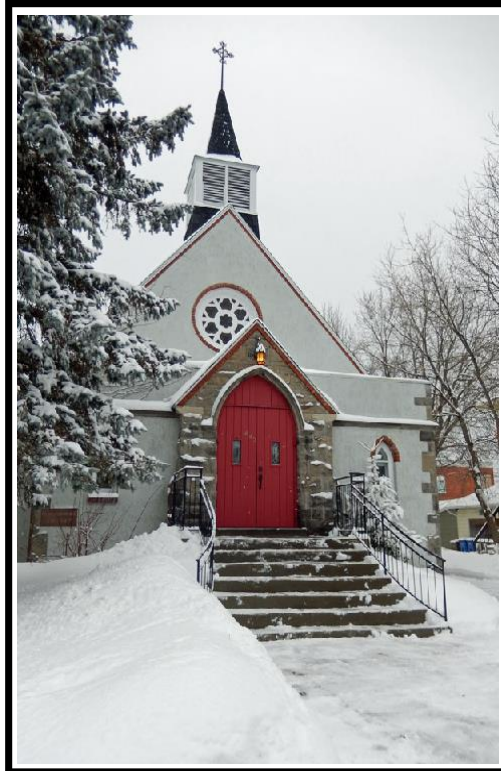


St. Simeon's Anglican Church

Annual Vestry Meeting

February 23, 2020



Agenda

Minutes

Group Reports

St. Simeon's Anglican Church

445 rue Principale
Lachute, Quebec

Mailing address: 715 Meikle Street, Lachute, QC J8H 1V4

Telephone:

Church – 450-562-8937

Rectory – 450-562-2917



Priests:

The Reverend Josée Lemoine – LRM Team Leader

The Reverend Nick Brotherhood – Associate Priest 514 246 - 5796

The Reverend Tania Lesack- Assistant Curate

Administration:

People's Warden

Rector's Warden

Treasurer

Envelope Secretary

Vestry Clerk

Bulletin Secretary

- Susan Sioui 450-562-8451

- Herb Sioui

- Karen Napp

- Judy Evans

Groups:

Women's Fellowship

Seniors' Lunches

Prayer Group

- Ann Mason

- Ann and Andy Mason

- Susan Sioui

Worship Service:

Organist and Choir Master

Lay Assistants

Altar Guild

Family Service

Hosts and Readers

Coffee Hour

Web Site

- Janis Morrill

- Susan Sioui, Joan Painter, Richard Pink & Edna Hall

- Margaret MacKenzie

- Revd Nick Brotherhood & Edna Hall

- Shirley Dempster/ Jean Parker

- Donna Silverson

- Susan Sioui

Representatives:

Cemetery Committee

- Herb Sioui and Richard Pink

LRM Council

- Susan Sioui

St. Simeon's Annual Vestry Meeting

February 23, 2020



- 1. Welcome and Appointment of Vestry Clerk**
- 2. Opening Prayer**
- 3. Adoption of the Agenda**
- 4. In Memoriam**
- 5. Minutes of the Annual Vestry of February 3, 2019**
- 6. Reports**
 - 6.1. Clergy Report**
 - 6.2. Laurentian Regional Ministry**
 - 6.3. Rector's Warden**
 - 6.4. People's Warden**
- 7. Treasurer's Report**
- 8. Group Reports**
 - 8.1. Lay Assistants**
 - 8.2. Prayer Group**
 - 8.3. Family Service**
 - 8.4. Altar Guild**
 - 8.5. Choir**
 - 8.6. Bulletin Secretary**
 - 8.7. Hosts and Readers**
 - 8.8. Coffee Hour**
 - 8.9. Envelope Secretary**
 - 8.10. Women's Fellowship**
 - 8.11. Senior's Lunches**
 - 8.12. Website**
 - 8.13. Lachute Protestant Cemetery**
 - 8.14. Other**
- 9. Appointments**
- 10. Nomination Committee Report**
- 11. Prayer of Dedication**
- 12. Financial Stewardship**
 - 12.1. 2020 Budget**
 - 12.2. LRM Budget**
- 13. New Business**
 - 13.1. Events in 2020**
- 14. LRM and Ministerial Priorities for 2020**
- 15. Motion to Adjourn**
- 16. Closing Prayer**

ST. SIMEON'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
Annual Vestry Meeting Year 2018
February 3rd, 2019

In attendance: The Reverend Nick Brotherwood, plus those on the attached signed attendance list, making a total of 21.

1. **Welcome and Appointment of the Vestry Clerk:** Rev. Nick Brotherwood welcomed those in attendance for St. Simeon's Annual General/Vestry meeting. Karen Napp was nominated as Vestry Clerk, seconded by Joan & Herb. All in favour.
2. **Opening Prayer:** Rev. Nick B. opened the meeting with a prayer.
3. **Adoption of the Agenda:** Rev. Nick moved that the agenda be approved: seconded by Judy and Ann. All in favour. Motion carried.
4. **Minutes of the last Annual General Vestry Meeting:** Approval of minutes from February 25th, 2018 for Year 2017. Moved by Karen to accept; seconded by Edna and Joan. All in favour. Motion carried.

