

*Agenda
Minutes
Group Reports*



AVM February 27, 2022
St. Simeon's Anglican Church

St. Simeon's Anglican Church

Church address:

445 rue Principale
Lachute, Quebec

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

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
Seniors' Lunches - Ann and Andy Mason until December 31, 2021

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

LRM Council

- Andy Mason until November 30, 2021

St. Simeon's Annual Vestry Meeting

February 27, 2022

1. **Opening Prayer**
2. **Welcome and Thanks**
3. **Appointment of the Vestry Clerk**
4. **Adoption of the Agenda**
5. **In Memoriam**
6. **Minutes of Annual Vestry of February 7, 2021**
7. **Business Arising from the minutes**
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8. **Reports**
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 - 8.2 Laurentian Regional Ministry
 - 8.3 Rector's Warden
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9. **Treasurer's Report**
10. **Group Reports:**
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 - 10.3 Altar Guild
 - 10.4 Choir
 - 10.5 Hosts and Readers
 - 10.6 Coffee Hour
 - 10.7 Women's Fellowship
 - 10.8 Seniors' Lunches
 - 10.9 Website
 - 10.10 Lachute Protestant Cemetery
 - 10.A) **Acceptance of Reports**
11. **Appointments**
12. **Nomination Committee Report**
13. **Prayer of Dedication**
14. **Financial Stewardship**
 - 14.1 **2022 Budget**
15. **New Business**
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 - 15.2
16. **Ministerial Priorities for 2022 – Nick**
17. **Adjournment**
18. **Closing Prayer**



Annual Vestry Meeting Year 2020

February 7th, 2021

In attendance: The Reverend Nick Brotherwood, Edna & Drummond Hall, Susan & Herb Sioui, Ann & Andy Mason, Gordon & Rolanda McPhee, Connie Brown, 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.
2. **Welcome & Thanks:** Rev. Nick welcomed and thanked those in attendance (16) for St. Simeon's Annual General Vestry Meeting for the year 2020.
3. **Appointment of the Vestry Clerk:** Ann Mason nominated Karen Napp. Karen accepted. All in favour.
4. **Adoption of the Agenda:** Richard Pink moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by Karen. All in favour.
5. **In Memoriam:** We remember and pray for loved ones lost this past year: Doug Boyd, Marjorie Cruise, Robert Dixon, Rodney Painter, Joyce Rendell, and Isabel Napp. _
6. **Minutes of the last Annual General Vestry Meeting:** Approval of minutes from February 23rd, 2020, for Year 2019. Ann moved to accept the minutes. Seconded by Judy Evans. 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 also expressed that it has been a very different year 2020 with the pandemic situation and we all had to respond quickly to this situation. Nick was very pleased with the attitude of everyone adapting so well to the many changes. He greatly appreciates this.

8.2 Laurentian Regional Ministry: Report attached. Andy reported that the LRM meets monthly and this past year's focus has been updating the LRM Covenant, a document outlining the procedures by which the 10 churches of the LRM can function together in a positive and sustainable way.

8.3 Rector's Warden: Report attached. Edna reported that 2020 shifted our focus to a new form of worship while respecting and following guidelines and regulations imposed by the pandemic situation. Edna is very thankful to the clergy and lay readers who have all helped to ease us into this new form of worship. Edna expressed thanks, on behalf of St. Simeon's, to the people who have stepped up their responsibilities, sharing their time and talents. Edna commented that we will all be very glad when we can gather for in-person church services.

8.4 People's Warden: Report attached. Karen mentioned that even though the pandemic has placed numerous restrictions on us, maintenance and upkeep projects of our buildings continued throughout the year. Several improvement projects were realized at both the church and the rectory in 2020. In 2021 maintenance will be performed as needed. Karen expressed thanks to Drummond for his support on all building issues. Karen expressed

sincere thanks to Edna for her support, guidance, and encouragement throughout Karen's first year as People's Warden. Edna puts a tremendous effort into all aspects of St. Simeon's and its people and this is greatly appreciated. Karen also appreciates the guidance and encouragement from Rev. Nick.

8.5 Lay Assistants: Report attached. Joan expressed thanks to lay assistants for their willingness to make adjustments to benefit our congregation during this pandemic time.

8.6 Prayer Group: Report attached. Susan reported that the group had to stop in person meetings but reassured us that prayer continues.

