



**Parish Church of St. Luke,
Burlington**

PARISH PROFILE





OFFICE OF THE BISHOP OF NIAGARA

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Welcome! If you are reading this introduction and sensing the possibility of a call from God to serve alongside the people of St. Luke's, Burlington, you are welcome.

St. Luke's holds a special place within the Diocese of Niagara and the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario. For over 190 years, it has stood as an anchor of God's mission of love in the heart of Burlington.

With their eyes firmly fixed on the present and future, St. Luke's is seeking a rector who will embrace, lead and enact the parish's Mission Action Plan, situating it within our wider diocesan vision. Together, we seek to discern where God calls us to life and compels us to love, both locally and in the wider community, ignited by the irresistible love of Jesus and renewed by the Holy Spirit.

The parish family of St. Luke's is welcoming, energetic, friendly and passionate about the ministry to which they've been called: "to make Jesus known." They strive to be the face and hands of Christ in their neighbourhood and beyond.

As you read further into this document, a snapshot of their ministry and faithful witness, I pray that you may feel the gentle urging of the Holy Spirit to consider journeying with this devoted community of faith.

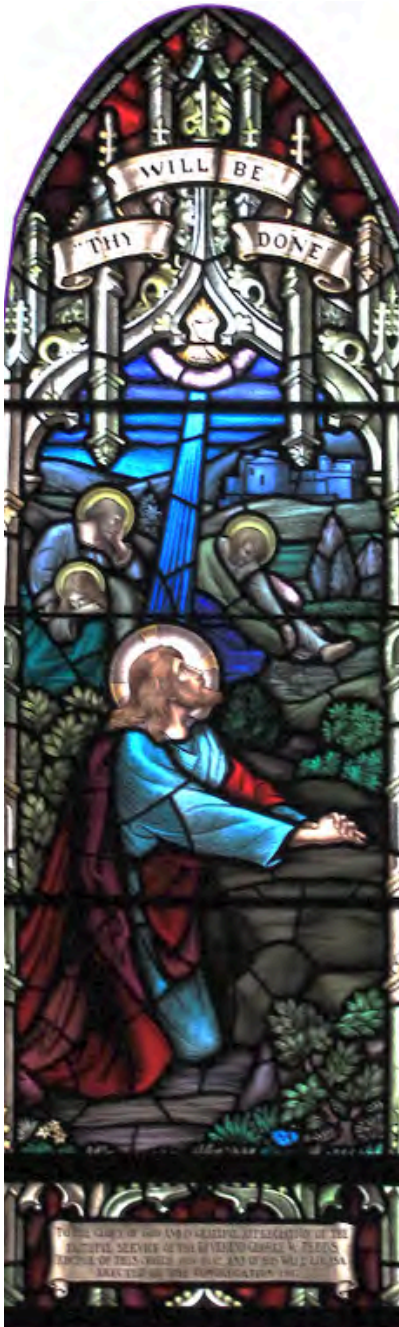
God's richest blessing in your discernment

The Right Reverend Dr. Susan J.A. Bell
Bishop of Niagara

The Right Reverend Dr. Susan J. A. Bell
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Our Land

Acknowledgement

For thousands of years, indigenous people have walked on this land. Their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on the traditional land of several indigenous people including the Neutrals, the Mississauga, the Anishinaabe and the Haudenosaunee. We acknowledge their continuing stewardship of this land.

St. Luke's: A Steady Presence, A Vibrant Future



At St. Luke's, our mission is simple yet central: to grow our diverse family and to serve our beloved community of downtown Burlington by living the message of Jesus Christ through worship, fellowship, mission and outreach.

We are a vibrant parish where people connect with God and with one another. Our vision is to be warm, friendly, open and inclusive - a place where newcomers are welcomed, and long-time members supported, and together we form meaningful connections with the broader community.

Rooted deeply in the Anglican tradition we also seek to remain relevant and engaged with the world around us. Our faith calls us to be good neighbours as a trusted presence in the heart of Burlington, and to extend care beyond our doors. Parishioners at St. Luke's are known for kindness, generosity and a willingness to serve, whether in supporting one another, or through our involvement in social justice initiatives locally and globally.

We are a financially stable parish with modern facilities shared widely with our community, and our life together is filled with engaging ministries and meaningful outreach work.

We are hopeful and excited for the next stage of ministry. We invite you to learn more about us and to imagine how God might be calling you to walk alongside us in pursuing His mission.

Our Hopes for a New Rector

Could this be you?

Through surveying the congregation and interviews with staff, we identified the qualities our parish community is hoping for in the next rector of St. Luke's. These qualities reflect our desire to stay rooted in Anglican tradition while growing in contemporary relevance and mission.



- Forward thinking leader with a clear vision for pursuing God's mission
- Deeply rooted in the Anglican tradition, but able to expand contemporary relevance through: liturgy, sacraments, worship and outreach
- Strong preacher: sermons that reflect Anglican values and apply traditional readings to life today
- Supportive of parish members in need
- Fosters a strong sense of community
- Helps parishioners identify and use their gifts
- Strong leadership skills; firm yet kind, sets healthy boundaries, manages conflict effectively
- Acts as shepherd and teacher, equipping parishioners for ministry
- Connects meaningfully with the wider community
- Leads parish in deepening the connection between faith and God's mission inside and outside parish doors

Our Strengths

Active in God's Mission

St. Luke's is a vibrant and busy parish with many ways of connecting to the local community in Burlington and to the wider world. As you will see in the mission section of this profile, we are deeply committed to participating in God's mission and take pride in the work being done. By joining us, you will become part of an active parish that is woven into the fabric of the community.



Positive and Hopeful

The climate at St. Luke's is one of positivity, hope and excitement for the future. We trust in God, even in this time of transition. With great thought and care, we are preparing the parish for what lies ahead. While some may naturally feel cautious about change, the leadership and vast majority of the parish are eager to welcome a new rector who will help shape and guide our vision of the future.

Anglican Identity and Worship

Our parish celebrates the beauty and depth of the Anglican worship through richly structured liturgies and music. Services range from quiet, reflective said Eucharists to vibrant choral celebrations, often including healing ministries and sacramental rites. We have special services to honour Celtic, Indigenous and Black History traditions. Throughout the week, parishioners can join in prayer, meditation or Taize services, in person or online. Across all our offerings we strive to uphold the reverence, richness and inclusive spirit that define our Anglican heritage.



Team Ministry

Our parish has a dedicated clergy and lay team that provides a solid foundation of support for the new rector. While each member carries distinct responsibilities - from preaching and pastoral care to administration, music and children's programs - the team ensures that the rector is not alone in supporting parish life.

Areas for Growth

Young Families

Like many Anglican churches across Canada, our parish leans toward an older demographic. We strive to meet the needs of a diverse congregation with the hope of strengthening the number of young families and younger individuals. We are committed to this goal and recently hired a Sunday School Co-ordinator to meet the needs of children and young families. We would love to have a Family Service as part of what we offer at St. Luke's. Together with clergy, we want to build a diverse congregation that is reflective of our community.



Structure and Communication

One of our ongoing challenges as an active parish is maintaining clear and consistent communication, both internally and externally. It can be difficult to stay on top of changes, processes and responsibilities. We are beginning to address these issues by working on clearer role definitions and job descriptions, and by forming a communications committee to improve how we connect with the wider community. Still, we recognize that our new rector will need to manage a large and complex structure where communication and organization remain an ongoing challenge.



Today at St. Luke's

We presently have about 625 people on our Parish Roll. About 40% attend church on a regular basis, either in-person or online. St. Luke's has often been referred to as 'an aging parish'. Our oldest parishioner is 107 years old. We have several approaching 100 years of age and a large number in their 80's and 90's. Comparing to the demographics of the downtown area, the two groups are not too different. With the construction of several new high-rise condominiums in the immediate neighbourhood, we see an opportunity to welcome new members over the next few years.



St. Luke's Church is located in downtown Burlington, bordered by Ontario St. to the north and Elgin St. to the South. Once a quiet neighbourhood, we are now amidst an active thoroughfare between Brant St., Maple Ave. and points west. Even with the busyness of the growing city, we have still been able to maintain the beauty and tranquillity of the property. Situated on three sides of the church, the cemetery is considered to be the first formal one established in the area. Many prominent early settlers, founding families

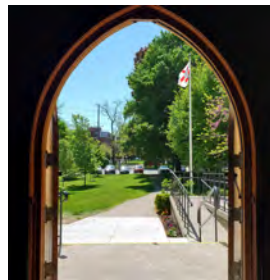
and several former rectors are laid to rest here; it holds a significant historic connection with the city of Burlington. Our Parish Hall is located on Ontario St., on the north-east side of the property. When you stand at the front doors of the church and look south towards the lake, you are immediately struck by the surrounding beauty of Church Avenue and the tall majestic trees bordering the green space.



Likewise, if you stand by Lakeshore Rd. and look northwards down Church Avenue you have a clear view of our beautiful white church. There are many large homes in the general area of the church with some of them being converted into doctors' and legal offices. Within a 2 kilometre radius of the church, apartments and condominiums have sprung up. Some of our parishioners live within walking distance of the church while others travel from further afield.

Mission Action Plan

In 2022, St. Luke's completed a Mission Action Planning process. The vision that emerged was a strong desire to connect more deeply with our neighbourhood and to become a more visible presence in the community. We committed to using our space and resources more intentionally—by opening the church more often for prayer and quiet reflection, strengthening our use of social media and signage, and offering welcoming opportunities such as community gatherings and casual coffee conversations. Through these efforts, we are beginning to build more meaningful relationships and respond more fully to the needs of those around us.



Before the departure of our last rector, we began updating our Mission Action Plan and new initiatives started to emerge. A Communications Team was formed to enhance how we share our story, and a group began working through the “Welcome. Invite. Connect.” program to build a more intentional process for engaging newcomers. We also recognized the opportunity to connect with the many new residents moving into downtown Burlington’s growing number of condominiums, and we are excited about becoming their parish church. These conversations will continue, and we look forward to renewing the Mission Action Planning process once our new clergy leader has settled into the parish.



A Little Bit of History

St. Luke's actually begins with Joseph Brant. In 1788, he was granted a three thousand acre tract of land by King George III in recognition of his loyalty and service. It was known as "Brant's Block". Part of that block was donated by Joseph Brant for a burial ground and part for church purposes.

Joseph Brant died in 1807 and was interred in St. Luke's Churchyard until 1850 when his body was removed and carried by relays of Mohawk tribe members to the Mohawk Village on the Grand River. He was then buried beside Her Majesty's Church of the Mohawk.



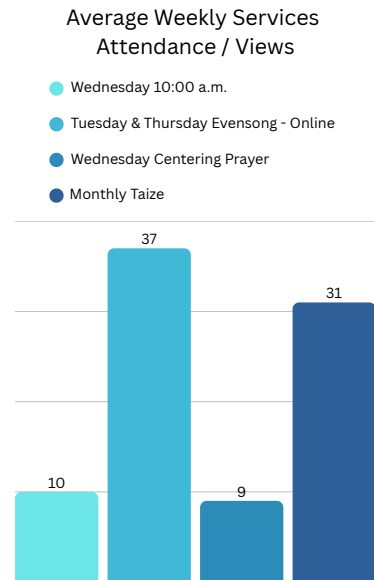
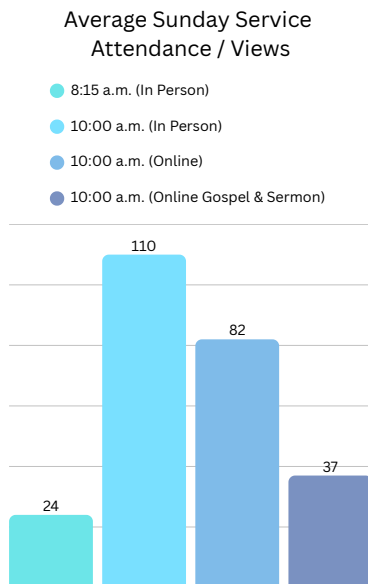
In 1812, Brant's youngest daughter returned to live at the head of the Lake. After the death of her brother in 1832, Elizabeth married Colonel William Johnson Kerr and she encouraged the founding of St. Luke's. The church took two years to build and was completed in the fall of 1834 on the day of our Patronal Feast in October. The church was a frame building surmounted by a tall spire which served as a bell tower. There were galleries on each side and the windows were of plain glass. There were also two aisles and the choir was located in an alcove under the spire. The pulpit was reached by winding stairs and from the sanctuary hung a stuffed dove emblematic of the Holy Spirit.

St. Luke's was consecrated on October 4, 1838 by the Rt. Rev. G.J. Mountain, then Bishop of Quebec. This was one year following Queen Victoria's accession to the throne. The first appointed rector was Rev. Thomas Greene. St. Luke's was the first Anglican church in Halton County, located at Wellington Square surrounded by woodlands and homesteads.

Established with a strong missionary spirit; to this day we have never lost this aspiration. We are inspired by the leadership and stewardship of the generations of people that have gone before. St. Luke's has always been a power house of activity and, enshrined in its framework and surrounding property, are echoes of this legacy.

How We Worship

Worship and Liturgies



The 8:15 a.m. service is a said Eucharist (BAS based on the Traditional BCP Rite). Our music director joins this service twice a month, adding hymns to the service.

The 10 a.m. service is a choral Eucharist (BAS) which is live streamed and saved on our YouTube channel. Often this service includes laying on of hands / anointing for healing at the conclusion of the service. Children attend Sunday School during this service.

During the month we incorporate other services at 10 a.m. These include a Celtic Service as well as Indigenous and Black History Service.

Through the week we hold both in person and online services. The Wednesday 10 a.m. service is a said Eucharist (BAS based on the Traditional BCP Rite). We have also offered a recorded Evening Prayer service on Tuesday and Thursday. There is an in person Centering Prayer group that meets on Wednesdays and we offer a monthly online Taizé service.

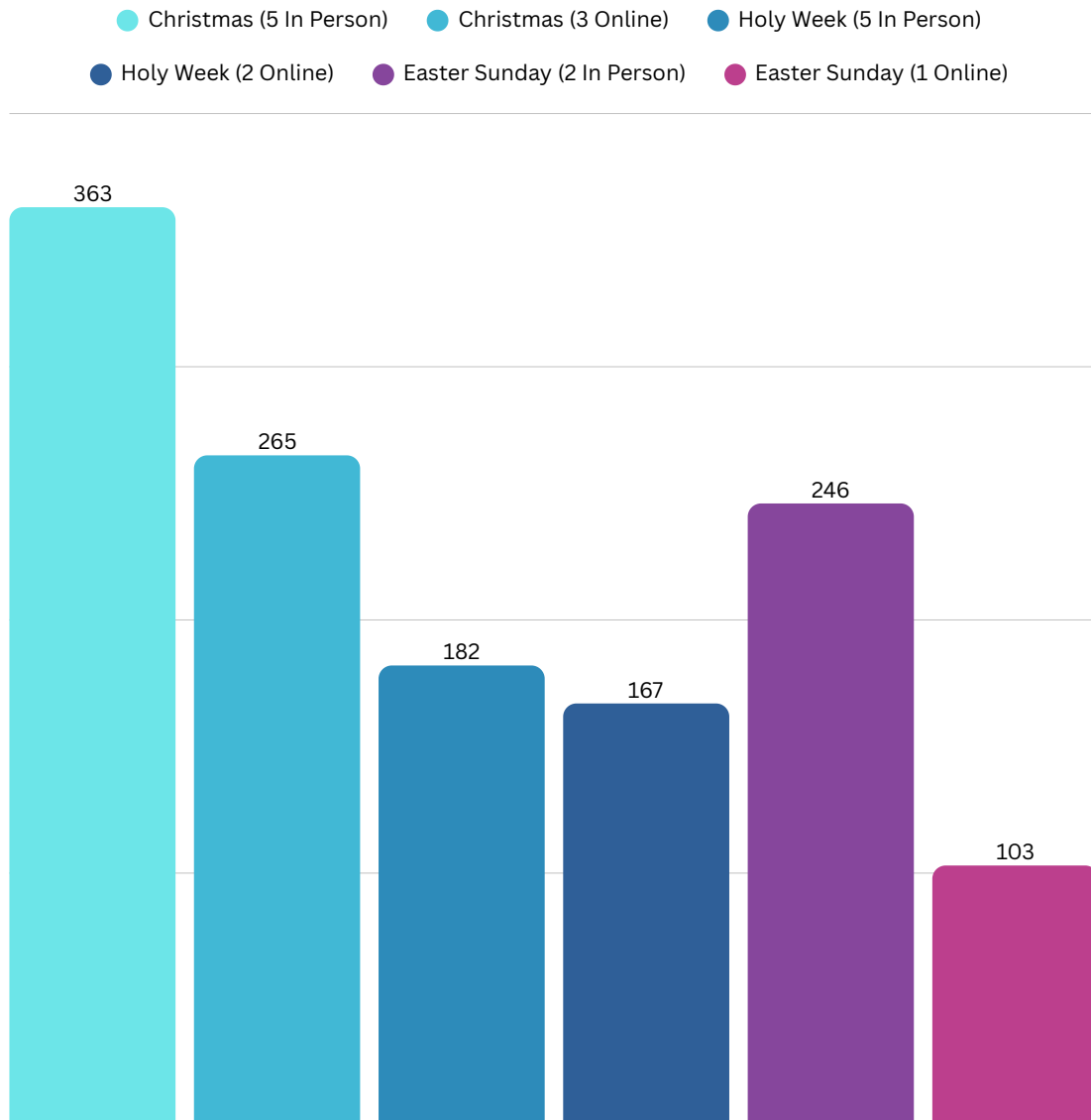
Above you will see two charts showing the average attendance at these services. The data was pulled from between December 2024 and June 2025.

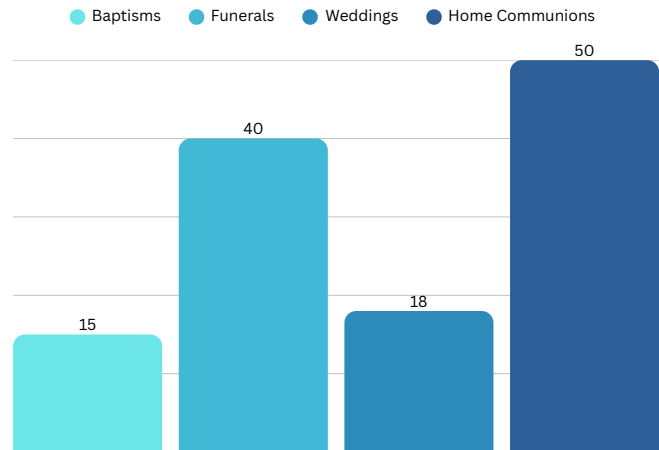


Below you will find a summary of our Christmas, Holy Week and Easter Services between Dec 2024 and June 2025. At Christmas we hosted 4 Christmas Eve Services and 1 Christmas Day. Two of the Christmas Eve Services were live streamed.

Holy Week services were: Tenebrae, Holy Eucharist, Washing of the Feet, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil. Good Friday and Easter Vigil were live streamed. Easter Sunday followed our regular Sunday service times and formats.

2024 / 2025 Christmas, Easter & Holy Week Services Attendance / Views





Worship Ministries

There are many ways that people participate and share their gifts during our worship services. These ministries include:

- Altar guild
- Choir
- Eucharistic ministers
- Greeters and Shepherds
- Readers
- Offertory bearers
- Servers
- Sides-persons
- Vergers
- Video techs

Music

A part of our Sunday 10 a.m. service, as well other selected services, we have an 8 - 12 member choir. They are conducted by our Music Director, who accompanies with either the organ or piano. On special occasions invited guest musicians join with the choir; adding variety to their performance. The church is equipped with a pipe organ built by Casavant Freres as well as a small grand piano that support the liturgical music during Sunday services and special events. Hymns used during our services are taken from the *Book of Common Praise* and more recently we have introduced selections from *Sing a New Creation*.



Vergers

A team of vergers, two of whom are members of the Vergers Guild of the Episcopal Church (USA) and the Church of England Guild of Vergers (UK), are often the first welcoming face someone sees when they enter the church. During the service the verger ensures things are running smoothly and watches for signs of distress. Vergers set up the church for services, guide parishioners, tidy up after services, ring the bell, perform ceremonial duties for special services and assist with weddings and funerals.



Video Techs

A volunteer group live stream the Sunday 10:00 am service plus other special services on request. The live stream is available on the [St. Luke's Youtube site](#) and can be viewed live or at a later time.

Our Leadership Team

Executive

Our church is part of the Diocese of Niagara. The Bishop is ultimately the head of our immediate governing body. At the local level we have a Parish Council made up of clergy, laity and volunteers. This council is governed by an elected and appointed Executive, who steer the strategic direction of the parish.

Our executive is made up of the Rector, Rector's and Deputy Rector's wardens appointed by the Rector, People's and Deputy People's wardens elected by the congregation and the Treasurer.



Rector's Warden
Melanie Walker



Dep. Rector's Warden
Ron Danielson



People's Warden
Mahira Samarasinghe



Dep. People's Warden
Wendy Murray

Wardens have a 3 year term. The first 1 or 2 years of their term as a Deputy Warden, giving the ability to learn on the job, and 1 or 2 years as a Warden. The core decision making group is comprised of the Rector and the Rector's and People's Warden.

Parish Council

The work of the parish couldn't be completed without the dedicated volunteer team who roll up their sleeves and make things happen. The chairs of each division as well as members at large and synod delegates participate in monthly meetings, sharing their teams' news and upcoming events and helping the executive make decisions; providing the voice of the parish.

Lay

A team of lay employees also provide administrative and worship support. We have a wonderful part-time Parish Administrator who is in office Monday - Thursday each week. We also have a talented Music Director who leads our choir and coordinates music for our services. Our newest role of Sunday School Co-ordinator is responsible for the very important job of educating our children. Last, but not least, our Parish Caretaker ensures our buildings are kept clean, tidy and in good service. This position is currently being recruited.



Parish Administrator
Elaine Black



Music Director
Jennifer Goodine



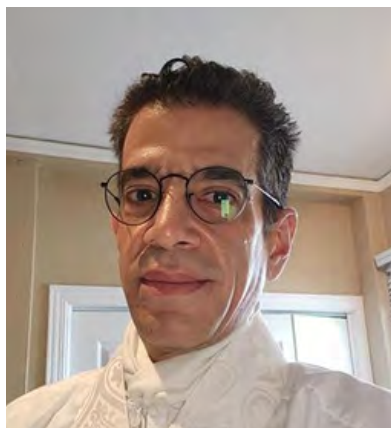
Sunday School Co-ordinator
Jackie Burnie

Clergy

Our clergy team consists of two priest/pastoral associates and a vocational deacon. The associates are responsible for preaching and presiding and leading special services. Our vocational deacon supports worship services, manages many of our outreach and food programs and provides pastoral care. Our clergy team conduct services at our long term care homes as well as taking home communion to those who cannot attend church.



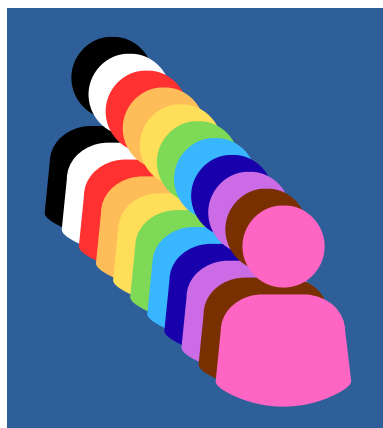
Rev. Michael Coren
Pastoral Associate



Rev. Dr. Leonel Abaroa Boloña
Pastoral Associate

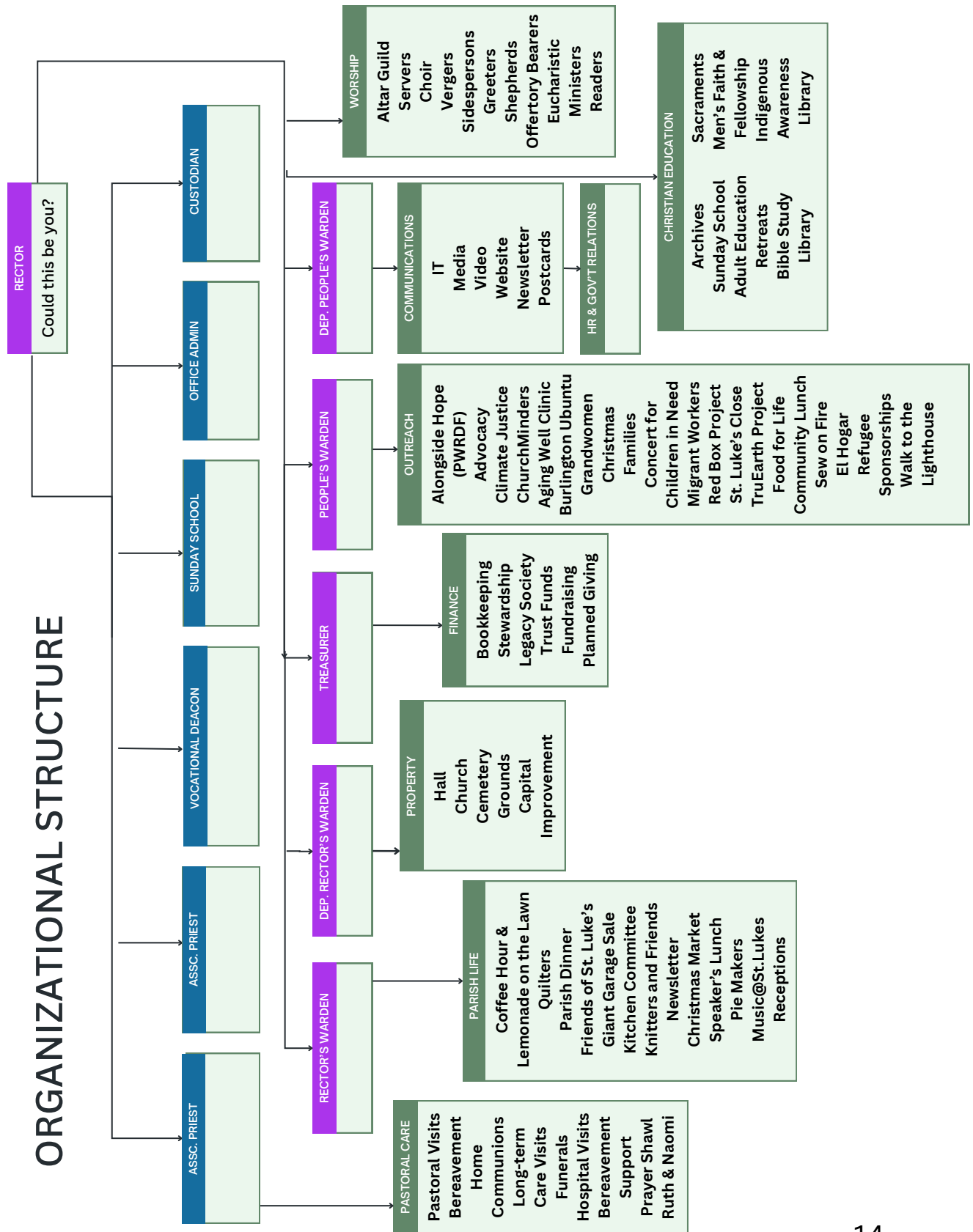


Rev. Sheila Plant
Vocational Deacon



Could This Be You?
Rector

To help connect the roles, here is an organizational chart. For each division in green there is a person who coordinates the groups / functions listed below. They report to a window person on Executive when major decisions are needed.



Our Ministries

St Luke's is not just a beautiful historic church; it is so much more. There are an abundance of ways to serve God and feel a sense of family and community. Every Fall we gather symbols of our Time and Talent to celebrate the many ministries we support. There is something for everyone.



Christian Education

Archives

The Archives Group preserves the history of St Luke's with photographs, news articles, weekly bulletins, Newsletters, maps and general interest.



Library

The library endeavours to enhance the spiritual life of readers; providing a varied catalogue of religious and devotional books, biographies, historical and fictional books.

Bible Study

This group meet every Monday afternoon via Zoom to read and discuss the Bible. There are lively discussions and opportunities to research information about the readings as they work their way through the bible.

Centering Prayer

Each Wednesday, the group strives to embody Jesus' invitation "Come apart by yourselves to a quiet place with me.". Beginning with a time of centering silence; prayers and the teachings of notable mystical, contemplative teachers are discussed.

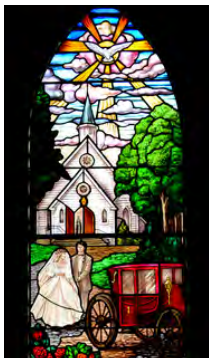
Men's Faith and Fellowship

A weekly Saturday morning meeting where men come together to look at the readings for the week, supported by discussion and videos and other media.



Sunday School

Sundays during the school year, following an Anglican-based curriculum, kids are taught our core beliefs; using fun and engaging resources.



Indigenous Awareness

Presenting a series of educational opportunities and experiences to build awareness of Indigenous culture. The hope is that increased levels of understanding will provide a foundation for future relationships based on respect and justice.

Sacraments

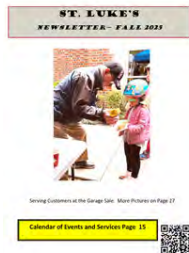
Baptism, Confirmation and Marriage are arranged in discussion with the Rector.

Communications

A team of dedicated volunteers help to prepare and share information about our church. From the website to signage!

Newsletter

Each quarter we create a newsletter comprising our upcoming events and recent activities. Clergy and groups regularly share articles, pictures and news. We mail out copies and a colour version is available on the website.