4.1 Business arising: No business arising from the minutes.

On screen, Susan presented an "In Memoriam" remembering past members of St. Simeon's congregation, including Winnie Napp, Shelby-Lee Teresiuk, Jim Campbell, Shirley Brown and Barbara Smith.

5. **Reports:** Rev. Nick B. was very impressed with all the group reports presented in the AGM booklet.

5.1 Clergy Report: Copy attached and submitted by Rev. Josee Lemoine, Rev. Nick Brotherwood, and Rev. Deacon Tania Lesack, covering numerous topics of the Laurentian Regional Ministry including: Clergy and Lay Readers' Changes, the LRM 2018 Survey Report, LRM Joint Services, LRM Management Committee, Youth Ministry, and other important events and ministries.

5.2 Laurentian Regional Ministry: Report attached. Susan led us through the steps and action of the LRM over the past 3 years. She noted that after presentation of the survey report and executive report to Bishop Mary who gave her global approval of these reports, we now have procured permission from the Bishop to begin the process of hiring a full-time priest to replace Nick Pang. Before that we must update and revise our LRM profile. Susan was thanked by Rev. Nick B. for her very comprehensive report of the LRM. Question from the floor: Can we expect to engage an administrative assistant within the LRM? Susan responded that the LRM is not actively looking for such an assistant at the moment because of the extra expense to hire one, and we are not ready for that search yet until a priest is appointed.

5.3 Rector's Warden: Report attached. Susan's report can be found on Page 11 of the AGM booklet. Susan thanked Edna for preparing and producing this year's AGM booklet. Susan thanked Katie Heatlie for her fundraising initiative for St. Simeon's in memory of young Shelby Lee. Katie efficiently raised \$1100 for Shelby Lee's library to be constructed in the future at St. Simeon's. Rev. Nick thanked Susan for her patience and for being such an important source of information.

5.4 People's Warden: Report attached. Janick thanked Susan as Rector's Warden for her endless work within the LRM and as warden. Janick expressed thanks to Drummond for his help with the upkeep/maintenance of our buildings.

6. **Treasurer's Report:** Report attached. Herb presented the Treasurer's Report for 2018. Revenues at \$58 334, Expenses at \$62 359, for an Operating Deficit of \$4 025. Some questions from the floor were asked and answered/discussed by Herb. Thanks were expressed by Herb to Andy

for verifying the financial reports and to Grace in her role as envelope secretary. Andy thanked Herb for his tremendous work all year-long to keep financial records up to date and for producing annual reports.

7. Group Reports:

- 7.1 **Lay Assistants:** Report attached. Joan thanked everyone who has contributed to lay ministry. Janick expressed thanks to Edna for the scheduling of assistants.
- 7.2 **Prayer Group:** Report attached. Susan thanked the group for their continued support.
- 7.3 **Family Service:** Report attached. Edna thanked the Family Service team and the church for their support and encouragement, stating that it's a group effort. Please pray for this ministry. Judy expressed emotional thanks for this wonderful service. Rev. Nick thanked Edna and her team for this important ministry.
- 7.4 **Altar Guild:** Report attached. Edna reported that things are going well and gave thanks to people who help on special occasions. Rev. Nick thanked all for their efforts.
- 7.5 **Choir:** Report attached. Janis appreciates choir members greatly. Choir practice is quite fun when all are together. Susan expressed thanks to Janis for her dedication.
- 7.6 **Bulletin Secretary:** Report attached. Judy thanked Shirley Dempster for her help in the production of the weekly bulletin. Judy commented that she enjoys preparing the bulletin.
- 7.7 **Hosts and readers:** Report attached. Shirley Dempster thanked everyone for their positive responses when she calls. Everyone sang Happy Birthday to Shirley on the occasion of her 93rd birthday!
- 7.8 **Coffee Hour:** Report attached. Susan expressed thanks for the fellowship of coffee hour each week after service. Susan thanked Donna for her work in recruiting hosts for coffee hours.
- 7.9 **Envelope Secretary:** Report attached. Grace expressed the details of participating in the PAR program. It's a good alternative to envelopes each week and helps the church budget for future finances.
- 7.10 **Women's Fellowship:** Report attached. Ann presented her report highlighting the activities of the Fellowship over the past year and thanked all those that support and help the Fellowship throughout the year. The Fellowship Financial report for 2018 is also attached.
- 7.11 **Seniors' Luncheon:** Report attached. Andy Mason requested help in coordinating the next luncheon in April 2019. Rev. Nick thanked Andy & Ann Mason for their great efforts in the organization of these luncheons.
- 7.12 **Website:** Report attached. Susan would gladly accept help with and/or contributions to the site.
- 7.13 **Lachute Protestant Cemetery:** Report attached. Herb has now been elected as President to the board of administration, along with Ralph McQuat as Vice-President and Cathy Deacon as Secretary-Treasurer.