8.7 Family Service: Report attached. Edna reported that videos of Family Services (3 so far) are on line and many hits have been received and this is very encouraging. Edna expressed thanks to everyone for helping out and being a whole team to produce these services. Edna also expressed thanks to Nick for his leadership and input into these family services. We have now received our CCLI license which allows us to legally copyright materials and music for use in our services. Andy thanked Nick and Tania for their on line video presentation in front of the elementary school on the occasion of students returning to school and the blessing of their school bags.

8.8 Altar Guild: Report attached. Judy reported that Margaret MacKenzie kindly donated a new altar cloth to St. Simeon's and it will be dedicated as soon as possible after church re-opening.

8.9 Choir: Report attached submitted by Janis Morrill. Ann expressed thanks to Janis, organist & choir director, for providing live organ music for the Christmas service. Nick thanked Janis and all who maintain a telephone connection with members of our congregation. This connection is very important and very much appreciated.

8.10 Bulletin Secretary: Report attached. Judy commented that although paper service bulletins were not produced very much last year, she extends thanks to Susan and Edna for preparing the Power Point services for on screen viewing during in person services.

8.11 Hosts and Readers: Report attached. Edna thanked Jean Parker for her time as coordinator of hosts and readers and then having to step down for health reasons. Edna asked that we all pray for Jean's wellbeing.

8.12 Coffee Hour: Edna commented that Donna Silverson performs her duties as coffee hour coordinator efficiently and quietly and we appreciate her work over the past number of years.

8.13 Women's Fellowship: Report attached. Ann commented that we are very blessed to have warm and fine friends. Edna thanked Ann for keeping close contact with fellowship members.

8.14 Seniors' Luncheons: Report attached. Ann asked that we all stay well and safe in our journey into 2021.

8.15 Website: Report attached. Susan keeps the website up to date with posts concerning services, bible study sessions, and calendar info. The website address is parishoflachute.com.

8.16 Lachute Protestant Cemetery: Report attached. Herb reported that the cemetery corporation showed a deficit in 2019 of \$2 144. Herb encouraged people to take a walk thru the cemetery as it contains a lot of history that may interest people. It was suggested that a website be created for the cemetery, and this could contain a database of burials which would be a great reference for families searching for information.

8 A: Acceptance of Reports: A motion was made to accept these group reports that have been duly received and commented on. Joan Painter and Susan Sioui approved acceptance of the reports. All in favour.

8 B: Financial Report & Acceptance of the Financial Report: Report attached. Herb presented the Treasurer's

Report for 2020. Revenues at \$67 279, Expenses at \$37 767, for an Operating Surplus of \$29 512. The pandemic has had an effect on our finances, such as clergy expenses being below budgeted amounts, Diocesan assessments were reduced; heating costs at the church and rectory were seriously reduced from 2019. All these factors contributed to showing an Operating Surplus in 2020. Parishioners displayed good support to St. Simeon's with their donations. Herb indicated that donations were received in person, by mail, by e-transfer, and by PAR. Herb also indicated that he will start making reductions in the value of the Allen organ. This reduction has not been done for many years. Herb has also been managing responsibilities of Envelope Secretary for the past year. Herb thanked Andy Mason for verifying the treasurer's financial report. A hard copy of the report is available upon request. Judy thanked Herb for his clear and concise reports and Andy added that Herb does a tremendous job on the financial report. Herb moved for acceptance of the Financial Report for 2020, seconded by Andy. All in favour.

9.0 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.

10.0 Nomination Committee Report: The nominations committee, Andy Mason and Jenna Sioui, presented their nominations for 2021. Andy moved to accept persons as nominated, seconded by Judy and Richard. 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

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

12. Financial Stewardship:

12.1 Budget for 2021: Report attached. Herb presented the budget for 2021. Revenues at \$51 058, Expenses at \$71 968, for an Operating Deficit of \$20 640. Herb commented that it has been difficult to plan for 2021 because of the ongoing pandemic situation, the LRM budget presented, insurance premium increase of 19%, among some of the factors. Herb moved for acceptance of the 2021 budget, seconded by Edna. All in favour.

12.2 LRM Budget: Budget attached. In summary, Herb reiterated that we continue to reject the proposed LRM 2021 budget. The following motion was presented:

"St. Simeon's appreciates the time and effort involved in the formulation of the LRM proposed 2021 budget, as well as the consultative process with the respective parishes; however as we still have numerous concerns, we respectfully reject the proposed budget. Moved by Herb Sioui. Seconded by Karen Napp. All in favour."

