

Vestry Report 2022

Reporting Decisions and Activity during 2021



A new era begins

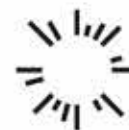
On Tuesday November 2, 2021, St. Margaret's was the scene of a Celebration of New Ministry wherein **The Rev. Colin McFarland** (above, centre) was formally installed as Incumbent Priest. A recognition of the leadership in ministry of **The Rev. Aigah Attagutsiak** (left of Colin) was also part of the celebration. **Archdeacon Susan Churchill-Lackey** (next to Aigah) officiated and **The Rev. Jeannie Loughrey** (right of Colin), who led some of our mid-summer online services, preached. Also in the photo are St. Margaret's supporting clergy and beloved wardens: **The Rev. Deacon Christine Jannasch**, **Catherine Keresztesi**, **Bernie Delmaire** and **The Very Rev. Roger Briggs**.

St. Margaret's Vanier, Anglican Diocese of Ottawa



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Celebration of New Ministry Nov. 2, 2021

Clockwise from above— 1. In Rev. Colin's office, People's Warden Bernie Delmaire is briefed by Archdeacon Susan Churchill-Lackey on his role in the ceremony and the documents to be signed. 2 & 3. Rev. Roger Briggs and Rev. Aigah Attagutsiak meet up by the font, and greet Rev. Jeannie, Aigah's daughter Mona and Rev. Colin before the service. 4. Our new Incumbent Priest and Rev. Aigah are welcomed to the new phase of their ministry with applause from the family members, staff and wardens present. In line with COVID guidelines, only 25 persons were allowed in the church, although others attended online via Zoom.



St Margaret's Vanier 2022 Vestry Meeting Proposed Agenda

1. Welcome
 - a. Land acknowledgement
 - b. Opening Prayers
2. Housekeeping
 - a. Roll Call
 - b. Instructions for voting
 - c. Instructions for making interventions
 - d. Instructions for changing your name on Zoom
3. Appointment of Vestry Clerk
4. Motion to accept Minutes and Agenda
5. Appointments by the Incumbent
6. Election of People's Warden and Deputy
 - a. Call for nominations
 - b. Election
 - c. Results
7. Election of Synod Representatives
 - a. Call for nominations
 - b. Election
 - c. Results
8. Election of Parish Council
 - a. Call for nominations
 - b. Election
 - c. Results
9. Financial Reports 2021
 - a. Motion to accept Financial Report for 2021
 - b. Motion to appoint auditor for 2022
10. Budget 2022
 - a. Motion to accept 2022 Budget
11. Roof Project 2022
 - a. Motion to approve CTF investment withdrawal
12. Motion to accept Vestry report
13. Votes of thanks
14. Motion to adjourn and the Grace

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Minutes of 2021 Vestry Meeting

Hosted online on February 28, 2021 • Chair: The Reverend Colin McFarland

1. Welcome

- a. Land acknowledgement led by Rev. Aigah Attagutsiak, in Inuktitut and English
- b. Opening Prayers led by Rev. Colin McFarland

2. Housekeeping

- a. Roll Call
- b. Instructions for voting
- c. Instructions for making interventions
- d. Instructions for changing your name on Zoom

3. Vestry Clerk appointed

- Robin Dunbar

4. Motion to accept 2020 Minutes and 2021 Agenda — passed

5. Appointments by the Incumbent

- Cat Keresztesi, Rector's Warden
- Jane Waterston, Deputy Rector's Warden
- Gilles Vézina, Treasurer

6. People's Warden elected

- Bernie Delmaire

Thanks expressed by Colin that these people are willing to stay on, making life as the new incumbent considerably easier.

7. Synod Representatives elected

- Robin Dunbar
- Donna Mah, (alternate)
- Irene Tagoona, (alternate)

8. Parish Council members elected

- John Angnaluk
- Georgina Côté-Christopher
- Anthony Crichton
- Rob Douglas
- Jane Gibson
- Donn Hope
- Joan Marshman
- Leslie McGillvray
- Mealia Sheutiapik

9. Financial Report 2020

Presented by treasurer, Gilles Vézina, some questions asked and answered.

- a. Financial Report for 2020 accepted
- b. Kelly Huibers McNeely chartered accountants to review our finances in and for 2021

10. Budget 2021 passed

11. Vestry reports for 2020 accepted with one omission corrected, in the Synod Report, add Rev. Aigah Attagutsiak to the names of those who attended Synod 2020.

12. Votes of thanks

- Ven. Rob Davis for his time with us, especially with the extra challenge of COVID
- Bernie Delmaire for all that he does, so active and so present
- Asenath Kannutaq, Deborah Tagornak, Bernie Delmaire, Cat Keresztesi, Robin Dunbar, for their work in preparation of documents and discernment in the process of finding our new priest
- Robin Dunbar for Nominating Committee for Parish Council
- Cat Keresztesi, for all her work, in particular managing the technical parts of this meeting
- From Rev. Colin, to all for patience as I learn, we are God's people with questions and responses, we are blessed to be a part of it all

13. Motion to adjourn

Rev. Aigah led us in prayer, reminding us that we are all the same, all working for God.



Treasurer's Report and 2022 Budget

The review by an independent practitioner of the financial statements for the period ending on December 31, 2020 was completed in March 2021. As in previous years, the reviewer concluded that “nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not present fairly ... the financial position of St. Margaret's Anglican Church.”

In 2021, the pandemic situation and the appointment of the Incumbent affected respectively the level of revenue and expenditures of SMV. The non-verified results for the fiscal year show a deficit of \$47,597. Given the high level of cash on hand at the beginning of 2021, \$104,500, SMV was able to finance the deficit throughout the year. As at December 31, 2021, the cash on hand is approximately \$57,000.

In 2021, overall revenue decreased by 24% from 2020, from 220k to 173k. While receipted offerings decreased by 22%, other non receipted gifts decreased by 10%, other revenue declined

by 35%. In total, revenues declined from \$230K to \$174k.

Expenses related to the Church building remained stable with a slight decrease of 2%. Ministry expenses paid through the Diocese, which include priestly costs, insurance and Fair Share, increased by 65% while other ministry expenses decreased by 46%. Office expenses remained stable. In total, expenditures increased by 23%, from 180k to 221k.