A motion was made to accept these group reports. Garth and Joan approved acceptance of the reports. All in favour.

- 8. **Appointments:** Rev. Nick appointed Susan Sioui as Rector's Warden. Chalice administrators appointed are Edna Hall, Janick Tremblay-Bouchard, Susan Sioui, Joan Painter, and Richard Pink. Herb Sioui was appointed as treasurer by the Corporation and also as representative for the LRM Finance Committee. The verifier of St. Simeon's annual financial reports is Andy Mason. All appointed.

9. **Nomination Committee Report:** Nominations of officers were presented by the Nominating Committee consisting of Drummond Hall and Karen Napp. Drummond moved to accept persons as nominated, seconded by Donnie Hamilton and Margaret Gunn. All in favour. The committee nominates the following people to the various offices:

People's Warden	Janick Tremblay-Bouchard
Deputy Wardens	Edna Hall & Karen Napp
Envelope Secretary	Grace Dubeau
Host Family & Readers Co-ordinator	Shirley Dempster
Coffee Hour Co-ordinator	Donna Silverson
Synod Delegate	Herb Sioui
Cemetery Representatives	Herb Sioui & Richard Pink
LRM Management Committee	Susan Sioui

10. **Prayer of Dedication:** New this year, we offer prayers to all those who are nominated to various offices for their help and commitment to their positions.

11. **Financial Stewardship:**

- 11.1 **Budget for 2019:** Report attached. Herb presented the new 2019 budget, Schedule 3 of financial report. Operating Revenues were presented at \$60543 while Operating Expenses were set at \$60 166, for an Operating Surplus of \$377. This report does not include the amount of

\$5 000 needed to replace the rectory furnace and rectory electrical panel entrance. Herb asked for acceptance of the 2019 budget, seconded by Andy. All in favour.

- 11.2 **LRM Budget:** Susan presented a report on the budget of the LRM to give people an understanding and good look at the income and costs to run the LRM.

12. **New Business:**

- 12.1 **Laurentian Regional Ministry:** Susan invited people to pick up a copy of the LRM reports from her.

- 12.2 **Nomination of the Management Committee as the "Search Committee."** A motion was made by Susan that the lay members of the Laurentian Regional Ministry Management Committee form a "Search Committee" to find a new Priest in Charge for the Laurentian Regional Ministry. Seconded by Edna; all in favour. Motion passed.

The profile of the LRM will be updated first and will be available on-line to view.

13. **Ministerial Priorities for 2019:** Culture has changed. It is not our fault these changes are occurring, but it is important to remember how we respond and react to these changes. We are people and community "in mission," that is our ministerial priorities.

Susan thanked Rev. Nick B. for bringing his joy to St. Simeon's.

14. **Adjournment:** The Annual General Vestry meeting of 2019 for the Year 2018 was adjourned at 12:30 p.m. by Shirley, seconded by Janis. All in favour.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Napp, Vestry Clerk

Laurentian Regional Ministry (LRM) Clergy Vestry Report 2019

THROUGHOUT THE LRM

Each year brings its load of change and challenge for the churches and clergy team of the Laurentian Regional Ministry as we continue to discern how we are called to participate in God's mission in the world, to live out our Christian faith, and develop new ways to witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ in our daily lives.

The clergy team continues to serve 10 churches - 10 communities - in a wide geographic area. Among the challenges in the LRM is balancing the unity to which we are called as members of one body in Christ with the desire of individual churches to maintain their individuality, and the challenges to participation in regional ministry events posed by the distance people must travel in order to take part.

The LRM is blessed with a strong core of volunteers of lay members, retired clergy and supply clergy. We thank all who are involved in this ministry.

CLERGY TEAM

On August 24th, Tania Lesack was ordained to the Priesthood at St. Simeon's in Lachute. She continues in her role as Assistant Curate of the LRM.

On September 1st, 2019, Nick Brotherwood, who had worked in the LRM part-time since July 2018, joined the team full-time and became Associated Priest of the LRM. At the same occasion, Josée Lemoine became Team Leader.

We are blessed to continue our ministries in the LRM.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

The Alpha Course was run in the LRM, beginning in February and continuing through spring. The group met primarily at Trinity Morin Heights. The Alpha sessions were offered as part of confirmation preparation and included other participants. The candidates for confirmation ended their courses in June and were confirmed by Bishop Mary on October 27th.

A Worship Leaders' day was held in February on the subject of Mission. All lay readers and lay worship leaders of the LRM were invited to attend.