13. New Business:

13.1 Laurentian Regional Ministry Covenant: After some preliminary comments by Andy Mason, the following motion was presented:

“Although St. Simeon’s appreciates and respects the time and effort involved in drawing up the proposed LRM Covenant, as well as the consultation process with the respective parishes, we continue to have concerns with a number of the clauses and therefore respectfully decline to vote on this proposed Covenant in its present form at this time. We will address this issue again at a Special Vestry Meeting before June 30, 2021. Moved by Edna Hall. Seconded by Judy Evans. All in favour.”

14. Ministerial Priorities for 2021: Rev. Nick appreciates that the Diocese and the federal government have reduced expenses to us during this past year. Rev. Tania is in her third year as curate in our parish (usual curate term is two years). Rev. Nick hopes that our clergy team can be kept together till the end of the pandemic, especially for rural areas because of their strong connections to church. The LRM and clergy team have built up a bank of service liturgies and also a musical library to serve us well into the future. Concern is expressed that only 40% attendance is participating on Zoom. The remaining 60% not being reached is taken seriously. The LRM is looking for online educational programs and resources to help churches. The Ministerial Association in Lachute still exists and meets irregularly but still meets. Two priests have retired, Cathy Hamilton and Doug Robinson. The Lachute Residence is connecting online and has expressed interest in having church services available to the residents. On behalf of St. Simeon’s, Edna thanked our clergy team for all the efforts and opportunities it has given us to continue to worship.

15. Adjournment: The Annual General Vestry meeting of 2021 for the Year 2020 was adjourned at 12:20 p.m. by Richard Pink, seconded by Joan Painter. All in favour.

16. 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



Priest-in-charge's Report for 2021

2021 was a strange year for many reasons. I began the year as Associate Priest of the Laurentian Regional Ministry (LRM); my contract finished at the end of August; by the end of November the LRM has been dissolved, and I finished the year as the recently-appointed, (as well as slightly-surprised) Priest-in-charge of St. Simeon's.

As Associate Priest I was involved in the discussions around the proposed Covenant for the LRM which took a lot of time both in LRM Council meetings and outside those times. Working as part of the clergy team alongside gifted colleagues Josee Lemoine and Tania Lesack was a great experience. We were able to accomplish much during the two years of the pandemic, initiating online services which I feel helped many across the regional through the long months of socially distanced life. Save for a few months, months for which I was not present, everything was online, and we stayed in touch with one another by phone and socially-distanced outside visits where possible. We experimented with new projects such as the virtual Family Services which were appreciated by many across the region and beyond. The corporation has provided consistent leadership throughout the year, the parish council meeting online, has supported them in many practical ways, and every parishioner has played their part as they were able.

We have greatly appreciated the continued financial support of many members, and are grateful to God for his provision through his people. I want to thank all of you for your support and encouragement throughout this challenging time.

Through all the changes we can be sure that God will continue to be faithful to us as he has been in the past.

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Brotherwood

Statistics for 2021

Baptisms -	Kaiser Gerald Maier, son of Joey Maier and Cindy Boutillier
Marriages -	Suzie Arnatuk and Shawn MacDonald
Memorial Services -	Evelyn Cotterell Pink George Deacon
Burials -	Jean Parker



Laurentian Regional Ministry

After several years of meetings and discussions it was determined in late November, that the plan to meet the needs of 7 Laurentian area parishes under the umbrella of one Regional Ministry, was not viable at this time.

The Bishop informed us that a realignment of the parishes would take place and that St. Simeon's would operate separately from any other parish.

A great deal of time and effort was spent by many members of the Laurentian Parishes over more than a 5 year period, in trying to find a way to come together and share resources. That may be a topic for discussion at some point in the future.

In the meantime we are very pleased to have Rev. Nick Brotherhood return as our Parish Priest.

Andy Mason



Rector's Warden Report

2021 has proven to be a challenging year! After celebrating Christmas 2020 in a church setting, we began the New Year with the closure of public gatherings due to Covid. As a congregation, we were unable to meet in person for many months. Fortunately, the Laurentian Regional Ministry Zoom services continued and were easily accessible to our parishioners. We are thankful to the LRM clergy, Josée, Tania and Nick, as well as other participants, lay and clergy, who made these services available. The acquaintances that

developed previously in this format were continued. In addition the weekday, evening on line services were a most valuable outreach for the participants and thanks are given to all who led these services.

Another expression of caring was the phone chain which remained active. It is very rewarding to both those who receive phone calls and those who call. Many thanks to all who faithfully maintain this communication.

