

St. John-In-The-  
Wilderness  
Anglican Church



**Report to the 161<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting  
January 21, 2018**

**For the year ending  
December 31, 2017**

# *St. John in the Wilderness Anglican Church*

VESTRY MEETING

January 21, 2018

## **AGENDA**

1. Welcome and Announcements; Opening Prayer
  
2. Election of Vestry Clerk
  
3. Election of Scrutineers if needed.
  
4. Acceptance of Agenda
  
5. Minutes of 2017 Annual Vestry Meeting
  
6. Business Arising from the Minutes
  
7. Acceptance of Reports
  
8. Rector's Report
  
9. Wardens' Report
  
10. Treasurer's Report

11. 2018 Budget Report

12. Nominating Committee Report/Slate of Officers

13. Recognition of Retiring Members

14. New Business

15. Adjournment

St. John-in-the-Wilderness Anglican  
Church

VESTRY MEETING  
January 15, 2017

**Minutes**

1. Opening Prayer: Pastor Kim opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and reading the “Thanksgiving” story.

2. Election of Vestry Clerk:

Ingrid Schmid moved that Sandra Lamoureux be elected as Vestry Clerk, seconded by Janice McAlpine. CARRIED.

3. Appointment of Scrutineers if needed: Janice McAlpine and Al Taylor were appointed.

4. Acceptance of Agenda: A motion was made by Mavis Schmid to accept the agenda as written with the following changes: election of scrutineers was changed to appointment of scrutineers. Seconded by Bob Halliday. CARRIED.

5. Minutes of 2016 Annual Vestry Meeting:

Sandra Lamoureux moved that the 2015 Annual Vestry Meeting Minutes be accepted as written, seconded by Brenden Fraser. CARRIED.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes:

a) CHAIR presentation follow-up: Brian Fogg reported on the renovations done by Beehive and Bear Creek. Significant structural damage was discovered (plumbing, east kitchen wall, electrical). \$5,000 had been budgeted for the unexpected but it ended up costing \$7,000. Costs are under budget but still some items to complete e.g. Kitchen backsplash.

A proposal to change the layout of the church was rejected by the parishioners.

Bell Tower: As there appears to be water damage, a lift will need to be brought in to inspect and determine the true damage.

People's Warden Shirley MacKenzie thanked Brian for his hard work and success with the renovations.

b) Cleaning of the Church: Pastor Kim thanked everyone who has taken on this ministry. Marie Foubister said that she and Jim had officially retired from cleaning the church. Pastor Kim said that there was now a spot open for anyone to jump in and fill.

Reverend Kim thanked Jim and Marie Foubister for the many years they have volunteered cleaning the church

c) Safe Church Training: This will be done in the Spring. Sandra Fraser is looking after this so those who still need the training or those contemplating Pastoral Care should speak to her.

7. - 9. Reception of Reports: For each submitted report Pastor Kim mentioned the name of the person submitting it and asked if there were any additions or questions. Additional comments/questions:

- Mike McAlpine asked if there could be a change to the rule preventing married couples from both being in a resident's room in a nursing home during a pastoral visit? Pastor Kim responded that there is a room with a glass door that can be used if both want to be present or alternatively the couple can visit "unofficially" together.

- Brenda Clingersmith said she was looking for new servers the only requirement being that the person should be able to carry the cross.
- Nancy Mann said she can't find the booklets re the 160<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the church.
- Sandra Fraser said she is looking for more FundScript users.

Maggie Brownridge moved that the reports be accepted as written, seconded by Fran Taylor. CARRIED.

10. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Dave Hains reported that 2016 was a financial success: operating revenue was right on budget, the triathlon/ duathlon was very successful and support for the renovations surpassed the goal. The result of all these was an operating surplus of \$15,792.

Dave Hains moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted, seconded by Jim Foubister. CARRIED.

11. 2017 Budget Report: Treasurer Dave Hains presented the budget prepared with the help of Ingrid Schmid, Shirley MacKenzie and Brian Fogg. Ninety percent of the expenses such as salaries, apportionment, Lambton Deanery membership and utilities are not under our control and are expected to increase by \$6,300. The budget Committee are asking the parishioners to give \$2,000 more and fund raise the additional \$4,300. The triathlon is a variable source of funding as it changes from year to year. The congregation was encouraged to support the church through increasing their involvement with FundScript. We have received our first payment from FundScript of \$1811.00 which will be deposited to our 2017 fundraising budget.