Lent study on the Gospel of Luke was offered in three locations (in the North, South and central LRM). The curriculum used was *Luke: A journey with Jesus*, produced by Montreal Diocesan Theological College.

An EFM - Education for Ministry group was started in September in Lachute.

The annual deanery Anglican Church Women (ACW) meeting was held at Grace Church on September 18th with a presentation on Human Trafficking by guest speaker Dwane Connors.

The Revive program began in Morin Heights in the Fall. A small group met on a weekly basis and completed the first module on exploring Christian prayer practices.

A study on the *Doctrine of Discovery: Stolen Lands, Strong Hearts* took place in Fall and Advent at Holy Trinity Church in Ste-Agathe.

IMPORTANT EVENTS AND MINISTRIES

Ceilidhs were held in March and November in the Parish of the Lower Laurentians (PLL).

In March, a palm cross making party was organized at Wendy Nelles' house for the members of the Altar Guilds of both St-Sauveur and Morin Heights.

Members of St Simeon's and the LRM clergy are active in pastoral support to the seniors in care facilities in the Lachute throughout the year - clergy are part of the ecumenical team that leads worship services at La Residence and Le Pavilion.

In July, the Dunany annual golf tournament took place beginning with a worship service at St Paul's; the annual PLL beach service took place also in July and this year the service included a baptism.

In August, the annual memorial service at Clark Cemetery in Ste-Agathe and the annual picnic at St-John-the-Baptist in Kilkenny were held.

The Grace Church annual picnic took place on Sunday September 15th in Arundel and on September 21st, a special service for the blessing of animals took place at Holy Trinity in Ste-Agathe.

In October the LRM welcomed Bishop James Almasi from Masasi, Tanzania at Holy Trinity Church in Ste Agathe; Bishop James addressed the gathered community celebrating *The Church is One Foundation*. The LRM welcomed Bishop Mary when she came to celebrate the confirmation of three young parishioners in Morin Heights.

In December the senior's dinner was held in Lachute.

Many fundraising activities took place in the LRM the region throughout the year

LRM JOINT SERVICES

Joint services, regional ministry events and ecumenical services build bonds of fellowship and community, responding to the call to live in mutual love and prayer.

A service of prayer for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was celebrated with the Roman Catholic and United churches at Grace Church in Arundel in January.

Joint services were held with the United Church in many parishes on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. As well there was a joint Easter Vigil service at St. Simeon's in Lachute and two Blue Christmas services on the shortest night in December in Lachute and Morin Heights.

As is customary, Trinity Morin Heights and St Francis of the Birds celebrated joint services on Trinity Sunday and the Feast of St. Francis in Morin Heights and in St-Sauveur, respectively.

In collaboration with local Legions in Arundel, Morin Heights and Lachute, the churches of the LRM participated in Remembrance Day ceremonies to honour and remember those who had fought and died in the wars of the past century. The churches of the LRM also participated in the remembrance celebrations in Ste-Agathe.

CHILDREN/YOUTH MINISTRY

Messy Church is an LRM - wide program started in December 2017. Messy Church continued to meet in the geographic middle of the region (Morin Heights) and in the south (Lakefield). This ministry, which was organized and led by Josée, Tania and Rev'd Joelle Leduc of the United church. The December gathering of Messy Church was cancelled due to a lack of volunteers, and a decision was made to bring the ministry to a close. A celebration of thanksgiving for the two years of this ministry will be held in January 2020.

St. Simeon's in Lachute has continued to hold their family service on the second Sunday of every month as they have in the past. This is a well-established, lay - led ministry.

BAPTISMS, MARRIAGES AND FUNERALS

Throughout the LRM, clergy welcomed new members into the family of Christ in baptism, blessed them as they made their covenant to each other before God in marriage, and gave thanks for the life of loved ones, in faith and hope through the victory of Christ over death in funeral in and interment services.

Nick officiated at one baptism and five funerals. Tania officiated at five funerals and one renewal of wedding vows. Josée officiated at ten funerals, thirteen burials, three baptisms, three marriages and one renewal of wedding vows throughout the LRM.

LAURENTIAN REGIONAL MINISTRY COUNCIL ("LRM COUNCIL")

In 2019, Hugh Mitchell from the PLL, Mike Tott from Trinity in Morin Heights and John Richard from Holy Trinity in Ste-Agathe were reelected by their respective communities to be members of the LRM Council, and Audrey McDonough was elected for the first time at St. Francis in St-Sauveur.

The members of the LRM Council worked most of the year searching a full-time priest to join the LRM Clergy Team. They also identified, based on the workshops they lead and the report they wrote in 2018, the priorities they plan to work on in 2020. These priorities are: Pastoral Care, LRM Covenant and Shrinking Congregations/Small Groups).

REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP

The sponsorship of a new Syrian family, related to the family that was sponsored in 2017, was undertaken. Due to governmental limitations on the number of refugees who can enter in our province, this sponsorship is taken in collaboration with the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa and Refuge-Aide also based in Ottawa. The LRM involvement is mainly financial at this point in time and working in collaboration with the Sponsorship Group in Ottawa. We expect the family to come to Canada in 2020.

The clergy team very much looks forward to continuing ministry in the LRM; Josée as Priest and Team Leader of the LRM, Nick as Associate Priest of the LRM, and Tania as Assistant Curate in the LRM. A very big «thank you» to all those who lead Morning and Evening Prayer services, Bible Studies, family services, etc. and to the retired and active clergy who fill in our roster, without whom ministry in the LRM would look very different and incomplete!

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.
(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Respectfully submitted by:

the Rev'd. Josée Lemoine,

the Rev'd. Nick Brotherwood

the Rev'd. Tania Lesack

Laurentian Regional Ministry Council

The LRM Council consists of 8 representatives from the 10 different churches in the Laurentian Regional Ministry – along with the Ministry team of Rev'd. Josée Lemoine, Rev'd. Nick Brotherhood and Rev'd. Tania Lesack. The council meets once a month to discuss the concerns of the entire LRM and to explore ways to facilitate the ministry to all of the communities over this vast area. It has been challenging and it has been exciting, and it has been an honour for me to represent you over the past 5 years – since the inception of this regional ministry.

In 2019, we focussed our attention on finding a full-time priest to work in the LRM and, in September Nick was appointed as Associate Priest, working with Josée in her capacity as Team Leader. Tania, who had been ordained a Deacon the year before, was ordained a priest at a ceremony held in St. Simeon's in August of 2019. In the Fall, Josée prepared a document listing the responsibilities of each of the priests and this document was discussed and approved at our November meeting.

The housing arrangements for the three priests was worked out in collaboration with the Bishop's Office. Josée would remain in the Ste. Agathe Rectory and her housing allowance would be paid by the LRM Fair Share agreement to Holy Trinity for their expenses. Nick would be present at his cottage near Morin Heights 4 days a week and work the other days from his home in Montreal. He is paid a housing allowance by the LRM Fair Share agreement to cover his living expenses. Tania will continue to live in the rectory in Lachute and the Diocese will cover her housing allowance, sending the amount to St. Simeon's for the rental of the property. The housing allowance is set by the Diocese and was to the amount of \$14,313 per priest in 2019.

The Council also worked to develop a renewed Fair Share Agreement for the 7 parishes. (The PLL is considered as one Parish in this arrangement) The

new calculations used the same criteria for each of the parishes to ensure that it was equitable. Our portion of the Fair Share rose to 17.6% in July of 2019 and it will be re-calculated each year for the 1st of July.

Since the beginning of September, we are blessed with three full-time priests who are devoted to creating opportunities for our individual parishes. One of the interesting projects this past Fall was to follow up the Survey answers of 2018. According to the workshops held in each of the churches, priorities were set, and of those priorities, we decided to work on the three most talked-about issues: Pastoral Care; the problem of Shrinking congregations; and the creation of a working Charter, or Covenant, between the congregations. We also spoke about issues such as Safe Church, which would require police checks of everyone in leadership roles in the churches. One of the other topics that keeps arising is the finance of the LRM and lots of ideas about addressing these important details are discussed and will continue to be discussed at our meetings.

One of the important practices at these monthly meetings is to hear about the many different activities and struggles and successes of our sister congregations. This presents us with a time to uphold each other and our priests.

It has been an honour to serve on this committee and I have had many opportunities to learn from this diverse group of men and women. My time of service has come to an end now and someone else is thankfully willing to take up the banner for St. Simeon's. The LRM Council is important to the future of our ministry and in this context; we have a voice to ensure our own destiny.

I thank you with my heart for your trust in me, for your encouragement, and for your love.

Susan Sioui,

Representative for St. Simeon's

Rector's Warden Report

I entered the doors of St. Simeon's as a naive, judgemental, yet curious young mother trying to figure out who God is and I can honestly say that 44 years later, I am less naive and less judgemental but still very curious. Trying to figure out who God is has turned out to be a quest that is never-ending. I have, however come to an understanding that gives me some peace: I love this Almighty God and I know that He loves me.

I have had the pleasure of wearing many hats and filling many roles over these past years. St. Simeon's has offered so much to me: Sunday school and Bible studies and women's groups and lots of teas and dinners, bazaars, plant, rummage and garage sales and innumerable gatherings. We have even had a successful theater group presenting 19 plays over the years, always under the creative genius of Garth and Janis and their imaginative team. It has been an eventful ride.