In addition, many special services or events were held on line during the isolation period.

The Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was held on January 20. It was a very moving service with beautiful music.

In February, our Annual Vestry Meeting was held on line.

The World Day of Prayer was observed on March 5. During Lent, we participated in an excellent series 'A River Through the Desert – A Lent Pilgrimage' from St. George's College Jerusalem. Many thanks to Sue, Wendy and Nick for leading. On March 11 a number of parishioners met at the church to ring the bell to mark the first anniversary of Covid.

In April, although we missed being able to meet in person for these services, the Holy week and Easter services were well attended and meaningful. Also, in April, a number of parishioners attended an online presentation and workshop entitled 'Hope for the Post Pandemic Church' led by Jessie Zink. This was followed at Parish Council with a discussion of the various suggestions.

Herb attended Synod via Zoom on May 14th and 15th. Judy Paulsen, the Keynote speaker at Synod, addressed the topic 'The Challenge of Evangelism –How Do We Invite People'. This was followed with Judy leading two sessions with the PLL on June 14th and 15th. Our discussions focused on priorities for moving forward after the Pandemic.

Another change was that with regret and as a result of the change in membership demographics, it was decided to discontinue the Family Service as a regular service. We had posted on line services and hope to continue to do so from time to time. The Family Service will be replaced by an Alternate Lay Led service on the third Sunday of the month. We give thanks for the faithful team of Nick, Gordon, Rolanda, Sue, Jenna and Ann who continue to share their talents in our new format.

Summer was a quiet season. Memorial Services for Evelyn Pink and George Deacon were held In August. We had the happy occasion of celebrating the wedding of Susie Arnatuk and Shawn MacDonald. Also in August we gave thanks for Rev. Nick's ministry to the LRM, said farewell with best wishes at an outdoor celebration in Lakefield.

In September, it was wonderful to be able to once again worship together. We had certainly missed the personal contact. With the LRM changes, we were very appreciative of Rev. Jane Bell, Rev. Paul Tidman, Gordon McPhee and Sue Sioui who led services on the Sundays that could not be covered by Rev. Tania Lesack or Rev. Josée Lemoine. September 12th, we celebrated the baptism Kaiser Gerald Maier into the family of St. Simeon's. After the September 19th service, St. Simeon's approved the revised LRM Covenant.

Thanksgiving was celebrated with a lay led service and we were becoming accustomed to the new order when major changes occurred. At the end of October, Rev. Josée Lemoine announced her resignation. We expressed our appreciation to Josée for all the hard work she given to the LRM. In November, it was with regret that we received the Bishop's announcement dissolving the LRM



Council resulting in St. Simeon's reverting to an independent parish. We thank Sue and Andy for being our very faithful and capable representatives on the LRM Council during these past years.

Also in November, Rev. Nick Brotherwood was announced as the incumbent of St. Simeon's on a one third time basis. We are thankful for his presence and his leadership.

Advent, a time of new beginning, brought familiar readings and music. Many thanks to Janis and Gordon, our musicians for these special services. We look forward to a time when the choir will once again be able to be in the choir stalls to lead the singing. In the meantime, we are very appreciative of their voices in the congregation.

Christmas Eve was celebrated by a Lay led service.

St. Simeon's Parish Council has continued to meet either on line or in person. The ongoing obligations of maintaining a church, both as a building and as a center of ministry, as well as upkeep on the rectory have been addressed. Particular thanks to Karen Napp for overseeing the necessary repairs and maintenance to the church and the rectory. Thanks to each person who is a part of this Council as each plays an integral role in the life of our church. The reports, insights and suggestions are valued. Our treasurer, Herb is fastidious about keeping our financial affairs in order and our sincere appreciation goes to him. As does our appreciation to all the parishioners who regularly contribute during the year. It is through your faithfulness that we are able to look forward to the future. Please do not hesitate to contact Karen or me if you have specific concerns.

In the past months, St. Simeon's faced and will continue to face many major decisions. One of the decisions will involve the future of the Rectory. A committee will study various options. We thank those who have accepted this responsibility.

It has been a most interesting year! We have faced many changes both as a result of Covid and the Diocesan reorganization of the Laurentian ministries. Let us not be discouraged but let us go together into the future looking at various possibilities to maintain and enhance the life of St. Simeon's. We are thankful for Rev. Nick's leadership and for each member of our parish. We are fortunate to have many parishioners with so many strengths and by working together we face the future with confidence and faith. As Paul wrote to the Thessalonians

Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

We remain positive and caring as we begin 2022.