Questions arising from the budget presentation: Al Taylor asked what the effect of the carbon tax would be on the budget. The answer was we will just have to wait and see.

Dave Hains moved that the 2017 Budget be accepted, seconded by Mavis Schmid CARRIED.

Mavis Schmid called for a round of applause for the hard work put in by Dave Hains and the Budget Committee.

12. Nominating Committee Report/Slate of Officers:

The nominating committee was: Sandra Fraser, Shirley MacKenzie, Brent Anderson & Peter Langille.

a) Nominations from the Floor were called three times for the following position: Alternate Delegate to Synod. Jim Foubister requested an explanation of the term “canonical extension”. Sandra Fraser replied that those serving last year are remaining in their positions as Reverend Kim is taking a leave of absence for four weeks to take a course with the bishop. Jim asked if there would be elections later on. The answer was no.

b) Brenda Clingersmith made the motion: “I move that we expand the size of the council to include all those running”. Seconded by Doug Winch.

- Jim Foubister questioned whether the number would skew the votes on council but this was not seen as an issue with a total on council of 13.

CARRIED.

The Congregational Council Officers and Members for 2016 are as follows:

Vestry clerk	Sandra Lamoureux
Rector's Warden	Sandra Fraser (Canonical extension)
Deputy Rector's Warden	Brent Anderson (Canonical extension)
People's Warden	Shirley MacKenzie (Canonical extension)

Deputy People's Warden	Peter Langille (Canonical extension)
Treasurer	Dave Hains (Appointed by Wardens & Rector)
Deputy Treasurer	Ingrid Schmid (Appointed by Wardens, not on council)
Envelope Secretary	Sandra Lamoureux (Appointed by Wardens, not on council)
Lay Delegate to Synod	Janice McAlpine
Alternate Delegate to Synod	Fran Taylor
Youth Delegate to Synod	Morgan Langille
Regular Council Members	Brenden Fraser, Brian Fogg (Appointed); Betty Greening; Nancy Mann; Ingrid Schmid; Peggy Van Dusen (Appointed); Ken Walker (Appointed).
Outreach Representative	Nancy Mann
Environment Representative	Bob & Susan Halliday
Safe Church Representative	Sandra Fraser

13. Recognition of Retiring Member: Pastor Kim thanked Susan Halliday for serving on council last year.

14. New Business:

a) Changing of the 10:30 Service Time: The Worship Committee feels the service times should be standardized year round. Reverend Kim explained to those present that a change to the 8 a.m. service would not be voted on at this vestry. If those who attend the 8 a.m. service want to discuss a change that will be done at a later time with them at a separate meeting.

Sandra Fraser made a motion: "I move that the 10:30 service be moved to 10:00 a.m. for the entire year. Seconded by Mike McAlpine.

Jim Foubister made an amendment to the motion that there be an 8:30 service and a 10:30 service. The reason being that it allowed 2 hours between services and kept the 10:30 time which seemed better for families with young children. Seconded by Dave Hains

Following a discussion, the amendment was defeated 14 in favour, 25 against. As it was difficult to count hands, Jim Foubister called for a “division of the house” which meant that people would stand to be counted.

Parishioners voted on the motion by secret ballot. The results for each service time were: 10:00 a.m. 15 votes, 10:30 a.m. 24 votes, 2 abstaining. Therefore, the 10:30 service time remains unchanged.

Janice McAlpine moved that the ballots be destroyed. Seconded by Peter Langille.  
CARRIED.

b) No other New Business

15. Adjournment: Janice McAlpine moved that the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting closed with the Doxology.

### **WARDEN'S VESTRY REPORT**

As Rector's Warden and People's Warden of St. John-in-the Wilderness we would like to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to each and everyone for your support and your contributions of time, talent and cold hard cash. You continue to make a difference within our community and the community at large. Your patience and fortitude during the renovations was remarkable. Coffee hour went on as usual

with a few minor adjustments and creative makeshift facilities. All of this while serving up delicious goodies which were thoroughly enjoyed. 2017 presented St. John-in-the Wilderness with unique challenges. We were and are blessed to have Rev. Dave fill the role of spiritual leader for our congregation. He has and continues to do this with calm assurance and heartfelt messages.

#### January

- Payment of apportionment was made
- With a new council in place, meetings were conducted under the able guidance of Peter Langille who facilitated meetings effectively and efficiently.