We are still a very active and vibrant church in 2020. Last year, we hosted the World Day of Prayer in March which was very well attended. We host a Pancake Supper every Shrove Tuesday and invite the public. We participate in bible study along with the PLL. We have a faithful group of people who pray for the concerns of the church each week. St. Simeon's has a wonderful choir and organist who faithfully lead the music for our weekly services. The Women's Fellowship work on various outreach programs and so many of our parishioners volunteer their time to take on all of the jobs that just need doing. And for the past 20 years and continuing on the second Sunday once a month, we benefit from the ministry provided by the Family service team - unique in this Diocese and still very successful. That is the kind of congregation we are – kind, thoughtful, and caring; supportive and compassionate; creative, talented, productive and willing.

Each year that passes gives us opportunities to adapt to changing times. 2019 was no different. It started with a period of uncertainty, wondering where we were heading within the LRM. September, however offered us more stability and direction as Rev. Nick Brotherhood joined the Ministry team as a full-time associate priest and Rev. Tania Lesack was ordained priest at a service held in St. Simeon's. We have been fortunate to have her remain in the LRM as Assistant Curate. With three full time priests (Josée, Nick and

Tania), we do not have to rely so heavily on our Lay leadership and we have the more consistent guidance of Nick as the priest responsible for the pastoral concerns of the southern part of the LRM. Tania continues to live in our rectory in Lachute, her rent being paid by the Diocese of Montreal.

In late October, we regretfully had to accept the resignation of Janick Tremblay-Bouchard as People's Warden. I am so thankful for all of his support to me personally and for the all of the good works he did for our church and our people. Since that time, our two Deputy wardens, Karen Napp and Edna Hall have stepped forward offering their expertise and support, continuing the ongoing work in St. Simeon's. Words do not adequately express my gratitude for their willingness to take on these extra responsibilities.

We are also so very blessed to have people like Drummond, who takes care of any work in our buildings; Karen who takes such good care of our Church; Herb who works tirelessly on our bookkeeping and so many others who work behind the scenes to ensure the ongoing ministry to the Anglican community in this area.

My experience as Rector's warden is similar to many of the other wardens of the past – we revolve in and out in these roles, each time bringing some new insights, and yet always learning new approaches and understandings. After 9 years of serving St. Simeon's as Rector's Warden, it is time for me to step down to allow others to spread their wings and lead us to new and exciting projects over the next few years.

Leaving a position does not mean leaving a community. I assure you that you are in good and capable hands and that I will be focussing on other aspects of ministry to you. I am so grateful for all your love and support over these past years. St. Simeon's has been a tremendous learning experience for me, and I do look forward to many more years of learning within the life of this beloved Church family.

Archbishop Oscar Romero once said, *"We cannot do everything and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that. This enables us to do something, and to do it very well. It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for God's grace to enter and do the rest."*

With love to all, Susan Sioui, Rector's Warden

People's Warden Report

Maintenance Projects at St. Simeon's Church and Rectory 2019

Projects **completed** at the Rectory in 2019:

- 2 basement windows on the west side were replaced
- Electrical panel entrance was upgraded from 60A to 200A
- Electrical outlets were added, 1 in the kitchen, 1 in the basement
- Drain from washer to sink in the basement was unblocked

Projects **completed** at the Church in 2019:

- Motor on furnace was replaced
- Outside security light in the back-parking lot was repaired
- Rental agreement with Pub Sir John was signed, for the use of our back-parking lot during the winter months. The Pub is responsible for winter snow clearing and restoring the area to an acceptable condition in the spring
- Sewers were unblocked in August 2019, work performed from inside the church

Projects **considered** for the Rectory in 2020:

- Replace soffit at the front of the Rectory to eliminate painting
- Furnace needs cleaning and preventive maintenance

- Grounds (trees and shrubbery) around Rectory, especially back yard, need to be trimmed back.
- Replace 1 more basement window
- Small item repairs/replacements, example – replace door handle between kitchen & garage, etc.

Projects **considered** for the Church in 2020:

- Replace light bulbs (6 to 9) in stained glass windows at the back of church
- Replace or clean ceiling fans in church
- New outside sign board structure currently being completed
- Replace flooring in ante room and choir room
- Clean carpeting in church hall
- Replace damaged tiles in kitchen floor
- Gas portion of furnace needs to be cleaned and preventive maintenance on hot water tank needs to be performed
- Repair or replace the west outside exit as the present cement structure is crumbling

Sincere thanks and gratitude are expressed to Drummond Hall for his expertise and manual labour skills in overseeing the good health of our buildings. Thanks are also expressed to the men who have worked hard on different projects that need tending to. A great team effort!

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Napp & Drummond Hall

Lay Assistants

Sincere appreciation to the members of St. Simeon's Church who volunteered to continue serving as Lay Assistants at Morning Prayer and Holy Communion services in 2019. The duties of a lay assistant are varied and challenging but with continued guidance and leadership there has been a steady willingness to serve and assist which helps our Sunday services flow with creativity and strong Christian worship.

