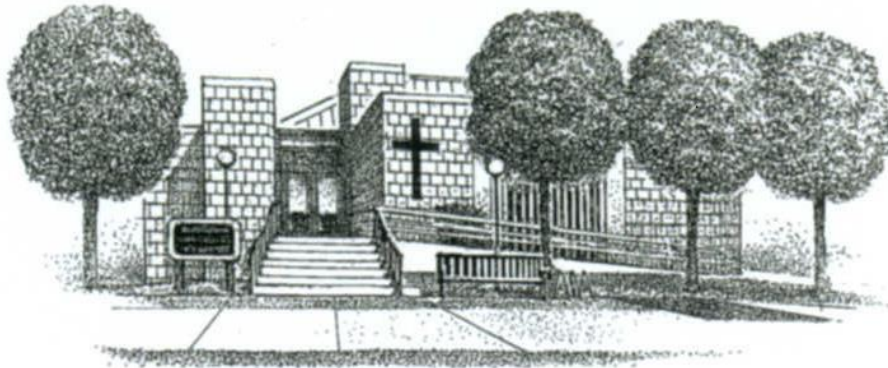


# St. Martin's

ANGLICAN CHURCH

**ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING  
FEBRUARY 23, 2025**



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## **AGENDA**

1. Opening Prayer
2. Election of Vestry clerk
  - a. Signing In
3. Review Agenda
4. Adopt Minutes of 2024 Vestry Meeting
5. Incumbent's Report
6. Wardens' Report
7. Appointment/Election of Officers
8. Accept Reports of Church Committees and Groups
9. Financial Reports
10. 2025 Budget
11. Appointment of Auditor
12. General Business
13. Motion to adjourn
14. Closing Prayer



Diocese of Toronto  
Anglican Church of Canada

## The College of Bishops Pastoral Letter to Vestries, 2025

*to be read or circulated on the Sunday of the parish's annual vestry meeting*

**To the clergy, churchwardens, and parishioners of the Diocese of Toronto:**

Beloved Siblings in Christ,

*"...be renewed in the spirit ..." – Ephesians 4:23*

In this Season of Spiritual Renewal, the Diocese of Toronto is exhibiting a burgeoning health and vitality that inspires us daily. To God be the glory! As your bishops, as we travel around to visit our parishes, we have witnessed the Holy Spirit engaging in marvelous ways with people, groups and ministries right across this Diocese – from Mississauga to Minden, from Cobourg to Collingwood. The Season of Spiritual Renewal, this invitation to spiritual growth, has been enthusiastically received in so many ways, including the sharing of prayer resources, participation in online workshops, and our bishops' Advent study online. We are also looking forward to *#LiveLent: God's Story, Our Story*, a daily Lenten resource with a helpful guide for small group use.

We are excited that the next phase in this Season of Spiritual Renewal is called "Lift Up Our Hearts." Over the coming year, large worship services will take place across the Diocese on five Saturday afternoons at 2 p.m. Each celebration of the Eucharist will feature excellent music, moving testimony, and preachers from within our own Diocese, each with their own unique approach to spiritual renewal. We hope you will plan to join us for one or more of these marvelous gatherings. Come on your own, bring a friend, or hire a bus! We will see you there:

- **March 22 – St. James Cathedral** (preacher: the Rev. Molly Finlay)
- **March 29 – Trinity Church, Streetsville** (preacher: the Rev. Canon Stephanie Douglas)
- **May 31 – All Saints, Whitby** (preacher: the Rev. Gerlyn Henry)
- **September 27 – St. James, Orillia** (preacher: the Rev. Dr. Rob Hurkmans)
- **October 25 – St. Paul's, Bloor Street** (preacher: the Rev. Dr. Alvarado Adderley)

The call to spiritual renewal, however, was just the first of 20 Calls articulated in the Cast the Net strategic vision adopted by Synod and this Diocese in 2023. Over the coming year, you will hear us repeatedly emphasising the need for each congregation to review and consider all of the 20 Calls and then choose which two or three your parish will focus on. As you gather today for Vestry, this could be the perfect opportunity to start considering the question. A small group – the Netminders – has prepared resources to help you, which you can find on the [Cast the Net web page](#). While it's important to remember that no congregation could possibly answer all 20 Calls, we strongly believe that each congregation can consider two or three. Leading up to our diocesan Synod in November, we hope that every parish will be able to identify which of the Calls they are living into.