Postcards

Three times a year a postcard is mailed to residents in the downtown area; inviting them to join us. These are usually linked to special services or community events.



Parish Life

Christmas Market



Coffee Hour & Lemonade on the Lawn

Friends of St. Luke's Day

In August each year a special invitation is made to people in nursing homes, shut-ins and the elderly to join us for a short service and hymn sing followed by a tea.



Giant Garage Sale



Knitters and Friends





Music @ St. Luke's

The Music at St. Luke's committee puts on a season of events between the Fall and Spring; usually 3 - 4 Saturday evening dinner shows in the Hall and the occasional Sunday afternoon recital in the church. This group looks to provide a time of fellowship and aims to engage with the community at large.

Parish Dinner



Pie Makers

Two teams meet to bake Tourtieres each month; preparing the filling and shaping the crusts to create a sought after meat pie.



Quilters



Receptions

Speaker's Lunch

The goal of the Speaker's Lunch group is to provide opportunities to meet in a social setting, listening to presentations by informed speakers about contemporary issues affecting our community and beyond.

Pastoral Care

Pastoral Visits

- Long-term Care
- Hospital
- Home Communion

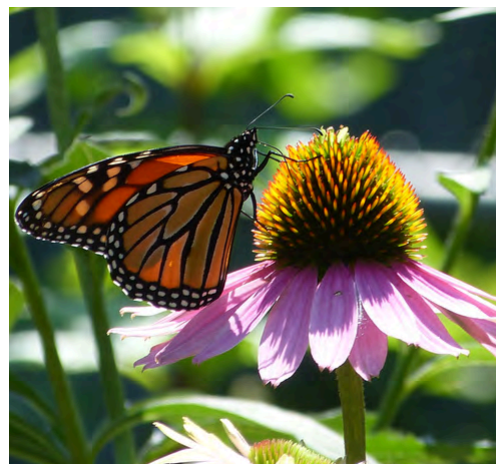
Prayer Shawl Ministry

The group meets on Thursdays to create shawls for those who are going through a hard time: awaiting surgery, grieving or who just need some comfort and support.

Ruth and Naomi

Our Ruth and Naomi group was formed when it was discovered there was a need for widows in our church community to share their grief stories and be able to relate to others in similar circumstances. We are not a bereavement support group, but rather a supportive group. They meet for lunch after church monthly.

Bereavement Support



Funerals

Outreach

There are so many ways we support and care for those around us. To learn more, links to organization websites have been included in blue below.

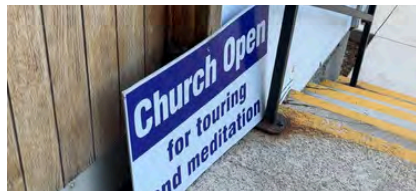
Aging Well Clinic

A screening appointment with a healthcare professional from The Burlington Family Health Team's Aging Well Clinic, funded by the Ontario government. The goal is to identify any risk factors associated with aging and well-being and to support older adults to age well in the community through prevention and self-management of health conditions.

[Alongside Hope](#)
[\(formerly PWRDF\)](#)

[Burlington Ubuntu](#)
[Grandwomen](#)

Church Minders



Every Thursday morning, and during local festivals, volunteers open the church doors to the community. People are welcome to visit, pray or tour the historic building. Sharing who we are, what our church is about, and the many ways we're involved in serving and supporting others.

Christmas Families

For more than 30 years we have joined with St. Matthew's House at Christmas, providing food and gifts to needy families and teenagers. In 2024, we sponsored 4 families.

[Climate Justice](#)

Concert for Children in Need

An annual concert supporting programs for children in need. Several performers over the years have lent their talent to assist organizations at home and abroad.



Advocacy

Formed in 2009 to promote awareness and support social justice issues; Advocacy looks at the causes of inequality, hardship, and suffering, and asks the question: what can one person do to advance social justice and well-being for all human beings?



Downtown Burlington Community Lunch

A free lunch for all, on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday between September and May; providing an opportunity to meet and enjoy a nutritious hot meal. Supports are gathered from local churches, Burlington Food Share and others in the community.

El Hogar

For over 40 years North Americans have supported a project of the Episcopal Diocese of Honduras. El Hogar is a school for over 250 vulnerable children in Honduras; changing the lives of hundreds of children and their families. In 2008 St. Luke's began fundraising, sponsoring students and sending volunteer teams.

Migrant Workers

Red Box Project



Providing much needed feminine hygiene products to those in need. The red box sits outside the Parish Hall front doors so products are available 24 hours per day with no questions asked.

Refugee Sponsorships



St. Luke's has sponsored or assisted several refugee families since 1996. Families from Bosnia, Afghanistan, and Syria have been supported in their journey to Canada

Sew on Fire

Food For Life

Starting in July 2010 volunteers opened our doors as a depot for this food recovery program, with the goal of being the means by which people in need can be empowered to make healthy food choices. Filling the gap between social assistance and living costs by providing nutritious perishable food to families each Tuesday.

TruEarth

Environmental Project



St. Luke's Close

St. Luke's Close is an affordable and rent-geared-to-income government subsidized apartment building at 1421 Elgin St. in downtown Burlington. As a non-profit corporation governed by members of the church, the 51-unit apartment building for independent seniors gives access to 36 geared to income rentals and 15 market rent units. Although the complex is corporately separate from the church, the directors of its board are nominees of the church and the Rector is always a director. An annual report is provided to the Parish Vestry. There is currently a long waiting list.

Walk to the Lighthouse

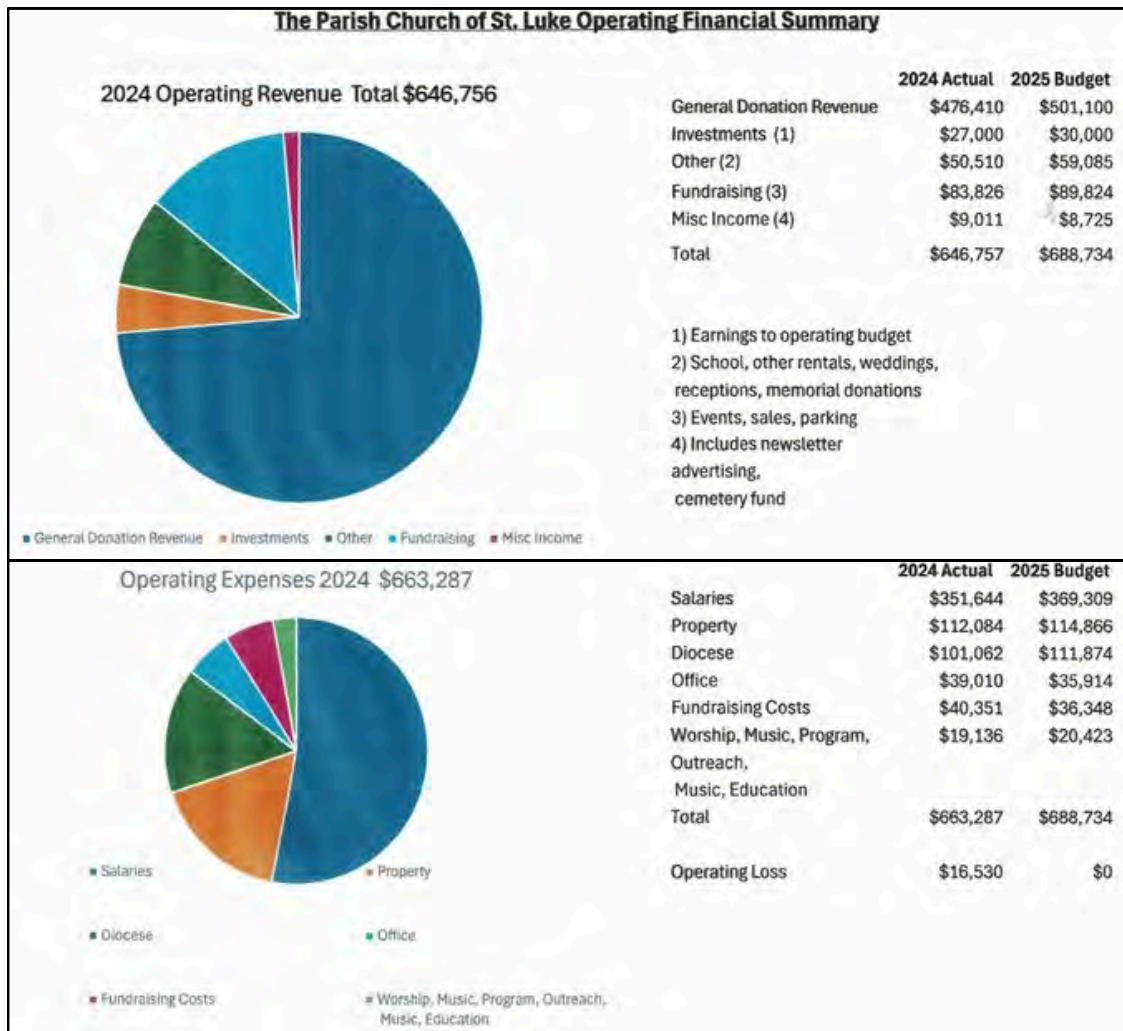
A fundraising initiative to support the redevelopment of mental health and addiction services at Joseph Brant Hospital. The walk raises both funds and awareness and helps to reduce stigma around mental health.



Our Finances

St. Luke's is in a good financial position, although the past few years have presented challenges. The volunteer Finance Team consists of a Bookkeeper and Treasurer / Investment Manager, both of whom have the Chartered Financial Analyst designation and many years of institutional investment experience. Below is a summary of the 3 main accounts at St. Lukes: the General Account, the Memorial and Building Funds.

	2021	2022	2023	2024
Revenue	\$579,257	\$595,603	\$610,661	\$646,757
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	\$21,927	\$(4,698)	\$(12,449)	\$(16,530)

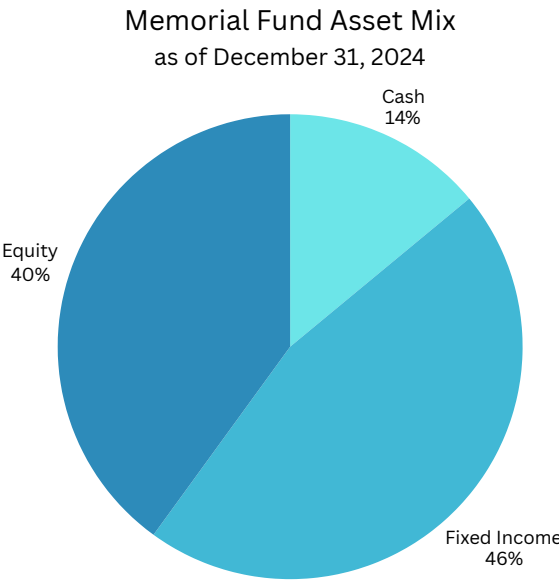


Memorial Funds

The Memorial Funds were established in 1969 with the goal to create a fund or series of funds to provide a regular source of income for the parish. Decisions are governed by the Memorial Funds Policy and Procedures approved at the 2015 Vestry.

	2023	2024	Change*	Change* %
Memorial Fund	\$1,193,767	\$1,321,530	\$127,763	10.7%
Building Fund	\$101,574	\$119,873	\$18,299	18.0%
Totals	\$1,295,341	\$1,441,403	\$146,062	11.3%

*Change includes donations, unrealized gains and transfers out.



Asset Mix Guideline	Target	Min	Max
Cash	15%	5%	50%
Fixed Income	60%	20%	80%
Equity	25%	20%	40%

Counters

The counters are responsible for counting all donations and payments received during the week and at all services.

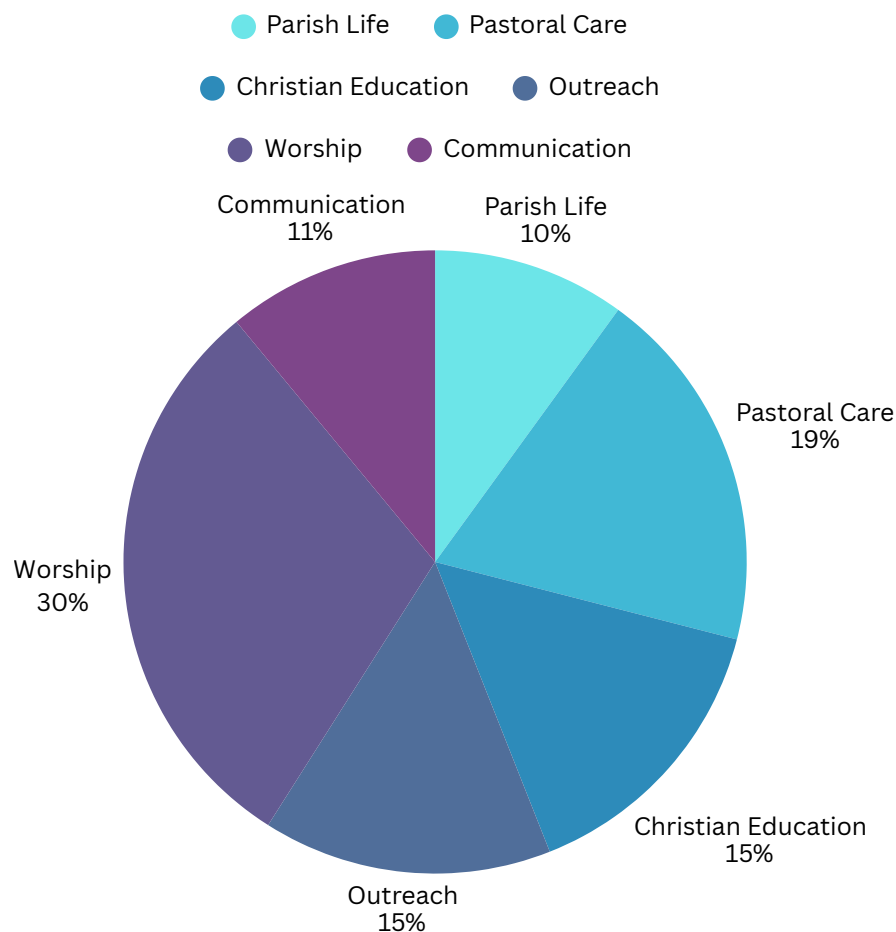
Stewardship

St Luke's journey of faith follows the paths of five ministries- Worship, Pastoral Care, Christian Education, Outreach, and Parish Life. Each one requires a combination of time, talent and treasure. The Stewardship Committee, based on situational assessment, develops plans to ensure ministries have sufficient resources to succeed, by advising the Treasurer on strategies to grow donations through communication plans and special fundraising projects.

One such program is our Legacy Society. This group is formed by donors who have made a commitment in their estate planning for a legacy donation to St. Luke's. To date we have 43 members.

The Stewardship Committee is composed of the Rector and five members of the parish.

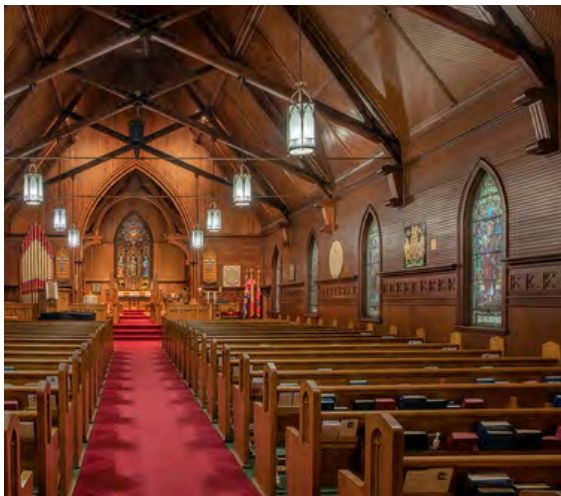
St. Luke's Narrative Budget 2025



Our Property

The Property division is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the Church, the Parish Hall, the Cemetery and the extensive grounds. Reporting to the Property Manager are several sub-groups, The Cemetery Board, the Grounds Team, The Fire Marshall, The HVAC team, and the Custodian. There is also a dotted line relationship with the Health & Safety Committee and the Kitchen Committee. Service contracts are in place for landscaping, snow removal, fire alarm monitoring and testing, kitchen appliance servicing and cleaning and floor and carpet maintenance. The division is currently working on a Request for Proposal for HVAC services and expect completion prior to the heating season.

A decennial inspection of the church properties took place in 2023 and almost all deficiencies have been dealt with. One last item is to erect safety fencing on the parish hall roof and that work is currently underway.



Church Building

Although the church building has undergone several alterations over the years, the overall form, function, and style have been maintained. The interior has seen more substantial changes to keep pace with the needs of the congregation; the most recent update being the addition of an accessible washroom in the Narthex, completed in 2024.

The church interior is decorated with beautiful stained-glass windows, each telling a unique story and a bit of history. Open truss ceilings, rich wooden panelling in the Nave and stately oak pews adds to the warmth of the worship space.

The church building also includes a basement and is used primarily for storage and a place for members of the worship team to prepare for services.

Church Yard and Grounds

Surrounding the church building is the cemetery, which forms a distinctive “U” shape around the north, east, and west sides of the church building. Two newly constructed columbaria are situated towards the east end of the cemetery grounds. The cemetery is about as old as the Parish and is still in operation today. Our Cemetery board operates the BAO licensed cemetery. Space is available for parishioners in our columbaria and in a few remaining urn plots. Our scattering garden is available to all.



Church Avenue, the strip of land between the church and Lakeshore, is the subject of discussions with the city to develop this highly prized piece of land into a parklike green space inclusive of walking paths, gardens and seating areas for the use and benefit of the wider community. The City of Burlington is currently proceeding with the process to designate aspects of the church building, cemetery and Church Avenue as heritage properties.

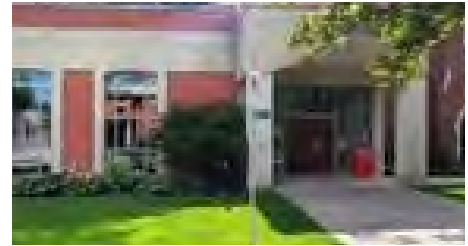
Parking

There are 6 parking spaces (including 2 accessible parking spaces) on the north side of Elgin Street in front of the church property and 4 parking spaces to the south of Elgin Street on Church Avenue. The church also has a Mutual Licence Agreement with the City of Burlington to use the municipal parking lot situated to the west of Church Avenue from 6 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. Monday to Friday and all day on Saturday and Sunday. We use this parking lot as a fundraiser during the Sound of Music and Ribfest events.



Parish Hall

The fully accessible Parish Hall is located to the east of the property, on Ontario Street and can be accessed by a concrete sidewalk leading from the front of the church through the cemetery grounds. Originally built in 1922, it underwent a complete rebuild in 2004 to modernize the space. The space is used for parish programs and events, and rented for one-time events or regular weekly rentals.



The **first floor** houses the main office, rector's office, parlour, washrooms, library / archive, a copy room, the Great Hall with a commercial kitchen. The Great Hall has a seating capacity of 214 occupants at tables and is used for a variety of community and outreach programs.

The **second floor** includes a Boardroom, a large meeting room, Pastoral Associates', Deacon's and Music Director's offices. Our Sunday School program takes place in the large meeting room.

The **third floor** houses the finance office and the remainder is leased to the Burlington Montessori Preschool Inc. Monday to Friday from September to August.



Resources

- Newsletter
- Narrative Budget Document
- Vestry Booklet
- Vestry Financial Statement
- MAP (Mission Action Plan)
- www.stlukesburlington.ca



ST. LUKE'S

NEWSLETTER – FALL 2025



Serving Customers at the Garage Sale. More Pictures on Page 27

Calendar of Events and Services Page 15



Times of Transition

From Rev. Canon Dr. D.V. MacDonald

Your Interim Minister



Transitions can be challenging, and I know many of you continue to feel the absence of your beloved Canon Stuart. His faithful ministry left a deep and lasting impact, and his presence is still very much felt among us. I have no doubt that he would want only good things for you as you move forward into this next chapter in the life of this remarkable parish.

It has been my privilege to journey with you during this time. Change, even when guided gently, can still feel unfamiliar—especially when things are done a little differently than before. Please know that my intention is not to “rock the boat,” but rather to offer a steady hand as we navigate these waters together, always with our eyes fixed on Christ.

One of the great joys in my short time with you has been witnessing the incredible leadership of your Parish Council and Executive—especially your wardens and financial officers. Their dedication and long hours behind the scenes have helped to keep the life and ministry of St. Luke’s moving forward with care and purpose. We are truly blessed by their faithful service.

With leadership comes responsibility—spiritual and financial. Understandably, things feel different than they did under Canon Stuart’s leadership, but the mission of the Church continues. That is why I gently encourage us all to renew our commitment to regular worship, prayer, and, yes, financial support.

This fall, I’ll be preaching more intentionally about stewardship—of our time, our talents, and our financial gifts. I know the word “tithe” can feel daunting to some. The traditional 10% may seem out of reach, especially when many of us also give generously to important causes like the local hospital, or inspiring charities like the ‘Love, Jayne Foundation.’ These are worthy and commendable efforts.

And yet, as followers of Christ, our first priority must be the local church—our spiritual home. Might I suggest what I call a “modern tithe”? Even a 5% offering of one’s income to St. Luke’s can make a significant impact. Here’s a simple way to think about it: \$1 per week for every \$1,000 of annual income. So, if you earn \$50,000 a year, a weekly gift of \$50—or \$200 per month—amounts to a 4.8% tithe. For many, that level of giving is realistic and meaningful.

I truly believe the Kingdom of God needs St. Luke’s to remain a strong and vibrant presence in Burlington—a light in the community. That strength is built one parishioner at a time, as we each recommit to keeping Jesus at the centre of all we do.

May God bless you richly as we continue to walk this journey of transition—together, with hope and faith.

In Christ, Rev. Canon Dr. D.V. MacDonald

From the Rev. Michael Coren

A Centenary

100 years ago, in 1925, Clive Staples Lewis, known to his friends as Jack, was elected a Fellow and Tutor in English Language and Literature at Magdalen College, Oxford. It would be his academic home for the next 29 years, a period when he became a Christian and produced most of his best-known works. The author of the Narnia stories, *Miracles*, *Till We have Faces*, *Surprised by Joy* and so many others lived close by his college, attended its chapel, and made Oxford and its pubs and walks his home.



It was Magdalen and Oxford where Lewis took part in The Inklings meetings, made the Eagle and Child pub a tourist destination – sadly, it’s now closed, with promises of a reopening – and walked along Addison’s Walk and felt the wind of holiness. His church is a few miles from the city, as is his grave. He died on the same day as President Kennedy and Aldous Huxley, and because of the Kennedy assassination, Lewis’s passing received relatively little coverage. He genuinely believed that he’d be forgotten within five years of his death but the truth is that his fame and influence have grown exponentially and show no signs of diminishing.

The appeal is multi-faceted. First, the children’s books. The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe and the rest in the series are obvious Christian analogies but they stand independently. Second, the Christian works, such as *Mere Christianity* and *The Screwtape Letters*. This, for example, from *Mere Christianity*. “There is no need to be worried by facetious people who try to make the Christian hope of Heaven ridiculous by saying they do not want to spend eternity playing harps. The answer to such people is that if they cannot understand books written for grown-ups, they should not talk about them. All the Scriptural imagery (harps, crowns, gold, etc.) is, of course, a mere symbolical attempt to express the inexpressible. People who take these symbols literally might as well think that when Christ told us to be like doves, He meant that we were to lay eggs.”

Third, his academic work. *The Allegory of Love: A Study in Medieval Tradition*, and his *English Literature in the Sixteenth Century Excluding Drama* are still read by students and scholars. Fourth, the less tangible but vitally important persona and character. Tweeds, pipes, beer, pots of tea, loud laughter, male company, long walks, and Oxford cloisters. It wasn’t affectation and it’s created a style that’s irresistible for many people, especially in North America. It’s easy to be mocking and cynical but then the snobs don’t sell as well as Lewis.

Another side of the man who was predicted to be a lifelong bachelor was seen when he met the writer Joy Davidman in 1952. They married in 1956 but she died four years later.

Michael Coren continued

The relationship was portrayed in Shadowlands, the stage-play and television production being far more authentic than Hollywood's version with Anthony Hopkins. Joy's death devastated him, and Walter Hopper, Lewis's secretary for the last months of his life, told me that Lewis never fully recovered. Lewis wrote about it in A Grief Observed. "No one ever told me that grief felt so like fear. I am not afraid, but the sensation is like being afraid. The same fluttering in the stomach, the same restlessness, the yawning. I keep on swallowing. At other times it feels like being mildly drunk, or concussed. There is a sort of invisible blanket between the world and me. I find it hard to take in what anyone says. Or perhaps, hard to want to take it in. It is so uninteresting. Yet I want the others to be about me. I dread the moments when the house is empty. If only they would talk to one another and not to me."

He and Joy met through her admiration of his writing and their shared belief in Christianity, and Jack Lewis's biting intelligent, heavily analysed, dedicated faith continues to bring people to the church. Critics argue that his Christian writing is dated or insufficiently theoretical. What they likely mean is that its clarity intimidates them. As Lewis said in Mere Christianity, "A proud man is always looking down on things and people; and, of course, as long as you are looking down, you cannot see something that is above you."

By the way, one of those people brought to faith by Lewis's books was me. Thank God.

Blessings *Michael*



HARVEST SUNDAY - OCTOBER 5, 2025

› **NEEDED:** Donations of fruits (apples, pears), vegetables (squash, cabbage, pumpkins, etc.), corn stalks, gourds etc.



To decorate the church – the Altar Guild decorates with the donations received from parishioners

We need your help to make our church festive for Harvest & Thanksgiving Sundays!

› Please bring donations to the church on

Saturday, October 4 - from 8:30am

(NOTE: we are usually finished by 10:30am)

Perishable fruits & vegetables go to our Food for Life programme following the Harvest Sunday services. The remainder decorates the church for Thanksgiving Sunday and then goes to our Food For Life programme.

Questions? – contact Chris Hughes (905-632-9535)

Read, Mark, Learn, and Inwardly Digest



Dear friends,

The Lectionary of the Church establishes specific prayers and readings for every Sunday and feast day of the year. While these are not inflexible, some in their regular appearance in our worship services have become memorable, and often in their own right.

This happens rather frequently with the collect prayers of any given worship service. Many of these opening prayers are steeped in the historical tradition of the church, and some have become well-known, also because of their beauty and brevity.

This is just the case with the collect prayer for one of the last Sundays after Pentecost -or closest to the season of Advent- in which we are led to pray,

*Eternal God, who caused all holy scriptures to be written for our learning,
grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them,
that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.*

Like some of those very historical collect prayers in our Anglican tradition, this one was written by Thomas Cranmer, the architect and main voice of the Reformation in the Church of England.

A faithful Christian, and a man of his time, Cranmer taught that true wisdom flowed from the whole of the Bible, from all holy Scripture -which was to him the true ground for the magnificence of God's revelation.

For Cranmer, the Christian faithful ought to not just read the text of the Bible, but also study it, bringing it into our human knowledge, and digesting, interpreting and applying its teaching to our everyday life, even as we hope for life eternal.

Since, and to this day, some of this work with the Bible happens in the local church through the ministry and fellowship of Bible study groups, meeting regularly for, reading, marking, learning, and inwardly digesting specific texts from the Scriptures.

Have you ever been part of one such group? How about one such group at St Luke's?

If you can make the time, this would be a most worthy way to use it, even as you study the Bible, and learn about the Christian faith, from your own experience, and that of fellow Bible students.

Your friend, *Leonel*

Leonel Abaroa-Bolona (The Rev'd Dr.)

Priest-in-charge, The Church of the Ascension, Hamilton, Ontario 289 887 7522 (Emergencies)

Warden's Newsletter Report



While summer months usually mean a slower pace, there seemed to be little difference at St Luke's! We have settled in nicely with Drew and welcome his new ideas and fresh perspectives. We returned to the prayer and hymn books in our pews. This change is saving both time and money as our bulletin is much shorter. Changes have been made in the hall with Sheila getting settled in her new office and the Sunday School, including the closet, relocated to the big room.

A wedding at the start of summer sparked us to look at our current rental rates. Some research will be done on comparable halls to ensure that we are competitive.

Our Communication Committee is gathering the final pieces for the updated Website project. Hopefully this will launch shortly.

We continue to support the Church Avenue committee as they navigate further discussions around parking.

Staff computer needs are being assessed and reviewed. We want to ensure that we are purchasing what is needed for the best value.

Our Parochial Committee met regularly throughout the summer. We are appreciative of all the surveys that were completed which will help guide our search for our new rector. We are in the midst of writing the Parish Profile and are eager to submit our final work to the Bishop.

We continue to discuss internal communication and identifying some of the areas for improvement. We want to ensure we have clear processes for communication and decision making, clear job descriptions and transparency when it comes to roles. So much of what we do is done with the reliance on a few who know proper process. This is not ideal and certainly makes times of transition challenging. Through Parish Council, we are updating all the job descriptions in the various ministries as a starting point. This will leave us in a better position when we welcome our new Rector in the coming months.

During this time of transition, we appreciate everyone's support and hard work to ensure that all our ministries continue to run smoothly. We are excited about the months ahead and the changes that will come.

Melanie Walker Rector's Warden



Have you noticed the new church signs?

Parochial Committee Report – Parish Survey

First, and most important, thank you to everyone who provided their feedback over the past couple of weeks. We received 60 survey responses and have reviewed each one, both the rating and ranking of the importance of the roles of a Rector and the many suggestions and ideas gleaned from your feedback and comments.

