does not have any further responsibility in its ownership or maintenance.

Projects **considered** for the Church in 2023:

- Replace ceiling fans in church (or clean)
- New outside sign board structure being completed
- Agreement with Pub Sir John on amendments to back parking lot

- Repair or replace west exit outside staircase.

In May of 2022 St. Simeon's congregation decided by voting and subsequently advising the Diocese of Montreal of its intention to proceed with the selling of the Rectory located at 715 Meikle Street, Lachute. I wish to thank the Rectory committee for its input and time in this matter. The rectory was eventually sold in October 2022. I also thank all those who helped pack and move stock from the rectory and for your support given in every possible way.

In April 2022, the church was broken into by way of a window in the kitchen. It appeared to be vandalism only. The window was replaced by Darren Prentice and company. Our thanks to Darren for the work on the window replacement.

In late October 2022, The City of Lachute finally started work on the sewer infrastructure from the church to the far side of Main Street. A membrane was inserted inside the sewer pipe to alleviate blocked toilet problems at the church that have been ongoing from spring to spring.

My appreciation and sincere thanks are extended to Drummond Hall for his continuing support and expertise with the healthy upkeep of our buildings.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Napp, People's Warden



Lay Assistants

2022 proved to be another challenging but successful year for St. Simeon's Church in general and for the lay assistants in particular. Changes in organizing the Holy Communion and Morning Prayer services continued and our lay assistants worked very hard to make sure our services were relevant and interesting for the congregation.

Sincere thanks to Susan Sioui, Edna Hall, Andy Mason, and Jenna Sioui, for being determined and helpful lay assistants throughout 2022. Special thanks to Gordon and Rolanda McPhee for organizing special services with sermons that were always thought provoking and interesting. Thank you Gordon for all 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 a steady willingness to

serve and assist which will help our future Sunday services 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 a lay assistant continues to bring warmth and concern for others into our regular services.

We thank all who have given their services in 2022 and welcome volunteers to consider sharing their faith in prayer and serve as a lay assistant in 2023.

Respectfully,
Joan Painter

Family Service

The end of the report for 2021 stated, "Everyone hopes that 2022 will bring us more opportunities to worship together", and so it has. We have had a full year of community together, coffee hour is back, and the Family Service has continued on the third Sunday of the month at 10 am, even throughout the summer. Originally 'Family' referred to young children and, although sorely absent lately, we keep the name because Family includes everyone; old, young, solo, partnered or in a group. The Family Service is that Sunday once a month when we offer a lay led, somewhat informal and accessible worship service for everyone.

A sense of stability has been restored with Rev'd. Nick celebrating communion for the community on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. And so we in the Family Service team feel more at ease about trying new things to make St. Simeon's a welcoming place where people

who come won't feel they are being asked to fit into our community but are being invited to share this time of love, worship and communion, with us.

The Family Service team has been dedicated to this ministry since 1999, demonstrating flexibility with the ever-evolving needs of the congregation. Although Gordon McPhee has taken the out-in-front position recently, Edna Hall, Jenna Sioui, Ann Mason, Susan Sioui and Rolanda Murphy support, guide, and nourish the worship we enjoy.

We hope that, upheld in your prayers, we will enjoy a year of welcoming strangers, seekers, old friends, and yes, maybe even children, into our Family Service community.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Family Service Team, Gordon McPhee & Susan Sioui

Altar Guild

Altar Guild duties were the responsibility of Edna Hall, Ann Mason and Judy Evans.

Some pandemic restrictions were removed so the altar itself was once more implicated. Hangings were again permitted. In September, a new Altar Cloth, a gift from Charlie and Margaret MacKenzie, was dedicated. Adaptations were made to the preparation and set up of the Eucharist elements. During this year, wine was once more served. Instead of a shared chalice, individual glasses were used. We thank the MRM Presbyterian Church for lending us these vessels.