There is a need for more volunteers to agree to serve as a lay assistant and the church welcomes anyone who feels called to this special duty given during the regular Sunday services of Holy Communion and Morning Prayer. The main commitment to serve involves

preparing the Prayers of the People given during regular Sunday services. The variety of prayers and individuality of a lay assistant continues to bring warmth and concern for the needs of the community into our regular services

We thank all who have given their services in 2019 and welcome volunteers from St. Simeon's Church to consider sharing their faith in prayer and serve as a lay assistant.

Respectfully,

Joan Painter

Prayer Group

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything in prayer and supplication, let your requests be made known to God.
Phil. 4:6

Several years ago, a group of people started to meet in St. Simeon's for prayer on a weekly basis. The style of prayer has varied over the years as we bring to God the concerns of the Church and the people, especially those who have requested prayer. We try our best to listen and we try our best to be mindful of the needs of others. It has been a learning process for each of us.

This past Fall, we began to use various litanies which have helped us to focus and explore different aspects of our world, our church, our problems and our concerns for others. It has also helped the group to feel

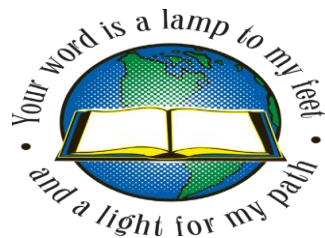
less intimidated with the idea of using our voices to pray as the words are provided for us.

Any are welcome to join us for prayer on Wednesday mornings at 9:30 in the Church. If you have a question, or prayer requests, please feel free to speak with me at any time.

We pray because we believe that prayer is the best wireless connection to God. We believe that when we pray, God hears more than we say, answers more than we ask, gives more than we imagine... in His own time and His own way.

Thanks be to God.

Susan Sioui, coordinator.



Family Service

The Family Service continues the second Sunday of most months as the regular worship service of the day. They are services when parishioners of all ages meet to worship in a casual manner. Each service focuses on a theme and includes a Bible reading, a lesson based on the reading, song, prayer and a related activity. At Thanksgiving and Easter, the children participate in a traditional worship service. The Christmas Pageant is always a highlight of our year. On December 8th, there was an atmosphere of excitement in our church as 80 people either participated or enjoyed a presentation of the Nativity story. Children and adults narrated the story as the others formed a beautiful tableau. Gifts were donated and delivered to the Lachute Food Bank. The 4 PM Family Christmas Eve service was also well attended. It is a joyous occasion as many of the children who used to attend the regular Family service return as young adults.

We are blessed with many people who make this service possible - the clergy leadership of the LRM and particularly Rev. Nick Brotherhood; the Lay Team of Gordon McPhee, Rolanda Murphy, Jenna Sioui, Susan Sioui, Ann Mason and Edna Hall who lead the regular services; the talented musicians, Gordon McPhee and Janis Morrill. And particularly, the wonderful families who place an importance on the Christian faith and a whole congregation which embraces form of worship. Thank you to all who help and support this ministry and please continue to uphold it in your prayers.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Family Service Team,

Edna Hall

Altar Guild

This past year has been quite busy for the three of us as usual with weekly altar preparations. As ever, new members will always be very welcomed.

Many positive compliments on the Christmas decorations are very much appreciated. Special thanks to Karen Napp for her decorating talents and clean-up as well.

A new cloth has been ordered and will soon appear on the altar.

Respectfully submitted

Margaret MacKenzie

Bulletin Secretary

MATERIALS

Quarterly schedule from Josée and assistants - to provide readings names of officiants
BAS to provide correct Proper and prayers for the week
Common Praise – to verify hymn numbers
Internet connection to locate Diocese prayers for the Church
Ink cartridges, canon printer and trusty Hewlett Packard PC
Online References – for imaginative “Minute Meditations”
Library of religious images for weekly graphic on cover page

RESULTS

30+ Holy Eucharist Bulletins
15 (approximate) Morning Prayer Bulletins
A few Special Services Bulletins - Funerals, Baptisms, Lessons and Carols, etc.
Twice a year – Memorial Flowers List
Frequently – Update of Sick and Shut in lists

Choir

We should be very proud of our choir!
This is the only church in the whole region that has a choir. On a good Sunday, there are four sweet-voiced sopranos and three mellow baritones. Occasionally Therese helps as well, although she is officially retired. Sometimes members are away or unwell, so the choir is seriously depleted. Nevertheless, the ones who are there carry on bravely. These are all volunteers who donate time and talent to the glory of God. Andy plays his clarinet also, at times and brings a beautiful dimension to the music.

Thanks to all of you for your faithful support.