Yours in Christ,
Edna



People's Warden Report

Maintenance Projects at St. Simeon's Church and Rectory 2021:

Projects **completed** at the Rectory in 2021:

- Ongoing preventive extermination for ants, etc.
- Clean-up of overgrown shrubbery and brush in front & back yards
- Chimney repairs performed on furnace chimney

Projects **completed** at the Church for 2021:

- Cleaning gas portion of furnace and preventive maintenance performed on the hot water tank
- Renewal of rental agreement with Pub Sir John for use of church's back yard.

Projects **considered** for the Rectory in 2022:

- To be determined, but allowing for regular maintenance

Projects **considered** for the Church in 2022:

- Replace ceiling fans in church (or clean)
- New outside sign board structure being completed
- Repair or replace west exit outside staircase; present cement structure is crumbling

Due to another year of pandemic restrictions, projects were not actively pursued. Any immediate or urgent repair problems were promptly addressed.

My appreciation is 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

2021 proved to be a challenging year for St. Simeon's Church in general and for the lay assistants in particular. Constant changes in organizing the Holy Communion and Morning Prayer services with continual Covid 19 rules in place proved that 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, Joan Painter, Andy Mason, Jenna Sioui, Gordon and Rolanda McPhee, and Richard Pink for being determined and helpful throughout 2021, especially when services were so changed from the regular format that we had come to appreciate from our lay assistants.

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 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 2021 and welcome volunteers from St. Simeon's Church to consider sharing their faith in prayer and serve as a lay assistant.

Respectfully, Joan Painter



Family Service Report 2021



2021 has been an interesting year to say the least. We were fortunate to be able to gather in the church for some services, however, for most of the year, our worship services were held on-line.

The Family Service team put together a video for Easter, 2021 featuring Lamb. Lots of interesting people were interviewed in a program called “Cha-a-a-at with Lamb” - all of them eyewitnesses to the events that happened during the week leading up to Easter Sunday. You can still go to You Tube to see it: <https://youtu.be/YdUGg1MolnE> - or, you can find the link on our Face Book page or on our St. Simeon's Website.

When in-person services began in September, the team made the decision to discontinue the format of the Family Service and to create something a little different, while still maintaining the relaxed worship service. The new Family service will be led by the same team of dedicated lay people. Another change for this service is that it will be held on the 3rd Sunday of the month instead of the 2nd - and it will be held at 10 am.

We were disappointed to say goodbye to Rev'd. Nick Brotherhood at the end of August. His creativity and his faith were just some of the extraordinary gifts that he offered to the team. We are so thankful to have him back with us as of December, 2021 on a part time basis.

A very special thanks goes to Gordon McPhee for sharing his abundant gifts of music and wisdom. His devotion

to this service is greatly appreciated. And thanks to Rolanda Murphy for her skills as a puppeteer and for her amazing imagination. We are always grateful for the faithfulness, talents and leadership of all members of the Lay Team: Edna Hall, Jenna Sioui, Ann Mason, and Susan Sioui.

Everyone hopes that 2022 will bring us more opportunities to worship together and who knows – maybe even celebrate a Christmas Pageant next December! We thank all of you who support this ministry, and we ask that you continue to keep it in your prayers.

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

Altar Guild Report



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

This year was marked by changes in scheduling and by imposed restrictions created by the Covid pandemic. Adaptation was foremost in planning and execution.

The in-person services were unlike any of the past. At some times, hangings were not permitted, the Eucharist was not set up in the usual way and the altar itself was not impinged. Edna's leadership and knowledge of changing rules were most helpful.

Thanksgiving and Christmas decorations were appreciated by the congregation.

The Guild had valuable assistance from parishioners, Jessie Dunn, Grace Dubeau, Karen Napp. Andy Mason and Herb Sioui in these important efforts.

We look forward to 2022 and hopefully a more predictable delivery of services.

We consider the Altar Guild work an honourable endeavour and a privilege.

Judy Evans

Choir Report



Playing the organ without the choir is quite challenging. I have been surprised at how much I depend on those voices as I play our lovely hymns. God willing, we will be able to make music together before too long. I have missed the choir so much!

I hope and pray that things will get back to normal soon.

Respectfully submitted,

Janis Morrill, Organist and Choir Master

Readers and Hosts

Thanks are due to all who agreed to either welcome people to the Sunday service or to read the first lesson at the Sunday service. Changes were made quickly when necessary and hosts had to make sure rules were understood and followed as a result of Covid regulations. Readers had to be flexible and read from different locations in church depending on the order of service. Special thanks go to Judy Evans who took over from me when Covid made it impossible or difficult for readers to read and I was not available to continue organizing the schedule after Christmas. Thanks to all who volunteered to serve in these important positions.