We are pleased to welcome our new Executive Director, Varun Balendra ODT. A familiar face around the Diocese, Varun has served in many volunteer capacities over the years, and we look forward to working together in this new capacity. By the time of our diocesan Synod on Friday, Nov. 7 and Saturday, Nov. 8, we expect that we will be introducing a new Secretary of Synod and a new full-time Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Advisor, whose primary focus areas will be supporting the work of the Anti-Bias, Anti-Racism (ABAR) and other DEI training, and supporting individuals and parishes to grow, build community, educate and engage.

Some other new faces at Synod may include guests from the Diocese of Brasilia. This past June, at the Cathedral Church of the Resurrection in the city of Brasilia, the two diocesan bishops of Brasilia and Toronto signed the covenant that brings our two dioceses into a companion relationship. Since the signing of our agreement, a small representative group from each diocese has been meeting monthly – in both Portuguese and English – to pray together and to plan events. For example, clergy from both dioceses will gather online for a joint study day on liberation theology on March 25. In the fall, a youth delegation from Brasilia will join our own youth at the Re-Charge youth retreat at Muskoka Woods camp. And we anticipate sending a delegation from Toronto to Brasilia in 2026. We have even developed a shared logo for our relationship that combines elements of each of our own logos: our Diocese of Toronto dove springing from their Ipe Tree. You can expect to hear more about this companion partnership as we enter into the second year of it.

Closer to home, the partnerships within our own Diocese continue to flourish. When we speak of casting the net, we are referring to the supportive, creative and collaborative ministry that occurs in each deanery and regionalization, between parishes and congregations, amongst church neighbours and colleagues. We are grateful to our hardworking and devout clergy and our dedicated lay leaders, especially churchwardens, treasurers, administrators, musicians and the countless church staff and parish volunteers who are Christ's hands and feet of ministry in our communities. We are so grateful for all of your faithful work in our parishes and beyond.

We have embarked on a feasibility study to discern if this is the right time for the Diocese to conduct a major financial campaign. Over the next six months, M&M International, a Toronto-based fundraising firm, will listen to parishes large and small, soliciting feedback on a case for support. It is proposed that if a campaign does go forward, the majority of funds raised will remain in the parishes, with a smaller portion supporting the 20 Calls at the diocesan level. Your feedback and commitment will make the difference as we look into this additional way of working together.

Lastly, we want to encourage each Vestry meeting to consider this year's social justice motion: "Protecting and Expanding Harm Reduction in Ontario." The Church has a role to play in calling on government for responsible actions in caring for our most vulnerable neighbours, to ensure life-saving protections for those experiencing addictions and other challenges. Please consider how your parish can speak up, and out, for those who require advocacy. As we anticipate going to the polls in the coming year – federally and provincially – let us remember our baptismal promises as we cast our ballots, choosing candidates who align with our values. And let us pray for them.

For it is in praying that we are drawn ever deeper into relationship with the Triune God and become more attentive to the will of our Heavenly Creator. In this Season of Spiritual Renewal, we ask every reader of this letter to commit more deeply to a life of prayer, that it may infuse your every day with Grace as you witness to the Love of Christ in your life and to the world.

In your prayers, please pray for all three of us, your College of Bishops, both in your personal daily devotions as well as your parish's weekly intercessions. Know that we are praying for you too, giving thanks for our common life together across our wonderful diocesan family.

Yours faithfully in Christ Jesus,

The Right Rev. Andrew J. Asbil  
Bishop of Toronto

The Right Rev. Riscylla Shaw  
Suffragan Bishop of Toronto

The Right Rev. Kevin Robertson  
Suffragan Bishop of Toronto

# ST. MARTIN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

## VESTRY MEETING MINUTES

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2024

Arnold, M.	Bevan, D.	Bevan, G.	Bourner, E.
Bowen, D.	Brown, M.	Collier, T.	Cuciurean, D.
Davidson A.	Davidson, P.	Dunnill, M.	Dunnill, P.
Ferrara, A.	Hall, J.	Henderson, D.	Henderson, G.
Hewitt, F.	James, V.	Lancaster, E.	Lancaster, E.
Levy, B.	Locke, H.	Loftus, J.	Loftus, M.
Lynn, L.	Lynn, M.	Mackay, R.	Mackay, T.
Mann, M.	Martin, F.	May, A.	May, D.
May, D.	Miller, D.	Moore, J.	Moore, S.
Munn, C.	Newton, S.	Pieterse, A.	Pollard, S.
Powell, B.	Powell, P.	Scanlon, A.	Slade, A.
Strickland, R.	Suckling, G.	Sutton, M.	Sutton, R.
Taylor, Q.	Vasey, S.	Vermeersch, J.	Watters, E.