#### February

- February's pancake supper was spear-headed by the choir this year (Nancy Mann turned over the torch after many years of dedication and success) with support from experienced persons willing to provide guidance and expertise. Many, many thanks to all for your various means of assistance and support to reach out to the community and provide them with an opportunity to get to know us. As a result of your hard work the pancake supper was a resounding success.

#### March

- Laura Greaves, Vice President of the Sarnia Historical Society gave an informative presentation on Vimy.

#### April

- Rev. Dave lead us through the very busy Easter season with grace and humility.

#### May

- Heather Holbrook accepted the offer to be the Church secretary.
- A successful plant sale generating \$728 in revenue was held. Thank you to all for your support of this fundraiser.

#### June

- "The Mission & Ministry Plan" from the Bishop was introduced. Volunteers to assist with the completion were requested. The revised deadline is June 30, 2018. The plan does need to be ratified by a meeting of vestry so a special vestry meeting will need to be held sometime during the month of June 2018.
- Janice McAlpine presented the Synod report on June 18, 2017.
- Our refugee family arrived safely

#### July

- The annual Bluewater Triathlon lead by Ken and Deb Walker was held July 22, 2017. Many months of preparation culminated in another resounding success (not only financially but by bringing awareness to St. John-in-the Wilderness) raising \$16,125 for the Church. There is community participation on many levels; sponsorships; donations of food; and as active volunteers and athletes. Your contributions are essential to the ongoing success of this event.

#### August

- VBS, lead by Leslie Grieve was once again well supported and attended. Thank you to all who supported and will continue to support this very viable program. The program has far reaching benefits to the community at large.

#### September

- Council resumed their responsibilities to provide good stewardship both financially and in all matters pertaining to church affairs.

#### October

- Janice McAlpine spearheaded a Blanket ceremony Saturday October 14, 2017. Those who attended found the event to be moving and informative.
- ACW Sunday was October 15, 2017. Brenda Clingersmith gave the sermon.

## November

• New Outreach guidelines have been approved. Outreach - “And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.” 2 Corinthians 9:8 (Diocese of Huron (Giving))

## December

• The Sunday school family rose to the occasion once again when called upon to provide their version of “The Carol of Nine Lessons” while giving us all the opportunity to be children once again.

Thank you all once again. It has been our pleasure to serve as your Rector’s and People’s Warden.

Sandra Fraser  
Rector’s Warden

Shirley MacKenzie  
People’s Warden

## **CHURCH WARDENS OFFICE AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **I. SUMMARY OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF CHURCH WARDENS**

It is the overall responsibility of the church wardens to organize the conduct of parish affairs so that the parish, with the spiritual guidance of the rector, will be able to effectively carry out its mission as a Christian community. To that end, and with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, it is the responsibility of the wardens to work in harmony with the rector to take all necessary measures to ensure that, to the best of their abilities:

- i) the fabric of the parish properties are suitable for the exercise of the ministry of the parish and are duly cared for,
- ii) the financial affairs are cared for and recorded in an orderly and accurate manner so as to properly reflect the financial state of the parish, including accounts for which the wardens are directly responsible, and for all accounts of organizations using funds collected for use in the parish,
- iii) appropriate measures are taken to maintain the financial well-being of the parish,
- iv) all appropriate measures are taken to ensure the safety and well-being of all persons on church property, and the property itself are adequately protected and insured,
- v) newcomers and visitors to the parish are welcomed and encouraged to enter into the life of the parish,
- vi) the various lay organizations are established, administered and coordinated with each other, utilizing the talents of as many lay people as is possible,
- vii) the rector and his/her family are properly housed,
- viii) the rector and other paid staff are paid promptly and appropriately for their responsibilities. 14-2...2

- ix) the standards of the Anglican Church are upheld, at the same the parish is allowed to change and grow in accordance with the developing life of the congregation and to suit the changing conditions and needs of the local community,
- x) issues of a non personal nature which may arise between laity and clergy are resolved expeditiously,
- xi) all measures necessary for the spiritual and temporal welfare of the parish are attended to during the period when the parish is without a rector pending a new appointment,
- xii) parish matters which are required to come to the attention of the regional dean, archdeacon, diocesan executive, the diocesan office, and the bishops are properly presented and dealt with, and
- xiii) parish records are kept in a safe and adequate manner: →all in such a way as to enable the rector and the laity to work together to jointly spread the Gospel and minister to each other and the community in which the parish is located and to meet their obligations and responsibilities beyond the parish boundaries.

AS A CORPORATION Church wardens have legal obligations (they can sue and be sued) under the provision of Section 8 of The Act of Incorporation of The Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Huron (38 Victoria, c 74, 1874).

QUALIFICATIONS OF A WARDEN A warden is expected to be a regular Communicant, involved in church affairs, and be a person of sound character. It is a legal requirement that to be a church warden, a person must have reached the age of majority (presently 18 years of age)

WARDENS BEING EQUAL Although one warden is appointed by the rector, the other warden elected by the congregation, they act as equals, dividing their responsibilities as is most expedient based on their interests, talents and expertise.

WARDENS AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE PARISH The wardens, with the rector, have the privilege of representing their parish in meetings with the regional dean, territorial archdeacon, or bishop.

DUTIES OF CHURCH WARDENS IN RELATION TO THE RECTOR

ORDERING OF CHURCH SERVICES The ordering of all services of the church is solely at the direction of the rector in accord with the vows taken at his/her ordination. The church wardens are to ensure orderly worship in the parish church, receiving and seating the congregation with the assistance of sidespersons.

## Treasurer's Report to Vestry

Jan 21, 2018

## 2017 in review

This year was a financial success thanks to the support and generosity of everyone. Our total operating revenue was \$142,100 or 101% of budget. The envelope donations were 100% of plan and our pre-authorized monthly payment approach has been very successful, as it is 54% of the envelope offering.

We continue to be successful with our fundraising efforts.

Expenses for the year were \$93,355 or 75% of plan mainly due to not having a full time rector for most of the year. This in part resulted in an operating surplus \$48,745. This strong financial position enabled us to donate \$11,786 for our Outreach program.

In summary, we had an overall surplus of \$36,959 of which we transferred \$35,000 to our Building Fund invested with the diocese.

## 2018 budget

This budget was prepared based on the assumption that the church would not have a full time rector for the entire year. The envelope offering was increased by \$2000 to cover the projected increase in our total operating expenses.

We also acknowledge that there may be repairs to the bell tower which hopefully will be funded by our building fund investment.

We must realize that fundraising will continue to be a necessary and important part of our revenue.

I would like to thank the Deputy Treasurer, Envelope Secretary, Financial Review Committee, the Budget Committee and the Sunday counters for their assistance.

Respectively submitted.

Dave Hains - Treasurer

## Income Statement

Operating Revenue

Actual

Budget

Actual

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Envelopes	110518	110000	108029
Open	1347	1700	1738
Fundraising	20163	19400	14305
Hall	1720	1500	2434
Investments	8352	8100	8020
<b><u>Total Operating Revenue</u></b>	142100	140700	134526

<b><u>Operating Expenses</u></b>	<b><u>Actual</u></b>	<b><u>Budget</u></b>	<b><u>Actual</u></b>
	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>2017</u></b>	<b><u>2016</u></b>
Salaries & Benefits	63339	87500	85523
Mileage & Cell	1181	1800	1762
Apportionment	19781	19770	17919
Synod	578	600	550
Membership & Dues	198	198	179
Communications & Advertising	1169	1100	1079
Maintainance & Cleaning	1317	3000	2140
Insurance	1504	1650	1566
Utilities	3892	4400	3912
Office Supplies	1979	1400	1158
Training, conferences	178	1000	1115
Altar	353	650	550
Music	260	300	316
Flowers	300	600	566
Sunday School	0	350	0
HST Rebate	-5423		
Misc	2749	700	362
<b><u>Total Operating Expenses</u></b>	93355	125018	118697

<u>Operating Surplus</u>	48745	15682	15829
<u>Outreach</u>	11786	11000	10980
<u>Overall Surplus</u>	36959	4682	4849
	<u>2017</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Capital	9256	15000	7314
Memorial Donations	3087		

**St. John in the Wilderness Anglican Church 2018 Budget**

Prepared by Ingrid Schmid, Brian Fogg, Shirley MacKenzie and Dave Hains

**Operating Budget 2018**

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
<u>Operating Revenue</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Envelopes	110518	110000	112500
Open	1347	1700	1000
Investments	8352	8100	8400
Hall donations	1720	1500	1700
Fundraising	20163	19400	16500
<b>Total Operating Revenue</b>	<b>142100</b>	<b>140700</b>	<b>140100</b>
	<u>2017</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Salaries & Benefits	63339	87500	55000
Rector mileage & cell	1181	1800	1400
Apportionment	19781	19770	19919
Insurance	1504	1650	1600