Upon review a few general themes were discovered.

The importance of maintaining our traditional Anglican roots, leaving room for expanding our contemporary relevance: in the liturgy, sacraments and worship.

Ensuring we have a vision for God's mission, with the tools and support to succeed.

Identifying and encouraging us to use our gifts.

Fostering a sense of community.

Supporting members of the parish in their need.

We will use your feedback to develop our parish profile which is used to inform prospective candidates and assist in the recruitment process.

Please keep us in your prayers as we work to discern God's plan for our parish.

Yours in Christ,

Melanie Walker

Mahira Samarasinghe

Wendy Murray

Ron Danielsen

Bob Bruce

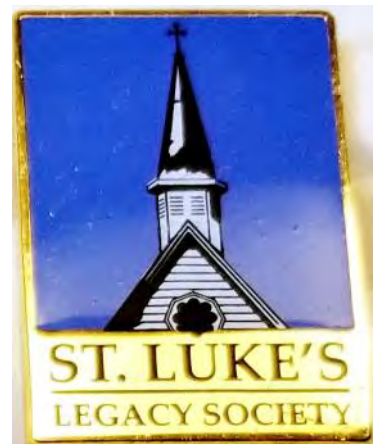
Sheila Plant

Rick Reycraft

Helen Bittner

Legacy Society

"The Legacy Society is founded on the idea of what is called in the Old Testament a Covenant with God. It is our covenant with the church, and through the church our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ."





From the Deacon's Bench



At the time of writing, the sky is a clear blue, there is a gentle breeze off the water, and the humidity of the last few weeks has finally abated. Many people are enjoying time away with family and friends visiting new places or sitting on the dock watching the sun rise. Whatever you find yourself doing right now, I hope that you are enjoying this time of rest, relaxation and refreshment. Summer is by no means over and we are still looking forward to August vacations.

It always seems that when June comes around and various activities are on a summer pause we look forward to some "time off". For some it may be a few days, for others a longer period of time.

Many years ago during my teaching career, I always looked forward to the summer. For some years it meant taking university courses before taking some family vacation time. No matter what, however, it was a time for a change in routine. I always recall that around the end of July, my father would always make me aware of the first back to school sales that were on and I had to remind him that there were still a few weeks to go yet! It was a joke between us that we never tired of. By the third week of August, I was already back in the classroom for short periods of time getting all things new ready for the school year.

One of the most important things was that the summer months became a "simple time". One day extended into the next, there was always time for another cup of tea and the alarm clock was silenced.

During these times of quiet and simplicity, I hope that you have had a chance to recharge your batteries and are gearing up for the "new year" and all that September brings us. We need to prepare for the busyness of church life as activities start up again, meetings become more frequent and we reconnect with people that we might not have seen through the summer.

As you prepare to jump back into life at St. Luke's, whatever you are involved in, I hope that the simple summer days have been a blessing to you and that your soul is well.

By the way.....Happy New Year!!

Simplicity —*There is a beauty in simplicity. In watching the sun rise and set without rushing to be elsewhere. In savouring your morning coffee before running out the door. In wholesome conversations with one person as opposed to making small talk with ten. In going for a walk, not to lose weight, but to soak in your surroundings. To see beauty and magic where others cannot. A slow, simple life, with a small home, filled with not material items that clutter both your external and internal worlds, but one that is filled with love. One that evokes peace and tranquility. A sense of calm. Subtract the meaningless and leave only space for the meaningful. Forgetting about tomorrow's worries and focusing instead on the joy of today. There is beauty in simplicity. In making space for the things that matter most. In overflowing with experiences and stories and gentle moments that take your breath away.*

From the Deacon continued

In Prayer.....

On June 1 of this year, we welcomed The Rev. Canon Dr. Drew MacDonald into our midst.

He had been appointed by the Bishop to serve as our interim priest while we searched for a new rector.

We have been blessed in so many ways by his ministry, his gentleness, his teaching moments, his compassion, his wisdom and guidance, his sense of humour and most of all his willingness to listen.

We offer prayers of thanksgiving for his time with us.

It has been a long time since we have been in the position where we have had an interim.

I was sorting through some papers the other day and I came across a prayer that was shared with the parish when the Parochial Committee was searching for a new rector and I thought it was just as appropriate today as it was 17 years ago.

A Prayer for the Parish Church of St. Luke during the Interim

Beloved God,

Our Father in Heaven,

Your bountiful providence has graced us with a long and rich past;

hallowed be your name.

Your holiness calls us into a future shaped by justice and love;

Your kingdom come,

Your faithful companionship in the present is our comfort, challenge and guide;

your will be done on earth as in heaven.

Feed us with your presence now;

Give us today our daily bread.

Change us by and for your love;

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Embolden us as your servants in the world;

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

Inspire us with a vision for Christ's mission and ministry;

For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Amen.

From the Deacon continued

Be The Peace

Striving to live a spiritual life is not easy
But in Native American tradition it is simple.

Speak kindly about others,
Especially those with whom you disagree.

Give to help those in need
With both generosity and consistency.
Watch for the unexpected wisdom spoken
In word and deed.

Carry no prejudice toward any member
Of your human family.

Think of yourself as a healer and act accordingly.
Listen more than you speak.
Look for the treasure of humour and share it freely.

Ask always in prayer to do
What is most pleasing to the Spirit.
Consider every life to be of value.
Respect elders, honour youth, cherish children.
Be the peace in which you live each day.

From The Spirit Wheel: Meditations from an Indigenous Elder
Stephen Charleston

Submitted by Rev. Sheila Plant

**Servers are an important part of our service
and a great way to learn.**



Summer Barbeque at St. Luke's Close

On Tuesday, July 22, the Board of Directors for St. Luke's Close hosted our second annual summer barbeque.

The barbeque is part of a commitment made by the Board last year to engage the residents of the Close with some of our parishioners and to develop a closer relationship with them. Judging by the people in attendance, it was another success!

We had perfect summer weather so many of the residents were happy to eat and socialize outside. There was plenty of laughter, smiles and most of all, very positive vibes and thanks for what we had done.

We also welcomed Rev. Canon Dr. Drew MacDonald to our gathering. The residents were so pleased to meet our interim rector and to get the opportunity to chat with him.

During the course of the year, the Board plans four major events.....a Harvest Tea in the fall, our annual Christmas tea with carols (where we welcome our St. Luke's Choir who sing up a storm with Jennifer playing the piano), our Easter tea and then our summer barbeque.

As we get to know more of the residents, we have been able to build up a rapport with them and we've been able to hear some of their stories.

Today, there were 30 people at the barbeque. Thanks to Ray Payne and Bill Armstrong for their expertise on the grill, Dave Beck for keeping us well hydrated, Bob and Nan Bruce for their skills and organization and Val Fester for her help and support.

We are now looking forward to our Harvest Tea to be held in October.



St. Luke's Close BBQ continued



Submitted by Rev. Sheila Plant

FROM THE MUSIC DIRECTOR

As we are approaching another busy Fall season, I extend to you an invitation to lend your time and talent to one of the several facets of our music programme. Your participation can not only enrich your worship experience and that of our community, but studies show involvement in making music has a very positive effect on the brain and mood! Please feel free to email me at jgoodine@stlukesburlington.ca for more information about the following opportunities...



You are welcome to join our CHOIR – whether you have extensive musical training, or enjoy singing around the house! In addition to our weekly rehearsals (from September to May), unique participation in worship and social events make up our time together. Come and join us in helping to lead worship at St. Luke's! Our rehearsals are Thursdays from 7-8:30 PM, in the church sanctuary. If weekly seems too much for you, and you are a fast learner, feel free to join us for Christmas and Easter! Practice tracks are available, and you would need to be present at at least two rehearsals. One-on-one help is also available for all choristers!

In addition to the choir, our worship service also offers a safe, appreciative atmosphere to play an INSTRUMENT, whether it be piano, wind, string, or percussion, especially if you're not used to performing. Please encourage your children or grandchildren who are in band or taking private lessons to share their gift with all of us! As an example: in June, we had the privilege of listening to Sienna Martinez Alvis' gift of music through her rendition of "Jesus loves me" – a pleasure for all!

I continue to offer MUSIC LESSONS in piano, voice, and organ to people of all ages and levels. Whether you are continuing your studies or just beginning, please feel free to give any of these a try. We can meet together to discuss and plan what you want to achieve in your musical journey: the choice is yours!

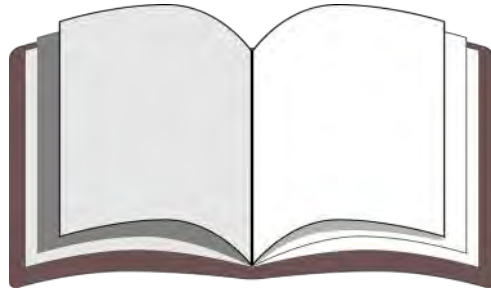
In conclusion, I extend my thanks to our present music programme participants for their continued commitment and to the clergy and staff for their support.

I look forward to another musical, worshipful liturgical year with all of you.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Goodine.

Life Passages



May

Susan Finn
Marie Sangwin
Edith Walsh
Marlene Andrew
Archibald Belliveau
Marion Beattie
Donald Watson

June

Hendrikje Lewis
Richard Freier
Gary Cooper
Lorna Lucescu
Margaret Webb
Cynthia Allen
Elizabeth Jerome

July

Barbara Hux

*Roads go ever on and on
Out from the door where it began.
Now far ahead the Road has gone,
Let others follow it who can!
Let them a journey new begin
But I at last with weary feet
Will turn towards the lighted inn,
My evening rest and sleep to meet.* --J.R.R. Tolkien

We sincerely apologize if any names have been omitted. It is not intentional. As you are aware, we are not conducting funerals in the same way as we were, so we do not always hear about the passing of someone. Please let us know if a name has been left off our page.

"We can't know why the lily has so brief a time to bloom in the warmth of sunlight kissed upon its face before it folds into its fragrance and bids the world good night to rest its beauty in a gentler place."

Calendar of Events and Services

There is an 8:15 and 10 am Eucharist Service Every Sunday

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>SERVICES AND EVENTS</u>
Sept 7th	8:15 and 10:00 am	13 Pentecost , Sunday School Starts (see page 16)
Sept 11th	11:30 am	Speakers Lunch (see page 24)
Sept 14th	8:15 and 10:00 am	Welcome Back Sunday
Sept 20th	10:00 am	Advocacy Presentation online (see page 34)
Sept 21st	8:15 and 10:00 am	Time & Talent plus Eucharist
	12:30 to 3:30 pm	Walk to the Lighthouse (see page 42)
Sept 28th	8:15 and 10:00 am	16 Pentecost
Oct 5th	8:15 and 10:00 am	Harvest Sunday (see page 4)
Oct 9th	11:30 am	Speakers Lunch (see page 24)
Oct 12th	8:15 and 10:00 am	Thanksgiving
Oct 19th	8:15 and 10:00 am	19 Pentecost
Oct 25th	5:30 pm	Parish Dinner (See page 23)
Oct 26th	8:15 and 10:00 am	Pentecost 20 plus Celtic Eucharist at 10:00
		Tourtière sales after both services in Parish Hall (page 23)
	3:00 pm	Music At St. Luke's Concert in the Church (see page 18)
Nov 1st	6:00 pm	Music at St. Luke's with Dinner in the Parish Hall
Nov 2nd	8:15 and 10:00 am	All Saints Sunday
Nov 6th	11:30 am	Speakers Lunch (see page 24)
Nov 9th	8:15 and 10:00 am	Remembrance Sunday
Nov 16th	8:15 and 10:00 am	23 Pentecost
Nov 22nd	9:00 am	Christmas Market
Nov 23rd	8:15 and 10:00 am	Reign of Christ Eucharist
Nov 30th	8:15 and 10:00am	25 Pentecost

For schedule of the Community Lunch and Social Hour see page 39.

•• The Sunday 10:00 am is live-streamed on the church YouTube channel.

•• Sunday 10:00 am services can be played **at any time** after the time indicated. Go to www.stlukesburlington.ca and click on "Virtual Service". You can then click on the picture of the service you want. For services, the words for the hymns and the liturgy are included in the video so that you can follow along.

Sunday School Update



Hello from St. Luke's Kids. As the days begin to shorten, this is an opportune moment to reflect and anticipate the upcoming Fall and Winter seasons within our community activities.

I am so pleased with our return to regular Sunday School. We plan to have more children in the future, but for now, our priority is giving them a safe and enjoyable environment to learn about faith. We have done this through committed volunteers from the congregation, a fabulous Diocese recommended lectionary based curriculum called Spark, through the help of people like Bob who made our first space inviting and kid friendly, through the collaboration with leadership who offered opportunities for intergenerational worship, through regular weekly communication with parents, through clarifying safety protocols such as police checks and media boundaries, and finally through the kids themselves who have added so much to our community life with their fresh faith and honest questions.

So, what's ahead? Lots! Throughout the summer, efforts have been made to relocate Sunday school supplies to the main Sunday School area. This transition is intended to improve accessibility and safety by allowing teachers to access needed items without leaving the room.

We would like to thank Deacon Sheila for clearing out a section of the large closet in Room 201, which allows us to consolidate our items in one location. New initiatives have arisen to include me in the weekly staff meetings with clergy so that we can begin planning liturgies and church events in an intergenerational context. We thank our Interim Rector Drew for making this possible.

And what's ahead? A plan to have guest speakers from the congregation come and share their special gifts and expertise with the kids during class time. Jennifer and Rob from the choir assisted with musical direction during our intergenerational service in April and so set a wonderful precedent for us. We also thank Mark who helped us with his expertise in horticulture by showing us how to carefully plant flowers in the front of the parish hall. We will start the speaker series this Fall with Ramsay Holmes who tends the bee house in our gardens. He will be speaking to us about the beautiful way bees work together and how they teach us how to live together the way God wants us. A sign-up sheet for this year-long project will be sent soon. We are also, in conjunction with other Anglican churches in the region, planning a joint confirmation class in early Fall.

Sunday School continued

Although none of our kids are ready for confirmation, this sets up a good teaching paradigm for the future when our kids are ready. And finally, we are having a Christmas pageant this year!!! It's returning. Thanks to Olivia and Paul and Carole Pizzolante who are already in the planning stages.

In closing, I commend to you the parable of the Sower in Luke 5-15. Let us sow the good seed so our kids stay with us into the future.

Grace and Peace Jackie Burnie: Sunday School Coordinator

Here are some pictures of crafts we have done in Sunday School !!



Music at St. Luke's

We're excited to start the 2025/2026 Music at St. Luke's season with three presentations before Christmas. Again this season, we will be offering our traditional dinner-dances in the parish hall, and also some uncatered Sunday afternoon events in the church.

We're delighted to kick off the season with **Nostalgia** on Sunday, October 26th at 3PM in the church.



Nostalgia is an Egyptian Christian band from the local community and they blend Egyptian/Coptic melodies with modern tunes, offering a diverse mix of sacred and secular music using traditional and modern instruments. Their stated mission is to entertain, inspire and share the beauty of their rich heritage with passionate audiences. They have developed a large enthusiastic fanbase from Burlington to Niagara and beyond. This is definitely a per-

formance not to miss. Sunday afternoon performances have an entrance fee of \$25, and youth under 18 are welcomed for free.

On Saturday, November 1st, at 6 p.m., we're pleased to present the first of our dinner-dances in the great hall when we welcome **Two Families Band**.

Two Families Band are a quartet comprising two Ukrainian couples that perform instrumental and vocal music in different styles and genres including jazz, blues, rock and roll, and Ukrainian and Russian folk songs. Most of the band repertoire is composed or arranged by band leader, Valentin Zadoyanov in classical, blues styles, with elements of Spanish and even Celtic music. Their usual setup includes guitar, flute, double bass, and a highlight of the band – a Ukrainian folk instrument, the domra!



Music at St. Luke's continued

On Sunday, December 21st at 3PM, we are delighted to welcome back **Southern Ontario Lyric Opera** as they perform arias and Christmas carols in our beautiful decorated church. If you missed this event last year, you will definitely want to see this to get you into the true spirit of Christmas with their gorgeous harmonies.



Again, this is excellent value as Sunday afternoon performances have an entrance fee of \$25, and youth under 18 are welcomed at no cost. Submitted by Steve Pike

St. Luke's Library News

The library is to enhance the spiritual life of its readers.
We will have several new books available to borrow and also on display in September!

Some of the new titles in our collection will be "Mrs. Van Gogh" by Caroline Cauchy, "The Madonnas of Leningrad" by Debra Dean, "Cutting for Stone" and "The Covenant of Water" by Abraham Verghese.

We welcome you to visit the library during office hours and when we have our book displays during coffee hour!



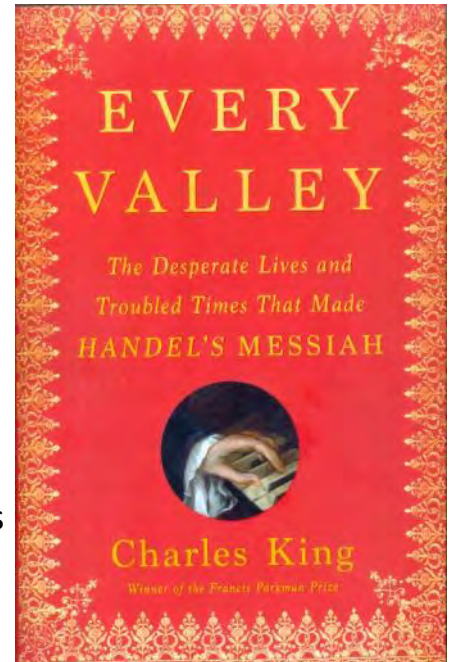
Melissa Kennedy, Chair

Book Review by Dorothy Kew—Charles King. Every Valley:

The desperate lives and troubled times that made Handel's Messiah. Doubleday, 2024.

If you are a devotee of Handel's *Messiah*, then you will not be disappointed in this book, a new addition to St. Luke's library, and if, furthermore, you are a history buff with a deep interest in the 18th century, then so much the better. This is a complex story, which deals not only with how *Messiah* came to be, but also with the age in which it was composed.

First of all, it might come as a surprise to some to know that Handel did not write the libretto for his oratorio. It was written by one Charles Jennens, an idiosyncratic bachelor whose depressed view of his existence drove him to compile his "Scripture Collection" with excerpts from the Hebrew Scriptures and the New Testament. The time period is that of the early Hanoverian kings, George I and George II, by no means a peaceful one. In 1715 came the unsuccessful attempt of the Jacobites to restore James Francis Edward Stuart, aka The Old Pretender, to the throne of England, and later, in 1745, came the second Jacobite Rebellion, also unsuccessful, to do the same for James's son, Charles Edward, The Young Pretender.



King's view of the period ranges far and wide as he describes such people of the time as Thomas Coram, who worked indefatigably to build a Foundling Hospital for impoverished children; Ayuba bin Sulayman Diallo, an enslaved African who makes his way to England and freedom; Susannah Cibber, a famous actress, who leaves her husband for another man and also plays a significant role as alto in the performance of *Messiah*; Jonathan Swift, Dean of St. Patrick's Cathedral in Dublin, and the first performance of *Messiah* in that city at the concert hall on Fishamble Street; and Handel himself, getting on in age and not as successful a composer as in the past, his last three operas having failed, and him now in debt. King brings these disparate characters together, as in one way or another they are connected to Handel and his masterpiece.

Messiah is Handel's greatest oratorio, if not his greatest composition. King's book describes the excited reaction to the performance of the oratorio in Dublin and then again in London when Handel returns there, as well as the love and appreciation that this oratorio still receives. Along with that, King's description of the historical background kept me absorbed throughout. I heartily recommend this book.

Knitters & Friends Keep on Creating

by Mary Taslimi

Knitters & Friends donated some of our stash (every knitter/crocheter/sewer/fabric artist has a stash of some kind!) to the annual St. Luke's garage sale. The leftovers from the sale were donated on to Waterdown District High School—who wrote a sweet thank-you note (see photos).

Everyone is working on lovely projects and trying new things. Barbara Adamson knit a gorgeous child's sweater in cheerful colours; Mary Taslimi embarked on a pair of socks for a brother, knitting with the Toe-Up-2-At-A-Time method; Lois Carey discovered self-patterning yarns that made handsome scarves and also whipped up an octopus toque, among other projects. We have such a lot of eye candy this quarter! A picture being worth a thousand words, please see our photo gallery for this quarter's "essay"

Knitters & Friends welcomes crafters of all levels from beginner to expert, who work with yarn, thread, embroidery silk, etc. Come for the crafting, stay for the company! Anyone wishing to join who does not have yarn or needles/hooks is welcome to browse the closet in Room 201 during meeting hours (10am - noon, Tuesdays) and select from donated yarns, tools and patterns.



Child's sweater by
Barbara Adamson

Octopus Toque by
Lois Carey



Scarves by Lois
Carey

Knitters and
Friends Craft-
ing Away



Knitters and Friends Continued



Toe-Up 2-at a Time
socks in progress by
Mary Taslimi



Child's Sweater, Mitts, and Beret by
Lois Carey



Thankyou Card from Waterdown Dis-
trict Highschool



St. Luke's Annual Parish Dinner and Silent Auction

We welcome everyone to come out and enjoy

Saturday, October 25th, 2025

Doors open at 5:30pm

Hors D'oeuvres at 6:00pm

Potluck Dinner at 6:30pm

Registration will take place at Coffee Hour every Sunday,
beginning Mid September

This year it will be a catered event, with a modest charge per ticket

- further details to follow



Fellowship Meal

PIE MAKERS

Our fall tourtière sale will take place in the Parish Hall after both the services on Sunday, October 26th.

This will be the last opportunity to stock up and avoid the Christmas Market rush.

We will also have reusable shopping bags for sale for \$2 if you forget to bring your own.

Prices remain the same: Large \$25. Small \$9 or 3 for \$25.



St Luke's "Speaker's Lunch"

The goal of the Speaker's Lunch group is to provide opportunities for St. Luke's parishioners, guests and others in the wider community to meet in a social setting and to listen to presentations by informed speakers about contemporary issues affecting our community and the world beyond.



The group meets at 11:30 am on the second Thursday of each month for social time, followed by a "Bring Your Own Lunch" & a talk by the speaker of the month. Refreshments, including Sherry are provided - all for a free-will donation of \$5.

All are welcome - please call Doug Flett (905-637-7009) or Tim Tiernay (905-639-0345) for more information. Your dedicated committee is hopeful that we continue to arrange a diverse and interesting list of topics and speakers.

Speaker's Lunch resumes after our "summer vacation" with a great line-up of engaging speakers:

September 11th – Rev. Michael Coren will talk about his life's journey from journalist to priest.

October 9th – Ernie Schramayr's talk will focus on exercise as part of, "Healthy, Wealthy & Wise".

November 6th – While yet to be confirmed, our speaker will cover a Remembrance Day theme.

We can continue to be pleased at the growing interest and attendance at the lunches, in particular by non-parishioners. Please continue to spread the word as to the fun, fellowship and interesting subjects at our meetings. If you have any questions, suggestions as to subjects or speakers for future meetings, please contact:

Tim Tiernay (phone: 905-639-0345; email: tim.tiernay@bell.net)

Also, we are looking for new members to join our Committee. It is not much work and your help and ideas would be welcomed.

Lastly, if you have not provided your email address or text number in the past, please do as we will then be able to alert you to upcoming meetings and any changes.

We look forward to seeing you at one or more of these lunches in the future.

Submitted by Tim Tiernay

Speakers Lunch continued



Our hard working Committee taking a well-deserved summer break.

Left to right: Dave Swallow, Tim Tiernay, Gord Barker, Dave Wyatt, Dave Beck & Fred Ofosu.

Picture taken by Doug Flett

Right: The Speaker's Lunch Committee helped with the costs to refinish the Parish doors and our Committee member, Gord Barker did all the work – thank you Gord!!



St. Luke's Quilters Guild

The Quilting group meets every Tuesday afternoon in the parlour. We enjoyed working on two baby quilts in the spring and look forward to a new project in the fall!



Submitted by
Melissa Kennedy

Friends of St. Luke's Day Needs Your Help

We are once again excited to be hosting our **Friends of St. Luke's** annual Hymn Sing and afternoon tea, on August 27th. At the time I am writing this it is still very much in the planning stages, but if there's still time when this newsletter is released and you haven't already volunteered to help out, we hope you will give us a call. If it's already over by then, we would like to thank everyone who volunteered their time to make it happen, and the many guests who attended.

Friends of St. Luke's is an annual event in the life of our parish, usually held in the late summer each year, to which we invite our most elderly parishioners. Since some are no longer able to attend church in person due to ill health, mobility issues, or perhaps because they are no longer driving, with the help of volunteers we offer transportation to those who need it. The event begins with a short hymn sing & address by clergy in the church, followed by an afternoon tea in the parish hall. There we show our appreciation for our guests' many years of service to the Parish Church of St. Luke's, serving sandwiches, treats and tea. It is also an opportunity for fellowship, enabling old friends to reconnect and new friends to be made.

This is my final year in the position of Co-ordinator for Friends of St. Luke's, and I would like to express my appreciation for the opportunity to serve in this way, and to all of you who have attended as both guests and volunteers during my time in the role. You are a very special group of people, a true church 'family'.

Yours truly, Lesley Emery echidna77@icloud.com (905) 639-7222

Pictures from 2024 Event



St. Luke's Garage Sale May 31, 2025

Again this major event of the Summer was a great success as a fundraiser and a fun social event for both parishioners who volunteered and the community. Remember to volunteer and support the Christmas Market November 22, 2025. We raised close to \$8,000!!



Thanks to Melanie and Mark for keeping us all organized. We had a great time.



More from the Garage Sale!



Your Givings Aren't Just Paying the Bills

In fact, They Are Building Ministries

Early each year Vestry considers a financial plan for the coming year. This past February St. Luke's adopted a budget of \$687,000. So if expenses go according to plan it will cost more than \$1800 each day to operate the parish in 2025.



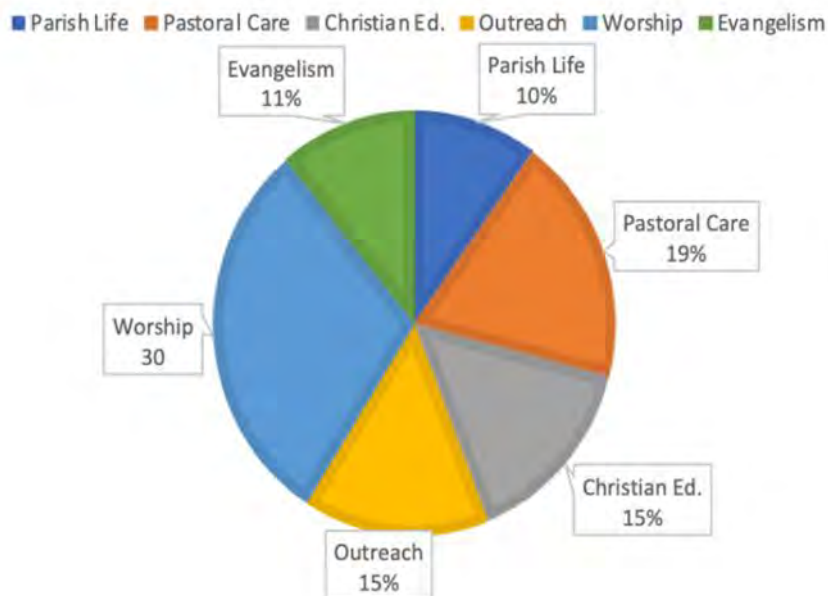
The budget includes costs that any business encounters. Wages and benefits cost \$1,000 per day. Electricity \$44. Telephone \$11. Insurance \$104 and the list goes on.

But what do you get for your donations? When purchasing a consumer good you are more concerned with the product you get than with the cost of the individual inputs. Consider your donation to St. Luke's and how it's used to produce "products" - in our case Ministries.

St. Luke's journey of faith follows the six ministries- Worship, Pastoral Care, Christian Education, Evangelism, Outreach, and Parish Life. Each requires a time, talent and treasure. The annual budget is structured to ensure ministries have sufficient resources to succeed.

We estimated a few years ago how dollars are allocated to the various ministries. This

ST. LUKE'S NARRATIVE BUDGET 2025



information is presented each year in the Narrative Budget and is summarized in the pie chart. For example, together we will contribute \$211,000 towards Worship (30% of the budget) this year or \$580 per day. And don't forget, at St. Luke's givings are leveraged by thousands of hours of volunteer time - more than 24,000 in 2023.

The point of all this is simple. When you make a donation don't think of it as paying a bill. What you are doing is contributing to the success of the St. Luke's Ministries.

Be proud of what you belong to and together what we are building!

Unfortunately, giving for the first half of 2025 has fallen behind the 2024 level. We are prayerfully asking for your support to help close this gap. Would you consider making a special donation today to help us get back on track and ensure our Ministries remain strong and fully funded? Your generosity enables us to continue the work we've been called to do.

Submitted by Bob Osborne Stewardship Chair

The Mysterious Duncan Sisters: How Did They get from Quebec to St. Luke's Churchyard?

By Dorothy Kew

As you walk along the path from the church toward the Parish Hall, you pass on your left two upright white stones. They may have once been lying flat but are now well braced and standing securely. The stone on the left reads: "In memory of Amelia Duncan, who departed this life Sept. 16, 1884, in the 83rd year of her age". The one on the right has the following inscription: "In memory of Jane Duncan, who departed this life March 1st, 1884, in the 84th year of her age." Both stones have as their only decoration a weeping willow at the top, symbolic of mourning. Based on their appearance and proximity it seemed likely that they were sisters who both died in the same year.