Choir

Although there is no official choir at St. Simeon's at present, several former members of our choir attend services regularly and sing out so beautifully. This makes the hymns enjoyable for everyone and helps me very much as well. Thanks also to Nick for his

Hosts and Readers

Sincere thanks to Judy Evans who once again took over the organization of readers and hosts for nearly six months. 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

Women's Fellowship

In 2022, the members of the Women's Fellowship felt sufficiently comfortable to meet as a group, for lunch. After being apart for so long due to Covid, we enjoyed the comfort, pleasure and support of each other's company and to have news of church services and Parish Council decisions.

Thanksgiving and Christmas decorations were appreciated by the congregation. The Guild had valuable assistance in these tasks from parishioners, Karen Napp, Joan Painter, Andy Mason and Herb Sioui.

We look forward to 2023 and hopefully a continued predictable delivery of services. We consider the Altar Guild work an honour and a privilege.

Respectfully,
Judy Evans

enthusiastic rendition of the hymns and frequent words of encouragement.
My sincere thanks to all.

Respectfully
Janis Morrill

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

We were extremely saddened to learn of the death of one of our valued members, Margaret Gunn. Her comments and opinions were always insightful and respected. She is greatly missed.

For Valentine's Day, we baked plenty of delicious cookies and delivered them to residents of The Rotary. Their appreciation did not go unnoticed.

Our annual contribution to Tyndale St. George's was made.

Coffee Hour

Coffee hour is going well. I would like to thank everyone for their support and helping out serving coffee, tea and snacks. It is most appreciated.

St. Simeon's Website

2022 has been a challenging year for our Website. Since its inception, I have been privileged to work under the wise expertise of Brian Turnbull. Brian has managed - and taught me the technical aspects of the site while I tried to keep the data up to date. This past year, Brian wanted to step down and advised me to find another server for the Website. With a suggestion from Gordon McPhee, I switched to Opsia, a company based in Montreal. Opsia has just published our website under the domain name: <http://www.stsimeonsanglican.ca/>

Unfortunately, over the Christmas period, the site was not up and running. Things take longer than I had expected and I am still waiting for some help to edit and update the site. It is a work in progress. I am so thankful to our Corporation and Parish Council for their support in maintaining our presence on the Web.

New members are always welcome. Please let me know if you would like information about The Fellowship. If you decide to join this special group, it would be a pleasure to welcome you

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Mason, President

I would also like to thank the Women's Fellowship for providing the tea and coffee.

Respectfully,
Donna Silverson

2023 promises to be more productive as I have plans to include stories, videos, and blogs to our page. I have a few more tricks to learn about setting up webpages, so it may take some patience, but we will succeed.

If you have some ideas for our St. Simeon's website, please don't hesitate to speak with me. Do you have a story to tell? Or perhaps some epiphany that you would like to share. What things draw you to the site or what things would you like to see in it? I'd even like to know what you don't want to see!

Having a Website offers the world a window into the kind of church we are - or would like to be. I would love to share who we are - people who walk together in a right relationship with God - people who love each other and care about the world we live in. Thank you for your interest

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Respectfully submitted,
Susan Sioui, Webmaster

Lachute Protestant Cemetery

2022 was an unusual year for the cemetery as there were over 30 burials compared to the average of previous years of 20 burials.

In 2022, the cemetery received donations of \$15, 286. Donations to the Memorial Fund were \$1,890. Donations made because of our fund-raising letter were \$ 2,025.

New projects for 2023 include the planting of 10-15 new trees to replace trees that had


to be taken down and to add more beauty to the cemetery grounds.

The **Board of Directors** for 2022 are Cathy Deacon, Ralph McQuat, Richard Pink, Robert Duncan, Andrew Mason, Dianne Dixon-Moore, Mark Murdoch and Herb Sioui.

Respectfully submitted
Herb Sioui

In Memoriam

Shelley Leckey, Shawn MacDonald, Margaret Gunn



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

AMEN

- 2Cor. 13:14