Synod	578	600	600
Membership & Dues	198	198	250
Advertising & Communications	1169	1100	1500
Utilities	3892	4400	4500
Office	1979	1400	2000
Maintainance	1317	3000	2000
Cleaning services			3000
Training & conferences	178	1000	500
Altar	353	650	500
Music	260	300	300
Flowers	300	600	500
Sunday School	0	350	350
HST Rebate	-5423		-2200
Other	2749	700	4000
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>93355</b>	<b>125018</b>	<b>95719</b>
<b><u>Operating Surplus / Deficit</u></b>	<b>48745</b>	<b>15682</b>	<b>44381</b>
<b><u>Outreach</u></b>	<b>11786</b>	<b>11000</b>	<b>14000</b>
<b><u>Overall Surplus</u></b>	<b>36959</b>	<b>4682</b>	<b>30381</b>
<b><u>Capital Budget 2018</u></b>			
Expenses	9256	15000	10000

### **ACW VESTRY REPORT**

We are blessed at St. John in the Wilderness with a dedicated group of women. Whether they think they are members of the ACW or not, the women of this church are always ready to pitch in and get projects done. For instance, the women, along with some men (thank you!) made turkey pies on four days this year--two days in January (kitchen renos) and again two days in November. This has meant a healthy bottom line so that more can benefit when we allocate our outreach budget. A hearty well done to all involved.

Our ACW meets regularly on the first Tuesday of each month at one in the afternoon in our parish hall. The meetings consist of prayer, business, program, Bible study, general edification, guest speakers and socializing--not all in every month and not necessarily equally divided! Our "theme" this year is The Love of Jesus Calls Us to Prayer, Work and Learning.

In March we hosted the World Day of Prayer with the service designed by the women of the

Phillipines. There was an excellent turn out and lovely social time was enjoyed afterward. We also hosted the deanery meeting for Lambton in April. Our annual meeting was held at the Church of the Ascension In London in April with six of our members attending. At that meeting, Janice McAlpine volunteered to be Lambton Deanery representative to the ACW diocesan council. In June, several members took a road trip to Grand Bend to enjoy Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dream Coat, stopping for dinner at Aunt Gussie's on the way home. In the fall we served at three celebration of life services for Mary--a proud ACW member and for Bev and Harry--two strong supporters of ACW members!

ACW Sunday was held on Oct. 15. As always, the ladies took part in the service and special envelopes were available for thank offering to be presented at our annual meeting in April. Also on this Sunday, we donated \$400 in diapers, formula and other baby items to the Inn of the Good Shepherd. We also hosted a blanket ceremony in October. What an eye opening and reflective time it was.

So, as you see, we are busy here at the little church on the lake and we praise God that the love of Jesus calls us!

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Clingersmith

## **CHAIR PLANNING COMMITTEE VESTRY REPORT**

2017 Review- December 2017

### **Introduction**

Although there were no formal meetings scheduled in the year, there were follow up meetings with congregation members and the Church Council members.

### **Action Item Covered**

1. The Kitchen Renovation was completed at the start of the year. A concern with the tripping of the circuits breakers was reviewed with electrician and a summary was prepared of the reasons and its avoidance. The wall plugs in the kitchen have circuit

numbers written on the outlet and the numbers correspond to the circuit breaker at the main panel. The breakers are 15 amp circuits and cannot take more than one large heating pot or pieces of equipment on the same breaker or it will trip. A written summary of this was posted in the kitchen.

2. Sacristy was completed.
3. The office was moved and completed.
4. The Bell Tower was not completed but work on the tower walls and entrance should be investigated and an estimate prepared for its completion.
5. Plaque for Names on Head Stones was completed and is now in the church.

### Follow Up

The Chair will continue to follow up on the Bell Tower. The availability of certified contractors who have provincial lift-ticket designation and the time they have to carry out the review has not been obtained to date. An initial estimate for the inspection of the current condition from a certified contractor is pending at the end of the year. Additional estimates will be obtained and the scope of the work required will be prepared from the inspections. It was deemed appropriate to pay for inspections and estimates prior to proceeding with the work because the costs could be significant.