The above picture shows the stones as they looked prior to professional cleaning and I'll come back to that later. I was very interested in these two women so I started researching them, and the first place to go to was their death records in the hope they would give me more information. Their death registrations are online, accessible through both Ancestry and Family Search. Jane had actually died on 28th February 1884, not 1st March as it said on her stone. Cause of death was given as "Old age"; the attending physician was Dr. William Richardson, and the informant was Reverend William Belt, Rector of St. Luke's Anglican Church. Amelia's death on 16th September 1884 was also attended by Dr. Richardson who gave the cause of death as "Diarrhoea, one week" and the informant was also Rev. William Belt. Jane's religious denomination was given as Episcopalian, whereas Amelia's was noted as Church of England.

But one thing stood out on Amelia's record – that she had been born in Ireland.

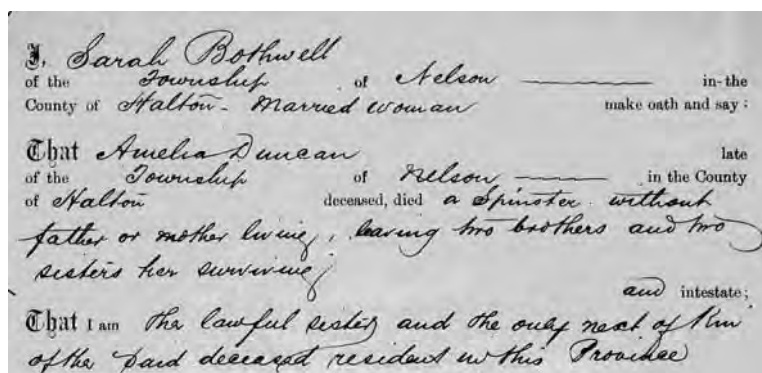
The Duncan Sisters continued

Assuming the two women were sisters –and I had no evidence at that point to prove that – then Jane also must have been born in Ireland. I should note that I was unable to find their burial records as that volume was missing from the archives. I had hoped to see some comment on the burial records by Canon Belt, though based on my experience he was a man of few words where it came to the records.

My next step was to search the census to see if I could find them and get more information. I found them both in only two censuses – the 1861 Census and the 1871 census, both in Quebec. The Canada East Census of 1861 placed them in the district of Grantham in the parish of St. Germain in the county of Drummond, Quebec. The 1861 census like the 1851 is nominal but does not really indicate different households. As far as I could see, Jane and Emily Duncan were listed together with one Ambrose Duncan, and a little further down the list was one James Duncan. All were described as “bourgeois”, from Ireland, religion—E. Church, possibly English Church, i.e. Anglican. I think “bourgeois” would mean gentleman or lady, as opposed to “cultivateur”, farmer.

The 1871 Census places them together in one household in the sub-district of St. Germain in the district of Drummond, Quebec, as follows: Emily [sic], age 69, and Jane Duncan, age 70. Both are described as Irlandais, i.e. Irish, born in Ireland, religion “E. d’Angleterre”, for “Eglise d’Angleterre”, that is Church of England, no occupation. Next door to them is one James Duncan, age 71, also Irish and Church of England, occupation, “cultivateur”, i.e. farmer. There is no mention of Ambrose Duncan and I was unable to find him in the 1871 census.

Family Search has recently released its experimental full-text search, at <https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/full-text> so I decided to give it a try by entering Amelia Duncan’s name and immediately got a hit -- a Petition to the Surrogate Court of Ontario, “an Application for Letters of Administration to the Estate and Effects of Amelia Duncan, late of the Township of Nelson in the County of Halton, Spinster, deceased.” I was able to download the eleven pages of the petition, which was being brought by one Sarah Bothwell “of the Township of Nelson, County of Halton, married woman”. The petition, dated 25th September, 1884, was a goldmine in that it gave me further information about the two Duncan sisters. The petitioner, Sarah Bothwell, was a sister of Amelia Duncan as she swore:



I, Sarah Bothwell
of the Township of Nelson
County of Halton. Married woman
in the
make oath and say:

That Amelia Duncan
of the Township of Nelson
County of Halton
deceased, died a Spinster without
father or mother living, leaving two brothers and two
sisters her surviving
and intestate;

That I am the lawful sister and the only next of kin
of the said deceased resident in this Province

The Duncan Sisters continued

It is puzzling that Sarah Bothwell states that Amelia Duncan was “a spinster without father or mother living, leaving two brothers and two sisters her surviving”, as Jane Duncan died 28th February 1884 and further research led me to the discovery that both Ambrose and James Duncan had died in 1880, as per a headstone in St. George’s Anglican church Cemetery in Drummondville, Quebec, and their deaths as recorded in the Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621-1968.



James and Ambrose Duncan, Credit Find a Grave

At any rate, Sarah Bothwell, nee Duncan, was successful in her petition for the estate of Amelia Duncan, who died intestate. The entire estate was listed as \$675.00. It’s possible that Sarah may have used that money to help pay for the burial of her sisters and the erection of the two stones.

So, how did the two Duncan sisters get to Burlington and St. Luke’s from Quebec? According to the 1871 census, they appeared to be living in Grantham, Quebec, next door to their brother, James. James died 3rd January, 1880, at age 80, according to his burial record. Ambrose, their other brother, had died 9th January, 1880. Perhaps the two sisters wanted to live closer to their last surviving family member, their sister, Sarah Bothwell. This called for research into Sarah herself. I searched for her and her husband in the 1871 and 1881 censuses and found them in Wickham, Drummond, Quebec, but they had moved to Nelson Township by 1884, according to Sarah’s petition. Is it possible that Amelia and Jane had also moved with Sarah and her husband William, to Ontario, to Nelson Township? And, as Church of England, or Anglican, they would have been buried in the nearest Anglican church.

The Duncan Sisters continued

At the beginning of my article, I mentioned that the picture of the two Duncan stones was taken prior to their being professionally cleaned. Here's what they look like now.



Recently, St. Luke's was approached by Paul Baillie, whose company, Dignity Restored, cleans and restores old marble headstones, whether upright or flat. The Cemetery Board discussed how we might see what his work was like, and it was suggested that perhaps one or two parishioners might consider "adopting" a stone for cleaning. Because of my interest in the Duncan sisters, I volunteered to pay for the cleaning of their two stones. As you can see, Paul has done a great job, and we are very pleased with the result. So, maybe

some of you reading this might think about adopting a stone for cleaning? The cost is reasonable, and you'll get a tax receipt! Think what a difference it would make to our churchyard!

References:

Ancestry. <https://www.ancestry.com/>

Family Search Full Text Search <https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/full-text/>

Find a Grave <https://www.findagrave.com/>

Church Avenue Update

The Church Avenue committee continues to work with the City and a number of interested parties. We have just received a grant from Royal Bank in 2 parts totaling \$60,000 and have other potential partners interested in financial support. We were turned down for our Trillium grant on what appears to be a technicality and plan to apply again as the next grant cycle starts. Resolving parking issues and a long term agreement to continue to charge for Sound of Music and Ribfest parking has been difficult with some recent progress but much more to do.



Church Avenue Committee

Ministry of Outreach

Contacts: Co-Chairs – Jackie Maver (905 681-6097) and Rosalind Reycraft (905 635-3976)

Mission Statement: Moved by the Holy Spirit and guided by the teachings and actions of Jesus the Christ, the Ministry of Outreach, in partnership with the community of St. Luke's, responds to the needs of our neighbours, locally, nationally, and globally by enabling, empowering, educating, and advocating.



Our June windup meeting held at the Skafels's home with Outreach members & a few friends.

This fall we are looking forward to getting back to our full slate of activities & would love to have you join us. For more information please contact Jackie or Ros.

ST. LUKE'S ADVOCACY GROUP'S REFLECTION

The Advocacy Group has been part of the St. Luke's Outreach Ministry since 2010. In the last newsletter, a description of the foundation of this group was presented and included the special relationship with the Burlington Ubuntu Grandwomen.

We are pleased to announce our first presentation of the season, when we will welcome Judi Scetta, a member of Ubuntu. This past June, Judi travelled to Africa to participate in a unique Gathering. Her experience was within the context of the invaluable relationships led through the Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign, defined by the Stephen Lewis Foundation. On Saturday, September 20th, via a Zoom presentation, Judi will share her experiences with the African Grandmothers, fellow Grandmothers to Grandmothers members, community supporters and others whose dedication to the complex needs of this part of the world. As you will note in a separate section of the newsletter, Judi is also co-chairing a fall Fundraiser for Ubuntu.

Further information will be shared closer to the date, to enable those interested to register. Our first Advocacy speaker in 2010, was the founder of Ubuntu, Elizabeth Rennie. We at St. Luke's are known as Friends Of Ubuntu. The name of Burlington's Grandmothers to Grandmothers chapter has special significance. Among the many meanings of this African word is the description made by the late Archbishop Desmond Tutu :

“A person with ubuntu is open and available to others, affirming of others, does not feel threatened that others are able and good, for he or she belongs in a greater whole and is diminished when others are tortured or oppressed.”

We are very grateful for our relationship with the Burlington Ubuntu Grandwomen. Looking forward to welcoming all interested participants to our fall programme. Information is always available in the bulletin or by contacting our Advocacy Team.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the team by Carrie Raybould for Ros Reycraft, Janice Skafel, Jackie Maver, Dave Beck

Aging Well at St. Luke’s

St. Luke’s is hosting a free, regular clinic to help us all age well. The clinic provides free access to many specialist practitioners through an initial 30 minute assessment. We have heard great stories from those who have taken advantage of this opportunity. A report is sent to your family doctor about what was discussed.

Appointments can be made by contacting Aging Well directly (289-861-5611).

One participant was surprised to discover that she had significantly high blood pressure. High blood pressure is known as the “silent killer” as it doesn’t have noticeable symptoms but can create big health problems. She saw her family doctor, who had received a report from the clinic, and was prescribed medication.

Another participant was having trouble with her knees. The clinic connected her with an assessment and a movement class that has helped her tremendously.

From a couple who attended:

“We both attended the Aging Well clinic and found the nurses to be knowledgeable and helpful. They do strength and mobility tests, blood pressure, etc. and talk to you about your overall health.

One of us has issues with mobility and they recommended that he consider a walker and that they would help with the paperwork needed to file for government funding.

Because of issues with walking and his feet, he is eligible for free foot care. He was referred to the Acclaim Health Centre on Fairview St. where he had an excellent experience with a nurse who is trained in foot care. This service is available every 6 weeks and he will take advantage of this.

All in all it was a good experience for both of us and we would highly recommend that our parishioners take advantage of the free health screening through this service.”

For more information contact Janice Skafel 905-332-0837 or Heather White 905-639-2922.

ALONGSIDE HOPE (formerly PWRDF)
ALONGSIDE HOPE RESILIENCE FUND



We did it – because of you. Your compassion. Your generosity. Your willingness to act.

Together, we met our \$250,000 goal for the Resilience Fund. And because of that, every dollar was matched. That means \$500,000 is now on its way to communities across East Africa, bringing hope where it's urgently needed.

But this moment is about more than money. It's about what that money means. · Children in Burundi will get the nutrition they need to survive. · Refugee families in Tanzania will find safety and care after months, even years, of uncertainty. · Women in Uganda who have survived gender-based violence will receive shelter, trauma counseling, legal aid – and the dignity of being heard.

In a year filled with sudden aid cuts and growing need, you stepped in. And the matching gift doubled your impact, multiplying healing and hope across entire communities.

From all of us at Alongside Hope, and from the partners who work courageously on the front-lines: Thank you. For standing with us. For showing up. For walking Alongside Hope.

To donate to Alongside Hope e-transfer to St. Luke's office noting it is for Alongside Hope or cheques payable to St. Luke's on memo line Alongside Hope.

Thank you for your support, Jackie Maver 905 681-6097 hew.maver@sympatico.ca .

Many, many thanks from Burlington Students!

With your amazing help, we collected well over a 18 backpacks, filled with all the essentials students returning to class could need from pencils, pens, rulers, notebooks, etc.

Lunch boxes & water bottles were in abundance. Personal care products as well!

Everything was delivered to St. Christopher's Anglican Church for their Backpack programme. They were delighted to receive our contributions!

Thank you so much!!

Submitted by Rosalind Reycraft



BURLINGTON UBUNTU GRANDWOMEN

Our last newsletter contained a description of the history of relationship shared with Ubuntu and our St. Luke's Outreach's Advocacy Ministry. The following is an outline of an amazing future programme this fall.

In continuation of their mandate, the members of the Burlington Ubuntu Grandwomen, are preparing to offer our community yet another opportunity to participate in an important social justice fundraiser. In support of the Stephen Lewis Foundation's Campaign, Grandmothers to Grandmothers, plans are in progress for a fall Concert with the group entitled Freedom Train. Please note the attachment highlighting the event poster.

This event will be held on Saturday, October 18, 2025 at the Royal Canadian Legion in Burlington.

As you are aware, the Ubuntu Grandwomen, have been in operation since 2006 and support families and communities in Africa, dealing with HIV/AIDS and other urgent medical issues.

Unfortunately, the recent decisions of the US government to withdraw aid funding in Africa have resulted in devastating consequences to Global Health. Clinics which have been of immense value in tackling HIV, polio, mpox, bird flu and other serious illnesses have been closed. Committed local workers are no longer able to continue their dedicated efforts in support of their communities.

In addition to the usual donation from the ticket revenue, there will be a Silent Auction which will include a variety of attractive offerings. Should anyone wish to contribute an item, please contact one of the ladies listed on the poster. Any item over \$20.00 will be eligible for a tax receipt.

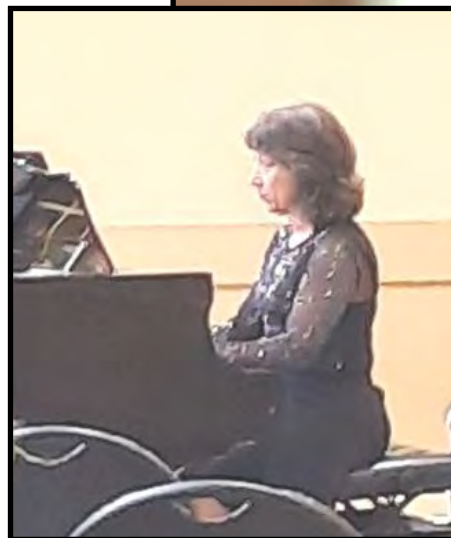
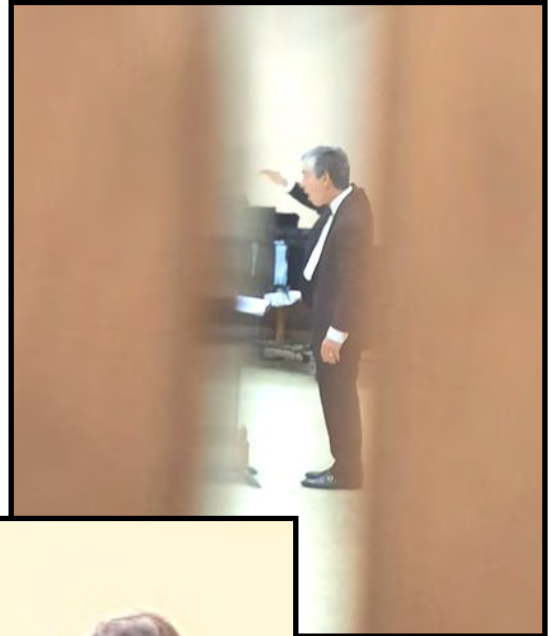
Further event information is available from Judi Scetta (JudiScetta@gmail.com) or Debbie Cox (coxdeb2012@outlook.com) Silent Auction information from Angie Tracz (tracza@bell.net) or at 905-577-9555



Respectfully submitted by Carrie Raybould

Special Concert for Children in Need June 13, 2025

We were so pleased to welcome back The Harlequin Singers for their spring concert in June. They showcased the winners of the audience choices of their favourite Broadway songs, and it was a delightful evening. The proceeds of \$1500 went to: **a)** the St Luke's next refugee family, who hopefully will be arriving this year and **b)** to the Resilience Fund through Alongside Hope (formerly PWRDF) to fund organizations that have lost support from USAID. We appreciate how The Harlequins have supported our causes so that we can help children in need.



Our thanks to the Director, Michael Pin, Laura Pin, accompanist, and to all the choristers for a great evening.

TruEarth PRODUCTS

St. Luke's earns a 20% commission on each order from either site to support this project. It's easy to order using one of the following links: tru-earth.sjv.io/StLukesAnglicanChurch or ecoc.sjv.io/StLukesChurch

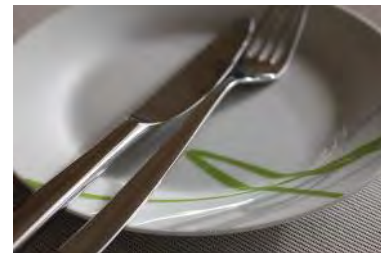
Be sure to try these Canadian made products & especially the Platinum Laundry Strips!

Contact Rosemary Armstrong (rosemarymarmstrong@gmail.com) for more information.



DOWNTOWN BURLINGTON COMMUNITY LUNCH

THE COMMUNITY LUNCH RETURNS ON SEPTEMBER 17, two weeks earlier, for conversation and delicious, free food. As in the past, we will have many special lunches such as Octoberfest, Hallowe'en, Christmas, Easter, Spring Celebration, and others. Sometimes we have entertainment or speakers.



11:00	Open for social time	September 17
11:30	Coffee and tea available	October 1, 15, 29
12:00-1:30	Lunch	November 5
		December 3, 17

The Community Lunch is a multidenominational project by four downtown churches to offer an opportunity for seniors and others to socialize over a good meal on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays of the month except in the summer. The lunch is hosted and led by St. Luke's with financial and volunteer support from our partners and community members. We receive food donations from Burlington Food Share and local grocery stores. Meals are free but many guests donate towards the cost of their lunch. **Guests are mainly seniors from Burlington and include members of our congregation, our partner churches, and our community.**

During 2025-26 we are grateful to New Horizons for Seniors (Federal government) and the Halton Region Community Investment Fund (Halton Region) for grant funding to assist us to buy food and equipment.

Volunteers are always welcome. We will train you in safe food handling and anything else you need to know. No experience is required. We have fun working together. Openings vary among the volunteer roles, which include cooks, set-up, servers, greeters, clean-up, and scheduling. **We will have a Welcome Back Volunteers Meeting on Wednesday, September 10 at 10:00. Contact me if you are interested in joining us.**

Heather White, Community Lunch Coordinator

dheatherwhite@gmail.com

905-639-2922

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Matthew 25:35

EL HOGAR SERVICE TEAM



El Hogar is a school for children in Honduras in vulnerable situations, a project of the Episcopal (Anglican) Diocese of Honduras for over 40 years and supported financially by people, organizations, and churches all over North America. The school has 2 locations with grades 1 to 12 including electrical, metal working, and computer workshops, and over 250 students.

St. Luke's has helped support El Hogar since 2008 when our first team visited there for a week. Since then, we have had 12 team visits involving well over 50 people from the parish, including friends, children, and grandchildren with an age range from 18 to 80. These visits have had a profound impact on all who have gone. As a result, there is a large group of parishioners who support El Hogar in many ways through various annual fundraisers and making products for sale at Christmas and Easter. El Hogar has changed the lives of hundreds of children and their families, all from desperate circumstances in a very poor country, and inspired us all to do what we do to support this work.

Why is El Hogar so special?? The children and their new belief in their future, given their background, are amazing. For example, the two girls now on the honour roll in grade 5, came to El Hogar 2 years ago not able to read or write. They now want to be teachers and have actually started a school in their poor neighbourhood to tutor other children 4 days a week after school. Another girl from a home with no running water is determined she will be a dentist. There are many stories like these.

We are looking at 4 possible dates for a week-long team visit to El Hogar running Saturday to Saturday. The date chosen will depend on the majority decision of those able to attend.

February 28th—March 7th, 2026

April 11th—April 18th, 2026 (Easter is April 20th)

May 9th –May 16th (Victoria Day May 18th)

September 19th—September 25th, 2026

We will have our first planning meeting on Monday, September 29th at 7pm in the board room so please mark your calendars.

For more information please contact Ros. & Rick Reycraft 905 635-3976

rosreycraft@hotmail.com or Janice Skafel 905 332-0837 janice.skafel@outlook.com.

Also, please check out the website. www.elhogarcanada.ca

CHURCH MINDERS

Join Our Welcoming Team at St. Luke's Church

Our doors are open every Thursday morning thanks to the dedication of our amazing team of volunteers. But we have a dream—to open more than just one day a week, and we need you to help us make that happen!

As part of our mission, we love connecting with the Burlington community and beyond. We're here to share who we are, what our church is about, and the many ways we're involved in serving and supporting others.

You'll also find us open at local festivals held in Spencer Smith Park, where we continue to spread our message of hope, faith, and community.

If you're looking for a meaningful way to give back and be part of something special, we'd love to welcome you to our volunteer team. No experience is needed—we'll match you with a friendly, experienced volunteer who will guide you every step of the way.

Come be part of something bigger. We can't wait to meet you

Interested? Reach out to: Avril Drake, Church Minder Coordinator



Migrant Farm Workers Project

The Ministry of Outreach continues to support the work of the Migrant Farmworkers Project, a missional initiative introduced by the Anglican Diocese of Niagara which responds to the needs of these essential seasonal workers from Mexico and other Central American countries, and seeks to enhance their quality of life while they work in the fields, vineyards, and greenhouses of Niagara Region..

The programs and services provided to the migrant farmworkers are coordinated by Father Peter Ciallella, who carries out his responsibilities from the Project Hub located at St. Alban's Anglican Church in Beamsville.

Since 2021 St. Luke's has provided over twenty bicycles and many items of safety equipment for the use of the migrant workers, as well as used clothing. In the past few months, parishioners and others have donated ten bicycles, all in very good condition, to the Project. Because there is no storage space available at the moment at St. Alban's to accept additional bicycles, these bicycles are being stored temporarily in Burlington. Future notices requesting donations of used bicycles and related equipment will be placed in the weekly bulletin when additional storage space becomes available. Cash donations to support the work of the Migrant Farm Workers Project can be made through the Project website: migrantfarmworkers.ca

If you have questions about the Project or a bicycle to donate, please contact Dave Beck at (905) 632-0489.

WALK TO THE LIGHTHOUSE 2025

OUTREACH WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO TAKE PART IN
THE WALK TO THE LIGHTHOUSE ON SEPTEMBER 21ST AT 1PM.

The walk supports the mental health programme at Joseph Brant Hospital.

If you are unable to join us, please consider supporting our team, using this web site <https://walktothelighthouse2025.funraise.org/team/st-luke's>

Any questions contact Jackie Maver 905 691 6097 or hew.maver@sympatico.ca



Recruiting Walkers for the St. Luke's
Team at Lemonade on the Lawn



Editor's Sense of Humour

Your Reward (or Punishment) for Reading to the End

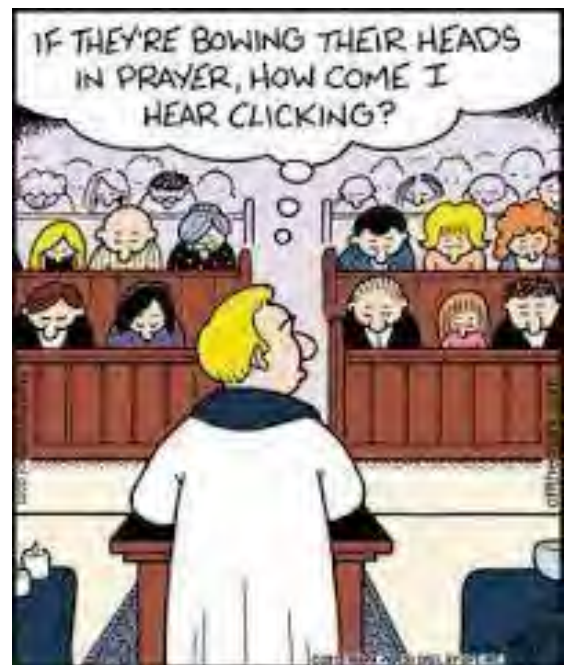
A passenger jet was going through a severe thunderstorm. As the passengers were being bounced around by the turbulence, a young woman turned to a minister sitting next to her and, with a nervous laugh asked, "Reverend, you're a man of God, can't you do something about this storm?" To which he replied, "Lady, I'm in sales, not management."

Church Bulletin Announcement— The sermon this morning: "Jesus Walks on the Water". The sermon tonight: "Searching for Jesus"

A little boy was attending his first wedding. After the service, his cousin asked him, "How many women can a man marry?" "Sixteen," the boy responded. His cousin was amazed that he had an answer so quickly. "How do you know that?" "Easy," the little boy said. "All you have to do is add it up, like the pastor said: 4 better, 4 worse, 4 richer, 4 poorer."

Joe was opening a new business, and one of his friends decided to send flowers for the occasion. The flowers arrived and Joe read the card. It said, "Rest in Peace." Joe, enraged, called the florist to complain.

The florist replied, "Sir, I'm really sorry for the mistake, but rather than getting angry, you should imagine this: somewhere there is a funeral taking place today, and they have flowers with a note saying, "Congratulations on your new location."



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Newsletter Editor's Notes: In an effort to reduce paper usage and save postage expenses we also post this newsletter in colour online at www.stlukesburlington.ca. If you prefer to read the online version, please let the office know and we will stop mailing this to you. A special thanks to Dorothy Kew for supplying many of the pictures in the Newsletter.

If you would like to submit an article or photograph for this publication, please e-mail newsletter@stlukesburlington.ca

Return Undeliverable Canadian Addresses

To: The Parish Church of St. Luke
Anglican Church of Canada
1382 Ontario Street
Burlington, ON L7S 1G1



Publication Agreement
No. 40047438

MOVING FORWARD: ST. LUKE'S 2025

Time, talent and treasure put to work - Our Narrative Budget 2025



The Accessible Church

By opening our doors to all faiths and our broader community we can be more responsive to God's purpose and make a difference for good. St. Luke's has a long history of welcoming people of all descriptions to attend our worship services and events.

We made significant accessibility improvements in 2024 to help those with mobility challenges navigate our 190 year-old church building. Sidewalks around the church have been replaced eliminating cracked and uneven pavement making it safer for all. We are also very pleased to have completed a fully accessible washroom on the main floor of the church in the Narthex. This valuable addition was made possible by a donation from a generous parishioner.



St. Luke's is a Special Place

At St. Luke's we seek spiritual growth by living the message of Jesus Christ. We serve our diverse church family and the broader community.

In 2025 we will continue to be a beacon of hope and optimism for parishioners and the broader community. We are financially stable and continue to be good stewards of your generous support. The number of members on the parish roll continues to grow.

But, growth is not measured in numbers alone. We also strive to grow in spirit, caring, faith, relationships and love. Attributes that lead us to be more responsive to God's purpose and make a difference for good.

St. Luke's will move forward along our journey of faith in 2025. Our investment in ministry will grow by 3.6%. This year our budgeted staff complement includes the following positions – Custodian, Office Administrator, Music Director, Sunday School Coordinator, Rector and two part-time Pastoral Associates.

Our budget, as approved by Vestry, is \$687,000.

Worship Online

St. Luke's introduced online services during the COVID 19 pandemic. The practice has continued improving the accessibility of worship to all. The 10 am Sunday service, Christmas and Easter services are live streamed. Evening prayer and Taizé services are posted. In 2024 online attendance was over 15,000. Online services can be accessed via the Parish website at stlukesburlington.ca



Rector to Retire

We are sad that Reverend Canon Stuart Pike will be leaving St. Luke's in mid-May. However we are happy that he is able to move on to retirement after a 37 year career that took his Ministry to Quebec and parishes in Niagara. His past 17 years were spent at St. Luke's. We are thankful for his dedication to the Parish and his spiritual leadership. We wish Stuart, Katherine and Louisa all the best.

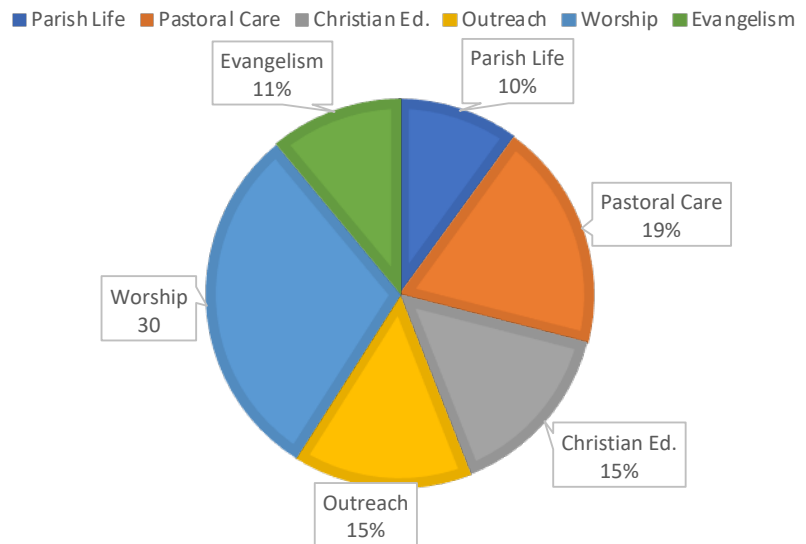


Our service to God is organized into six ministries

1. Worship 2. Pastoral Care 3. Christian Education
4. Evangelism 5. Outreach 5. Parish Life

How Our 2025 Budget of \$687,000 is Allocated

ST. LUKE'S NARRATIVE BUDGET 2025



1 Worship

Psalm 110.2

“Worship the Lord with gladness, come before him with joyful songs”

To parishioners Worship is the most visible ministry. You see it every Sunday – at church or online. A lot of planning and preparation goes into every service. Bulletins, vestments, altar flowers, music, liturgy, building maintenance and of course the clergy. You can participate in any number of ways as a member of the choir or join the lay worship team. In 2024 attendance at services either in person or online was **more than 28,000.**

Worship accounts for 30%, or \$211,000, of our investment in ministry.