Janis Morrill,

Organist and choir director

GRATITUDE

These jobs are done with the assistance of many. At the end of each week a draft copy is sent to the clergy and assistants for their scrutiny. Corrections, additions and changes are frequently suggested, and the final copy is printed on Saturday.
Special thanks to: Nick, Josée, Tanya, Edna, Susan and Joan for their editing skills.
Thank you to Janis for providing the hymns weekly.
Thank you to those who provide info for Announcements.
Thank you to Susan for giving me a break once a month when she prepares the Family Service bulletin.
Thank you to Jean Parker for providing a list of Hosts and Readers for every bulletin.
A very special thank you to Edna who steps in whenever I am unable to write the bulletin and she then does it seamlessly.

I hope this document steers you through the weekly service with clarity. I enjoy providing it for you.

Judy Evans Bulletin Secretary

Hosts and Readers

I am unable to compete with Shirley's ability to compose a poem regarding her search for hosts and readers. However, I am happy to continue her work. Many thanks to all who serve at each Sunday service thus making it an easy task for me.

Sincerely,
Jean Parker

Coffee Hour

Coffee hour is going well thanks to everyone taking their turns.

I would like to thank everyone for their support and help and the Women's Fellowship for providing the coffee and tea.

Thank You
Donna Silverson



Women's Fellowship

Fellowship members look forward to inspiring, enjoyable monthly meetings.

A few activities planned in 2019 were:

The 9th Valentine's Tea at The Rotary Apartments, attended and well appreciated by the residents. Such a worthwhile initiative!

The Presentation of a carnation to all mothers on Mothers' Day.

A reception for Shirley Dempster who contributed valued time and talents to St. Simeon's. The Fellowship was given a generous donation by the Dempster Family.

A Closing dinner in June and a Christmas Dinner in December looked forward to with anticipation by the members.

As 2019 came to a close, donations were made by The Fellowship

- to St. Simeon's Church
- to an LRHS student for humanitarian work in Tanzania
- to La Citadelle in Lachute
- to Tyndale St. George's
- to Doctors Without Borders

At our meetings, members are informed about Vestry decisions and the activities of other Church groups. Short devotions encourage stimulating discussion and reflection. We appreciated interesting, warm and supportive time together.

Meetings are held at 12:30 on the first Thursday of most months. Yes, new members are always welcome. If you are interested in more information, please let me know. You may enjoy our group and we would be delighted to greet you.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Mason
President, Women's Fellowship

Seniors' Lunches

Again in 2019, two lunches for senior's were held at St. Simeon's Church, ham in the spring and turkey in December. Both were well attended and as usual the Christmas turkey dinner was at absolute capacity. Although the ticket price remained unchanged from previous years, our receipts were in excess of our expenses and therefore we were able to make donations to the following community organizations:

Citadelle

Lachute Regional Residence Foundation

St. Simeon's Anglican Church

In addition, many people at the Christmas dinner contributed separately to the Laurentian Elementary School Christmas Basket Fund with donations of gifts for students as well as a monetary gift.

Entertainment at the April lunch was provided by Mountain Steam. Their rendition of old favourites and their dry humour was appreciated by all. A Christmas music singalong was led by Janis Morrill and Nick Brotherhood which helped everyone get into the Christmas spirit.

Web Site

We have had a Web Site for St. Simeon's for many years now enabling us to post weekly sermons and monthly events to the watching world. During this past year, I have not had many opportunities to work on the site, so it is obviously not current if you are visiting there. 2020 looks more promising for these kinds of activities, so you can expect an up-to-date calendar and articles of interest to St. Simeon's.

Lachute Protestant Cemetery

The Board of Directors for 2019 were:

President: Herb Sioui

Vice-President: Ralph McQuat

Secretary-Treasurer: Cathy Deacon

The Board members also include the following:

C. Berry, R. Duncan, D. McRae, K. Gordon,

J. Wilson, Heather Gordon, and Richard Pink.

Maintenance:

The grass cutting has again been contracted to Heather Brown.

We wish to say a special thank you to Maggie Sioui and Mike Webster who purchased and donated the turkeys for the dinner in December. Also thank you to Lorraine and Don Hamilton who helped co-ordinate the lunch in April.

The success of the luncheon depends on so many people working together. We are very fortunate to have such a group of volunteers doing everything from cooking turkeys to washing the last dish. High school students help serve and add such energy to the luncheons. Thank you to all who helped.

For 2020 the committee is in need of someone to coordinate one of the lunches. Although this may sound somewhat demanding we can assure any potential volunteers that you will have enough support to make the task very do-able.

Ann and Andy Mason

If there is anything that you would like to see on our site, please contact me. This is an important outreach for our church community, and I would love to see it flourishing again.

You can find us at www.parishoflachute.com

Susan Sioui, Webmaster

The stone wall along the front was re-pointed with cement.

The vault exterior wall stucco was repaired where necessary.

Donations to the Cemetery exceeded 2000\$ in 2019. Lots are still available for purchase. People are making plans for the future by purchasing lots now and some are installing their headstones.

Respectively submitted, Herb Sioui

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



*The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body.
So it is with the body of Christ.*

Corinthians 12:12