Respectfully, Joan Painter



Coffee Hour Report

There is not much to report for coffee hour. Due to Covid there were not many Sundays we could serve coffee and enjoy fellowship after the services. A big thank you to everyone for their support and help during these difficult times. It is always greatly appreciated. I would like to thank the Women's Fellowship for providing the tea & coffee.

Hope everyone is keeping healthy and safe.

Thank You

Donna Silverson



Women's Fellowship

What a blessing it is to be a part of a supportive team, The Women's Fellowship, especially at a time like this.

We thought 2021 would be a relief after 2020. While in some ways it has been, particularly because of the advent of Covid-19 vaccines, it has still been challenging.

The Rotary Apartments initiative in 2021 was not our usual Valentine's Tea, but the distribution of home-made cookies, lovingly prepared by our members, was a gratifying alternative.

Our annual donation to Tyndale - St. George's was honoured.

One small window opened up to us in November 2021, so we gladly had our only meeting in almost two years, at St. Simeon's, following all the protocols. What a pleasure it was to visit with everyone!

If you would like to be a part of our group, you are welcome to call me.

Best wishes for good health and happiness in this New Year.

Respectively submitted,

Ann Mason

President, Women's Fellowship

450 562 7217



Senior's Lunches



For the second consecutive year, Covid restrictions and concerns have prevented us from holding Seniors' lunches. This has been a very popular event, supported by many members of our community for more than 25 years.

Seniors' lunches began as an ecumenical project under the guidance and leadership of Garth and Janis Morrill. They organized and oversaw virtually all aspects of the lunches from planning menus and buying food to managing a sometimes unruly kitchen staff. Their initiative in starting this event and their work to see it develop is so very much appreciated. Thank you, Garth and Janis!

Initially 3 lunches were held each year and recently that number was reduced to 2. Although attendance remained at or near capacity, the organizing became more difficult, as fewer people were available to carry out various tasks.

Following consultation with members of the organizing committee, it was felt that this project would not be able to continue.

For all the years these lunches were held, any additional money collected was given to local community organizations annually. In December 2021 our account was closed and the remaining \$284.21 was given to Citad'Elle, a local women's shelter.

We thank the many volunteers who worked together tirelessly to make the Seniors' Lunches such a success.

Ann & Andy Mason

Web Site Report

St. Simeon's has had a Web Site for many years now. If you Google Parish of Lachute or St. Simeon's Anglican Church, Lachute, it will bring you to: www.parishll.ca/lachute/2017/ Because our server changed in 2017, we had to rebuild the website. For the purposes of expense and simplicity, we were annexed to the PLL Website. In 2022, we will be rebuilding the site again, because the original creator, all around expert and my mentor, Brian Turnbull is retiring from the responsibilities of maintaining the many different sites he has been involved with. St. Simeon's will at that time go back to having its own name (Parish of Lachute) for its domain name.



That being said, the website needs some sprucing up and I would appreciate input from anyone reading this report. Keeping the site current and interesting over the past year has been challenging just like everything in the past year. The church is open for in-person services, or the services are held on-line. Important communications were posted, however, for the most part, the website has remained stagnant because of lack of activities and special moments.

I encourage you to think about what you would like to see on our Page and to contact me with your ideas. I believe that a website is our door to the world – it's a place that people can find out who we are. This is an important outreach for St. Simeon's. How would you like to be presented to the world around us?

Respectfully,

Susan Sioui, Webmaster



Lachute Protestant Cemetery Report 2021


The second half of 2021 was a busy time at the cemetery.

The first major project was the renewal of the driveway to the back of the cemetery. The old broken asphalt was replaced with a new roadbed of crushed stone. A new parking area was created at the East end of the cemetery. If necessary, paving of these areas will be a future project.

Another important project was the trimming of the trees. Excess branches, damaged and dead limbs were removed. This was done to promote a healthy environment and to ensure the safety of the users. Spring of 2022 should see the planting of approximately ten trees to replace the trees lost over the past years.

In 2021 we lost three members: Clifton Berry and Donald McCrea, both long time members, and Jeff Wilson, who retired from the committee. We have three new directors ready to join the cemetery committee, who will be installed at a future date.

Respectfully submitted, Herb Sioui



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