Sharing Our Treasure

We know that gifts of our treasure are essential to continuing the ministry of Christ through St. Luke's. We give because we understand that giving is an act of faith and a demonstration of our commitment to the life of the church. We want to continue Christ's ministry in the here and now.

There are options for how one gives:

- Pre-Authorized Giving through one's bank is the best way to give, ensuring St. Luke's of a consistent funding stream throughout the year. (Simply request a PAG form from the parish office.)
- E-Transfer to office@stlukesburlington.ca This will go directly into the general fund unless you specify otherwise in the comment section.
- Envelopes are available at the office. You'll just have to mark your name on the outside of the envelope.
- Transferring shares from investments.

All gifts result in an income tax receipt to reduce your taxable income.

Join the Team!

All of our six ministries outlined are successful because of the great people that donate their time and talent to make good things happen.

St. Luke's volunteers gave about **20,000 hours** of time and talent to the work of St. Luke's in 2024. Bring your own time and talent and join us!

2. Pastoral Care

Psalm 30:2 "O Lord my God, I cried to you for your help, and you healed me."

Pastoral Care provides spiritual guidance and support to people who may be in crisis or unable to attend regular services. An enormous amount of work goes into this ministry, including many volunteer hours, providing a lifeline to those in their time of need.

Members of the Pastoral Care ministry connect with people in their own home, long term care, hospitals and seniors residences. We pray for the sick and provide anointing with holy oil and Holy Communion.

Pastoral Care accounts for 19%, or \$128,000, of our investment in ministry

3. Christian Education

Matthew 9:35: "Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness"

Christian Education provides opportunities to explore and grow your faith. Programs prepare people for baptism, confirmation and marriage. Our weekly Sunday school has been revived and will be led by our recently hired Sunday School Coordinator. There is also a variety of bible study and prayer programs, Lent and Advent studies, and guest speakers that provide opportunities for learning and fellowship. We also have a Monday Bible study, a Saturday Men's Faith and Fellowship group and we also prepared people for marriage, baptisms and confirmation. And we have an active library.

Christian Education accounts for 15%, or \$103,000, of our investment in ministry

4. Evangelism

Matthew 28:18 "Therefore go forth and make disciples of all nations"

Evangelism is the way we as children of God and followers of Christ tell the story of God's love to the world in which we live.

...../

Planned Giving

Many faithful parishioners would like their giving to continue on well into the future, even beyond their earthly life.

Planned Giving provides ways for you to make a lasting gift. Planned gifts can be designated to go to Capital Improvement to provide for major property costs. Or, they can go to endowment funds which will last in perpetuity as the interest is used as income.

Some ways of planned giving include:

- Wills
- Bequests
- Life Insurance
- Charitable gift annuities
- Outright Capital Gifts

If you decide to make a planned gift in any way and tell us of the arrangement, you will automatically become a member of

St. Luke's Legacy Society.

Please contact the office for more information on how to share your treasure

Contact Us:

office@stlukesburlington.ca
905-634-1826

1382 Ontario St.
Burlington ON L7S 1G1

It includes talking to our friends in addition to newsletters, mail drops, articles, social media and weekly emails get the message out.

Evangelism accounts for 11%, or \$75,000, of our investment in ministry

5. Outreach

Matthew 25:40 "Truly as I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of my brothers and sisters, you did it to me"

By working with other churches and local and national community organizations the Outreach ministry enriches the lives of those who are less fortunate. These partnerships leverage our resources resulting in greater good.

We help refugees settle in their new community with dignity. Our community lunch program saw more than 1,800 attendees in 2024, an increase of 25% over the previous year. Food for Life continues to assist with the needs of those who cannot afford groceries in difficult economic circumstances.

Outreach accounts for 15%, or \$104,000, of our investment in ministry

6. Parish Life

John 10:10 "I have come that they may have life and have it abundantly"

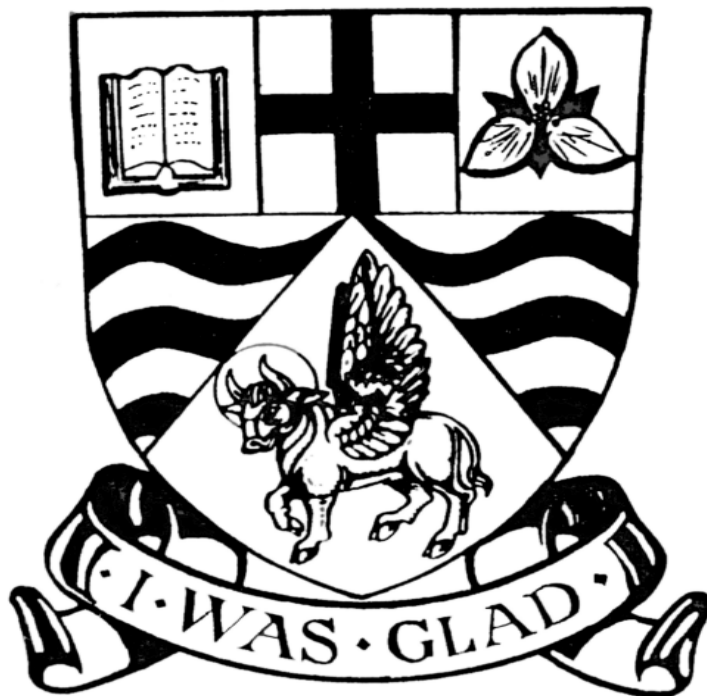
Being together and celebrating is an essential part of life at St. Luke's. We enjoy each other and celebrate as a family.

More than 1,000 people participated in activities - lunches, dinners, Music at St. Luke's and other special events. Our annual Christmas Market and the monster Garage Sale attract people from across Burlington. There are so many opportunities to get involved!

Parish Life accounts for 10%, or \$66,000, of our investment in ministry

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

FEBRUARY 9TH 2025



THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LUKE 1382 ONTARIO ST.
BURLINGTON, ON L7S 1G1

The Parish Church of St. Luke
Annual Vestry Meeting – February 9, 2025

10:00 a.m. Choral Eucharist
11:15 Refreshments in the Parish Hall
11:30 Business Meeting

Agenda

Opening Prayer
Appointment of Vestry Clerk
Approval of Minutes of 2024 Annual Vestry Meeting
Rector's Comments – The Rev. Canon H. Stuart Pike
Warden's Comments

Presentation on the Policy and Process for Rectors leaving, appointment of Interims and selection of new Rectors.

Presentation and Motion to accept all non-financial reports in the Vestry Booklet
Presentation and Motion to accept the audit of financial reports for 2023
Presentation and Motion to accept 2024 Financial Statements
Presentation and Motion to accept Memorial & Trust Funds Report
Thanks to retiring Warden & Members of Parish Council

Hymn 418 Draw the Circle Wide

Presentation and Motion to adopt 2025 Budget
Nominations

Executive Appointments: Treasurer/Bookkeeper; Recording Secretary

Election of	People's Warden	Deputy People's Warden
	Lay Delegates to Synod	Alternate Lay Delegates to Synod
	Youth Delegate to Synod	Alternate Youth Delegate to Synod
	Delegates to Youth Synod	Members-at-large of Parish Council
	Division Chairs (see new structure document)	

Rector's Appointments:

Members-at-large of Parish Council

Motion to appoint Signing Authorities for 2025
Motion to enter into Site Use Agreements of less than 3 years
New Business

Hymn 598 Go to the World

- Adjournment & Closing Prayer

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+ Installation of 2025 Wardens and Parish Council: Sunday, Feb 16th, 2025 @ 8:15 or 10 am service
+ First Regular Meeting of Parish Council: Wednesday, Feb 26th, 2025 – 7 p.m.

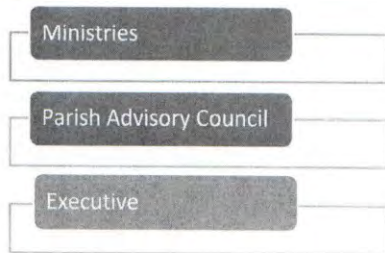
The Parish Church of St. Luke

Council, Ministries and Committee Structure

Operating Guidelines for an effective Parish Council Exec

1. Will rely on the competency and responsibility of individual executive members to handle things to the greatest degree possible without involving the whole group in every issue.
2. Refer to **Role Assignments Table** to determine which Window Person to refer issues to.
3. Refer to **Escalation Table** to determine level of authority to decide and act alone, or refer to Executive
4. Members of Executive will 'stop and ask' if they are not sure how to proceed
5. Items to be brought forward to Executive should be registered with Rectors Warden for inclusion in the next Executive meeting agenda
6. Most importantly, need to focus on the long-term health and growth of the Parish; focusing on this topic during Executive meetings

Agenda & Chart



Escalation Table

Consideration	Window Person	Next Level	Ultimately Refer To
Within budget	Decides	Consult with Rector	
Approved item & on budget	Decides	Consult with Treasurer	
Approved item & over budget	Gather key information	Consult with Treasurer	Table for Executive
More than \$5,000 & within budget	Gather key information	Consult with Treasurer	Table for Executive
Not in budget & more than \$500	Gather key information	Consult with Treasurer	Table for Executive
Is sensitive	Gather key information	Consult with Rector	Table for Executive
Is confidential	Gather key information	Consult with Rector	Table for Executive
Could cause trouble for the congregation	Gather key information	Consult with Rector	Table for Executive
Fundraising requests	Gather key information (Warden or Clergy)		Table for Executive

Role Assignments Table

St. Luke's 2024 Annual Parish Statistics

	SUMS			
	Congregation	Communion	Online	Total (Col B+D)
Sunday	6138	5877	8532	14670
Evening Prayer		0	2440	2440
Wednesday	453	436	0	355
Christmas Season*	496	455	294	790
Easter Season*	1044	711	842	1886
Centering Prayer	199			199
Funeral	1560	-		
Wedding	1015	-		
Taizé			347	347
Faith & Fellowship	227			227
Home Communion	359	-		359
Holy Week	487	448	331	818
Easter Day	236	218	107	343
Easter Octave	335	315	214	549
Christmas Eve	361	327	182	543
Christmas Day	34	32		34
Grand total in yr	12944	8819	15864	37627

			AVERAGES		
	Count (Year)		Congregation	Communion	Online
Sunday (8:15 & 10am)	104	Sunday	59	57	141
Evening Prayer	81	Evening Prayer			30
Wednesday	51	Wednesday	9	8	
Christmas	8	Christmas	57	57	37
Easter	14	Easter	75	51	60
Centering Prayer	23	Centering Prayer	9		
Funeral	33	Funeral	47		
Wedding	14	Wedding	73		
Taize	11	Taize			32
		Faith &			
Faith & Fellowship	16	Fellowship	14		
		Home			
Home Communion	45	Communion			
Baptisms	5				

The Parish Church of St. Luke

Annual Vestry Meeting - February 25, 2024

This meeting was held in-person in the St. Luke's Parish Hall, and called to order at 11:45am.

Opening Prayer by Stuart

Lesley Emery was Appointed as Vestry Clerk

Motion to adopt the Minutes of the 2023 Vestry (No errors or omissions were raised):

That this Vestry Adopt the Minutes of the 2023 Vestry as contained in the 2024 Parish Church of St. Luke Vestry Booklet.

Moved by Tim Tiernay; seconded by Sharon O'Neil. Carried.

Rector's Comments: Stuart commented on the wonderful turnout for Vestry this year, and voiced his great pleasure that all church events are in full swing again after our efforts last year to bring things back to normal following the pandemic.

Stuart also informed us of the restructuring of the the executive so that those leaving the executive will now be stepping down in a staggered fashion, one each year instead of the previous two. The executive is hopeful that this will result in a greater continuity of executive function for the benefit of the parish.

Warden's Comments:

Rick commented on the positive response & participation in our online services, including not only our regular church service but also our Evening Prayer & Taizé services. Evening Prayer alone has about 120 people accessing / participating. He mentioned 50 people had already signed in to our service this morning, which he expected would be 100 by Tuesday.

Rick also commented briefly on our long term plans for Church Avenue; then gave an update regarding our plans for the construction of an accessible washroom off the narthex, mentioning that we have received Cemetery Board approval and that we have bids for the project, which is anticipated to cost in the area of \$100,000.

Stuart informed us also of a generous bequeathment from a (now deceased) parishioner which we anticipate may cover the entire cost.

A question / answer / discussion period followed, with many encouraging comments offered in support of the project and none opposed. Dominico Meola, Eric Vaicius, Louisa Pike and others were particularly eloquent in their support of the project.

Motion to Approve Construction of an Accessible Washroom:

That this vestry approves the construction of an accessible washroom in the narthex of the church as outlined in the diagrams presented and authorizes the executive to attain the approval of the Diocese of Niagara and the City of Burlington; through appropriate building permits and applications, to move forward with the construction.

Moved by Rick Reycraft; seconded by Mavis Brown. Carried.

Stuart then brought the non-financial reports as contained in the vestry booklet to everyone's attention, and asked if there were any questions / comments. There were none.

Motion to Accept Non-Financial Reports

That the vestry accepts the non-financial reports as included in the Vestry Booklet and thank the many hands that have worked to produce the reports and contribute to the work that we have accomplished this past year.

Moved by Rick Taylor; seconded by Phyllis Montgomery. Carried.

Financial Reports: Mike Rugar first reminded us that the Motion to Accept the 2022 financial reports had been done at a special vestry and would therefore not require any further discussion today.

Mike informed us that this year's financial presentation would "look a bit different from other years in terms of format and detail". In the interests of transparency we have moved to a new accounting package from the Diocese in which "some of the categories don't align with those of earlier years. Specifically, in previous years the net revenue from Music at St. Lukes or the Pie Makers was shown, but using the new system we show Gross Revenue and Expenses, with the net result being the same as under the previous system." He thanked Deborah Lewis for "the tremendous amount of time that she has spent over the past year and a half converting to this new program and making sure that all our bills are paid on time."

Mike then led us through a review of the 2023 Financial Highlights, details of which appear in the Vestry Financial Reports booklet. It was explained that the vote following would be on accepting these statements, on an unaudited basis, and that we would look at the 2024 budget afterwards.

We were informed that "the audit is being performed once again this year by the firm of Durward, Jones, Barkwell & Company. The Executive and Parish Council asked last year that we receive quotes from other CPA firms for this year's audit. One CPA firm that does specialize in charities and churches, made a proposal roughly equal to the cost of last year's audit. Durward Jones and Barkwell agreed to not increasing their fee this year if we could start the audit by the 3rd week in January. It was decided to stay with the incumbent CPA firm and the filed work has been completed. We expect to receive the audited financial statements next month and there will be a separate Vestry Meeting to accept them."

As we discussed last year, the audited financial statements look a bit different from what is being presented today. The 3 operating entities, General Fund, Memorial Funds and Building Fund are combined, and although we have no plans to sell our investment, unrealized gains or losses in the stocks and bonds are taken into income.

An overview of the 2023 financials followed. (See financial booklet for details) All in all - a good year!

Highlights : a Total Revenue of \$610,661, 2.9% over budget, & Total Expenses of \$623,110, 1.27% above budget. The result was Expenses exceeded Revenue by \$12,500.

In a closer look, “Donations were \$467,646 or 95% of budget.” A growing reliance on rental incomes and fund raising events is evident. Included in the fund raising were the The Pie Makers, who has a gross revenue of \$11,710. The expenses totalled \$2,704 and is captured in the Parish Activity. In addition, the \$23,00 transfer from the Memorial Finds is included in the Revenue figures.”

“Looking at the Expenses, approximately 80% are fixed. These are the Salaries, Diocesan Maintenance and Insurance. We were understaffed in 2023, and as a result was approximately \$36,000 under budget. The Parish Activity Expenses were on a gross basis as we discussed earlier and would include expenses for the Pie Makers and Music at St. Luke’s.”

“The Office and Admin is about \$9,500 over budget for one main reason, Computer Consulting. In May our monthly costs jumped for internet, the web site and computer support from about \$400 to over \$1,000. The Executive has taken action and is changing our provider, which I believe takes place next month. This will significantly reduce our computer costs for 2024. We are working to be responsible stewards of your funds. Office supplies are lower, in part by buying from Staples when there is a sale. The lease on the photocopier is expiring and a new lower cost photocopier will be installed shortly.

In looking at the property expenses, our utilities are up due to higher costs. Cleaning Supplies and Services are up but again this is a change in categorization with \$3,000 for floor stripping in the Great Hall and purchase of new vacuum being included in this category. Repair and Maintenance is over in part due to a new electrical box being installed and other electrical work. There was an underage if Landscaping due to tree pruning being less than budgeted.”

Balance Sheet:

“As at December 31, 2023 we had Total assets of \$2.1 million. These are financial assets and that we do not own either the Church or the Parish Hall. The Diocese does”.

“The main assets that we own are the cash in the General Fund and Memorial Fund Bank accounts, the recently completed Columbarium Project, the Memorial and Building Fund investments, The Diocesan Cemetery Fund and Diocesan Rectory Fund. There are also prepaid expenses of \$13,356 which are expenses that have been incurred so far for the proposed accessibility washroom in the Narthex.

The main liabilities are the Designated Funds, which are shown in detail in the booklet and the notes for the building of the 2 columbariums.”

It was explained that although we were understaffed in 2023, we still came in at \$9,500 over budget due to computer consulting fees. As a result we are changing service providers to reduce these costs in 2024. We are also buying office supplies when they are on sale at Staples, and changing to a new photocopier lease on a model that is lower cost and higher efficiency. Our utilities were also up, as well as repair and maintenance expenses.

Questions and Answers:

Brad asked if these figures were year over year. Mike replied that they would be going forward.

Helen answered concerns expressed over cyber security.

Tim Tiernay asked for an explanation of the distribution of funds received from estates. Mike replied

Motion to Accept the Financial Reports to Vestry in eluding the 2023 Financial Report, and the 2023 Trust Funds Report.

That this vestry accepts our 2023 Financial Statement and the 2023 Trust Funds reports contained in the 2024 Parish of St. Luke Financial Booklet.

Moved by Mavis Brown; seconded by Ron Danielson. Carried.

Retiring Council Members: Stuart expressed his profound thanks to Helen Bittner, who has completed her 3 year term on the Executive and is now stepping down. Stuart recognized Helen for her many roles & contributions over the years, including (but not limited to) her help in the development of the Mission and Action Plan, Plans for the Parish Council Retreat, and her considerable financial and technology expertise offered in the service of the parish. Stuart also expressed his thanks and appreciation to Brad Flick for his leadership role as Stewardship Chair, and to Bob Bruce for his Columbaria work.

Rick Reycraft added his appreciation to Helen, and to Stuart for his many years of leadership and heartfelt ministry here at St. Luke's. Thanks too were expressed to Bob Bruce for all his efforts on the now completed Columbaria project.

We then sang **Hymn 502: "You Are Salt for the Earth"**.

Following the hymn, Mike Rugar continued his Financial Report with a presentation on the:

2024 Operating Budget.

"Now I would like to present the 2024 Operating Budget. This has been compiled with the input of the Executives, Parish Council and the Stewardship Committee. The budgeting process involves looking carefully at our expenses, of which over 80% are fixed. It is even a higher percentage if you include utilities and property maintenance. We then look how we can manage the remaining expenses in a responsible manner.

We are looking at a balanced budget for 2024. We are asking our parishioners to increase their donations by 4% this year. A message from the Stewardship Committee explaining the increase is contained with the 2023 tax receipts. At this point I would like to thank Elaine Black and Deborah Lewis for their extremely hard work in preparing this year's tax receipts. We also see growth in the three special donations, Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas as attendance grows.

There is a growing dependence on Fund Raising events. One the first this year was the return of the Pancake Supper, which was a success, bringing in \$900 while only being budgeted for \$600. The annual Parish Dinner is scheduled for October. There will be 4 Music at St Luke's events in 2024, which will result in an increase in gross revenue. The Pie Makers are being forecast at \$9,600 revenue (not a full amount since a portion of the revenue is being allocated to the Christmas Market). The yard sale is returning this year, and some revenue is also expected from Special Event Parking.

The Investment Income from the Memorial Funds is forecast to grow to \$27,000 in 2024 and maturing fixed income instruments are re-invested at higher interest rates and the capital from the repayment of the Columbarium notes is redeployed.

The result is a 6.61% increase in revenue to \$651,000.

Looking at the Expenses, our largest expenditure is Salaries and Benefits. We have increased to the equivalent of two full time clergy, which allow St. Luke's to continue its important work here in Burlington.

The 2024 DMM has decreased by about \$1,000 per month, since it based on a 3 year rolling average.

In looking at the Office and General Expenses, we are looking forward to continuing sales at Staples will keep our office supply costs low. As mentioned earlier the audit fees will remain unchanged and we see a decrease in the computer consulting /service category as discussed earlier. We have also renegotiated our banking arrangements at RBC, which will result in savings; and we have managed to have our Diocesan Maintenance Fee reduced by \$1000.a month.

For the Property Expenses, the Diocese has told us to budget a 5% increase in insurance costs. We anticipate a savings in utilities with the installation of energy efficient bulbs. There is also a provision for starting the repainting of the parish hall this year.

The result is an increase Expenses of 4.50%, with the budget being balanced.”

Discussion: Bill Stafford mentioned that he anticipates being able to bring in \$4200 for advertising in the newsletter.

Motion to Adopt the 2024 Budget

That the vestry adopt the 2024 Budget as reported in the 2024 Parish Church of St. Luke Financial Booklet.

Moved by: Brad Flick; seconded by Dominico Meola. Carried.

Audited 2024 Financial Reports

Be it resolved that the Vestry authorizes the Executive to hire the firm Durward, James, Barkwell & Company LLP for auditing or review of our financial statements for the 2024 year.

Moved by: Bill Armstrong; seconded by Jackie Maver.

Stuart then reviewed the list of **appointed** positions to Parish Council for 2024 as illustrated in the slide presentation for the benefit of those present, followed by the list of the nominations for the **elected** positions. They are as follows:

* Insert slide(s) here please.

These were followed by the nominations for the Cemetery Board.

* Insert slide here please

Elections to Parish Council

Acceptance of those names put forth as elected members moved by Mike Skafel; seconded by Louise Neville

Motion that Nominations Cease

That nominations cease for the 2024 elected positions on Parish Council and the positions on the Cemetery Board as presented to the Vestry of the Parish Church of St. Luke.

Moved by: Paul Pizzolante; seconded by Steve Pike

Motion to Appoint Signing Authorities for 2024

Be it resolved that the Vestry authorizes any two of the following to act as signing authorities with at least one being from the corporation:

Rector, People's Warden, Rector's Warden,

Deputy Treasurer for Parish Accounts, including Trust, Memorial, and other Capital Funds as well as Paul Pizzolante as signing authorities for Trust, Memorial and other Capital Funds.

Moved by: Jackie Maver; seconded by Cecelia Taylor-Claire. Carried.

Motion to Endorse Executive Actions

THAT those joint and several acts carried out in the name of and on behalf of St. Luke's Church, Burlington, by its Churchwardens and incumbent during the year 2023, are hereby confirmed and ratified.

Moved by: Mike Skafel; seconded by Eric Burgess(? last name). Carried

Motion to Authorize Corporations to enter Site Use Agreements

THAT this Vestry authorizes the incumbent and Churchwardens to consider, and, if they deem it advisable, to approve leases, licenses, or space agreements of less than three years inclusive of all renewals

AND THAT the authorization shall extend only to agreements that include the following provisions:

The lessee or licensee shall provide proof of liability insurance;

The lessee or licensee agrees to hold harmless St. Luke's Church, the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara, the Bishop of Niagara, and the Anglican Church of Canada;

The lessee or licensee agrees to abide by the Sexual Abuse and Sexual Harassment policy of the Diocese of Niagara;

AND THAT if there is any conflict between the resolution and any authorization or approval resulting from it, and the canons of the Diocese of Niagara, it is understood that the Canons shall prevail.

Moved by: Mavis Brown; seconded by Juliet Ellingham (?). Carried.

Looking Back / Looking Forward:

Attendance has been good! Chart shown.

Helen showed the **post cards** that are being distributed within our catchment area of Pearl St to Maple / Lakeshore to Fairview, with parishioners welcome to distribute outside of those areas to friends and neighbours (we hope you will!).

Church Avenue: We have a team working with the city to plan for the best use of Church Avenue as a community space.

Young Families: Helen pointed out that there are some items at the back of the church in the area of the vergers' seat to help keep young children occupied during the services.. Some ideas were put forward for how we can improve the Sunday school experience. Rose (via Stuart) suggested bringing in people to facilitate art / music experiences for the children. Beth suggested asking students from Redeemer College to get involved. Sasha (last name) identified herself as an ECE who would be willing to get involved. A survey has not yet elicited much response.

Ramsay spoke of the challenges and possibilities of engaging more online attendees. Stuart pointed out that our online contact points contain a link to CanadaHelps, but tracking and engaging back can be a challenge.

Next we sang **Hymn 453: Living Lord of Love's Dominion**

Dates for Parish Council:

Members of Parish Council will be commissioned on Sunday, March 3rd at both the 8:15 and the 10am service according to which service they attend.

Parish Council Retreat will be held Saturday, March 23rd, 2024, 9am - 3pm. Please bring a packed lunch.

Next Parish Council Meeting is Wednesday, March 20th at 7:00pm. (via zoom or in person in Room 201 of the Parish Hall).

Motion to Adjourn:

Moved by Mavis Brown; Seconded by Stephen Pike. Carried.

Pastoral Associate Report to Parish Vestry

The Parish Church of St Luke, Burlington

Dear friends,

I greet you all as we prepare for the St Luke's annual vestry meeting.

Throughout the year 2024 I shared my ministry between this church and that of the Ascension, Hamilton, as their priest-in charge.

During this time, I have continued sharing in the ministry of preaching, sacramental presidency, and pastoral care.

I continued producing our Sunday literature for both in person and online worship, as well as participating in parish Executive meetings whenever possible, Parish Council meetings, and regional and diocesan events of different sorts.

Please keep your Pastoral Care ministries and ministers in your prayers.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonel Abaroa-Bolona (The Rev'd. Dr.)

Pastoral Associate, *St. Luke's Anglican Church*

VESTRY REPORT

Michael Coren

I'm officially half time but usually at the Sunday service three out of four weeks. The first Sunday of each month I preside and preach at Christ Church, Flamborough. Those Sundays at St. Luke's I preside and preach quite a lot, and also preside and preach every Wednesday after I've preached on a Sunday, and also several other Wednesdays when Stuart is away. I'm also active during Holy Week on various days, Christmas Eve, and I take the Christmas Day morning service. I'm also at the altar for various other occasions weekday such as the week of Christian unity.

I've attended several weddings and funerals this year, take the service at Heritage Place each month, and sometimes other care homes if Stuart is busy or away. I'm also in charge when Stuart is away, especially last summer, and this involves the email blast, some administration, as well as presiding and preaching – sometimes totally alone if Sheila is away at a conference.

I have 11 people I see for home communion and try to do this once a month, plus a special visit at Easter and Christmas. I also see people, some regular, for conversation and help.

I try to be present at the monthly ecumenical lunches to represent St. Luke's, and also at the various city events. I'm also present at parish council meetings, Saturday Faith and Fellowship, and undertake hospital visits at Burlington but also Oakville/Trafalgar – I can get there on my way to or from the church as I live in Toronto, so it's easier for me than Stuart and Sheila.

Deacon's Report to Vestry

Feb. 2025

We have now recovered from the impact of Covid at St. Luke's, and it has been so great to see so many people actively involved in the life of St. Luke's. Thank you to our video techs who live stream our 10 am services on Sunday as well as other special services in order that people at home can be a part of our congregation.

I continue to be involved in Sunday and Wednesday services in my role as deacon. This includes Ministry of the Word, proclaiming the gospel, leading intercessions, setting the table, administering the chalice at the altar, doing ablutions and doing the sending at the conclusion of the service. On some occasions, I have also been a crucifer. I continue to serve as the “wedding verger” throughout the year.

There have been many funerals at our parish this year, and I have been honoured to be a part of them with Stuart. I have also officiated at funerals at Smiths as well as conducting interments. You only have to look at our “Life Passages” page in each newsletter to see how many people we have lost.

Again, this past August, Ritchard Taylor and I attended the Church of England Guild of Vergers Training Conference and Retreat. This was held at a conference centre nestled in the Malvern Hills and the setting was absolutely spectacular. We continue to be the only Canadians there and everyone made us feel so welcome. We took Canada pins with us and everyone loved getting a “piece of Canada”. It was nice to see the pins being worn. We are very excited about attending again in 2025. It is always a wonderful learning experience.

In September I had the honour of being a delegate for Provincial Synod held in Sault Ste. Marie. It was a wonderful few days being with people from all areas of the province. As the only deacon, I was given the honour of serving with our Metropolitan and Acting Primate Anne Germond in the opening Eucharist. I also got to know some of our own Niagara delegates better.