Rev. Shelly Pollard opened the meeting at 11:36 am with prayer and appointed Shelley Moore as Vestry Clerk.

It was moved by John Loftus and Joan Vermeersh to accept the agenda.  
Carried.

It was moved by Alan May and David Bevan to accept the minutes of February 26, 2023.  
Carried.

It was moved by Lee Lynn and Michelle Loftus to accept the Incumbent's Report. Carried.

It was moved by Brent Levy and Felicity Martin to accept the Wardens' Report.  
Carried.

### Appointments and Nominations –

The appointments and nominations slate for 2024 was presented with the following changes from last year:

Art Slade was appointed as Deputy Rector's Warden.

David Bevan was acclaimed as Deputy Peoples' Warden.

Quita Taylor was appointed as a member of Advisory.

Alan May was acclaimed as a member of Advisory.

It was moved by Rob Mackay and Gail Suckling to accept the appointments and nominations as presented.  
Carried.

It was moved by June Hall and Mark Lynn to accept all the reports of the church committees. Carried.

Joe Moore presented the financial statements.

It was moved by Joe Moore and Alan May to accept the financial statements.

Carried.

Joe Moore presented the proposed budget for 2024.

It was moved by Joe Moore and Marlene Brown to accept the budget. Carried.

It was moved by Joe Moore and Peter Davidson to reappoint Dawn Flett and Associates as auditors for the coming year. Carried.

### General Business

Corrections:

The date in Intercessors' Report should read October 14.

The Honourary Assistant's Report should contain the date March 30 not April 30.

Rob Mackay read the Social Justice Vestry Motion.

Motion: We the parish of St. Martin's Bay Ridges, Pickering, call on all levels of government to take the following measures to protect and advance the human right to housing:

- 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 need and uphold the human right to housing by meeting clear conditions on affordable rents, non-displacement policies and eviction prevention measures.
- We call on the Government of Canada to end the favourable tax treatment of Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) and tax them at the regular corporate rate, with resulting revenues being directed toward the creation and preservation of affordable housing.
- We call on the Province of Ontario to enact rent controls and vacancy controls on all rental housing and put restrictions on Above Guideline Rent increases.
- We call on the Province of Ontario to work with municipal governments to enact and enforce restrictions on short-term rentals to protect rental housing stock.

It was moved by Rob Mackay and Gillian Bevan to accept the Vestry motion to be a goal for the year 2024. Carried.

Rev. Shelly thanked Denise Farrugia and Elaine Watters for their work as Deputy Wardens. They will be formally thanked on Sunday, March 17.

Rev. Richard has been seconded to St. Paul's, Uxbridge until June.

At 12:05 pm it was moved by Peter Davidson to adjourn the meeting. Carried.

## INCUMBENT'S REPORT

Dear Friends in Christ,

February 2025

I write this letter to our Vestry with both a sense of deep gratitude and humility as I reflect on the past year. This has been a year that has brought both great blessings and some challenges to our shared ministry. This past year has been a year of significant growth for our church community, and I remain deeply grateful for the ways in which we have come together to serve one another and the wider community. Through various community outreach programs, worship, and ongoing fellowship, we have witnessed the living presence of God in our midst. These are the fruits of your labour, prayers, and dedication, and I thank you for your unwavering commitment to the mission and ministry of our church.

A few highlights of this past year include continued various Faith Formation programs, both on Zoom and in person, another meeting with the Mayor of Pickering, Mayor Kevin Ashe, and attending his Luncheon with Faith Leaders in the City of Pickering, a continued involvement with the Youth in Policing Conference with Durham Regional Police, a visit from Faithworks Campaign Manager Peter Mentis, and a visit by Bishop Riscylla Shaw this past December. We also started a Messy Church ministry, reaching families through new ways. Our Christmas in Advent Tea continues to grow and the participation by the students of Montessori Casa continues to be a highlight of this event. There are many other activities and events you can read about in the submitted committee reports, yet one thing is for certain, we have had a fulfilling and wholesome year at St. Martin's.

We give thanks of course, for the three baptisms we had in our community, and recognize each baptism as a sign of growth and of faith in action in our community.

Last May, we began a Strategic Plan with the Diocese of Toronto. The purpose of this plan is to look at where we are, examine our current mission and ministry, take account of our past, and build upon our present for the future. As followers of Jesus, we are called to be a beacon out in the world, and how we engage with the wider community matters. We have started some great community partnerships, and the next phase of how we communicate with our neighbours will be vital to our continued growth and success as a community. Part of our call as followers of Jesus is to recognize how we are being called to grow and change as the Holy Spirit leads us. The work of our strategic plan will take time, yet we sow the seeds for a future, trusting that these seeds will bear much fruit. I pray that I can count on your continued support and involvement as we continue this important work this year.

Last year, we saw a change in our staff, as Sharon Jones joined the staff team at All Saints Anglican Church in Whitby, and we welcomed Darlene Campbell to the role of Parish Administrator. We will miss Sharon's many contributions tremendously, yet we give thanks and gratitude for Darlene stepping into this important role. I extend my thanks as well to Dr. Alexandra Weiss, our Music Lead and Organist, Alison Scanlon our Parish Caretaker, Peter Davidson our Envelope Secretary and Rev. Richard Newland our Honourary Assistant.

I would also like to say a special thank you to Joe Moore, who has served faithfully as our Treasurer for many years. Joe will step down at Vestry and we will welcome Marilyn Dunnill as our new Treasurer. Joe, you have my sincere and heartfelt gratitude for leading us through some very unprecedented times, especially during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Joe has been a steadfast resource, ensuring that we have navigated these past few years of financial turbulence as smoothly as possible. His wisdom has



been invaluable, and we are grateful that he will continue to be a resource as Marilyn steps into this vital ministry role. Marilyn, we are grateful to you for your willingness to serve in this role.

I would also like to thank our Warden Team for all their hard work this past year. Rob Mackay, Moyah Morgan, Art Slade, and David Bevan have worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure all of our compliance and Diocesan responsibilities are met. I thank them for the work they have done. Moyah will be stepping down at Vestry after serving for the past three years, and I express my sincere gratitude for her leadership during this time. She has been a stabilizing presence in our community. Thank you, Moyah.

As we look towards this year in hope and anticipation, I pray we continue to allow the Holy Spirit to surprise us and challenge us. We are guided by a good and gracious God, and we have the example of Jesus before us to lead and to guide us. May we be open to Gods leading now and always.

It remains my joy to serve in ministry with you all.

In Christ,

Rev. Shelly Pollard

## WARDENS' REPORT

The year was busy and productive. Throughout 2024 we continued to worship both in person and online through our YouTube Channel. Reverend Shelly, thank you for continuing to be our pilot. The path was not always clear, but your continued direction has helped us through a good year. Father Richard, our honorary Priest, thank you for continuing to be our co-pilot and our yearly Radio Play Director of Choice. Darlene, welcome and thank you for joining our team. Allison, thank you for continuing to ensure that our church remains clean and spotless. Alex, thanks to you and the choir for sharing your gift of music with us and for enhancing our services with the various musical guest talents. Joe, as you have decided to retire for a second time, this time from your volunteer position as Treasurer of St. Martin's Anglican Church we know it was not an easy decision. From the Wardens and the congregation, we want to say thank you again for your continued service in the area of the church's finances. You have been blessed with good financial ability and St. Martin's have benefitted greatly from your expertise. To our projection and audio-visual teams, thank you for all you do in helping to enhance our worship service in person and to give those a chance who are unable to be with us in person an opportunity to do so on our YouTube Channel.

On Sunday January 21<sup>st</sup> we held a Special Vestry meeting to approve conducting a Review Engagement of our financial records rather than a full audit per a change in the Canons. This change potentially saved us \$1000-\$2000 annually as well as making for an easier process for both the Treasurer and Envelope Secretary.

With Reverend Shelly, the 4 wardens held a mini retreat to get better acquainted and start getting to work on several things. Coming out of the retreat, portfolios were established for each of the 4 Wardens. All the various Ministries at St. Martin's have been assigned to a specific Warden as the primary contact with the Corporation. The portfolios have been organized with similar ministries under the same Warden and to try balancing the workload across the 4 Wardens. The purpose of the Warden Portfolio is to have the Ministry leads have the respective Warden as their first point of contact for their ministry who can then advise or bring to the rest of the Wardens for further discussion and or decision as needed. We hope this format will provide a clearer path for parishioners and balance some of the work for the Wardens.

2024 Warden Portfolios

<u>Moyah</u>	<u>Rob</u>	<u>David</u>	<u>Art</u>	<u>Shelly</u>
Altar Guild	Property	Communications	Finance	Sunday School
Choir	Garden Maintenance	Helping Hands	Fundraising	Youth
Coffee Convenors	Stewards of Creation	Outreach	Stewardship	Pastoral Care
Hospitality	Parking	Prayer Shawl	Holly Bazaar	Prayer Chain
Intercessors	Rentals	Social Committee	Counters /	
Projecting	St. Martin's Centre	Social Justice	Envelope Secretary	
Readers				
Recording				
Servers				
Welcome Team				

On May 26 immediately after service our congregational workshop hosted by Diocese representatives was held. There were two (2) vacancies we had to fill which were filled: in May, our Choir Director and Organist was filled by Alex and in June, the other vacancy that of Parish Administrator was filled by Darlene.

Finally, the Wardens Rob, Moyah, Art and David heartily thank you the general congregation for your hard work and your continued service to St. Martin's and by extension to the Kingdom of God.

Sincerely submitted

Moyah Morgan, People's Warden

ST. MARTIN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

**FINANCIAL REPORT 2024**

**SUMMARY**

	<b>Actual to 31-Dec-24</b>	Budget to 31-Dec-24	<u>Difference</u>
Total Income:	<b>\$274,628</b>	\$270,553	\$4,075
Total Expenses:	<b>\$277,173</b>	\$270,553	\$6,620
Net ordinary income for the year to date:	<b>-\$2,545</b>	\$0	-\$2,545
Other Income:	<b>\$32,791</b>		
Net Income:	<b>\$30,246</b>		

**Budget Variances**

Income: TOTAL INCOME of \$274,628 was over budget by \$4,075.

- \$5,048 General Revenue under budget.
  - \$1,830 Building Rentals over budget.
  - \$1,424 Open Offerings over budget.
  - \$1,853 Interest Income over budget.
  - \$1,015 Outreach Income under budget.
  - \$5,008 Other Envelope Offerings over budget.
- 
- \$4,052

Expenses: TOTAL EXPENSES of \$277,173 over budget by \$6,620.

- \$2,664 Special Projects over budget.
  - \$2,816 Personnel Expenses under budget.
  - \$1,460 Office Expenses over budget.
  - \$1,908 Gifts in Kind over budget.
  - \$3,535 Music Ministry Expenses over budget.
- 
- \$6,751

**Income over Expenses before other items:**

-\$2,545 The expenses for 2024 exceeded income by \$2,545.

**Other Income:**

\$32,791 Unrealized capital gains for the Rectory Trust Fund investment.

**Excess of Income over Expenses:**

\$30,246 Net income for 2024.

**Note:**

2024 was a relatively good year financially as we exceeded income expectations. Though our expenses were more than we budgeted for they were less than our 2023 expenses. We had our lowest deficit since 2018.

We are starting 2025 in a negative cash available position of -\$548. (That is our cash in bank minus deferred income).

Our Consolidated Trust Fund was emptied at the start of 2024 and we no longer have that to draw on.

**ST. MARTIN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**

**FINANCIAL REPORT 2024 (Cont'd)**

**Cash on Hand, December 31, 2024**

<b><u>Cash on Hand</u></b>		
Cash in bank	\$15,760	
Consolidated Trust Funds	\$0	<b>\$15,760</b>
<b><u>Less, Designated Funds</u></b>		
Deferred Income - Cemetery Trust Funds	-\$5,230	
Rotary Club Garden Bed	-\$133	
Youth Group Fund	-\$1,382	
Urgent Response Fund	-\$1,329	
Rent Deposit	-\$4,000	
Designated Outreach carried forward to 2025	-\$4,234	<b>(\$16,308)</b>
<b>Cash available for operating expenses:</b>		<b><u>-\$548</u></b>

**Financial Audit**

At the beginning of 2015 we selected a qualified accounting firm, Dawn Flett & Associates of Ajax, to conduct our financial audits. Effective in 2023, we started undergoing a Review Engagement as opposed to a Full Audit. This review meets Diocese requirements and saves the parish money.

We are benefitting from the firm's policy to apply a discount to the fees they charge to local churches.

When the Review Engagement for 2024 has been completed, a copy of the official report will be posted on the notice board next to the office.

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**BUDGET 2025**

We are blessed with the generosity of our church community which continues to build upon our foundation of joy and love.

We are proposing a balanced budget. The numbers used are what is known or most probable. They do not account for "what if" scenarios. We are looking at an income increase of 1.36% and an expense increase of 0.5% from our 2024 actuals.

We are grateful that Montessori Casa are operating a successful venture. In 2025 they will be providing us with \$57,208 of income.

We do have \$5,700 in Accounts Receivable coming to us in early 2025 that will help with our cash flow. We have also prepaid \$3,305 for 2025 expenses.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joe Moore

**ST. MARTIN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH  
INCOME & EXPENSES FOR 2024 AND  
PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2025**

<b><u>INCOME</u></b>	<b><u>Actual 2023</u></b>	<b><u>Budget 2024</u></b>	<b><u>Actual 2024</u></b>	<b><u>Budget 2025</u></b>
General Revenue	\$118,724	\$127,035	\$121,987	\$126,180
Restoration and Development	\$8,109	\$9,000	\$8,019	\$8,400
Other Envelope Offerings	\$10,875	\$10,100	\$18,516	\$12,735
Special Projects	\$10,516	\$1,500	\$0	\$0
Outreach - FaithWorks	\$19,119	\$19,200	\$18,056	\$19,200
Outreach - Other	\$5,233	\$5,100	\$5,229	\$4,350
<b>TOTAL ENVELOPE OFFERINGS</b>	<b>\$172,576</b>	<b>\$171,935</b>	<b>\$171,807</b>	<b>\$170,865</b>
Diocesan Grant/Credits	\$300	\$300	\$240	\$0
Interest & Investments	\$14,941	\$14,800	\$16,653	\$16,650
Canada Helps (and other EFT's)	\$3,028	\$2,200	\$1,087	\$4,200
Open Offerings	\$1,251	\$1,500	\$2,924	\$3,200
Organizations & Events	\$11,071	\$10,710	\$11,339	\$10,054
Rent	\$66,616	\$68,908	\$70,578	\$73,008
Youth Group Fund	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200
Cemetery Income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200
<b>TOTAL NON-ENVELOPE OFFERINGS</b>	<b>\$97,207.00</b>	<b>\$98,618.00</b>	<b>\$102,821.00</b>	<b>\$107,512.00</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME:</b>	<b>\$269,783</b>	<b>\$270,553</b>	<b>\$274,628</b>	<b>\$278,377</b>
<b><u>EXPENSES</u></b>				
Advertising / Promotion	\$174	\$200	\$380	\$750
Audit	\$3,250	\$2,600	\$3,250	\$3,250
Bank Service Charges	\$853	\$860	\$743	\$1,100
Chancel/Sanctuary/Liturgical	\$3,954	\$4,050	\$3,884	\$3,800
Music Ministry	\$0	\$0	\$3,535	\$550
Diocese Allotment	\$22,643	\$20,619	\$20,619	\$24,378
Synod Fees	\$500	\$0	\$0	\$750
Office & Equipment	\$8,989	\$9,399	\$12,112	\$9,529
Organizations & Events	\$454	\$950	\$1,657	\$1,500
Education	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$400
Outreach - FaithWorks	\$16,191	\$16,320	\$15,303	\$16,320
Outreach - Other	\$10,187	\$7,980	\$8,339	\$7,230
Personnel - Clergy Costs	\$95,014	\$98,800	\$98,119	\$104,000
Personnel - Other Staff Costs	\$55,031	\$57,400	\$55,265	\$56,300
Property - Municipal Tax	\$4,156	\$4,300	\$4,319	\$4,450
Property - Insurance	\$8,288	\$8,555	\$8,555	\$9,300
Property - Grounds Maintenance	\$17,174	\$18,500	\$15,915	\$15,000
Property - Maintenance	\$3,396	\$4,000	\$6,453	\$5,000
Property - Special Projects	\$17,726	\$3,500	\$5,413	\$2,000
Property - