

HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH, THORNHILL

WARDENS' MID-TERM REPORT – August, 2024

We, the Wardens, are pleased to present our Mid-Term Report for the period March to August 2024, as follows:

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- **Wardens for 2024:** At Vestry, Nancy Cutler was appointed to the office of Rector's Warden and Jacqui Getfield Deputy Rector's Warden, while Cassandra Culpepper and Osaro Aigbede were elected People's Warden and Deputy Warden respectively. The portfolios are as follows:

NANCY CUTLER	CASSANDRA CULPEPPER	OSARO AIGBEDE	JACQUI GETFIELD
1. Finances & Finance Comm.(Shared) 2. Grounds/Property 3. Area & Synod Office 4. Personnel (Shared) 5. Eva Rea (Shared) 6. Outreach Community Linkages 7. TNSK/Rentals 8. Communications (Shared)	1. ACW 2. Cemetery 3. Footlights 4. Finances (Shared) 5. Children/Youth 6. Seniors' Luncheon 7. Personnel (Shared) 8. Eva Rea (Shared). 9. Communications (Shared)	1. Digital HTC 2. Technical Systems 3. Communications (Shared) 4. Welcome, Hospitality	1. Counters 2. Greening Initiative 3. Insurance Risk 4. healing, Health & Wellness 5. Communications (shared)

- **Secretary:** Cathy Walker-Pilgrim was appointed to serve as secretary to the Corporation.
- **Treasurer:** We are pleased that Edward Carter will continue as treasurer for HTC.
- **Bookkeeper:** We are also pleased that Jessie Barbour will continue as bookkeeper for HTC.
- **Diocesan Workshop:** This spring, some members of our Advisory Board and corporation attended the Parish Leadership workshop, designed for Churchwardens, Deputy Churchwardens, Treasurers, Parish Administrators and any others who may be thinking of taking on a leadership role by way of a ZOOM Webinar.
- **Vestry Minutes:** The draft minutes of the Vestry meeting held in 2024 have been reviewed by the Advisory Board and will be confirmed at the next Vestry meeting in 2025.

FINANCES.

- **Financial Statements:** The statements for the period ended July 31, 2024 were reviewed. Income for the period ending July 31, totaled \$257,469, compared to budget of \$246,003. Expenses were \$231,567, compared to \$275,215 with a surplus of \$25,902 compared to a budgeted deficit of \$29,211. Some of the reasons for the difference include a couple of large donations credited to Open Receipts; the receipt of the distribution from the Endowment Fund in April and staffing cost based on an Interim ministry against a budgeted Incumbent ministry.

PERSONNEL

- **Incumbent:** Bishop Patrick White joined us in early February, following the end of Rev Ginie's Interim appointment. While she was not able to celebrate her last Sunday with us (Feb 4th) she

did return on May 12th with her husband, son and new baby daughter to celebrate and give the congregation the opportunity to say a proper good-bye. Our personnel challenges did continue however, when Bishop Patrick came down with a viral cold and was unable to be with us for much of March, including Holy Week and Easter. Between and among the Friends of HTC, Brother Reg and the Diocese, we were able to handle all the services during Bishop Patrick's absence well and as necessary. Our very special thanks to Brother Reg, Rev Don Downer, Rev Dan Graves, Canon Phillip Hobson and Rev Maria Ling. Then the moment we were all waiting for so long arrived on July 7th, when Eric Preston, Chair of the PSC, informed the congregation the Rev. Maria Ling had accepted the offer from Bishop Asbil and would report for duty on August 26 as the new Incumbent for Holy Trinity Thornhill.

- **Parish Administrator:** Laura Peetoom continues as our Office Administrator, on contract, ably supporting Bishop Patrick, Bro. Reg and the Wardens, not to mention the full Parish.
- **Lay Pastor:** In addition to his liturgical role, Br. Reginald Crenshaw assists the Wardens and Bishop Patrick, on issues of social justice, our Code of Conduct, youth program development as well as celebrating the Ministry of XXXX.

THE PSC

- The Parish Selection Committee had continued to search nationally and internationally until, as noted above, they announced success to the Parish with the letter Eric Preston read (letter attached) on July 7th.
- We want to take this opportunity to thank Eric, Malcolm Shiner, Enid Corbett, Dirk Drieberg, Ed Carter and Leanda Kirwan who labored much longer than anyone had imagined when they started almost three years ago. They brought prayerful enthusiasm, dedication, creativity, humour, determination and utmost patience to find that one person they knew had to be there. We also include in our thanks the two coaches, Elizabeth McAffrey & Brian Hatch, who were so important to finding and keeping the proper focus. Holy Trinity has been very well served.

REIMAGING HOLY TRINITY

Updating 2021's Reimagining work and in support of our mission as a *vibrant, welcoming, Christian community – with an atmosphere of compassion and mutual respect*, when we identified four priorities to tackle going forward:

1. Adopt Technology for All Our Events
 - a. We have continued to work on the report From "Starport Managed Services" to update and make our computer/internet/Wi-Fi secure, to begin shortly. For the telephone system, work has begun seeking more up-to-date systems and pricing.
2. Build Our Understanding and Embracing of Inclusivity, Equity and Diversity
 - a. Youth Development Program: In our effort to develop the spirituality of our children and young people, two very different programs were begun for that purpose. For our older youth, we are using a revised form of Journey to Adulthood which is designed to develop character and leadership capacity in our young people. For our young children, we will be using a Montessori methodology to initiate them into the mysteries of the Christian faith. Preparation work will continue during the summer with a planned introduction of the program in the Fall.

3. Address Inappropriate Behavior:

- a. Code of Conduct: The Code was rolled out over a year ago but we have realized that it needs a more active communication and visibility plan which will roll out starting in September. It will include making the Code more visible in our buildings and looking for opportunities to talk about the code and how we use it.

4. Outreach into the Community:

a. Out of the Cold:

- i. This year, connections continued with Revera-Glynwood, who were interested in providing some assistance in terms of gift bags etc. as well as providing some support to support the Richmond Hill Community Foodbank. This relationship is just in its early days but we hope to discover more ways build on the respective strengths.
- ii. The Shelter move to Sunday evenings from Fridays seemed to work well. This year it will continue and, as a result of a request initiating with York Region, we are making plans to continue the basic shelter program year round as we have done the last two years for May and June. The HTC OOTC program would run from mid-October to the end of April as always.

b. Social Justice Vestry Motion 2024: The following motion was passed at Vestry 23 and subsequent letters were sent from the Parish to the appropriate government representatives: We, the Parish of Holy Trinity, Thornhill, call on all levels of Government to take the following measures to protect and advance the human right to housing:

- i. We call on the Government of Canada to ensure that federal subsidies and incentives are targeted to those developers and projects that demonstrably address housing needs and uphold the human right to housing by meeting clear conditions on affordable rents, non-displacement policies and eviction prevention measures
- ii. We call on the Government of Canada to end the favourable tax treatment of Investment Real Estate Trusts and preservation of affordable housing. (REITS) and tax them at the regular corporate rate, with resulting revenues being directed toward the creation of affordable housing.
- iii. We call on the Provincial Government to enact rent controls and vacancy controls on all rental housing and put restrictions on Above Guideline Rent Increases.
- iv. We call on the Provincial Government to work with municipal governments to enact and enforce restrictions on short term rentals to protect the housing stock.

c. Rummage Sale: On April 13th, Holy Trinity once again held a Rummage Sale (guided by Leanda Kirwan & Bonnie Kennedy), somewhat smaller than those held before the COVID years, focused mainly on clothing with some jewelry and china. It appeared to be well appreciated by those who left with bags of purchases and for HTC it was a success with a total of \$3,729.10 made. Advisory Board agreed to divide the money evenly among the following charitable organizations supporting women & children: Downsview Youth Covenant, L'Arch Daybreak, LOFT Bradford House, Ingles House, and the Richmond Hill Food Bank.

d. Eva Rea Millennium Fund:

- i. This year the ERMF Committee awarded 20 bursaries, assisted the Wardens with \$10,000 and supported the children of a Parishioner to attend a camp for children with special needs.
- ii. On April 7th, Bishop Patrick chaired a special meeting, as an extension of Vestry, to consider the process for funding the annual activities of the Committee. It was resolved that, in addition to the annual interest generated by the Fund, the Committee would be allowed to access up to 7% of the Fund capital. Then, a Special Vestry on August 11 approved revisions to the ERMF By-Laws.

THANKS

- We are thankful to all who continue to support our ministry at HTC, to all volunteers and the staff, Jesús, Rachel, and Laura. Special thanks to our virtual chapel volunteers namely Rebecca Jones, Gabriel Aigbede, Achebe and Léandra Culpepper and Ed Carter. They are all very important resources on our team.

WARDENS: Nancy Cutler Cassandra Culpepper Osaro Aigbede Jacqui Getfiled