The Church Building Account is in place and the Church Council and Dave Hains have set aside additional funds for the future work once the scope is known. The authorization to proceed will be with Council's approval.

Brian Fogg

CHAIR Committee Member

## St. John-in-the-Wilderness Financial Review

### 2016 Review

#### Introduction

Brian Fogg had previously reviewed the financial statements and documents provided by Dave Hains for the 2016 fiscal year. An exchange of audit notes and emails concerning items noted were completed with Dave by September.

#### Items Reviewed

Dave was commended for the excellent effort he had put into the preparation of the financial statements and their completeness. The effort of work is reflected in the ease with which the Review could be completed for the full year of work.

1. The account transfers to the Diocese were made throughout the year and the amounts are recorded on the monthly statements. The amounts were significant and entry confirmations were not present at the time of the review. The review requested Dave to provide a year-end confirmation of the amounts received by the Diocese and indicate the balances on hand.
2. The FundScript transactions were posted and entered into the books. Some entries were documented but not all entries had backup information to confirm the income and debit amounts.

#### Follow Up

Dave provided the statements for all the Diocese accounts. There were four accounts and the transfer amounts were in agreement with the monthly statements.

There is a Building Account, Investment Account, Rectory Account and a Transfer Account.

All were in order.

The FundScript transfers were confirmed by with the yearly summary provide by Dave.

#### Conclusion

The Diocese and FundScript entry summaries should be available to the review team in subsequent years to confirm the postings as these are significant amounts.

The Review Audit Committee has no concerns with the financial statements as presented by Dave for 2016.

Brian Fogg

### CHOIR VESTRY REPORT

2018 and a new year is upon is.

As music director at St. John, I would just like to use this opportunity to thank my wonderful choir, who works so hard at learning the music we sing and thank you to our organist, Susan. Without Susan's excellence on the keys, we would never be able to do the things we do.

This coming year should be an exciting one, with a few new voices in the group and some new music to learn. I've got some challenging pieces in mind, but I know that the group is up to the task of performing them.

As is always the case: new members are welcome. The only thing required is the willingness to learn and make mistakes. Music reading is not a requirement.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenden Fraser

### **COFFEE HOUR VESTRY REPORT**

**Coffee Hour** promotes fellowship among the congregation each Sunday after the 10:30 service. Maggie Brownridge and Nancy Mann coordinate the program by purchasing supplies, recruiting volunteers, and helping volunteers as needed.

We wish to thank all the volunteers who provide treats and beverages, and based on attendance it seems that the congregation truly enjoys this opportunity to visit with one another.

Respectfully submitted by

Maggie Brownridge

### **COUNTERS' VESTRY REPORT**

The job of the counters is to assist the Treasurer by counting the collection on Sundays and at other times as needed. We also make deposits and record the financial figures in the church register. Safe church practices are adhered to by the counters working in pairs on a rotation which insures that no two people consistently work together. We use the new office which allows us more privacy to count without interruption. My thanks to a great team, Edna Braithwaite, Brenda Clingersmith, Ingrid Schmid, Duncan Mann, Al Taylor, Brent Anderson, Ron Jackson, and Karen Wilson who takes over for me when necessary. We welcome anyone who likes working with figures and money . Please contact me if interested.

Respectfully submitted

Mavis Schmid

### **GREETERS VESTRY REPORT**

Thank you to all who give their time to greet those who enter through our doors. If you would like to be a greeter please sign the sheet at the back of the church, there are still open spots for 2018.

### **INN OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD VESTRY REPORT**

The first Saturday of every month, a team of volunteers from the St. John in the Wilderness congregation prepare and serve meals at the Inn of the Good Shepherd in downtown Sarnia. Each meal, we typically serve over 100 meals. Not only do we share

a good meal with those less fortunate, we bring fellowship and friendship to those in need. The sign up sheet is found in the hall on the bulletin board.

### **LICENSED LAY READERS VESTRY REPORT**

Your Lay Readers remain to be Fran Taylor, Sandra Fraser and Janice McAlpine. The year 2017 brought unusual circumstances; that being an extended leave as well as the resignation of our former priest. Therefore, we were called upon to preside over more Morning Prayer services than the norm. We currently assist Reverend Dave+ during services up to the point of Absolution.

We are presently licensed under the authority of the Territorial Archdeacon +Terry Dance and will remain so until six months after the appointment of a new Rector when that person may request the Bishop to re-issue our Lay Readers' licenses.

We appreciate your support and encouragement as we serve God, the Parish and assist Reverend Dave+.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Janice McAlpine*

### **OUT OF THE COLD QUILTERS VESTRY REPORT**

The quilters and Prayer Shawl knitters meet at the same time on Wednesdays at the church. Quilts are hand tied during Prayer Shawl meetings. Making the quilt is a group effort. Maggie cuts squares from the fabric that is donated to the group. Shalleen sews the squares to make a quilt top and then it is a group effort to put the quilt top in the quilt frame. When the top is finished, Shalleen sews a binding. The quilts are blessed and donated to The Good Shepherd's Lodge.

### **PASTORAL CARE TEAM VESTRY REPORT**

Our Pastoral Care Team continues to consist of the Rev'd. Dave+, Nancy Mann, Sandra Fraser, Ann Toth and Janice McAlpine with God's guidance. Ann visits with the hearing impaired to serve Holy Communion at home.

Sandra, Nancy and Janice visited Afton Park Place Nursing Home from January until September of 2017 and remain with Vision Nursing and Rest Home visiting residents and leading church services which include prayer, hymns, sermon and Holy Communion monthly. Mike McAlpine assists us. The residents look forward to these services immensely; numbers attending the services continue to grow and it remains very gratifying ministry for the Team.

All Glory to God for leading us to participate in this fulfilling ministry.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Janice McAlpine*

## **PRAYER CHAIN GROUP VESTRY REPORT**

The Prayer Chain Group was formed in 2009 by Rev. Jenny.

Current members are:

Maggie Brownridge, group coordinator, Charlene Adams, Judith Bond, Sandra Fraser, Nancy Mann, Fran Taylor, Doug Winch, Jean Dennis, Brenda Clingersmith, Leslie Grieves, and Janice McAlpine. If you would like to become a member of the group please see Maggie.

We accept prayer requests for both church members and for non-members. Information is confidential and shared only with Prayer Chain members.

As coordinator I convey prayer requests to the group members by email and phone. Every month I obtain updated information on people who were placed on the list 3 months previously and ask if they would like to remain in our prayers. I then share that information with all the Prayer Chain Group members.

In 2017 we received 40 requests for prayers. We pray for these people and their families in our daily prayers.

Respectfully submitted by

Maggie Brownridge

## **PRAYER SHAWL VESTRY REPORT**

As another vestry approaches, I reflect on the wonderful ministry provided by the Prayer Shawl Group. We continue to meet weekly from 1 - 3 p.m. on Wednesday at the church and everyone is welcome. This is an excellent way to spend time with and get to know your fellow parishioners. If you do not knit or crochet we will be happy to provide instruction.

Our shawls are given freely to extend God's love to anyone in need and the cards from the recipients continue to inspire our work. If you know someone that you feel would benefit from one of the Prayer Shawls, please approach me or any member of the Prayer Shawl Group.

We sincerely appreciate any financial and wool donations that assist us in providing this outreach ministry to our own community and beyond.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Fraser

## **FUNDSCRIP VESTRY REPORT**

St John in the Wilderness had another very successful year participating in Fundscrip. On a monthly basis parishioners purchase shopping cards, through the church, for businesses throughout the area i.e. grocery stores, gas stations, drug stores, etc. For every purchase the church receives from 2% to 10% (depending on the store) as profit for the church with no extra costs to parishioners or the church.

We have 38 registered supporters and in the twelve months of 2017 St John in the Wilderness earned \$1,494.38. On behalf of the church I would like to thank everyone that has

participated in this fund raiser. If you have not taken part and would like further information, please contact me.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Fraser

Fundscrip Co-ordinator

### **READERS/INTERCESSORS VESTRY REPORT**

Thank you to all who proclaim the message and lead us in the prayers of the people each Sunday. If you are interested in this ministry please speak to Al Taylor.

### **SERVERS VESTRY REPORT**

You see us every Sunday diligently carrying out the important ministry of altar servers. We are seven of us in number but we are eager to welcome new members to our group. Anyone who is interested is encouraged to talk to Brenda. The time commitment is minimal as there is a rotation of seven and the rewards are worth it. On the job training provided!

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Clingersmith

### **SIDESPEOPLE VESTRY REPORT**

We would like to thank each and every one for taking part in the duties of Sides People each Sunday. If anyone else would like to participate, please contact us.

Signed,

Jim and Jane Callie

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL VESTRY REPORT**

The St. John-in-the-Wilderness Sunday school has about 28 children from 12 families attending. On any given Sunday we typically have 0 to 5 children attending, with an average of about 2 (2.1) every Sunday. We are down in attendance as our children grow up with fewer coming in - between 2016 and 2008 average weekly attendance was 6.2 (2016/15) 6.5 (2014), 7.1 (2013), 6.4 (2012) and 5.2 (2011-2008).

We had 29 Sundays with no children: January 29 - February 19, March 12, April 23 - May 7, June 11 - August 27, October 8 - November 26. December attendance is highest, followed by Easter.

The children participating the most include: Lanna Iacobelli (17 Sundays), Evan Iacobelli (14 Sundays), Ally Fraser (10 Sundays), Lauren Fraser (8 Sundays), Camryn Carroll (7 Sundays), McKenna Carroll (6 Sundays) and Perrin Langille (5 Sundays). We have 11 children from 8 to 14 years old, 10 children 5 to 7 years old, and 7 children who are 3 to 4 years old.

We use a web-based curriculum called Sermons4kids at: <http://www.sermons4kids.com/> . We have a common opening and then typically one class with older children helping younger children where needed. The lessons tend to focus on the love God blesses us with as well as the wisdom which Jesus and others have used to help us accept and deploy the blessing of love. We often sing and do crafts.

Carolyn Iacobelli, Leslie Grieve, Peter/Eve/Morgan Langille and I are the main teachers. We are blessed to have such gifted, caring leaders.

Leslie Grieve with a hardworking core of parishioners hosted a vacation bible school in August - well attended by community children. Thanks to Leslie and team for sharing Christ's joy.

The children hosted the Lessons and Carols Service December 24 as their Christmas Extravaganza. It was a good change from the traditional Christmas pageant, with 13 children participating. Thanks to Leslie Grieve, Haley Walker and Carolyn Iacobelli for all their support - a number of parents helped as well which is needed and wonderful. Thanks also to Brenden Fraser and Susan Halliday who provided great music support with the kids and Brenda Clingersmith and team who helped the children serve snacks.

I administer the Sunday School and continue to focus on engaging parents, youths, grandparents and others in teaching given my travel.

Spending in 2017 was about \$800 - which was donated mainly without tax receipts. There was no curriculum cost, funds were used for printing, craft supplies and snacks. Spending for 2017 is expected to be about \$800.

God bless,

Deb Walker

**St. John-in-the-Wilderness Vestry Meeting**  
**Sunday, January 21, 2018**  
**CANDIDATE SLATE OF OFFICERS**  
**FOR 2018 CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL**

Vestry Clerk	<b>SANDRA LAMOUREUX</b>	
Rector's Warden	<b>SANDRA FRASER (Appointed)</b>	
Deputy Rector's Warden	<b>BRENT ANDERSON (Appointed)</b>	
People's Warden	<b>SHIRLEY MacKENZIE</b>	
Deputy People's Warden	<b>PETER LANGILLE</b>	
Treasurer	<b>DAVE HAINS (Appointed by Wardens)(On council)</b>	
Deputy Treasurer	<b>INGRID SCHMID (Appointed by Wardens)</b>	
Envelope Secretary	<b>SANDRA LAMOUREUX (not on council)</b>	
Lay Delegate to Synod	<b>JANICE MCALPINE</b>	
Alternate Delegate to Synod	<b>FRAN TAYLOR (not on council)</b>	
Youth Member	<b>DURHAM LANGILLE (not on council)</b>	
Regular Council Members	<b>KEN WALKER (Appointed)</b>	<b>BRENDEN FRASER</b>
	<b>BRIAN FOGG (Appointed)</b>	<b>NANCY MANN</b>
<b>3 TO BE ELECTED</b>		

AFP Representative	<b>BRENDA CLINGERSMITH</b>
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**NOMINATIONS FROM THE FLOOR (CALL THREE TIMES)**

Lay Delegate To Synod	_____
Alternate Delegate To Synod	_____
Council Member	_____
	_____
	_____
Youth Delegate	_____

***RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE,  
SANDRA FRASER, SHIRLEY MacKENZIE, BRENT ANDERSON, PETER LANGILLE***