In 2024 I completed three more courses from the Niagara School of Missional Leadership. The Bishop has directed each Deacon to take several courses that will enhance their role as vocational deacon. My role as Deputy Director of Deacons for the Diocese has been a busy one this year as I and the Director, Rod McDowell have met with several candidates who are discerning a call. I also serve as a mentor to three such candidates and I meet with them every six weeks. In May, we held our annual Bishop’s Dinner with the College here at St. Luke’s. We also had an informal meeting with her in November at the Cathedral. One was to discuss concerns within the College and the other was a meeting with most of the Deacons where we had the opportunity to share our ministries with our colleagues.

I am truly blessed to be part of a clergy team that is so supportive of a deacon and their work both inside and outside the church. Thank you Stuart!

My work at St. Luke’s continues to be very meaningful and heart warming. I love interacting with so many parishioners and I know that without the large number of volunteers who work tirelessly in so many ways, St. Luke’s would not be the vibrant parish that we are.

Rev. Sheila Plant
Parish Deacon

Ministry of Pastoral Care

Our ministry of Pastoral Care is a huge component of life at St. Luke’s. As our parishioners age we tend to see many of them moving into Long Term Care Homes or retirement residences. When this happens, we want to ensure that their spiritual needs are still being met.

It is our job to ensure that they are not forgotten. They all receive phone calls, visits and receive home communion several times per year.

Pastoral Care includes hospital visits, monthly services at our LTC residences, officiating at funerals, bereavement support, individual visits and of course, supporting families in times of need or crisis.

We now have an extensive Pastoral Care Tracking Log. This document lists all our parishioners who are in LTC, retirement residences or are at home, but are unable to come to church. We have upwards of 40 people on our list. We rely on family members to tell us when there is a change in their status, or when they would benefit from a visit from the clergy. We had several parishioners who would make regular phone calls to check in with them and then notify the clergy. Then, the clergy would follow up.

We are grateful to those in our church family who reach out by phone to check on our friends to see if they need anything. Often times we hear directly from family members.

It is very important that we are made aware when someone has been admitted to hospital. We rely on family and friends of individuals to let us know so that we can visit. We don't want them falling through the cracks or saying that they were in hospital for several weeks and no one from the clergy came to see them. The clergy try to provide home communion at least once a quarter, but there may be times when we need to do this more often.

Each month, the clergy visit LTC homes to provide a service and administer reserved sacrament. The residents look forward to this very much. Our services take place during the third week of the month. We visit Heritage Place, Appleby Place, The Williamsburg, Tansley Woods and Martha's Landing. We have parishioners at each of these facilities, so it's nice to see them when we visit. They always ask about St. Luke's! We are so grateful for Mavis Brown who has taken on the role of pianist and provides us with the music for these services.

Both Michael Coren and I serve as on-call chaplains at the hospital as part of the Spiritual Care Team.

Rev. Sheila Plant
Parish Deacon

Prayer Shawls

Our Prayer Shawl Ministry has been ongoing since 2004. In that time, we made and distributed many, many shawls. We meet on Thursday afternoons from 1-2:30 in the Parlour. Some people choose to knit while others crochet their shawls.

Sometimes there is a bit of confusion about what a prayer shawl actually is. When someone receives a prayer shawl, it comes to them full of love and prayers. The prayers are said by the creator of the shawl as the shawl is being made.

This is the prayer card that we include in all our shawls.

May God's grace be upon this shawl.....warming, comforting, enfolding, embracing.

May this mantle be a safe haven...a sacred place of security and well-being.

May the one who receives this shawl be cradled in hope, kept in joy, graced with peace and wrapped in love.

The pattern is based on the number three. In the Bible it is said that the number 3 appears 523 times! In the Christian faith tradition, the number 3 symbolized by the Trinity has come to mean wholeness. We have been encouraged to live and act in faith, hope and charity. Body, mind and spirit encompasses the physical, mental and spiritual make up of a human being.

According to the Chinese, 3 is a perfect number.

To the Mayan it is the sacred number of woman.

Egyptians see it as the number of the cosmos.

The Japanese see the number 3 as the Three Treasures: truth, courage and compassion. The three stitch pattern is used as being symbolic of planting peace, healing, love, comfort and hope into the shawls by the shawl maker for the receiver. Those of us involved in this special, quiet ministry are inspired by the significance of these symbolisms which are meant to enhance the creating and receiving process of the Prayer Shawls.

Several times a year, we take some of our shawls into the church and during a service Stuart will bless them. We are so thankful that he does this for us, because it means that not only are our prayers woven into the shawls but they are blessed as well.

Rev. Sheila Plant

Parish Deacon

Ruth and Naomi

Our Ruth and Naomi have been meeting for almost three years now. Ruth and Naomi were a mother in law and daughter-in-law who lost their husbands. The mother-in-law encouraged her daughter-in-law to return to her family now that she had lost her husband, but Ruth remained loyal to Naomi. Even though her other daughters returned to their families, Ruth did not. She said, "Where you go, I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God will be my God." (Ruth 1: 16)

Ruth and Naomi supported one another and that is exactly what we do here at St. Luke's. We support one another because we are all on the same journey. Our Ruth and Naomi group meets on the second Sunday of each month following the 10 am service. We usually start about 11:30 for a time of friendship and fellowship. We are a group of about 10 widows who have one thing in common—the loss of a husband. Everyone is in a different stage of their journey so we are there to support one another and share our stories. It is not a bereavement support group but rather a supportive group. We may laugh, we may cry, but we share. We bring our own lunches and refreshments are provided. This year we had an Easter potluck, a summer potluck at the end of June and a Christmas potluck in December. All were well attended. We have welcomed several new ladies over the last few months and we are pleased to have them in our midst. Special thanks to Stuart who has wholeheartedly supported this ministry.

Submitted by

Rev. Deacon Sheila Plant

Parish Deacon

Ministry of Christian Education Report to Vestry February 2025

Bible Study

A group of ladies continue to meet via Zoom on Monday afternoons for bible study. We have meeting for several years now and during Covid, we pivoted to meeting on line. This enabled two of our members to join us from afar and we are pleased that they continue to join us.

Each week we meet, we have a few minutes of social time...catching up on the week's events or answering any questions that arise regarding the readings from the previous week.

At the time of writing we are studying the book of Ezekiel. Many of us use different versions of the bible, so it is interesting to see how each one differs. Sometimes if we struggle, we may refer to The Message (Eugene Petersen) to get a more modern twist on things.

Everyone brings a different perspective to our study and we all enjoy relating what we are reading to modern day life. We all have different stories.

Anyone is welcome to join us on Monday afternoons.

Rev. Sheila Plant
Parish Deacon

Centering Prayer at St. Luke's

Centering Prayer (also known as Contemplative or Meditative prayer) is hosted as a hybrid meeting. So you may either join in person in room 201 or join the zoom meeting from home at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87869982737?pwd=L2hKRFVJUnJib2txSVJVCgpyTIEzUT09>

Our meetings start at 2 p.m. every Wednesday and they last until 3:30 p.m. During this time we will practice silent contemplative prayer for 20 minutes and also do some sort of educational program such as:

- Reading an interesting book and discussing it.
- Watching a short video and discussing it. or
- Practicing Visio Divina, where we look contemplatively at a work of art and discuss it.

All are welcome to join us. The practice of centering prayer is extremely easy to pick up and we who do practice it find it greatly enriches our lives. The Chapter of Contemplative Prayer Central Ontario (COCO) for which I am the coordinator also provides workshop on Centering Prayer a few times per year.

Submitted by

Canon Stuart Pike

Faith and Fellowship

Once again, the Men's Faith and Fellowship group had a very successful year. Each Saturday morning we met either in person in the great Hall or via Zoom to discuss the first reading and the Gospel reading from the service the previous Sunday. The third Saturday of each month we watch an entertaining video on one of the books of the Bible which has been produced by The Bible Project. This always leads to a very involved and far-ranging conversation. Our discussions are quite spiritual and thoughtful although quite often with humorous asides (which we call "going down a rabbit hole" in memory of Dave Rogers, a former member).

Our discussion is lively and we all gain a greater understanding of biblical scripture and history (with many thanks to the knowledge of our learned clergy Stuart, Leonel and Michael).

After the session several of the group meet at a local restaurant for more fellowship over breakfast.

There are approximately fifteen members of our group and each of us has a lot of respect for each other's thoughts, knowledge and opinions. All the men of the Parish are warmly invited to join our group!

Submitted by
Terry Raybould

St. Luke's Sunday School

We continue to have our Sunday School monthly every 3rd Sunday of the month. It was slow to begin with but has gathered momentum and we now have a wonderful group of children attending Sunday School on a regular basis. In September, we had Sarah Bird from the Diocese visit us and helped us vision for the future. She spoke about the importance of the children and youth ministry and inspired the congregation to think big. This was followed by the Sundae Sunday event where all children, young and old were treated to some yummy ice cream. Vision boards were placed in the parish hall and the congregation was encouraged to write down their ideas and visions for this ministry. There were some great ideas that came about from this.

Each Sunday School session has been very engaging with the clergy conducting the Children's Focus at Church and the conversation carried on during class in the Parish Hall along with fun activities. Some of the activities involved getting parents/adults engaged at coffee hour too and was received with great excitement. A big thank you goes out to Janice Skafel and Wendy Murray for taking the lead in running the Sunday School sessions over the past several months and for their continued support.

As we look forward to the future, our goal is to have Sunday School every week. To do so, we felt the need to have a dedicated resource and have started to look at hiring a Sunday School superintendent on a part time basis. Hopefully, we will be able to find a suitable candidate soon and get this going.

We now have an update!

As of January 5, our new Sunday School Superintendent is Jackie Burnie. Congratulations Jackie on your new role. Our Sunday School will begin meeting weekly effective January 12.

Submitted by
Mahira Samarasinghe

Indigenous Peoples Awareness Team

We acknowledge that St.Luke's is located within the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the Credit.

In late 2016 the Diocese of Niagara encouraged parishes to adopt a vestry motion responding to the Primate's direction on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights for Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). A resolution to provide a single educational opportunity for parishioners was approved at St.Luke's Vestry on February 19, 2017. A number of parishioners stepped forward with ideas for a range of learning opportunities. The Indigenous Peoples Awareness Team was established.

Since that time St.Luke's has undertaken a number of initiatives:

- A plan to provide parishioners with educational opportunities was developed responding to the Vestry resolution. The plan's purpose is to present a series of educational opportunities and experiences that will build an awareness of issues and culture of Indigenous People. Increased levels of understanding will provide a foundation for future relationships based on respect and justice.
- Our plan was reviewed with Mississaugas of the Credit staff.
- A "blanket exercise" , conducted by the Archdeacon for Truth, Reconciliation and Indigenous Ministry, attracted more than 40 participants

- Parishioners participated in a tour of the Woodlands Cultural Centre and a virtual tour of the Mohawk Institute residential school.
- A series of book reviews focusing on Indigenous authors was led by Team members. An Indigenous reading list was compiled. Some of these books are available to parishioners in the St. Luke's library.
- The National Church video *Promises Made, Promises Broken* was presented as an Advent Study topic.
- Team Members met with staff from the Moccasin Identifier project which is intended to build awareness of traditional Indigenous lands.
- Advocacy hosted a presentation by the former Chief of the Mississaugas of the Credit. Additional speakers experienced in First Nation health issues. The Burning Stone Ministries who run programs for Indigenous youth presented. We also heard from the PWRDF staff leader for Canadian Indigenous communities and issues.
- A professor from the McMaster Faculty of Indigenous Studies addressed the Speakers Lunch.
- Contact was made with municipal staff in Oakville and Burlington to share ideas about recognition of Indigenous history in communities. Contact was made with the Royal Botanical Garden to learn about Indigenous plantings.
- Team members participated in the MP's workshop on Indigenous issues, a presentation by the National Indigenous Archbishop, a seminar lead by the late Senator Murray Sinclair, Chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and a presentation of Indigenous ceremonies and protocols.
- Two Team members are participating in the Church Avenue project.
- Information is provided to parishioners via the parish newsletter, bulletin and participation in Time and Talent Sunday. A growing number of parishioners are participating in "orange shirt day" marking the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation in September.
- Land acknowledgement is recited at services and presented in the parish bulletin and in the Narthex. Special liturgy has been adopted for the Indigenous Day of Prayer in June.

Current Team Members are Sheila Plant, Cecilia Taylor-Clare, Pam Couture, Lesley Emery, Heather White and Bob Osborne (Chair). Ideas for speakers and learning activities are always welcome.

Submitted by
Bob Osborne

MUSIC DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Firstly, I want to say thank you very much again to all members of St. Luke's choir: Chris Hughes, Vicky Micks, Marlene Marks, Elizabeth Crouch, Gerry Haslam, Rob Laurie, Eric Vaicius, and Steve Pike. Special thanks to Allan Ellingham, who has become our new choir librarian, with help from his wife, Juliet. We also welcomed George Kairys, Sheila Guest, and Jacquie Burnie into the choir: thank you for joining us! George has also contributed much of his musical talent to the Music at St. Luke's events. Sheila grew up at St. Luke's, and we are happy to have her back amongst us. Jacquie, unfortunately, will have to leave us – but, as our new Sunday School superintendent, she brings new talents and skills to our parish! All the best, Jacquie, in your new ministry.

This past year, Ross Gosling – a very faithful bass and choir librarian – retired from the choir and from his role as verger. He and Maribelle have also graciously hosted our annual "end of the season" wine and cheese for many years. Much love and thanks for all your time and service to the choir! There are many others who have retired or stepped away, and I want all of you to know that you are much missed in the choir but are always remembered in our prayers – and we are happy to see you whenever you are able to

attend the Sunday services. Please know your service in the choir is greatly appreciated, and that, if you so wish, you are always welcome back among us.

My choristers, your dedication to St. Luke's worship continues to encourage me, and I greatly appreciate what we can accomplish as a team.

But it's not all work and no play; as mentioned earlier, we have finally gone back to having a spring wine and cheese to close our "season" as well as a summer choir party, this year hosted by Gerry Haslam and his wife, and co-ordinated by Allan.

If any of you in the congregation feel the call to music ministry, please know you are most welcome, whatever your ability! We rehearse on Thursday evenings in the church, from 7 to 8:30 PM. I also give private music lessons, should you wish to improve or perfect your skills! Feel free to contact me at jgoodine@stlukesburlington.ca for more information.

One of the musical talents which is always welcome is that of instrumentalists. It has been such a joy to have new and returning musical guests, such as Graham Young (our trumpeter) and Rob Laurie (our guitarist, tenor, and composer!). This year, we welcomed back violinists Dorothy Haartman and Darwin Allen, and welcomed a new musician, flautist Bev Wilson (at our Christmas Carol service), to enrich our music ministry. Thank you to all! Thank you also to the film crew, who do their best to adapt camera angles to help highlight our musicians!

Thank you also, as always, to Paul Pizzolante, for being on hand to fill in for me when I'm away, and to he and Carole for leading the adult pageant at our first two Christmas services.

And speaking of Christmas, all came together beautifully, due to the dedication of our clergy, music ministry team, the film crew, and many others of our congregation. As did the preceding Holy Week and Easter services, earlier in the year. At both times, the choir was finally able to premiere new anthems which we had meant to sing at an earlier time. Our two Easter anthems had originally been planned for Easter 2020, and our Christmas Eve anthem was originally planned for Christmas 2023. How exciting to finally have all that preparation come to fruition!

I continue my outreach as accompanist of the Burlington Civic Chorale, and as guest recitalist invited to various churches. This year, I performed at one of our sister churches in Burlington, St. Matthew-on-the-Plains, as well as at St. James Cathedral in Toronto. I also once again participated in the annual Lessons and Carols service at Port Nelson United Church, a service I have accompanied for over ten years.

At St. Luke's, I gave a summer organ recital in celebration of our church's 190th anniversary. The funds raised went toward the purchase of several copies of the new hymnal supplement, Sing a New Creation. In addition, several of our choristers made our annual pilgrimage to St. Luke's Close, where we sang carols and joined in their Christmas celebrations, and, in August, helped lead the hymns at the Friends of St. Luke's service at the church.

This year, St. Luke's was also introduced to the Anglican Church of Canada's new hymnal supplement, Sing a New Creation. With funds from the summer recital, as well as generous donations from members of the congregation, we are now in possession of a goodly number of copies. At least 1-2 hymns per Sunday (on average) are sung from this new collection; some have new tunes and words, while others have new words sung to familiar tunes.

Another special musical introduction (or rather, re-introduction) were the Men's and Women's choirs, for Mother's Day and Father's Day, respectively. Covid had sadly put a stop to this practice for a few years, but

the time had definitely come to reinstate this fun tradition. These special choirs are open to all: so stay tuned to answer the call!

Finally, thank you as always to the congregation of St. Luke's for your support, as well as to the clergy, wardens, and staff. May God continue to bless us all in our ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Goodine,
Music Director.

Warden's Report to Vestry 2025

2024 was a successful year for St. Luke's in many ways. We were able to welcome quite a few new people to our church, had a wonderful celebration of our 190th anniversary, and our many outreach programs expanded and flourished. The variety and carefully planned worship services continued to inspire us all, both in person and on-line. There have been a number of property improvements such as the sidewalks in 2024. The executive wants to express our admiration and appreciation to you, the people of St. Luke's, who are making this happen. Much more is covered in detail in the division reports in this vestry booklet. In addition, there are several special projects that are worthy of note.

- 1) The Accessible Washroom in the church entry has been finished, funded completely by a very generous bequest to the building fund.
- 2) The Church Avenue Committee has made great progress but there is much work ahead. The objective is to develop Church Avenue, the strip of land from Elgin St. to Lakeshore Road, into more of a park like setting for the benefit of both the Parish and the community. The City has agreed to partner with us and share a significant part of the cost while St. Luke's still controls the design and retains ownership. St. Luke's will need to raise \$200,000 to \$300,000 in the first phase and we plan to do this through grants and sponsorships without an internal fundraising drive. The City has included funds in their 2025 budget. A presentation was made to the parish in November and details are in the Winter newsletter on-line. 2025 will be a very busy year for this committee.
- 3) The Heritage Committee is still working with the City Heritage officer concerning the designation of St. Luke's as a significant heritage asset for Burlington. This would require City Heritage approval for any change to the church, cemetery, or Church Avenue. They agreed to postpone this until the washroom was completed since this would have cancelled the building permit that took 18 months to get approved. We continue to be concerned about giving a City committee the authority to deny any change to the church or property which they judge to degrade the heritage value of the site. St. Luke's has managed this effectively over the last 190 years and are concerned about turning this authority over to a City committee. This will be a very active issue in 2025.
- 4) We have been working hard to attract and retain young families. A child-friendly area has been created at the back of the church, and we have been holding monthly Sunday schools with volunteers. This has been successful in attracting more children, but we clearly need to get to a weekly Sunday School. We are delighted that we have hired Jackie Burnie as our part time Sunday School superintendent and expect to have this fully functioning by Vestry.

5) A Communications Committee has been formed to elevate communications both inside the parish and cross the community. We have so much to offer our community and our parishioners, but it is a struggle to get the word out. We have a new outside bulletin board for St. Luke's and the community, a website that badly needs updating, and many opportunities to connect with other community communications networks and social media. Look for significant advancements in 2025.

2025 Challenge - With Stuart's well-deserved retirement coming mid-May, our challenge will be to find and on-board his replacement and keep St. Luke's growing and thriving at the same time. We are sure we can depend on St. Luke's parishioners stepping up and meeting this challenge. We should all be relieved to know that the diocese has a tried and proven process for doing this based on years of experience and will support us. Here is a brief summary:

- The transition process begins with opportunities for us all to thank Stuart and celebrate his accomplishments.
- An interim priest will be appointed to assume responsibilities until a new rector is appointed.
- A parochial committee is formed by the wardens and synod delegates to facilitate the transition and keep the congregation informed.
- The diocese supports the committee in conducting a self-study to define the parish's current state and future mission to help define the requirements for leadership.
- The rector position is advertised, and interested clergy apply.
- The committee and bishop review candidates approved by the bishop, interview them, and recommend a preferred candidate to the bishop.
- The committee ensures the new rector has everything needed for a smooth start.

This vestry will be an important one as it will establish the wardens and synod delegates for the parochial committee.

In 2025, we also plan to update St. Luke's Mission Action Plan to chart a path for the future and this should be great input to the self-study mentioned above.

Mahira Samarasinghe, People's Warden
Rick Reycraft, Rector's Warden
Wendy Murray, Deputy People's Warden
Melanie Walker, Deputy Rector's Warden

DIVISION OF OUTREACH REPORT TO VESTRY 2025

Moved by the Holy Spirit and guided by the teachings and action of Jesus the Christ, the Division of Outreach, in partnership with the community of St. Luke's, responds to the needs of our neighbours locally, nationally, and globally by enabling, empowering, educating, and advocating.

Advocacy Group

The St. Luke's Advocacy Group was initiated in 2010 by Vicar Sharyn Hall to enable our Parish to grow in awareness and action through the needs of others in areas of Social Justice.

The beginning focus was directed by the UN Millenium Goals and led to presentations with speakers sharing expertise in each area. Our first presentation, by Elizabeth Rennie, the Founder of the Burlington Ubuntu Grandwomen, addressed the Global Concern of HIV/AIDS. (Goal #6).

Prior to the challenges of COVID, we invited our participants to join us for Breakfast on a Saturday morning followed by our guest speaker's presentation. On each occasion, we have offered a donation to the particular area represented. Over time we have been fortunate to welcome over 50 amazing, devoted presenters and financially support their various local, national and international causes. It is our intention to continue to reach out to share the needs of others and celebrate the giving spirit of our Parish.

In the coming Fall, to celebrate our 10th year, we hope to welcome Judi Scetta a member of Ubuntu. Her visit with us will be to share her experiences on an upcoming Spring journey to South Africa with the Stephen Lewis Grandmothers to Grandmothers Group. This is particularly timely as our first speaker was Elizabeth Rennie the founder of Ubuntu.

This past year, we were happy to welcome participants to three events.

In June, we were joined once again by Padre Antonio, whose Ministry with the Migrant Farm Workers of Niagara has continued to grow and offer support for the ongoing needs of this community of people. Many in our parish continue to donate clothing, bicycles, food items and other means, to assist this program. The parish of St Alban's in Beamsville has developed an amazing Outreach Program with the Migrant Workers Community and helps us all to know the possibilities of 'reaching out'. We are very grateful to continue our relationship with this Ministry.

On September 28th, Karen Ward, the Program Director of Burning Stone Ministries shared her personal and ongoing lived experiences in this Ministry. Her commitment to Indigenous Youth in Northern Ontario and her enthusiasm and understanding of the needs of this community are inspiring and encouraging. November 2nd was the date for our presentation with Sarah Warry, the Chair of the Board of Directors for The Bridge (Hamilton) a supportive and creative programme enabling individuals to develop the necessary skills to redirect their lives after a term of incarceration. This opportunity presented us with awareness and appreciation for the needs of those whose lives are met with unique challenges.

As a team, we are very grateful for the support of our fellow parishioners and others who have joined us throughout our Ministry. Suggestions and offers to join us are always welcome.

Submitted by Carrie Raybould for the team including Ros Reycraft, Janice Skafel, Jackie Maver and Dave Beck.

Amnesty International

We are pleased to announce the formation of our new church outreach group dedicated to supporting the vital work of Amnesty International. At the heart of our faith is a commitment to love, justice, and the dignity of every human being. This group is an extension of those values, providing us with an opportunity to take meaningful action in the pursuit of human rights worldwide.

Amnesty International has been a beacon of hope for millions, working tirelessly to protect individuals and communities from injustice, persecution, and oppression. By aligning with this globally recognized organization, we aim to amplify our efforts to promote freedom, equality, and peace for all.

Our outreach group will engage in various activities, including raising awareness about human rights issues, organizing educational events, and contributing to campaigns that call for the end of injustice and the

restoration of dignity to those who are marginalized. Together, we can be a voice for the voiceless, standing in solidarity with those in need.

Our inaugural activity for this group was hosting two 'Write for Rights' events during coffee time in December 2024, collecting signatures for e-petitions and generating letters of support for prisoners of conscience. These events are part of Amnesty International's annual campaign, which mobilizes people around the world to write letters advocating for the release of individuals wrongfully imprisoned or facing human rights abuses. Over the years, this campaign has achieved remarkable successes, such as securing the release of prisoners, stopping executions, and delivering hope to those unjustly detained. By participating in this initiative, our church has already made a tangible impact standing up for justice and showing solidarity with those in need.

Looking ahead, there will be more events and initiatives coming in 2025 as we continue this vital work. The generous participation and encouragement from our congregation is very encouraging for this new initiative.

Submitted by May Frank

Burlington Ubuntu Grandwomen

The Burlington Ubuntu Grandwomen, though the Stephen Lewis Grandmothers to Grandmothers Campaign, continue to advocate, educate and support the needs and commitments of African Grandmothers.

These strong, resilient and loving women have continued raising their grandchildren, throughout the AIDS/HIV crisis thereby enabling the survival of their families and offering examples of strength and perseverance.

This strong local group, Ubuntu, meets regularly at Burlington Baptist Church. More information about times and programmes is available on their website, www.thebug.ca

Among their events of 2024 are the following:

- regular Wednesday meetings
- donation opportunities to purchase creative handmade items at a variety of events, meetings
- annual Orange the World Vigil in December in support of the end of violence against women and girls
- annual Golf Tournament in September
- opportunities to join with other chapters for events, webinars and fundraisers
- fall Gunn Hill Cheese Fundraiser

Thank you for your continued support of this amazing local Canadian organization that supports the needs and accomplishments of African Grandmothers and their families. St. Luke's has been a friend of Ubuntu for many years and shares the values and aspirations of their programmes and their messages.

Submitted by Carrie Raybould

Church Minders

This past year, we were once again able to open the church for those who wished to have a time of private contemplation or to tour our historic church. We had to stop opening for about 6 weeks while the construction of the accessible washroom in the Narthex took place but we returned again in December.

We have a wonderful team of volunteers who mind two at a time each Thursday morning. Our wish is to open on Tuesdays as well but we require more volunteers to do that. If anyone is interested in joining this enthusiastic team please contact Avril Drake.

Submitted by Avril Drake

Food for Life

Our Food for Life program continues to operate every Tuesday morning. We are starting to see some new people who come for food, and we are so glad that we are able to help them. Over the past year, we have seen an increase in numbers each week. At the present time, we are providing food for about 50 people.

We were blessed to have received large donations of food from our Montessori School and Maple IDA again just prior to Christmas. The annual food drives from these sources as well as donations from our own parishioners have made a huge difference as we have been able to stock our shelves with non-perishable food items.

The children at our Montessori School did their annual food drive and collected a huge amount of non perishable items for us at Christmas time. They were so excited to come downstairs on the Tuesday before Christmas and put it all on the cart and have their picture taken!

Thank you to our parishioners who continue to support our program as we begin our 15th year this year. We keep a box in the foyer of the Parish Hall and barely a week goes by that we don't see food donations in the box. We are so grateful to all who have made financial contributions this year.

We often find that people come to the office on a day other than Tuesday looking for food items. So, we now have our Pantry Bag Program. We keep several bags of non perishable food items in bags and we have put them on the shelf outside the office. This means that if someone comes in, then Elaine or Stuart can easily give them a bag of food. This has been very helpful and we have already put them to good use.

Our friends who come each week continue to register with Food for Life in order to obtain food. Once they are registered, they then receive a tag which they must show to us when they come on Tuesday mornings. We are aware that some people refused to register, and as a result they have not been back. We are thankful that there are other places in Burlington for them to get food on a regular basis.

We were fortunate this year to be able to make a contribution on two different occasions to Stuart's Rector's Discretionary Fund. This is such a worthwhile use of some of our funds, since he is able to purchase gift cards to people who come in to the office. Some of these people are often our friends who come on Tuesdays.

My heartfelt thanks go out to our volunteers who work diligently every Tuesday morning. They truly are a blessing.

Rev. Sheila Plant
Parish Deacon

The Red Box Project

The Red Box continues to provide much needed period products for women in our community who have difficulty in purchasing them on a regular basis. It is sometimes difficult to understand that these women have to make a choice between putting food on the table and taking care of menstrual hygiene.

Our Red Box Project is now four years old and during that time we have heard from many people about what a worthwhile project this is. Ours is the only one in the downtown core at the present time.

This year we have partnered with Maple IDA on Maple Crossings where the staff have generously donated products for the Red Box. We so appreciate their ongoing support.

We are so grateful for those in our church family who have donated funds to purchase products, or the products themselves so that we may keep are Red Box fully stocked.

Rev. Deacon Sheila Plant
Parish Deacon

Children in Need

The division of Outreach has been happy to be able to continue to organize and arrange concerts to support one of our important ministries – to children in need locally in our community and also globally. In May, our favourite group, The Harlequin Singers, performed a spring concert to go towards two 2024 children's program recipients. Locally again to the Love, Jayne Foundation which helps remove financial barriers for children wanting to participate in sports, music, and summer camps in the Burlington area. A memorial fund for Jane Hounslow. The other half went to children in Gaza through the PWRDF for health and education for children there.

As always, we are grateful to our St. Luke's congregation for their support by attending the concert.
Submitted by Wendy Murray and Janice Skafel

Christmas Families for St. Matthew's House

This year we helped 4 families, all with children, have a happier Christmas by helping them with gift certificates, toys and gifts.

The parishioners at St. Luke's were very kind and helpful with their donations and the wonderful people who transported it all to St. Matthew's House were invaluable. Many, many thanks from St. Matthews house!

We were also able to supply Canon Pike with gift certificates to use for the many pleas he receives for assistance.

Submitted by Verónica Richards-Miller & Chris Miller

Climate Justice

Climate Justice at St Luke's endeavours to help the whole parish live more deeply into the Fifth Mark of Mission and our diocesan Mission Action Plan, "to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the earth" and to be strong advocates for local and global change through Prayer, Education, Action, and Advocacy. For more information on the mandate and activities under the Climate Justice umbrella, please visit the diocesan website: <https://niagaraanglican.ca/climatejustice>.

Regretfully, there were no significant activities in the past year on which to report. Opportunities are available for parishioners to participate or lead in a variety of areas from gardening to carbon footprint reduction, to many more. Contact Michael Skafel for more information.

Submitted by Michael Skafel

Tru-Earth Fundraising

As part of our Climate Justice initiatives, our Outreach Committee has a fundraising project that helps support the PWRDF Mishamikoweesh Water Partnership.

Tru- Earth is a Canadian company that seeks to remove plastic waste from our environment with a variety of cleaning products. The most popular are the Eco Laundry Strips. Every 32-load Eco-Strips package

eliminates 1 plastic jug from potentially ending up in landfills and oceans. The Tru-Earth products really work! St. Luke's receives a 20% commission on each order. In 2024, we raised \$142.71. Consider trying these products as you will be helping the environment as well as contributing to the PWRDF Mishamikoweesh Water Partnership.

Our fundraising link is: <https://tru-earth.sjv.io/StLukesAnglicanChurch>

Submitted by Rosemary Armstrong

Downtown Burlington Community Lunch

The Downtown Community Lunch has continued to grow as guests grow more confident in going out after the pandemic. Our 2023 volunteers came from St. Luke's, our partner churches, and the local community. We have lots of fun together.

The lunch provides a delicious meal and an opportunity for people to socialize together with old and new friends. Most guests are local seniors, with some who are members of our congregation. Others come from other parts of Burlington, Halton, and Hamilton. All ages are welcome. The lunch has two goals: to provide a social opportunity for our senior community regardless of economic level; and to provide a free, tasty, and nutritious lunch for anyone, including those who may have a limited food budget. Guests who donate at the lunch remain the largest single group of contributors towards our costs. We are grateful for the support we receive from St. Luke's and three other downtown churches: Burlington Baptist Church, Knox Presbyterian Church, and St. John Roman Catholic Church, and from other donors. We also receive significant food contributions from local supermarkets and Burlington Food Bank.

In 2023 a total of 1502 meals were served. The average guests per lunch was 54. The average number of volunteers per lunch was 32.

On average, free will donations from guests cover about 40% of the cost of the lunches. The balance is covered by donations from grocery stores, individuals, Knox Presbyterian Church, and St. Luke's Church.

Heather White, Community Lunch Coordinator

"Come you who are blessed by God and inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Matthew 25:35

El Hogar de Amor y Esperanza in Honduras

This year we were finally able to send a team to El Hogar. Our 10 team members consisted of parishioners, family members, friends and several clergy friends from Washington, DC.

Support for the children has continued through our fundraising efforts as well as some members of the parish participating in fundraising efforts in Toronto and Colorado.

We have been able to continue our fundraising with the incredible support of our parishioners. Once again with the help of wonderful volunteers, we offered chocolate covered Easter eggs, gingerbread church/house kits, chocolate bark, and coffee.

During 2024, we were able send \$16,630 from all our efforts and the kind donations that we received to El Hogar to pay for the three sponsorships we take on in the name of St. Luke's as well as to contribute to their general fund.

¡Muchisimas gracias! for your generous support, encouragement, and your prayers. Thank you all so very much!

Submitted by Rosalind and Rick Reycraft, and Janice Skafel, team leaders

Madagascar Missions

In 2024 the Outreach Committee made the difficult decision to end our long-time partnership with the Anglican Mission Services Committee and their mission work in Madagascar. Since Mary Sherwood's retirement several years ago for health reasons, we have not received any updates about the 2 mission centres there. As a result, it has been very difficult to keep parishioners engaged and donations in support of the missions have dropped off significantly. We do however want to stress that both the Madagascar Missions are still in need of individual support. Your donations will be gratefully received by the Anglican Mission Services, but we ask that all donations now be sent to them directly, not through St. Luke's. The mailing address is: **AMSC, P.O.BOX # 1072, SAULT STE MARIE, ON, P6A 5N7.**

Thank you to everyone who has supported this Outreach ministry over the past many years.

Submitted by: Sandra Tiernay

Migrant Farm Workers Project

For over ten years, the Anglican Diocese of Niagara has operated a unique missional initiative known as the Migrant Farm Workers Project, with the objective of providing a variety of programs to support and enhance the quality of life and well-being of the thousands of temporary workers who work in the farms, greenhouses, and vineyards of Niagara Region. The majority of the workers come from Mexico or other Central American nations. The Missioner in charge of the Project's activities is Reverend Antonio Illas, who has spoken about the Project at two Advocacy Breakfasts in October 2020 and June 2024.

The Ministry of Outreach has supported the Bikes for Farmworkers program for the past three years by collecting used bicycles, helmets, bike lights and other equipment, as well as used clothing for the migrant workers. In November of 2024 St. Luke's parishioners donated a large quantity of used winter clothing for the more than 400 workers who remain in Niagara Region over the winter. We plan to continue these activities in the coming year.

For additional information contact Dave Beck.

PWRDF - PWDRF / ALONGSIDE HOPE

PWRDF is supporting the Diocese of Edmonton with a solidarity grant of \$5,000 in response to the recent wildfires that destroyed many homes and businesses in Jasper on July 25, 2024. St. Mary and St. George Anglican Church was among them.

Shortly after the town's evacuation, PWRDF was in contact with Bishop Stephen London to offer support through our In-Canada Emergency Fund. The grant will fund the work of the Jasper Community Team Society at All Saints' Cathedral in Edmonton.

This Jasper-based group is currently providing people from Jasper – primarily young temporary foreign workers – with breathing space, support and guidance, said Sarah Kemp, Assistant to Bishop Stephen London. "They were working out of a downtown Edmonton hotel, but we are able to offer them space at

no charge, and access to a kitchen and bathrooms,” she said via email. The Cathedral will incur some costs around this (such as for cleaning, supplies, and computer set up), though other agencies, such as the Edmonton Food Bank and Catholic Social Services, have also stepped up to help.

PWRDF have changed their name to **ALONGSIDE HOPE**

After almost two years of listening together and planning, PWRDF has chosen a new name, Alongside Hope. It was approved, along with its French equivalent, *Auprès de l’espoir*, at a Special Members meeting held Tuesday, October 15, 4 p.m. ET, in accordance with our corporate bylaws.

The issue of changing PWRDF’s name to one that is easier to say and less confusing has been ever-present for many years. In 2022, the PWRDF Board approved a budget and the creation of a Task Team to identify a new name that would honour its history as the Anglican Church of Canada’s agency for international development and humanitarian response, but would also carry it into the future. The Task Team included staff, board members and volunteers from across Canada. This team gathered several times on Zoom with the goal of identifying a compelling name – a name that better reflects our work, and one that would sustain our work into the future, while honouring our legacy.

In 1958, a mining disaster in Springhill, N.S. compelled Anglicans across the country to donate money to support the affected families. One year later, The Primate’s World Relief Fund was established at General Synod, to create an agency that would respond to emergencies on behalf of Anglicans in Canada. In 1969, the D was added for Development. In the last fiscal year, PWRDF worked with more than 70 partners in 32 countries, and was recently named to the 2024 Charity Intelligence Top 100 Charities List. The voting membership comprises Board members, Diocesan Representatives and PWRDF’s Youth Council.

The Task Team was made up of 12 key volunteers from across the country, including members of the Board, Youth Council and PWRDF staffers. Cyan Solutions, a marketing and creative agency in Ottawa, led conversations with the Task Team, other volunteers and staff to inspire reflections and gain valuable insights. In all of these discussions, one clear and hopeful theme emerged: partnership.

If you have any questions please contact me. Submitted by Jackie Maver

Refugee Sponsorship

The Alalam family arrived from Syria via Beirut 3 years ago this past Christmas. They were privately sponsored by the Burlington Downtown Refugee Alliance. The BDRA, is made up of St. Luke’s parishioners as well as our partners from Knox Presbyterian and some dedicated people from the Burlington community.

The private sponsorship is through St. Luke’s and the Diocese of Niagara and was processed through *Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada*. IRCC and our Diocese facilitate the arrival of any refugees to Canada and to our area.

It is a joy to report that our latest family continues to progress with settling into their new country which they love. Karima was hired on with Home Indeed as a home care worker and is able to work flexible hours adapting to her children’s schedule. This is all what she was striving towards.

The kids are thriving at ages 7 and 5.

The family is elated about the situation in Syria and understand that while the country is yet unstable, there is hope for a better future for Syria.

St. Luke's is now supporting another group who are working on getting a third branch of this family from Syria via Lebanon. Air strikes in the Beirut area seem to have settled a bit and perhaps the Visa Office will pick up speed now to process the thousands of refugee applications and that of our new family.

We are grateful for the support of our St. Luke's Parish family in the past, which has been a huge help in many ways in the resettlement process.

It is a privilege to do what we can to help our refugee families resettle in Canada and help find the resources they need to build a life for their family in their new country.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Skafel
Chair

Canon Stuart Pike
Vice-Chair

Sew on Fire

In the past year we have continued to collect donations of linens, towels, hygiene products and other items which are delivered to the facilities of the Sew On Fire charitable organization in Burlington for distribution to communities around the world where these items are needed, including First Nations communities in northern Canada. The donation box is located under the coat racks in the foyer of the Parish Hall and is emptied on a regular basis.

In January a drive was started to collect gently used winter coats, as well as scarves, gloves, and woollen hats. These items will be shipped to First Nations communities in Canada's north. At the moment, Sew On Fire is not collecting other kinds of used clothing.

For additional information contact Elsie Haywood or Dave Beck.

The Walk to the Lighthouse September 22nd 2024

The walk was very well attended, lots of young people holding signs to encourage us along the way, also the Top Hat Band and dancers at the end of the trail.

The goal was to raise \$75,000.00 for the hospital, we surpassed the goal, raising \$102,406.04. The St. Luke's team raised \$14,110.00.

Thank you to the St. Luke's team, we all did a great job representing St. Luke's Church. The 2025 walk is on September 21st in the afternoon, **see you there.**

Submitted by Jackie Maver.

Respectfully submitted by Jackie Maver and Rosalind Reycraft, Co-Chairs Outreach Division

St. Luke's 190 Anniversary

2024 saw a series of varied events celebrating our 190th anniversary. The committee who supported this momentous task were always ready to help make this a wonderful year! From selling tickets to concerts, to touring our beautiful church and cemetery, to painting faces and slicing strawberries; they did it all! We were able to contribute to the cost of the Parish dinner in October by selling our ornaments, pens and note cards as well as the proceeds from the events that we hosted:

April 20th – Spring Concert with the Burlington Symphony Orchestra

June 15th – Sound of Music weekend Church Tours

June 22nd – Strawberry Social

August 10th – Doors Open Burlington

September 13th – C.S. Lewis' Screwtape Letters with John D. Huston

October 21st – Choral Evensong

October 26th – Parish Dinner and Silent Auction

December 7th – Christmas Concert with the Harlequin Singers

Thank you to all who supported the events this year. A very special Thank you to those who volunteered, for both the 190th committee and the Parish Dinner organizing committee. This year wouldn't have been as special without you!

Ros Reycraft & Helen Bittner

190 Anniversary Co-chairs

DIVISION OF PARISH LIFE REPORT TO VESTRY

Parish Life Overview

"In the Deep Midwinter" was one of the hymns we sang on Epiphany Sunday this year, and we are definitely there now as I write this, but looking forward to Spring and the re-awakening that goes with it. 2024 was a full and wonderful year here at St. Luke's, with all Parish Life groups operating at full tilt and to good outcome. It always amazes me just how much is accomplished here - the participation of so many in the efforts of the various groups is both awesome and wonderful. Please read on for the reports from our various Parish Life Group Leaders.

(Please follow above paragraph) with writeup from groups under the 'Parish Life' Umbrella - Friends of St. Luke's below).

Thank you

Lesley Emery

Parish Life Chair

Friends of St. Luke's - Report to Vestry

It is just after New Years as I prepare this report, and 2025 sounds like a very good year to me!

Our 2024 Friends of St. Luke's celebration was a huge success, despite my absence due to a very nasty virus. Fortunately the planning stages were already complete and only the day remained. Many thanks to Sheila for stepping in, and to Martha, Wendy and the many volunteers who help to make it so each year!

This year the event will be held on Wednesday, August 27th, at which time we will once again invite as many of our most elderly parishioners as possible out from their retirement homes or their own homes for an afternoon of reconnection with their parish church friends. Many of them are unable to come on a regular basis any longer, and volunteered themselves here in the past, at this event, and in so many other ways.

If you are possibly able to help out this year, please mark it on your calendars now and watch for bulletin notices in June when we begin asking.

Again, many thanks to all of you who have helped to keep this tradition going since its inception in 1970! Thank You So Much!

Lesley Emery
Co-ordinator
Friends of St. Luke's

**St Luke's Close
Report to Vestry 2025**

St. Luke's Close is a nonprofit seniors housing corporation which was created through the dedicated efforts of a committee composed of members of the St. Luke's congregation during the period when Canon Ralph Spence was Rector of St Luke's.

The Close is managed independently from St Luke's Church by a Board of Directors, all of whom must be members of the church. One of the responsibilities of the Board is to report annually to the congregation of St Luke's Church about the operation of The Close.

This September St Luke's Close celebrated the end of its \$ 2.5 million mortgage and we will continue to serve the residents of Halton with 35 geared-to-income affordable apartments and 16 market value ones. Bob Bruce, President; Dave Beck, Treasurer; Kathleen Szoke, Secretary; and Directors Canon Stuart Pike; Rev. Sheila Plant; and Bill Armstrong form the Board of Directors and Stan Moneta of Sherwood Management is the manager.

We are currently in discussions with officials from Halton Region about what form of assistance they will give us under a new financial agreement now that the previous one has died with the end of our mortgage.

Many of our residents on the second and third floor use walkers or wheelchairs and are reliant on our elevator. This elevator is 35 years old and parts are becoming very difficult to source. We have been planning over the last four years to add a second elevator on the exterior rear wall of the building, but we are having a frustrating time getting the architectural plans approved by the city's Planning Department that acts with glacial speed. Hopefully we will get construction underway this year!

The Board has adopted a plan to hold a series of social events in the form of Teas and Barbeques for the residents during the year. We will advertise these events to the St Luke's congregation and would be pleased to have members of the church join us and mingle with our residents.

Respectfully submitted
Bob Bruce,
President

CHRISTMAS MARKET REPORT TO THE 2025 VESTRY

Our annual Christmas Market was held on November 30, 2024, and was quite successful. Over 94 parishioners took active parts in making the food, crafts, and decorations available for sale and we raised Just over \$24,000. We are grateful for the tremendous support of our church community for this wonderful event.

Respectfully submitted,

Co-chairs Sheila and Bob

Report to Vestry

Music at St. Luke's 2024

Music at St. Luke's 2024 started off on January 20th with The Celtic Effect Band playing lively Irish and some rousing pub favourites that had us up on the dance-floor and singing along.

April 20th featured another fun evening of listening, dining and dancing to Jim Heaslip's 12/4 Swing Orchestra featuring Tony Sciara singing favourites from the golden era of Frank Sinatra, Perry Como and Bobby Darin.

On September 28th, we were treated to Smooth Jazz Latin Experience playing some Latin favourites as well as songs from Santana, Stevie Wonder, Marvin Gaye and others, with a Latin twist.

On November 16th, we enjoyed beautiful movie and show music from Gerry Tymstra & Friends, featuring George Kairys on Guitar and Emi on her electric violin, and Gerry Tymstra on piano.

Dinner for all our parish hall events was once again provided by our favourite gastronomic geniuses from Millcroft Catering, and we received rave reviews for their culinary creations as well.

This year, we also had the first of our new Sunday afternoon recital series in the church, on December 22nd with the amazing Southern Ontario Lyric Opera (SOLO) featuring tenor Romulo Delgado along with chorus including two members of the junior chorus, and Mátè Szigeti on flute. This event was really well received just prior to Christmas and we were able to offer it at a reduced price as there was no catering to arrange. It also has the added advantage of introducing new people to our beautiful church. The committee has concluded that we should be offering more of these Sunday afternoon recital events in the church in our upcoming seasons.

Our committee consists of eleven dedicated parishioners who work hard to bring this series to our parish. We are pleased that as well as being a fundraiser for St. Luke's we provide an opportunity for fellowship and outreach to the wider community. Thank you to everyone for your continuing support.

Stephen Pike

Knitters & Friends

Knitters & Friends welcomes all friendly knitters and all friendly fibre-workers who crochet or work with yarn, thread, embroidery silk etc. Join us in Room 201 of the Church Hall on Ontario Street any time from 10am-noon, Tuesdays. Anyone wishing to join who does not have yarn or needles/hooks is welcome to browse the closet in Room 201 during meeting hours and select from donated yarns, tools and patterns. Crafters create items for themselves and/or to donate to a variety of charitable causes, including the St Luke's Christmas Market.

St. Luke's Quilters Guild to Vestry 2025

Our quilting group meets every Tuesday 1-4pm in the parlour from September to June. In 2024 we continued to work on a detailed queen size quilt from 2023 and it was completed in November. We are currently working on two small quilts. Our group supported the Rector's discretionary fund with the money we collected on the sale of the queen size quilt. Respectfully submitted, Melissa Kennedy, chair

Pie Makers to Vestry 2025

The Pie Makers had another very successful year thanks to the support of so many parishioners and their friends and neighbours. Word has spread and we now have repeat customers from many different parts of the province!

Two dedicated teams work hard 9 months of the year, one group cooking the meat filling and the other making the pastry.

In 2024 we had 3 sales in addition to the Christmas Market. Our total profit for the year was approximately \$7,000 all of which went directly to the church operating fund.

Thank you to all our customers who continue to support our efforts which, in turn, support St. Luke's. A special thank you to our tireless leader, Barbara Adamson. Under her leadership the Pie Makers have raised tens of thousands of dollars over the past 25+ years.

Submitted by: Sandra Tiernay

Our Annual Cascade of Poppies

Once again this year, we worked for several weeks prior to Remembrance Day to expand our Cascade of Poppies which we began in 2022.

We are so glad we started tying the poppies early this year as we had so many to attach. We can't wait to see the finished product in the church.

We also attached several poppies to remember a loved one from far away.....I can honestly say that this year our cascade contains so much love and so many prayers it is heartwarming!

A special thanks to Chris Hughes, Marion Binns, Marg Bowra, Jackie Maver and Betty Withnell who came for the past several weeks to help assemble. We even had our very own rector come and "tie one on".

Special thanks this year to Gord Barker who came up with an ingenious way for us to display the poppies.

Also, a special thank you to those who created these poppies....you know who you are and we are ever so grateful. We can't even begin to count the number we added this year. As our cascade continues to grow year by year, may it become a symbol of peace, and remembrance.

Rev. Sheila Plant
Parish Deacon

St. Luke's Speaker's Lunch

Report to Vestry 2025

The goal of the Speaker's Lunch group is to provide opportunities for St. Luke's parishioners, guests and others in the wider community to meet in a social setting and to listen to presentations by informed speakers about contemporary issues affecting our community and the world beyond.

We have existed for over eighteen years and following a two-year "pause" due to the pandemic, have resumed our regular schedule.

We meet on the second Thursday of each month (except June, July, August and December) in the Great Hall, around 11:30am for a social time before lunch. We each bring our own lunch. Coffee, tea, juice and Sherry are provided. These refreshments and the speaker are all provided for a small donation of \$5. Our sessions continue to be well attended and feedback with respect to the diversity of subjects is very positive. Below is the list of the past year's speakers/subjects;

January 11th – Burlington Historical Trivia

February 8th – Children of the Hector

March 14th – Smith's Funeral Home – Wills, Estates, Funeral Preparation

April 11th – Burlington Transit

May 9th – Artificial Intelligence

September 12th – Kilbride History Group

October 10th – "Meet Me at The Brant Inn" (history of the Brant Inn)

November 7th, 2024 – Life Aboard the AVRO Lancaster (Cdn Warplane Heritage)

Most speakers receive an honorarium of \$100 for their time and effort. The "free will" donations made by those attending, cover this, as well as the cost of our refreshments. Over time, we build up a small surplus and use it for the benefit of church-related expenses or memorial donations. Recently we purchased a new "wedding pen" for the signing ceremony during weddings. We also purchased an extended HDMI cable for use in the Great Hall.

We have a very dedicated Committee "team" and we appreciate all their efforts to plan, organize, set-up, take-down for each meeting.

We are always open to new Committee members - it's not very onerous and as they say, "many hands make light work".

We are also open to ideas and suggestions from those who attend the lunches, so please offer up your ideas. We recently asked attendees to provide feedback through a short survey and feedback was all positive, with a few suggestions for future speakers/ideas. Everyone is welcome, so please spread the word and tell or bring a friend or family member to future meetings!

Respectfully submitted.

Tim Tiernay, *Chair*

Email: tim.tiernay@bell.net

Funeral Reception Report to Vestry 2025

Another year has come and gone and now we are in 2025 looking back on last year (2024) and the number of funeral receptions that were done to honour our departed friends. The COVID years took their toll but I think we have exhausted the backlog of funerals from those years and now dealing with the newly departed. Last year we serviced more receptions than in previous years.

Our format is still the same as last year. If sandwiches are requested they are ordered by the family through a local grocery store. Sweets are bought along with the usual groceries that are required for the reception.

We have an amazing group of people who help with setting up tables, chairs, making and serving tea and coffee, organizing platters of sweets, fruit and cheese, and of course, cleaning up. Without their help it certainly would be an onerous task. Our most sincere thanks to you all.

There is always room for more help. If this kind of volunteer work looks appealing please give either Louise (905) 639-8266 or Cathy (905) 510-1014 a call.

Thank you to all.

Louise and Cathy

Co-ordinators

DIVISION OF WORSHIP

Worship Committee Report for the year 2024 for Vestry 2025

Worship continues to be a shining light in the life of St. Luke's Church, Burlington. Many, many hours are volunteered by so many parishioners be they Clergy, Altar Guild members, Choir members, Servers, Vergers, Chalice Bearers, Sidespersons, Greeters, Readers, Offertory Bearers and the Videographers. Many thanks to all the members of the congregation who work to make our worship so rich and appear so effortless.

A great big thank you to our clergy: Rector (The Reverend) Stuart Pike, Pastoral Associate (The Reverend) Leonel Abaroa Boloña, Pastoral Associate (The Reverend) Michael Coren, Deacon (The Reverend) Sheila Plant and Honorary Assistant (The Venerable) Suzanne Craven. They continue to provide spiritual liturgy and inspiring homilies which stimulate all of us who worship in person or virtually.

Each of our worship groups needs an organizer and communicator to keep the positions filled and people in place for each service so special thanks to Jennifer Goodine, Chris Hughes, David Micks, Ray Payne, and Sheila Plant who are in charge of these groups.

At the end of last year David Micks announced that for personal reasons he will be resigning from the Head Server position. We are sad to see David go. He has been a member of the servers' guild for many years and Head Server for the last three years. We wish David all the best and will definitely miss his presence in the sanctuary.

Louisa Pike has agreed to take on the Head Servers role and we greatly appreciate her commitment to this group and know that she will continue this important role with grace and charm.

Finally, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Worship Committee (Stuart Pike, Leonel Abaroa Boloña, Michael Coren, Sheila Plant, Suzanne Craven, Jennifer Goodine and Chris Hughes) for their knowledge and support of Worship at St. Luke's.

Submitted by Terry Raybould, Chair of Worship

ST LUKE'S VERGERS GUILD

We are pleased to say that the Vergers Guild at St. Luke's is alive and well! Each Sunday we have one verger at 8:15 and one at 10am. The role of the Verger is to greet people who come into the church and ensure that the bulletins and liturgy are available to them. In the winter months, they ensure that the snow is swept off the steps and try to keep it off the carpets in the Narthex. They also put the flag up and prepare the hymn boards for Sunday worship. During special services, they will "verge" the rector or guest preacher, or the Bishop. On regular Sundays, they will assist with communion by making sure anyone needing assistance is looked after and directing the clergy to anyone who is not able to come forward to the altar for communion. Outside of Sunday services they also assist with weddings and funerals.

Their other role is to serve as Altar Guild when there are five Sundays in a month. This includes preparing for Sunday communion, doing the flowers, cleaning up between services and after the 10am service we set up for our Wednesday service.

This year, we were very pleased to install Tim Tiernay, Mark Edwards and Bob Bruce as our newest vergers. We thank them for their ministry. We also had the opportunity to celebrate the ministry of Ross Gosling as he stepped down as a long serving verger. Ross, we appreciate all you have done for the Vergers Guild and thank you so much for your commitment. We miss you!

Again this past August, Ritchard and I had the opportunity to attend the Church of England Guild of Vergers Training Conference and Retreat. This was held at the Elim Conference Centre in Malvern and set in the spectacular countryside of the Malvern Hills. It was a wonderful experience, and we will be returning again this year.

Special thanks to Ritchard, Ross and Helen as well as Tim, Mark and Bob for your continued commitment to this vital ministry.

Submitted by Deacon/Verger Sheila Plant

ALTAR GUILD REPORT for the year 2024

For VESTRY FEBRUARY 9, 2025

The Altar Guild consists of dedicated & faithful members who prepare for & clean-up following all regular services, baptisms, weddings, funerals and any additional services throughout the year.

We continue to work in 2 teams, each team responsible for two week a month (from Saturdays to the following Fridays).

We clean brass & silver, care for linens, arrange Altar flowers, make palm crosses and decorate the church for Easter & Thanksgiving celebrations.

We purchase & maintain supplies of communion wafers, oil inserts for candles, baptismal & votive candles and look after ordering the communion wine. We also repair & purchase linens

as needed. All our costs are met from monies we receive from donations & from weddings.

We maintain a flower fund from which we purchase all the flowers used for Sunday & other special services. At Easter we prepare for and with the help of other parishioners deliver flowers, used to decorate the church, to parishioners in nursing homes or who are confined to their homes.

Donated fruits and vegetables used to decorate at Harvest & Thanksgiving go to St. Luke's Food for Life programme.

Our present & past members, along with a few 'helpers', met the Friday prior to Palm Sunday to make palm crosses – in 2023, 350 crosses were made. We then enjoyed a pot-luck lunch!

Our sincere thank you to the Vergers who have covered Altar Guild duties on the 5th Sundays of the month - as they occur! This is a tremendous help for us since we already cover 2 weeks each month.

Special thanks to Ritchard Taylor & Vergers who help with major brass cleaning, to Ray Payne for his help when we need to 'turn the Altar around' (Time & Talent Sunday and Christmas), to other 'men folk' for their help with some of the heavier work from time to time and to others who help with the decorating at Easter & Harvest!

My heartfelt thank you to all the members of the Altar Guild for their faithfulness & dedication to this important ministry that we share.

Respectfully submitted

Chris Hughes

Altar Guild Co-ordinator

Report to VESTRY for the year 2024 - Property Division

2024 - what a year it was – some major accomplishments wherever we looked – here are some highlights. We strengthened the Property team by creating the role of **Fire Marshall**. Doug Finch now handles that important element of our work, through the newly formed *Fire Safety Committee*, comprising a small group of volunteers.

As usual, Michael Skafel leads his small team of volunteers looking after our grounds, including the cemetery and the gardens.

Let's not forget the work performed by Anthony Burton, our Custodian, who keeps our buildings clean, hygienic and looking so good.

Significant accomplishments:

Fire Safety Plan

We finally received approval from the Burlington Fire Department to implement a *Fire Safety Plan* for the Church. We are working on one for the Parish Hall, although it does not need the approval of the Fire Department.

Doug has begun the process of training safety staff and managing fire evacuation practices,

Tendering

I believe that there is real value in re-tendering outside services every three years. We began that process earlier this year.

- Our snow removal and landscaping contract was sent to eleven local contractors, six of whom submitted proposals. Michael and I decided that the best value came from our incumbent contractor who was awarded the new deal.
- We intended to repeat the process for our HVAC (*Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning*) contract but deferred that one until the spring of 2025. (we have a new initiative to address this)

Concrete Walkways

They were showing their age caused by frost-heave, rain and general deterioration.

Using our new tendering process, we invited nine local firms to submit a proposal. Six replied and we selected one who was able to perform the work during the late autumn.

It was a large financial commitment, but we replaced the walkways from Ontario Street down and around the east side of the church to the main steps. This included replacing the four large concrete pads adjacent to the main steps.

Chisholm / Smith family plot

For several years now, we have been concerned by the deterioration in the perimeter wall around this large family plot. There was a danger that it could collapse and allow the contents to spill out. Given that it is our responsibility to maintain gravesites in our cemetery, we decided to tender this work. The process resulted in us hiring a local contractor to remove part of the wall and re-grade the soil to provide more stability. It looks much better and fortunately the costs were covered by donations.

Miscellany

- In the spring, the failure of one of our air conditioners at the church meant that we had to replace it quickly. Since both old appliances were installed at the same time, it was probable that the second unit could fail very soon. We took advantage of some preferred pricing and a family connection to replace both air conditioning units.
- Construction of the accessible washroom uncovered an issue with carpenter ants – the bane of wooden structures. A local contractor is providing us with a year-round control programme.
- On a similar theme, we are working with a local firm to eradicate squirrels which have found a home in the northern part of the church roof.
- We added a pony electrical panel in the church basement. This provided additional capacity and streamlined our ability to run the broadcasting of the Sunday morning service. It also support the power needs of the new washroom.
- In November Halton Region replaced our water meters, changing them from analogue to digital. It means that our water readings can now be read remotely, saving us the time to report them manually or arranging inspections with technicians.
- Halton Regional Police Services asked us to join their CIPER programme. (*Critical Infrastructure Police Emergency Response Programme*). Providing them with details of our properties and the contact details of some key people, will allow them to respond more appropriately to an emergency on our behalf. The required documents were sent to them earlier in the year.

The Parish Church of St Luke

Cemetery Operator License # 3274211

Cemetery Board

Report to Vestry, 2025

The Board: The Cemetery Board is made up of a number of parishioners and meets two or three times a year (or as needed), to oversee the operation of the cemetery and to ensure the cemetery grounds are maintained at the highest standard as economically possible. The 2024 Board Members were:

- Elaine Black
- Daphne Flick
- Dorothy Kew
- Bob Osborne
- Michael Skafel
- Tim Tiernay

The two new columbaria sales of niche interment rights continue. There no longer are any niches available in the original columbarium.

There are a few in-ground urn plots available, as well as scattering rights. Parishioners interested should contact the Parish Office.

There were five interment rights sales (for niches) in 2024. There were a total of nine interments in 2024. Details are reported to the Bereavement Authority of Ontario, by the end of March, as required by the Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act.

There was a significant maintenance project completed in 2024. The low wall around one of the Chisholm Smith plots was in poor repair, so part of the wall removed and the remainder lowered and blended in to the surrounding terrain. Dorothy Kew arranged for support from Ontario Ancestors in the amount of \$4000 to assist in covering the expense. Phil Moore, Property Chair, led this project.

The board is grateful to the parish gardeners who look after the plantings around the columbaria and the Pollinator Garden which backs the Scattering Garden.

Any questions regarding the operation of the Cemetery Board can be directed to the Board Chair or the Church Office.

Respectfully Submitted, Michael Skafel

Nominations for the Cemetery Board, Vestry 2025

Elaine Black
Daphne Flick
Dorothy Kew
Bob Osborne
Michael Skafel
Tim Tiernay

The Parish Church of St. Luke

Budget vs. Actuals

January - December 2024

	Total			% of
	Actual	Budget	over Budget	Budget
Income				
Total 6000 6000 - Mst Acct - Weekly Donations	\$ 476,410.37	\$489,646.21	-\$ 13,235.84	97.30%
Total 6050 6050 - Mst Acct - Operating Income	\$ 1,347.50	\$ 3,600.00	-\$ 2,252.50	37.43%
Total 6200 6200 - Mst Acct - Rental Income	\$ 49,161.70	\$ 50,338.63	-\$ 1,176.93	97.66%
Total 6250 6250 - Mst Acct - Fundraising Events	\$ 83,825.81	\$ 74,850.00	\$ 8,975.81	111.99%
6350 6350 - Mst Acct - Miscellaneous Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6355 6355 - Investment Interest Income	27,000.00	27,000.00	0.00	100.00%
6370 6370 - Misc. - Other Income Sources	2,424.51	0.00	2,424.51	
6371 6371 - Misc. - Newsletter Advertising	4,200.00	0.00	4,200.00	
Total 6350 6350 - Mst Acct - Miscellaneous Income	\$ 33,624.51	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 6,624.51	124.54%
6500 6500 - Mst Acct - Investment Draws	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6503 6503 - Draw From Cemetery Fund	2,086.95	1,788.00	298.95	116.72%
6504 6504 - Draw from ACW Fund	300.00	275.00	25.00	109.09%
Total 6500 6500 - Mst Acct - Investment Draws	\$ 2,386.95	\$ 2,063.00	\$ 323.95	115.70%
Total 6600 6600 - Mst Acct - Flw Thrgh Internal	\$ 0.00	\$ 3,660.00	-\$ 3,660.00	0.00%
Total Income	\$ 646,756.84	\$651,157.84	-\$ 4,401.00	99.32%
Gross Profit	\$ 646,756.84	\$651,157.84	-\$ 4,401.00	99.32%
Expenses				
Total 7100 7100 - Mst Acct - Wages And Benefits	\$ 351,644.15	\$352,454.68	-\$ 810.53	99.77%
Total 7200 7200 - Mst Acct - Parish Activity Expense	\$ 59,487.70	\$ 43,570.71	\$ 15,916.99	136.53%
Total 7220 7220 - DMM Assessment	\$ 101,061.69	\$101,061.72	-\$ 0.03	100.00%
7250 7250 - Mst Acct - Office / Gen Admin Exp.	0.00	0.00	0.00	
7251 7251 - Office Supplies	3,719.76	3,355.45	364.31	110.86%
7252 7252 - Postage	651.42	633.14	18.28	102.89%
7253 7253 - Telephones	3,590.04	3,480.00	110.04	103.16%
7255 7255 - Equipment - Purchase / Lease	2,068.27	2,600.00	-531.73	79.55%
7256 7256 - Photocopier	2,596.07	2,619.50	-23.43	99.11%
7258 7258 - Bank Charges	2,052.06	2,142.00	-89.94	95.80%
7260 7260 - Licenses And Memberships	0.00	1,078.50	-1,078.50	0.00%
7262 7262 - Audit Fees	12,992.50	11,000.00	1,992.50	118.11%
7263 7263 - Professional Fees	75.00	0.00	75.00	
7264 7264 - Web Cost	884.44	592.73	291.71	149.21%
7265 7265 - Computer Programs & Equipment	3,060.56	1,344.44	1,716.12	227.65%
7266 7266 - Computer Consulting	7,044.80	8,400.00	-1,355.20	83.87%
7267 7267 - Miscellaneous Expenses	274.79	1,408.37	-1,133.58	19.51%
Total 7250 7250 - Mst Acct - Office / Gen Admin Exp.	\$ 39,009.71	\$ 38,654.13	\$ 355.58	100.92%
7300 7300 - Mst Acct - Property Exp	0.00	0.00	0.00	

7301 7301 - Insurance Premiums - Property	26,516.21	26,516.24	-0.03	100.00%
7302 7302 - Insurance Premiums - Liability	9,861.40	9,861.39	0.01	100.00%
7303 7303 - Utilities - Gas	6,947.21	9,602.90	-2,655.69	72.34%
7304 7304 - Utilities - Light And Water	16,245.04	15,409.51	835.53	105.42%
7305 7305 - Security	4,673.49	5,092.02	-418.53	91.78%
7306 7306- Cleaning Supplies / Services	10,137.60	7,061.40	3,076.20	143.56%
7307 7307- Landscape / Snow Removal	17,295.81	12,670.00	4,625.81	136.51%
7308 7308 - Maintenance And Repairs	18,153.58	19,537.80	-1,384.22	92.92%
7309 7309 - Major Rep And Renovations	0.00	4,200.00	-4,200.00	0.00%
7317 7317 - Other Non-Allocated Prop Exp Costs	365.47	3,000.00	-2,634.53	12.18%
7318 7318 - Property Taxes	879.85	855.42	24.43	102.86%
7320 7320 - Furniture & Equipment - Hall	1,008.98	1,609.92	-600.94	62.67%
Total 7300 7300 - Mst Acct - Property Exp	\$ 112,084.64	\$115,416.60	-\$ 3,331.96	97.11%
Total Expenses	\$ 663,287.89	\$651,157.84	\$ 12,130.05	101.86%
Net Income	-\$ 16,531.05	\$ 0.00	-\$ 16,531.05	

The Parish Church of St. Luke
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2024

	<u>Total</u>
Assets	
Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalent	
1000 1000 - Mst Acct - Cash On Hand	
1001 1001 - Chequing - Operating Acct.	120,894.99
1002 1002 - Chequing - Lottery Trust	2,296.86
1009 1009 - Petty Cash	227.10
Total 1000 1000 - Mst Acct - Cash On Hand	\$ 123,418.95
1080 1080 Mst Acct - Memorial / Building - Cash on Hand	
1081 1081 - Memorial / Building - RBC Account	\$ 82,516.06
1082 1082 - Memorial / Building - RBC Dominion	5,410.96
Total 1080 1080 Mst Acct - Memorial / Building - Cash on Hand	\$ 87,927.02
Total Cash and Cash Equivalent	\$ 211,345.97
Accounts Receivable (A/R)	
2000 2000 - Accounts Receivable	0.00
Total Accounts Receivable (A/R)	\$ 0.00
2020 2020 - Account Receivable - Accrued	
2021 2021 - Accrued Accounts Receivable	0.00
Total 2020 2020 - Account Receivable - Accrued	\$ 0.00
2080 2080 - Mst Acct - Funds Receivable - Internal	
2081 2081 - Memorial / Building - Notes Rec.	\$182,246.48
2082 2082 - Memorial / Building - Due From	0.00
Total 2080 2080 - Mst Acct - Funds Receivable - Internal	\$ 182,246.48
2200 2200 - Mst Acct - Prepaid Expenses	
2201 2201 - Building Insurance - Church	-0.01
2202 2202- Building Insurance - Parish Hall	0.01
2203 2203 - Church Washroom	0.00
2204 2204 - Grounds Maintenance	0.00
Total 2200 2200 - Mst Acct - Prepaid Expenses	\$ 0.00
Total Current Assets	\$ 393,592.45
Non-current Assets	
Property, plant and equipment	
3000 3000 - Mst Acct - Fixed Assets	
3011 3011 - Columbarium	222,201.16
3012 3012 - Columbarium Accumulated Depreciation	-4,444.02
Total 3000 3000 - Mst Acct - Fixed Assets	\$ 217,757.14
Total Property, plant and equipment	\$ 217,757.14
2580 2580 - Mst Acct - LTI - Trust Fund	
2581 2581 - Memorial - Investments	1,092,056.50

2582 2582 - Building - Investments	114,596.41
Total 2580 2580 - Mst Acct - LTI - Trust Fund	\$ 1,206,652.91
2600 2600 - Mst Acct - Lti - Diocese	
2603 2603 - Cemetery Fund	100,397.87
2604 2604 - Rectory Land Fund	430,335.08
2605 2605 - ACW Fund	4,966.27
Total 2600 2600 - Mst Acct - Lti - Diocese	\$ 535,699.22
Total Non Current Assets	\$ 1,960,109.27
Total Assets	\$ 2,353,701.72
Liabilities and Equity	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable (A/P)	
4000 Accounts Payable	0.00
Total Accounts Payable (A/P)	\$ 0.00
4020 4020 - Accrued Accounts Payable	
4021 4021 - Accrued Accounts Payable	10,500.00
Total 4020 4020 - Accrued Accounts Payable	\$ 10,500.00
4025 4025 - Mst Acct - Capital Designated Funds	
4026 4026 - Capital Improvement Fund	8,100.82
4027 4027 - Capital Building Fund	51,685.50
4028 4028 - Computer Upgrade Fund	13,207.24
4029 4029 - Community Development Fund	348.36
Total 4025 4025 - Mst Acct - Capital Designated Funds	\$ 73,341.92
4030 4030 - Mst Acct - PassThrough External	
4031 4031 - PWRDF	0.00
4032 4032 - El Hogar	2,216.90
4033 4033 - St Matthews House	-100.00
4034 4034 - Madagascar	50.00
4035 4035 - Bishop of the Arctic	0.00
Total 4030 4030 - Mst Acct - PassThrough External	\$ 2,166.90
4040 4040 - Mst Acct - PassThrough - Internal	
4041 4041 - Refugee Fund	15,150.05
4042 4042 - Rector's Discretionary Fund (RDF)	1,976.25
4043 4043 - Designated Fund - Other	8,184.94
4044 4044 - Food For Life	11,728.36
4045 4045 - Advocacy Group	2,204.02
4046 4046 - Community Lunch	5,742.53
4047 4047 - Music at St. Luke's	7,328.72
4048 4048 - Red Box Project	1,077.01
4052 4052 - Chair Fund	784.19
4053 4053 - Tree Fund	348.99
4054 4054 - Verger's	2,111.42
4055 4055 - Outreach Fund	0.00

4056 4056 - Ministry Fund	0.00
4057 4057 - Church Avenue	2,000.00
Total 4040 4040 - Mst Acct - PassThrough - Internal	\$ 58,636.48
4080 4080 - Mst Acct - Funds Payable - Internal	
4081 4081 - Memorial / Building - Notes Payable	\$182,246.48
4082 4082 - Memorial / Building - Due To	0.00
Total 4080 4080 - Mst Acct - Funds Payable - Internal	\$182,246.48
GST/HST Payable	-8,808.11
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 318,083.67
Total Liabilities	\$ 318,083.67
Equity	
5150 5150 - Internally Restricted Fund	0.00
5151 5151 - Diocese Cemetery Fund	100,397.87
5152 5152 - G/L on Investment - Diocese Cemetery Fund	0.00
5153 5153 - Diocese Rectory Land Fund	372,026.52
5154 5154 - G/L on Investment - Diocese Rectory Fund	0.00
5155 5155 - Diocese ACW Fund	4,568.96
5156 5156 - G/L on Investment - ACW Fund	0.00
Total 5150 5150 - Internally Restricted Fund	\$ 476,993.35
5180 5180 - Mst Acct - Memorial / Building	
5181 5181 - Memorial Investments	1,206,652.91
Total 5180 5180 - Mst Acct - Memorial / Building	\$ 1,206,652.91
Opening Balance Equity	0.00
Retained Earnings	351,971.79
Profit for the year	0.00
Total Equity	\$ 2,035,618.05
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 2,353,701.72

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LUKE
TRUST FUND & CAPITAL FUND ACCOUNTS
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
ASSETS						
Cash	41,062	48,431	64,292	70,010	\$ 59,295	82,516
Investments	968,778	962,649	926,500	892,895	940,576	1,056,767
Promissory Notes		35,250	187,443	181,996	\$193,896	182,246
	1,009,840	1,046,330	1,178,235	1,144,901	1,193,767	1,321,530
LIABILITIES	None	None	None	None	None	None

The Individual fund balances are shown below:

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Kathleen Donkin Memorial Fund	23,594	24,594	25,594	26,594	26,594	27,594
Archdeacon Edward Rigby Endowment Fund	4,188	4,188	4,188	4,188	3,418	2,759
W. Warren Smith Fund	20,394	20,394	20,395	20,395	19,380	19,380
St. Luke's Cemetery Fund	75,111	76,431	75,891	75,891	75,990	67,928
St. Luke's Memorial Fund	872,002	906,172	1,037,616	1,003,282	1,053,834	1,176,146
Margaret Wittig Memorial Fund	14,551	14,551	14,551	14,551	14,551	14,551
Legacy Fund						13,173
	1,009,840	1,046,330	1,178,235	1,144,901	1,193,767	1,321,530

INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS

Kathleen Donkin Memorial Fund	590	563	421	493	548	535
Archdeacon Edward Rigby Endowment Fund	101	96	69	78	70	53
W. Warren Smith Fund	499	467	336	378	400	375
St. Luke's Cemetery Fund	1,837	1,750	1,250	1,408	1,567	1,316
St. Luke's Memorial Fund	21,309	20,746	17,086	18,616	21,728	22,787
Margaret Wittig Memorial Fund	355	333	240	270	300	282
Legacy Fund						255
	24,691	23,955	19,402	21,244	24,613	25,604

NOTES:

(a) Assets from the individual funds are pooled in order to take advantage of investment asset allocation decisions. Individual assets and earnings for each fund are kept separate in order that the integrity of the individual funds will be maintained.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LUKE
TRUST FUND ACCOUNTS
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Cash Balance Forward	41,748	41,062	48,431	64,292	70,010	59,295
RECEIPTS						
Memorial Donations	11,527	26,590	42,270	14,632	27,331	162,764
Investment Income	24,691	23,955	19,402	21,244	24,613	25,604
Investments Matured	132,000	101,250	214,000	48,000	103,000	87,256
Sales			113,007		60,000	199,791
Promissory Note Repayment		2,984	31,250	33,661	15,135	11,650
Urn Plots/Ash Scattering	<u>1,580</u>	<u>1,320</u>	- 540		<u>375</u>	<u>520</u>
Transfer from General Fund			<u>63,973</u>	<u>1,500</u>		<u>1,250</u>
TOTAL RECEIPTS	169,798	156,099	483,362	119,037	230,455	488,834
DISBURSEMENTS						
Bank charges	143	232	181	182	177	128
Donation-Northern Clergy Family Fund	500	500	500	500	500	500
Investments Purchased	144,841	89,763	182,930	58,000	183,000	336,441
Promissory Notes		38,234	183,444	28,213	27,076	-
Transfer to General Fund Fund						71,281
Transfer to Building Fund			75,447	424	5,357	20,026
Specific Fund Expenditures					2,060	10,237
Investment Income Transferred to St Luke's	<u>25,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>25,000</u>	<u>26,000</u>	<u>23,000</u>	<u>27,000</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	<u>170,484</u>	<u>148,730</u>	<u>467,502</u>	<u>113,319</u>	<u>241,170</u>	<u>465,613</u>
CASH-CLOSING BALANCE	41,062	48,431	64,292	70,010	59,295	82,516

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LUKE
BACKGROUND ON DESIGNATED FUNDS
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

1. The Kathleen Donkin Memorial Fund began in 1979 as a memorial to a lifelong parishioner who had been a popular teacher in the City of Burlington. In past years, a niece would habitually donate \$1,000.00 to the Fund on an annual basis. In the month of December of each year, income from the Fund is donated to the Northern Clergy Families Fund, at the request of the family.
2. The Archdeacon Edward Rigby Endowment Fund was started while the Archdeacon was called to be an honorary assistant in the Parish of St. Luke. He was a great proponent of endowment fund for the continued support of the parish beyond the life of a donor and as a result of this conviction put his money where his mouth was. He started the fund by making annual donations to it until ill health forced him to move to another parish. The income from this endowment fund, at his request, goes to General Funds to assist in Parish operations.
3. The W. Warren Smith Trust Fund was started by Warren's widow, Mabel, who, as well as others contributed to the Fund. Warren was a past warden, chair of our year long Sesquicentennial celebrations committee in 1983-84 and the driving force behind the establishment of St. Luke's Close. Income from this Fund, as per the original request, goes to General Funds to assist in Parish operations.
4. The St. Luke's Cemetery Fund (not to be confused with the Diocesan Cemetery Fund which is the mandatory perpetual care Fund under the Cemeteries Act) was formed when the Parish started to receive money from the sale of urn plots. Income from the fund goes to help meet the cost of cemetery care (lawns, tree trimming and removal, snow shovelling, etc.). There has been very few incursions of capital. (Example; The Augustus Bates historical plot). Capital from the Fund was used to build the columbarium. Subsequent sales of niches for the columbarium, made possible the capital to the Fund to be repaid in full.
- 5 The Margaret Wittig Memorial Fund was added in 2004. Income from the Fund is to be directed at the discretion of the rector to bring speakers to the parish. Accordingly, income is added to the capital with draws on capital as needed to meet the expense of speakers' honourariums.
- 6 The Legacy Fund was established in 2023. Its members have remembered St. Luke's in their wills.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LUKE
BUILDING FUND ACCOUNTS
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	2022	2023	2024
Cash Balance Forward	-	0.89	1,251

RECEIPTS

Memorial Donations		6,607	131,656
Interest			2,476
Dividends	-		
Maturities	12,867	11,646	180,458
Sales			
Transfers from General Fund	424		3,750
Transfer from Memorial Funds			5,000
TOTAL RECEIPTS	13,291	18,253	323,339

DISBURSEMENTS

Expenses			128,773
Investments Purchased	11,791	17,003	190,405
Transfer to General Funds	1,500		
Repayment of Note			
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	13,291	17,003	319,179

Closing Cash	1	1,251	5,411
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THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LUKE
BUILDING FUND ACCOUNTS
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
ASSETS					
Cash	23,250	0	0.89	1,251	5,411
Investments	23,001	92,523	89,722	100,323	114,462
Total Assets	46,251	92,523	89,722	101,574	119,873
LIABILITIES	None	None	None	None	None

The Individual fund balances are shown below:

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Outreach		5,914	4,923	5,168	5,169
Ministry		6,421	6,422	6,740	6,742
Capital Improvements	46,251	80,187	78,376	89,666	107,963
	46,251	92,523	89,721	101,574	119,873

INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS

Outreach	-	-	147	258	173
Ministry	-	-	191	337	225
Capital Improvements	1	120	239	776	2,078
	1	120	577	1,371	2,476

(a) Assets from the individual funds are pooled in order to take advantage of investment asset allocation decisions. Individual assets and earnings for each fund are kept separate in order that the integrity of the individual funds will be maintained.

The Parish Church of St. Luke

2025 Budget

	2025 Budget	2024 Actual	% Change
Income			
6001 6001 - Envelopes - Receipt	90,000.00	90,618.88	-0.68%
6002 6002 - Pag Donations - Receipt	187,100.00	175,875.93	6.38%
6003 6003 - E-Trf Donations - Receipt	92,500.00	87,510.00	5.70%
6004 6004 - Other - Receipt	0.00	337.50	-100.00%
6005 6005 - Open - Non-Receipt	100,300.00	96,799.06	3.62%
6006 6006 - Easter Donations	8,000.00	7,934.00	0.83%
6007 6007 - Thanksgiving Donations	4,000.00	3,617.00	10.59%
6008 6008 - Christmas Donations	15,000.00	13,718.00	9.35%
Total 6000 6000 - Mst Acct - Weekly Donations	\$496,900.00	\$476,410.37	4.30%
Total 6050 6050 - Mst Acct - Operating Income	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 1,347.50	211.69%
6201 6201 - Contract Income - Name	32,546.40	31,682.70	2.73%
6209 6209 - Rental Income - Short Term	10,614.00	10,004.00	6.10%
6210 6210 - Wedding Income	3,925.00	3,515.00	11.66%
6211 6211 - Receptions (Funerals etc)	12,000.00	3,960.00	203.03%
Total 6200 6200 - Mst Acct - Rental Income	\$ 59,085.40	\$ 49,161.70	20.19%
6251 6251 - Name Of Fundraiser - Non-Receipt	7,030.23	7,988.38	-11.99%
6252 6252 - Music at St. Luke's	25,000.00	24,550.47	1.83%
6253 6253 - Christmas Market	23,000.00	22,584.70	1.84%
6254 6254 - Newsletter	0.00	0.00	
6255 6255 - Yard Sale	8,000.00	7,284.20	9.83%
6256 6256 - Event Parking	8,000.00	6,765.00	18.26%
6257 6257 - Calenders, Cards etc	2,393.65	2,493.65	-4.01%
6258 6258 - Events (Pancake Supper, Speakers Lunch)	3,000.00	2,713.11	10.57%
6259 6259 - Parish Dinner	1,500.00	3,961.60	-62.14%
6260 6260 - Tourtieres	8,600.00	5,484.70	56.80%
Total 6250 6250 - Mst Acct - Fundraising Events	\$ 86,523.88	\$ 83,825.81	3.22%
6350 6350 - Mst Acct - Miscellaneous Income	0.00		
6355 6355 - Investment Interest Income	32,000.00	27,000.00	18.52%
6370 6370 - Misc. - Other Income Sources	2,424.51	2,424.51	0.00%
6371 6371 - Misc. - Newsletter Advertising	4,200.00	4,200.00	0.00%
Total 6350 6350 - Mst Acct - Miscellaneous Income	\$ 38,624.51	\$ 33,624.51	14.87%
6503 6503 - Draw From Cemetery Fund	1,800.00	2,086.95	-13.75%
6504 6504 - Draw from ACW Fund	300.00	300.00	0.00%
Total 6500 6500 - Mst Acct - Investment Draws	\$ 2,100.00	\$ 2,386.95	-12.02%
Total 6600 6600 - Mst Acct - Flw Thrh Internal	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	
Total Income	<u>\$687,433.79</u>	<u>\$ 646,756.84</u>	<u>6.29%</u>
Gross Profit	<u>\$687,433.79</u>	<u>\$ 646,756.84</u>	<u>6.29%</u>

	2025 Budget	2024 Actual	% Change
Expenses			
Total 7100 7100 - Mst Acct - Wages And Benefits	\$370,732.11 \$	351,644.15	5.43%
7201 7201 - Worship And Music Expenses	4,271.81	4,949.46	-13.69%
7202 7202 - Program Expenses	9,065.99	9,496.60	-4.53%
7203 7203 - Altar Group Expenses	125.00	125.00	0.00%
7204 7204 - Evangelism Expenses	1,541.63	0.00	
7205 7205 - Outreach Expenses	4,234.83	3,672.33	15.32%
7206 7206 - Ministry Fund	18.40	18.40	0.00%
7207 7207 - Educational Expenses	1,164.55	875.00	33.09%
7209 7209 - Fund Raising Expenses	7,645.65	7,645.65	0.00%
7210 7210 - Music at St. Luke's	16,200.00	19,720.31	-17.85%
7211 7211 - Christmas Market Expenses	4,000.00	3,556.01	12.49%
7212 7212 - Funeral Reception - Expenses	789.65	789.65	0.00%
7213 7213 - Parish Dinner Expenses	500.00	5,420.13	-90.78%
7214 7214 - Tourtiere Supplies	2,200.00	1,926.24	14.21%
7215 7215 - Calendars, Cards etc	1,292.92	1,292.92	0.00%
Total 7200 7200 - Mst Acct - Parish Activity Expense	\$ 53,050.43 \$	59,487.70	-10.82%
Total 7220 7220 - DMM Assessment	\$112,856.40 \$	101,061.69	11.67%
7250 7250 - Mst Acct - Office / Gen Admin Exp.	57.15	0.00	
7251 7251 - Office Supplies	3,820.21	3,719.76	2.70%
7252 7252 - Postage	776.42	651.42	19.19%
7253 7253 - Telephones	3,900.00	3,590.04	8.63%
7254 7254 - Internet	0.00		
7255 7255 - Equipment - Purchase / Lease	3,024.00	2,068.27	46.21%
7256 7256 - Photocopier	3,300.00	2,596.07	27.12%
7258 7258 - Bank Charges	2,160.00	2,052.06	5.26%
7260 7260 - Licenses And Memberships	0.00	0.00	
7262 7262 - Audit Fees	10,500.00	12,992.50	-19.18%
7263 7263 - Professional Fees	75.00	75.00	0.00%
7264 7264 - Web Cost	878.41	884.44	-0.68%
7265 7265 - Computer Programs & Equipment	3,118.12	3,060.56	1.88%
7266 7266 - Computer Consulting	3,048.00	7,044.80	-56.73%
7267 7267 - Miscellaneous Expenses	1,256.68	274.79	357.32%
Total 7250 7250 - Mst Acct - Office / Gen Admin Exp.	\$ 35,913.99 \$	39,009.71	-7.94%
7301 7301 - Insurance Premiums - Property	27,576.86	26,516.21	4.00%
7302 7302 - Insurance Premiums - Liability	10,255.86	9,861.40	4.00%
7303 7303 - Utilities - Gas	9,602.90	6,947.21	38.23%
7304 7304 - Utilities - Light And Water	15,959.90	16,245.04	-1.76%
7305 7305 - Security	3,500.00	4,673.49	-25.11%
7306 7306- Cleaning Supplies / Services	10,486.96	10,137.60	3.45%
7307 7307- Landscape / Snow Removal	13,640.00	17,295.81	-21.14%

7308 7308 - Maintenance And Repairs	20,927.95	18,153.58	15.28%
7309 7309 - Major Rep And Renovations	0.00	0.00	
7317 7317 - Other Non-Allocated Prop Exp Costs	380.51	365.47	4.12%
7318 7318 - Property Taxes	940.00	879.85	6.84%
7320 7320 - Furniture & Equipment - Hall	1,609.92	1,008.98	59.56%
Total 7300 7300 - Mst Acct - Property Exp	<u>\$114,880.85</u>	<u>\$ 112,084.64</u>	<u>2.49%</u>
Total Expenses	<u>\$687,433.79</u>	<u>\$ 663,287.89</u>	<u>3.64%</u>
Net Operating Income	\$ 0.00	-\$ 16,531.05	-100.00%

St. Luke's Mission Action Plan, 2022

WE SEEK... Spiritual growth by living the message of Jesus Christ

WE SERVE.... Our diverse church family and the broader community through worship, fellowship, mission & outreach

Adult Faith Formation	Reshaping Parish Culture to Enable Ministry	Fullness of Life in the neighbourhood
1. Know and engage our local community knowledgably and lovingly	2. Enhance accessibility for worship prayer, service and music make it easy to start participation and grow with us	1. Know and engage our local community knowledgably and lovingly
2. Enhance accessibility for worship prayer, service and music make it easy to start participation and grow with us	5. Create expectation and tools to invite welcome and connect	3. Build on the platform of the online world we have started
5. Create expectation and tools to invite welcome and connect		4. Create a community spiritual resource for worship and prayer through development of Church Avenue

Notes from Review of Mission Action Plan, 2025

The focus of our next MAP is to develop St. Luke's into a missional church, with particular emphasis on growing our parish through community engagement.

Key Areas of Focus

- Church Avenue
 - Increase use of outdoor space for community engagement.
- Communications
 - Strengthen overall communications through Communications Committee.
 - Re-design of parish website.
 - Expanded use of social media.
- Invite · Welcome · Connect
 - Develop a clear process to follow up with newcomers.
 - Create intentional ways to engage and integrate newcomers into parish life.
- Engage residents of new buildings in the downtown area.
- Offer more parish activities (e.g., movie nights, Messy Church).
- Encourage and gather new ideas from parishioners.