To ensure proper control and monitoring of the financial situation during the year, a budget had been presented at Vestry 2021. This budget proved to be a solid tool as both the actual revenues and expenditures were within 1% of the projected amounts included in the budget.

Special thanks to **Neil Forsyth** and **Colin Ritchie** for their support in counting and doing the bank deposit weekly. Thanks also to **Caryl Crichton**, our Parish administrator.

—*Gilles Vézina*

Budget 2022 • St. Margaret's Vanier

REVENUE	Actuals 2020	Actuals 2021	BUDGET 2022
4000 Tax Received Gifts			
4010 English and Inuit Offerings Received	99 709	104 756	120 500
4011 Memorial Donations	35 000	0	0
4020 Other Donations Received	3 819	2 485	2 900
TOTAL Tax Received Gifts	<u>138 528</u>	<u>107 242</u>	<u>123 400</u>
4100 Non Received Gifts			0
4110 English non-receipted	604	637	900
4120 Inuit non-receipted	1 288	1 444	1 800
TOTAL Non Received Gifts	<u>1 892</u>	<u>2 081</u>	<u>2 700</u>
4200 Gifts from Registered Charities	780	12 302	13 100
4300 Support to Inuit Ministry	18 724	5 850	15 000
4400 Other Income			
4410 CTF - Interest and Dividends	40 426	41 179	37 800
4411 Bank - Interest and Cashback	199	247	200
4430 Parking Lot	6 323	1 441	6 100
4440 Sale of assets	20 598	75	0
4520 Hall Rentals	2 120	2 370	3 900
TOTAL Other Income	<u>69 664</u>	<u>45 312</u>	<u>48 000</u>
4500 Ministry Revenue			0
4530 Celebrations of life/marriage/baptism	0	1 225	2 500
4540 Other Ministry Revenue incl Fundraisers	268	-360	100
TOTAL Ministry Revenue	<u>268</u>	<u>865</u>	<u>2 600</u>
			0
TOTAL REVENUE	<u>229 856</u>	<u>173 651</u>	<u>204 800</u>
EXPENSE			
5000 The Church Building			
5010 Maintenance, Repairs Montreal Rd	34 590	2 388	18 100
5011 Maintenance - Wages		20 095	600
5012 Maintenance - Supplies		16 975	200
5020 Snow Removal	4 269	3 595	4 300
5030 Janitorial	12 665	1 670	10 000
5031 Janitorial - Wages		3 582	0
5032 Janitorial - Supplies		1 436	1 400
5040 Utilities	5 422	6 100	5 900
TOTAL The Church Building	<u>56 946</u>	<u>55 841</u>	<u>40 500</u>
5100 Ministry Expenses paid through Diocese			
5110 Equalization payment (ECOPS)	44 196	92 232	110 300
5130 Insurance Premium	3 628	4 878	5 600
5140 Fair Share	21 882	27 141	28 600
5150 Parish Administrator	9 565	6 159	12 700
TOTAL Ministry Expenses paid through Diocese	<u>79 270</u>	<u>130 409</u>	<u>157 100</u>
5200 Ministry Expenses			
5210 Music Program (including organist)	8 192	9 125	16 900
5220 Inuit Community Outreach Program	14 499	1 724	10 000
5230 Transportation	0	0	0
5240 Inuit ministry	441	474	6 800
5250 Community Outreach	80	100	0
5260 Education and training	0	379	1 200
5270 Other Ministry Expenses	1 402	1 442	5 600
TOTAL Ministry Expenses	<u>24 614</u>	<u>13 245</u>	<u>40 500</u>
5300 Office Expenses			
5310 Telephone and internet	4 266	4 482	4 400
5320 Communications	0	0	300
5330 Admin/Bookkeeping	2 540	4 879	0
5340 Professional fees (auditor)	2 995	2 500	3 000
5350 Other office expenses	4 774	3 600	9 700
5360 Security	1 299	336	300
TOTAL Office Expenses	<u>15 874</u>	<u>15 797</u>	<u>17 600</u>
5510 HST paid	2 751	5 231	4 100
5600 Interest and bank charges	650	725	500
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>180 105</u>	<u>221 249</u>	<u>260 400</u>
NET INCOME	<u>49 752</u>	<u>-47 597</u>	<u>-55 600</u>

Parish Records, 2021

Weddings

- Alexia Fruin and Jason Morton, September 10, 2021 (The Rev. Colin McFarland)

Funerals, Memorials, and Burials

- Ida Barker, March 6, 2021 (The Rev. Colin McFarland)
- Donald Delahunt, August 18, 2021 (The Rev. Colin McFarland)
- Oleepa Brown, August 27, 2021 (The Rev. Aigah Attagutsiak & The Rev. Colin McFarland)
- Daniel Toolooktook, October 5, 2021 (The Rev. Colin McFarland)
- Lurline Wright, November 18, 2021 (The Rev. Colin McFarland)
- Rebecca Anaviapik, December 4, 2021 (The Rev. Aigah Attagutsiak & The Rev. Colin McFarland)

After the service, July 2021



Incumbent's Report

Worship, Discipleship, Pastoral Care

Sunday Worship. In 2021, Sunday worship adapted to three of the four stages of our diocesan COVID-19 plan (Red, Amber, and Yellow). Shifting in response to the local situation of the global pandemic, St. Margaret's has continuously offered online access to worship via Zoom. Beginning in the fall, St. Margaret's offered a hybrid of in-person and online worship. With a microphone, tv monitor, and speakers in the church, the Zoom format has allowed parishioners staying home to participate alongside parishioners worshipping in-person.

It is important to note that in 2021 exclusively online worship, our in-person capacity limits, and the restrictions on food and in-person fellowship have disproportionately affected participation in Inuktitut-language services, households with children, and those who have unreliable access to the internet.

Adult Christian Discipleship. Three online book studies formed the basis of adult Christian discipleship in the parish: Meeting God in Mark by Rowan Williams (Lent), Acts of the Apostles by Luke the Evangelist using Luke Johnson's commentary as a guide (Easter), and Living Into Community by Christine Pohl (Ordinary Time). These seasonal occasions to gather by Zoom for prayer, listening, sharing, and learning were important for communal spiritual reflection and growth and, just as importantly, for our overall SMV Parish Vestry Report 2022



The Reverend Colin McFarland
Incumbent Priest
Feb. 2021–present

wellbeing since we've been unable to meet together in-person for sharing and learning in nearly two years.

Children and Teens Christian

Discipleship. I am thankful for the creative and consistent energy devoted by various parishioners to making space for children and teenagers to gather online preceding Sunday services. With the presence and support of various parishioners, the leadership of Jane Waterston, Ed Logan, and Vera Etches has ensured that an online “space” is held for kids each week for listening, sharing, and learning from the scriptures and Christian spiritual practices. In addition to Sunday morning time many parishioners contributed to the fun of a September Sunday School picnic in Strathcona Park. Additionally, Rev. Aigah and I also enjoyed corresponding through Christmas cards with children and teens and their households in December.

Music Ministry Leadership. Music ministry has undergone significant changes in 2021. In March, Maureen Hutchinson stepped down from her position as Choir Director and Organist of the English-language services yet expressed her willingness to continue as the Organist for Inuktitut-language services. Based on Francine Brisebois’ willingness step up into weekly music leadership of English-language services – and based on numerous conversations throughout the spring and summer between clergy, churchwardens, singers, and the organists – St. Margaret’s music leadership continues to be shared between Francine and Maureen albeit in this new arrangement:

- Francine Brisebois is contracted as organist and choral conductor for English-language services;
- Maureen Hutchinson is contracted as organist for Inuktitut-language services.
- Musical leadership for All Together services and non-Sunday liturgies is determined in consultation between the Incumbent and our contracted organists as needed.

I am thankful for the ways Francine and Maureen continue to offer their leadership to music ministry in the parish. This second year of pandemic life has demanded adaptability and creativity; both have risen to the occasion with professionalism and thoughtfulness. Thank you!

Pastoral Care. Pastoral care is an indispensable part of every person’s vocation as a disciple of Jesus. The care we show and give to one another, informally and formally, is a mark of our commitment to loving our neighbours as ourselves. I am thankful for the particular work of Margaret Hilborn who serves our diocesan church as a Pastoral Visitor in The Ottawa Hospital and who has helped me establish connections with SMV parishioners living in long term care and retirement residences. Additionally, I am thankful for the leadership of Robin Dunbar to coordinate numerous parishioners in baking, packaging, and delivering Christmas cookies last December. This initiative communicated the presence and love of God to many who were in need of good cheer last Christmas.

Inuit-led Ministry

Learning what it means to be the Incumbent Priest of St. Margaret's Anglican Church includes learning how my ministry as Incumbent, and our ministry as a parish, can uphold, bear witness, and empower Inuit-led ministry. This is of local, diocesan, and national significance. It is a distinct aspect of our vocation as a parish church.

In 2021 I was pleased to participate in various learning contexts:

- June 2021. Enrolled as an auditor in Church and Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples, a summer course offered by Saint Paul University's Faculty of Theology.
- July 15-17 and November 12-13. Participated as a notetaker for Sacred Circle 10, the national gathering and decision-making body for Indigenous Anglicans in Canada.
- October 2021. Invited to be a regular participant in the Urban Indigenous Ministries Network, a collection of leaders of

Urban Indigenous Ministries across the Anglican Church of Canada.

Closer to home, it has been a blessing to:

- Assist Rev. Aigah weekly in Sunday Inuktitut-language services and for funerals and memorial services throughout the year. When Rev. Aigah was on vacation in Nunavut last fall, I was privileged to assist Rev. Roger Briggs and to preside and preach on two occasions at 11:30am on Sunday (with translation offered by Deborah Tagornak).
- Witness the Inuit Elders Qulliq Lighting Workshop organized by Inuuqatigiit at St. Margaret's in November/December;
- Support the Christmas Food Gift Card program; and
- Provide technical support to the Piqqusivut Elders Meetings initiated by Rev. Aigah in our city ("Piqqusivut" means "Our Way of Life" and/or "Our Way of Being").

Community Engagement, Discernment, and an Invitation

Minwaashin Lodge Drop-in. Since resuming operations in September 2020, Minwaashin Lodge's Drop-in (formerly called Supporting Our Sisters) has been running

continuously Mondays and Fridays at St. Margaret's parish hall. The parish's positive relationship with Minwaashin has ensured that our church property is been a continuing site of

care and support for refugee families, people experiencing homelessness, and people looking for information about social services in the area. The drop-in provides clothing, food, harm reduction kits, hygiene, and interpersonal support.

Partage Vanier Food Bank. Since resuming in-person services of worship in September 2021, St. Margaret's has resumed its monthly offerings of food to Partage Vanier, particularly baby food for households with children.

Christmas Food Card Gifts. An Inuit-led ministry of the parish, the Christmas gifts of food cards (an adaptation of the annual Christmas feast) connected with hundreds of Inuit community members in Vanier and across the city with Christmas greetings and gift cards suited to household sizes (individuals, couples, families with children).

Discernment: Community Engagement Moving Forward. In 2021 I have heard a strong desire from parishioners to have the doors of St. Margaret's church and hall open and regularly accessible to the neighbourhood around us. This feels intuitively right given our location, spaces, people, and vocation as a sanctuary of God's presence in the neighbourhood. In order to become this kind of place, there are important questions that need answers, including:

- How can our building be open during the week (who is opening it?)

- How can building use be regulated, supervised, managed (who is hosting, supervising, or managing the scheduling of the spaces?)
- What partner organizations, people, and financial resources will SMV need to be an "open doors" place?

Some additional lines of inquiry related to this are:

- What investments need to be made in personnel and volunteer training for our worship, discipleship, and pastoral care ministries to be accessible and safe for everyone? What role do these core ministries (both Inuit and non-Inuit) have in opening our doors throughout the week?
- What impact can we advocate for the Shape of Parish Ministry Consultation to have on allocating resources (both human resources and financial resources) to urban parishes like SMV whose street presence is essential to its vocation?
- What role and resources can our diocesan Community Ministry day programs have in opening SMVs doors to the neighbourhood?
- How can an updated and user-friendly parish rental policy, agreement, and schedule of fees/discounts support the orderly use of our building by varied types of community groups/organizations?

An Invitation

We are now hitting the two-year mark of life lived in a global pandemic. The pandemic has thrown into question much of what we thought was certain. This has caused excitement and exhaustion, hope and anxiety, and a general reevaluation of life, work, and relationships for all of us. We are tired. We are entering a time of recovery. Like a body recovery from injury we need to move, but our movements need to be gentle; we need to stretch, but we also need to relax. We need to monitor our pace and make adjustments as we go. The spiritual practices of discernment are essential to navigating this recovery.

St. Margaret's has "good bones" – solid structures and forums for discernment and decision-making. But the muscles are thin and we need to build back strength gradually through wider participation in these forums for discernment and decision-making. I can

appreciate this feels like a lot to ask of people at this time but if there are ways you think you can contribute to the parish's discernment and decision-making I would love to hear from you. So would Rev. Aigah, your chair of Parish Council, churchwardens, and other lay leaders. St. Margaret's needs support in areas such as stewardship and communications, property care, and support to lay leadership in worship, discipleship, and pastoral care. There are formal and informal ways to help – I am happy to talk with anyone about their gifts and brainstorm ways they can be received in support of Jesus' ministry in this place.

God's peace,



The Reverend Colin McFarland
Incumbent Priest

Donations received this year:

- Inuvialuit Corp. \$1000
- Tungasuvvingat Inuit \$1000
- Kitikmeot Inuit Association \$250
- Inuit Tapariit Kanatami \$1500
- PWRDF \$400
- Individual donations \$200

Total donations: \$4350.

\$1900 from last year's donations were carried forward to this year's gift card fund.

Thanks to all persons that helped us with this.

Hopefully this year we can hold our annual feast and celebrate Christmas together in person again.

I appreciate all the help and support from our volunteers, readers, and others during this past year. St. Margaret's continues to be a real blessing for me, and our community and I look forward to all the challenges and opportunities of 2022 as we become open to meet again in person after the recent pandemic years.

— *The Reverend Aigah Attagutsiak*
Assistant Curate



Bernie Delmaire, Deborah Tagornak and Rev. Aigah prepare gift card envelopes before distributing them to many families and individuals—more than 300 people altogether received Christmas cheer from St. Margaret's.

Prayer at St. Margaret's

Robin Dunbar continued to coordinate the roster of intercessors for the 9:30 service and the joint services. Regularly scheduled intercessors were Robin Dunbar, Christine Jannasch, Asenath Kannutaq, and Malcolm Mc Ewen. Rob Douglas and Sareena Hopkins also helped.

Additional intercessors are very welcome. You may contact any of the team members with your questions and your needs around getting started.

Pandemic restrictions still do not allow hands-on prayer and anointing during Communion.

Please continue to wrap St Margaret's in your prayers, expecting God's power to do more than we can ask or imagine. Please also pray for insight about what prayer ministry in our parish

might look like in 2022. I would love to hear people's dreams for prayer at St Margaret's. Thank you for all your prayers to date, those created for our liturgies, those spoken privately and those held in the silence of our hearts.

Special thanks to Robin for coordinating the roster.

—Deacon Christine Jannasch



Labyrinths are traditional aids to prayer. This one is in the hall at Christ Church Cathedral on Sparks St.

Rector's Warden's Report

We began 2021 with high hopes, despite the relentlessness of the pandemic, as we welcomed our new Incumbent, The Reverend Colin McFarland in February. It has been a real pleasure to get to know Colin and Keltie (Davidson), and to work with Rev. Colin, along with Rev. Aigah, Bernie Delmaire, Gilles Vézina, and Jane Waterston, to contribute to the growth and community of St Margaret's Vanier. I would call this past year one of stabilization and adaptation for us as a parish community, with a heaping serving of discernment.

Key updates for the year are in the following areas.

Support for Online Services and Meetings

When I started supporting our online services as the Zoom host, I could not have imagined that this support would be needed every week for two years and counting. Keeping in mind that no single person should be wholly responsible for recurring tasks that support the functioning of the parish, Rev. Colin encouraged me to develop a roster of Zoom hosts. I'm grateful for the continued help with hosting that Malcolm McEwen and Rev. Colin provide. I would also like to offer my gratitude to the parishioners of St Margaret's for their patience and adaptability as they got used to variation in Zoom hosts, different Zoom links every week, and audio troubleshooting as we tested different mics and Zoom features. While our pandemic experience

will end at some point, God willing, I think it's fair to say that hosting or streaming parish services and events online is here to stay. Pandemic blessings seem to have been few and far between, but our increasing capacity to meet online when we need to is a benefit we will continue to support.

As well as hosting services and meetings on Zoom, we've continued to take advantage of more of its features to support our discussions and worship:

- Projecting lyrics / music during worship services using the share screen function
- Projecting financial reports, agendas, and other documents to support Parish Council discussion
- Adjusting and optimizing audio features on Zoom for worship services
- Using the registration and branding features of Zoom to organize our Vestry meetings' and
- Voting on Vestry business using Zoom polling features.

While we've continued to benefit from online methods of meeting, not everyone has equal access to these benefits. Some of our parishioners are unable to participate because of lack of access to stable internet connection. We will continue to keep this differential access in mind as we re-open, continuing to find options to maximize what we can reasonably offer in terms of computer stations in the church hall, in support of those without stable internet.

Support for Parish Council meetings

I continued to act as Chair of Parish Council meetings this past year, including creating a folder structure in Google Drive for organizing our reports and supporting documents. This allowed us to conduct our Corporation and Parish Council meetings effectively and efficiently, with all the information needed to inform our discussions easily at hand. It also allowed us to maintain a clear picture of our finances and activities from month to month. I would like to offer my gratitude to Corporation and Parish Council members for their patience with me as I increased our use of Google Drive to organize ourselves and our documentation.

Support for Adaptation in Music Ministry

In 2021, we adapted to changes in Music Ministry. With Maureen stepping down from choir leadership but continuing to lead music for the Inuit service, Rev. Colin engaged in consultation with Francine and Maureen, with Rev. Aigah, with Corporation, and with choir members, seeking options for stabilizing St. Margaret's Music Ministry. I am grateful to Rev. Colin and Rev. Aigah, to Francine and Maureen, and to choir members for allowing me to be part of the many discussions and consultations that ultimately resulted in renewed,

sustainable Music Ministry to support our worship. We now have contracts in place with our organists, and will continue to explore options for choral music as the pandemic allows. I would like to offer sincere thanks to Maureen for continuing to work with me in selecting Psalm settings for our Zoom services. I would also like to offer my deepest gratitude to Francine for working with me and with other singers throughout the fall as we offered our hybrid online / in-person services with a cantor.

I always feel incredibly privileged to sing as part of our worship services. I know the pandemic has hit choirs particularly hard and singers are anxious to get back to singing, which brings us such joy. I pray we will continue to re-open safely with increasing chances to raise our voices in praise and thanksgiving at St Margaret's, and look forward to supporting that work any way I can.

—**Catherine Keresztesi**
Rector's Warden



People's Warden's Report

Another Pandemic year! Who would have thought we would still be in such a state.

For a while in 2021 there were some promising signs that our activities would start back up, but by mid-year our church service routine was turned upside down again! As the church building re-closed for in-person worship, we all became more adept technically with the Zoom medium. Zoom continued to be a huge learning curve for some of us and we are still getting used to it. We thank Rev. Colin McFarland, Catherine Keresztesi, and Malcolm McEwen for their expertise in keeping our online services running smoothly. We also thank Francine and Maureen for keeping our music ministry going during this challenging pandemic period.

As the building was mostly empty again this year, we were able to complete the Billingsley project of hall and kitchen improvement:

- improve kitchen lighting
- paint/upgrade janitorial closet
- paint kitchen and hall
- install double kitchen sink
- purchase new hall curtains and tablecloths and two new hall tables
- upgrade hall signage, including a sign recognizing the Billingsley family for their kind donation.

We also took advantage of relaxed restrictions early in the year to make some undertake other maintenance improvements to our building:

- paint the hallways upstairs, downstairs and front stairwell
- paint floors in furnace and utility rooms
- paint downstairs bathrooms and install new flooring
- install new flooring in the sacristy
- relocate the parish administration office downstairs in the counters'/accounting office
- relocate the main Lennox printer to the downstairs office
- install wireless doorbell kits at both building doors
- install sanitizer dispensers at all entries, the Sunday School area, and the administration office
- install Ethernet cable to all parish computers, to improve the wifi signal
- repair potholes in the parking lot
- install fencing in the problem (northwest) corner of the parking lot.



We thank Donn Hope for all his hard work on getting these building improvements done this past year. Donn continues to keep our property tidy and clear of litter, and the building entrances free of ice, snow and dirt.

When our janitor resigned mid-year, we surveyed local service providers and contracted Jan*Pro (who cleaned our building 2014-16) in December.

Parish Council and Corporation continued to meet on Zoom every month except for July/August. We thank Cat for keeping us organized for the PC meetings and Robin Dunbar for doing the monthly reporting.

Hall rentals revenue in 2021 came in below budget due to the pandemic. We had projected \$5021 but the actual was \$2370. Basically, we had only one tenant, Minwaashin Lodge, that rents our hall on Monday and Friday nights. Great work done by this group that offers a drop-in program and provides basic personal items, food, drinks, and clothing to the Vanier community. See their note to our members below.

The Ethiopian Orthodox congregation's weekly church service (very much reduced this year due to COVID-19) followed all the same diocesan guidelines as St. Margaret's. Their services were live streamed from the church every week that our building was closed. Like us, their community misses the

weekly meal they enjoyed each Saturday in the hall.

One additional rental during 2021 was a series of Inuit Elders' Qulliq lighting workshops, with 15 people attending. Three workshops were held and an additional one is planned for 2022.

Caryl Crichton continues to do a great job as part-time office administrator and bookkeeper, and has settled well into her new location in the office downstairs. We thank her for her dedication in keeping us and the accounts all on track.

The People's Warden role continues to be very interesting, at times challenging, but always very rewarding. I have put my name forward to continue doing the best I can in the coming year.

I do want to thank all who have supported me and helped me in 2021.

—**Bernie Delmaire**
People's Warden



The Drop-In at St. Margaret's aka Supporting Our Sisters

Kayla Spagnoli
Minwaashin Lodge

Renamed “The Drop-In” to signify that everyone is welcome, the Drop-in reopened in September 2020 after months of inactivity because St. Margaret’s was closed.

Since then, the Drop-In program has been running every Monday (including holidays) and Friday, 6 pm to 8 pm.

Thanks to the support of OAHAS (Ontario Aboriginal HIV/AIDS Strategy) and ONWA (Ontario Native Women’s Association), the Drop-In is able to provide harm reduction, hygiene, food, clothing, and support. The most asked-for items are usually a meal, snacks, bottles of water, masks, and clothing (especially socks and underwear).

Some activity highlights include our three **clothing giveaways**, Christmas Eve **chicken take-out dinners**, the training we have offered to Algonquin College students, and hosting an online narcan* training. In recent weeks, the average evening sees 40-50 people at our door in the St. Margaret’s parking lot, and to date no one has walked away empty handed.



Rev. Colin and Kayla Spagnoli at the Drop-In one afternoon. During COVID, clients made contact and received food at the door to the hall.

The folks that we support range from refugee families, Indigenous folks, people experiencing homelessness, and folks just looking for information. We are proud at how we have evolved and grown over the years, and look forward to continuing to support the Vanier community through a trauma-informed, and harm reductive approach.

The Drop-In would not be possible without the continued support from Parkdale Food Centre (for all the frozen meals, bagels, and food rescue donations), part-time Oshki (Minwaashin Lodge’s VAW shelter) staff, St. Margaret’s Parish, and the generosity of our community members.

We wholeheartedly feel the Drop-In's community success is largely due to the support of the parish, especially the offer of space for storing our items.

If you would like to learn more about the Drop-in, or the services offered by Minwaashin Lodge, please contact:

Kayla Spagnoli

Indigenous Provincial Anti-Human Trafficking Liaison,

Minwaashin Lodge

www.minlodge.com

kspagnoli@minlodge.com

If you would like to support the Drop-In from your home, you are welcome to help out with its Amazon Outreach wishlist:

https://www.amazon.ca/hz/wishlist/ls/1GMKA4D58D1KR?ref_=wl_share

** Narcan is a prescription medicine designed to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose.*



From the Parish Scrapbook



Members of the St. Margaret's Vanier Inuit congregation joined their longtime acquaintance Mary Simon, now Canada's Governor General, on Sunday, November 5. They were at the community park in the Sandy Hill neighbourhood of Ottawa, as it was being renamed in honour of Annie Pootoogook, a renowned Inuk artist who lived in downtown neighbourhoods of Ottawa and exhibited work at the SAW gallery before her death. Annie's memorial service was held in 2016 at St. Margaret's; she was well known and mourned by its members. Pictured here are the Rev. Aigah Attagutsiak, Governor General Mary Simon and her husband Whit Fraser, Irene Tagoona and Deborah Tagurnaag. Jeannie Manning provided simultaneous translation of the speeches.

Synod Report

Reflection on the 141st Session of Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa, held October 30, 2021

Again this year, due to COVID and the subsequent protocols, Synod was held online. The good thing about it is that the meeting, usually two full days, goes quite quickly. The not so good thing is how we all miss the opportunity for synod delegates, lay and clergy, to chat amongst themselves at the conference tables and coffee stations, see the kiosks and information tables set up by the Community Ministries and other groups of interest, browse the books for sale, and have a shared meal.

The Diocese has put out a summary of the proceeding of this 141st Session of Synod. Their report is clear and concise. It is reprinted in full at the end of this reflection.

The Bishop's words to us during the Eucharist on the Thursday before Synod gave us a good feeling about what the future might be for our diocese. Bishop Shane Parker speaks very calmly, very quietly. You think you might strain to hear him, but no, he can be heard easily. Nothing seems to be emphasised more than anything else he says. He speaks of what IS important, from him, from the house at the centre of OUR Diocese to us all. We are not alone as we are all in communion with one another.

The Rev. Canon Dr. John Gibaut was the keynote speaker of Synod. His words and themes dovetailed with Bishop Shane's. He likened the Diocese to an operating system and what we all do is its apps. He believes that the diocese is the basic building block in the greater church.

For St. Margaret's Vanier, there is comfort in knowing that we are a part of this Diocese and equal to its other churches, much like the house groups at the very beginning of Christianity. Those small house groups evolved through time into the more formalized churches and dioceses of today. The cathedral (for us, Christ Church Cathedral on Sparks St.) is the home church for us all. The work being done on the diocesan-wide Shape of Parish Ministry review, by our synod reps and other members of the parish, is a step forward in understanding and planning for the future.

The new logo for the Diocese has a surprising "overlap" with our logo. They are both printed on the cover of this Vestry Report, if you want to check them out. Something we can consider is whether, and how, or not, to merge them.

We look forward to the four anniversary lectures hosted by the Diocese in celebration of its 125th anniversary. You can see them at the diocesan

YouTube channel: novelist Michelle Good (*Five Little Indians*) at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RAdZwFtPogM>;

the Rev. D. Jason McKinney on “The Church as Commons: A Theological Case for Affordable Housing” at

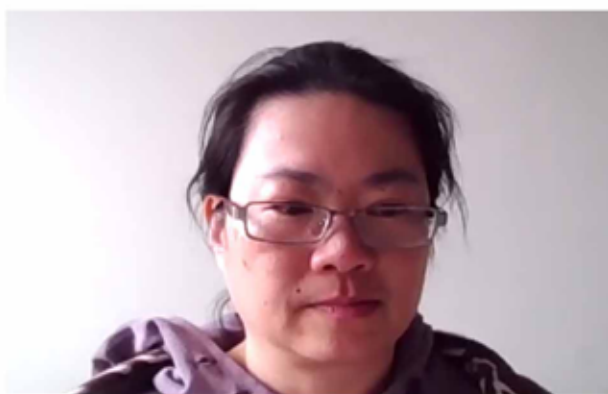
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RAdZwFtPogM>.

A recording of the third (Feb. 21), “Signs of Hope in the Fight against Climate Change” panel discussion, and fourth (March 13), “Re-Imagining

Church” by Rev. Dr. Sam Wells, will be online by Easter 2022.

There were five people in attendance at Synod 2021 from St. Margaret’s: our clergy Rev. Colin and Rev. Aigah; two lay representatives, Robin Dunbar and Donna Mah, as well as Cat Keresztesi, who serves on Diocesan Council.

— **Robin Dunbar, Donna Mah**



Donna Mah

Summary of the 141st Session of the Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa

From Synod Office staff

The 141st Session of the Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa was built on themes of unity, change and renewal. “We are in a moment where the past we have known is giving way to a future we must give shape to,” Bishop Shane Parker said in his charge to the diocese at the Synod Eucharist, adding “we must trust that God the Holy Spirit is already in our future; we must be confident and faithful as we move forward— knowing there will be joy and challenge in our work together.”

Bishop Shane said the pandemic has shown us our ability to be resilient and determined. Those strengths, he said, will carry us through the difficult work of being the generation that must reshape the structures (physical and administrative) within which we do our work, and the ways we engage with the broader community — all changes we know are underway and must prepare for, even if we cannot yet fully comprehend their impact.

Bishop Shane then reviewed where we are on the strategic priorities he laid out for the diocese at last year's Synod. The diocesan Communications Panel has developed a strategic plan and worked with a professional agency to rebrand the diocese through a new design for corporate communication products. The new brand (presented at the virtual Synod session held Saturday) shows the character of our diocesan church is "vibrant, innovative, open, compassionate and faithful," the bishop said, adding that the logo shows "we are a people of the resurrection...who radiate and receive the vibrant diversity of creation—a people who trust the Holy Spirit is with and around us."

The second strategic priority is the "Shape of Parish Ministry," a diocesan-wide review and assessment of our ministry and buildings. Its first stage is complete: consulting with and developing profiles of every parish in the diocese. The next stage focuses on analysis of what those profiles have to tell us about how our diocese should look and operate in the years to come. Concrete proposals about what buildings we need and how to deliver ministry will be presented at next year's Synod.

Work has begun on the next two priorities, engagement with the world and lifelong learning, Bishop Shane said. The governance structure of the diocese is being rethought to bring it line with our commitments to build partnerships with other groups but also to increase our ability to educate ourselves "and be better equipped to serve as a minority in a

diverse and plural world." Part of that is Project Anti-Racism, a mandatory awareness and capacity building program for clergy, managers in community ministries and senior staff so they can bring that knowledge to every ministry.

The keynote speaker at Synod was Rev. Canon Dr. John Gibaut, the diocese's canon theologian, who talked about the evolution of diocesan churches and what it means to be part of one. Using a metaphor he developed for teenagers when he worked at the World Council of Churches, Dr. Gibaut likened a diocese to a cell phone, where the diocese is the operating system and what we do are the cool apps. Just as with a phone, people tend to focus on the apps, which they can see, more than the operating system in the background. He concluded by quoting (and slightly expanding) something Bishop Shane said in his charge: "Our diocese, not the diocese. We, not they. Our bishop, not the bishop. Every parish is ours. Every community ministry is ours. We are in communion with one another, deeply and inextricably. And it all belongs to God in Christ Jesus."

After a break, the meeting continued with the business matters before Synod. Chancellor Henry Schultz introduced a series of motions changing details, but not the substantial direction, of some diocesan canons. They included modifying details of episcopal elections, introducing a system for setting the bishop's salary and benefits and defining duties of associate incumbent priests. There were also "housekeeping" changes, either formalizing

practices never properly included in our systems, or modifying or eliminating others. All passed by the required 2/3 majority votes of lay members of Synod and clergy. By-laws to support the changes were passed as well.

The next item was the report of Sanjay Grover, the Director of Financial Ministries who took the meeting through the 2020 financials. Mr. Grover said a difficult year had been made easier with the support of the federal government's pandemic relief programs. With their help, the overall drop in diocesan revenue has been kept below 20 per cent, which is better than many Anglican dioceses across the country have done. The subsidies, however, have been discontinued. "We'll be making a decision early in the new year about supporting parishes, but hopefully, with things starting to open up again, we'll be doing

better both at the parish level and for the diocese," Mr. Grover said.

Brian Cameron, the chair of the Diocesan Communications Panel outline plans for commemorating the 125th anniversary of our diocese. Uncertainty over the pandemic led to a mix of in-person and virtual events, focused on looking forward. There will be a four-part lecture series: the first lecture on Indigenous issues in December will be given by Michelle Good, the author of *Five Little Indians*, which won the Governor-General's Award for English fiction in 2020. Liturgically, we'll celebrate with a special service on New Year's Day, with our Primate, Archbishop Linda Nicholls.

Finally, diocesan elections were held.



Altar Guild Report

A prayer for altar guild taken from St Alban's Episcopal Church:

As we go about our sanctuary labors, may we find your Peace flowing through us, that we might enrich your church and glorify your name.

Unfortunately, COVID-19 and its variants continued to isolate us from each other in 2021. As of September 12, 2021 we were able to register for in-person services or continue to attend via Zoom. Altar Guild continued to decorate the church for services such as Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Easter Sunday and the Day of Pentecost realizing no congregation would be present and would have only narrow camera's view of the church. Thanksgiving, All Souls Day and Advent were celebrated with some congregation in the church. We put up a Christmas tree and purchased flowers with the expectation that some of the congregation would be able to attend a Christmas Eve service. Due to the Omicron variant, our Christmas Eve service was via Zoom only.

Altar Guild was able to connect periodically (maintaining a social distance) to polish our silver and brass and prepare the church for worship. As in the previous year, we continued to implement strict cleaning and handling procedures of wafers, wine or linen used in the Eucharist.

During the summer I helped clean out the Altar Guild room so it could be reorganized. We were

able to dispose of a number of things that had not been used for years, by offering items to parishioners and donating others to the Salvation Army and to the Cathedral for use by other churches.

Donating flowers is a lovely way to honour a loved one and beautify our altar and church. A big thank you to all who generously donated to the purchase of memorial flowers that decorated our church at Christmas. They were beautiful. Regrettably, hard to see on Zoom, however Rev. Colin takes great pictures that he has posted on the parish Facebook page.

A huge thank you to our current Altar Guild members Mireille Desmarais and Georgie Côté-Christopher who faithfully help in both difficult and good times. Altar Guild continues to look for volunteers to help and offer new ideas. If you have a few hours to spare during the month, and believe you would enjoy participating in this ministry, please contact me for further information.

—**Leslie McGillvray**



Music Ministry Reports

English-language (9:30 services)

I am happy to report that we managed, at St. Margaret's, to offer celebrations and services with music and as much singing as we were allowed, either through streaming or in-person with reduced attendance.

It has been with great pleasure that I continued to offer music accompaniment to St Margaret's parish for the English service in the past year. I wish to take this opportunity to thank Jane McIntosh, Catherine Keresztesi and Myles McGarry who have been helping as cantor, Psalm leader and communion soloist for many Sundays, which so much enhances the celebrations.

Besides reintroducing well-known hymns and mass settings, we managed to prepare a small choral group who sadly, due to Omicron's flare up in the fall, could not sing during the Advent/Christmas season as planned. Nevertheless, they offered a few recordings for the Christmas Eve service.

Last but not least, a special word of thanks to our new incumbent priest and musician, Rev. Colin McFarland, for his continued support to the Music Ministry at SMV and his splendid instrumental performances! Looking forward to more musical projects in 2022.

—Francine Brisebois

Inuktitut-language (11:30 services)

Throughout the early months of 2021 and into the summer, I continued to provide music from home over Zoom on alternate weeks. Each hymn offering was typically bilingual, alternating between English and Inuktitut verses. During the weeks when I provided music, Cat often sang the psalm from her home.

In the spring, I resigned as choir director for the English service at St. Margaret's. My offer to continue providing music for the Inuit service was accepted, thus I will happily be involved in the life of the parish, for the Inuit services and likely also for services which combine both congregations.

I wish to thank the choir for the hard work, enthusiasm and kindness shown to me during the years that I worked with them. A truly wonderful and talented group! The fall brought a welcome return to "in person" services and I provided music weekly for the 11:30 am service in Inuktitut. As I write this report, I am looking forward to having the congregation return again, this time to stay!

—Maureen Hutchinson

Pastoral Care Report

Our pastoral care team's mandate is to minister to those in need in our Parish to provide comfort, encouragement and spiritual strength. The pastoral care team consisted of the Rev. Colin McFarland and Margaret Hilborn.

During the early months of 2021, our seven parishioners living in Long Term Care Homes and Retirement Residents were visited weekly, by phone. This was necessary due to COVID-19 restrictions imposed by the provincial government. These weekly phone visits were to provide support and check on their wellbeing.

During the summer months monthly visits with Eucharist were made to these seven parishioners by Margaret. In September and October, Rev. Colin and Margaret visited all seven parishioners in order for Rev. Colin to personally meet these seven parishioners in their living environment. In December, we made a second visit to St. Margaret parishioners living in New Edinburgh Square Retirement Residence and also visited our two parishioners in Long Term Care facilities. All these visits were greatly appreciated.

Due to the lockdown imposed in 2020 pastoral care visits to the Ottawa Hospital (General Campus) had ceased and were only re-established in early November 2021.

The list of current parishioners that was established in 2020 in order to make weekly telephone contact to determine their wellbeing, help relieve the feelings of isolation and loneliness many are feeling, and to give support as necessary, was continued.

To further relieve some of the isolation felt by our "shut-ins" two separate initiatives were undertaken. During Lent, gift bags were assembled by church volunteers and delivered to parishioners in Long Term Care and retirement homes. In addition, during Advent, packages of cookies and chocolates were packaged and delivered to approximately thirty shut-ins and those parishioners who live alone. (See the report below.) These endeavors were very much appreciated by the recipients.

During the year, when restrictions allowed, two of our parishioners were taken to doctor appointments on three separate occasions. In closing, we fondly remember the following parishioners on the visiting list who passed away in 2021: Dorothy Walker-Howe (September), Lurline Wright (November), and Peiter Butler (December). Palliative Care visits were provided for Dorothy Walker-Howe in Elizabeth Bruyère and a funeral service was provided by Rev. Colin for Lurline Wright.

—Margaret Hilborn

Cookie Ministry, Easter and Christmas 2021

In another year of COVID restrictions, several of us wanted to ensure that some of our slightly more isolated parishioners as well as our staff and corporation members were remembered at Easter and Christmas.

Mireille Desmarais, Robin Dunbar and her daughter Nicola, Margaret Hilborn, Christine Jannasch, Amy Lightfoot, Joan Marshman, Leslie McGillivray and her daughter Amy, Judy Nelson, Elaine Richards, and Jane Waterston provided homemade cookies and squares, chocolates, cards, gift boxes and bags.

A small team from the aforementioned group, and a friend of Margaret's who popped in to help

out, packaged the goodies under Leslie's talented guidance, and a few then set off to deliver them.

Like last year, it was nice to meet up with parishioners on verandahs, in the driveways, or outside the foyer for a quick catch up.

A new idea from Mireille for Christmas was that people bring along a bit extra to share in a cookie exchange, so some of the crew went home with Christmas treats themselves! Thanks for that idea, Mireille, and thanks to the team.

—*Robin Dunbar*
(confirmed as a church lady)



SMV Parish Vestry Report 2022



Sunday School Report

A mini-revolution happened in St. Margaret's Sunday School during 2021, soon after we managed to actually get together outdoors for a Sunday School picnic in Strathcona Park.

In September, we moved away from the pleasant but patchwork programming of 20 pandemic-dominated months and took a new direction in curriculum and leadership.

Our new curriculum, Mini Revolutions, comes from Illustrated Ministry in Wisconsin. It is an intergenerational (we have children, parents, as well as a few grandparents attending), monthly (convenient packaging for leaders), digital (we continue to meet at a distance) curriculum based on the Revised Common Lectionary (which also sets the readings at our adult services). All in all, it is very well suited to our short, lively and regular weekly sessions during the half hour before the English-language Sunday service.

As for leadership, until September Jane Waterston convened and Sareena Hopkins supported our young members as they thought and talked about God's love and creation. The parish families thank Jane and Sareena for their commitment to the Sunday School for many years. After the summer, Edward Logan and Vera Etches jumped into the coordinator/host/teacher seat, allowing Jane to sit back and take a

supporting role as she is able. The transition has been very smooth and very colourful — literally... there is lots of colouring going on in the family households.

Each week after discussing the Bible story there is an activity, such as tracing one's hand — fingers together and thumb sticking out — to make the shape of a dove that can remind us of how we can use our hands to bring peace and God's love to ourselves and others.

Just as online schooling isn't for everyone, "virtual" Sunday school is not the same thing as gathering in person for a bit of fun and learning. Nevertheless, SMV's online version has saved a space for our younger members and is a seed from which good things may grow.

We're very excited by the prospect of gathering again in person to celebrate being part of God's family and have fun together. Conditions allowing, we're planning a celebratory Easter Treasure Hunt! Featuring tasty prizes and challenging clues such as:

"For extreme chocolate power,
Run and check the bell _____."

Looking forward to laughing and learning together again soon,

—Edward Logan and Vera Etches

Picnic Fun

COVID kept us from sharing homemade food and running three-legged races, but we still managed to have a good time together at the park!





Above: The McEwen Parris Family chose the location and games.



Left and below: Teachers Sareena Hopkins Bryan and Jane Waterston, helper Donna Mah were happy to meet up again!



Above and right: Families at play—
 • James, Edward, and Vera Logan Etches
 • Lilly and Happy Egbeobauwaye
 • Annabella and Philip Owen
 • Maisie Stuart-Bell and Amy Lightfoot



Left: Some great supporters of the church school came out too: Keltie Davidson and Rev. Colin McFarland; Rosemary Scragg and Richard Kelley.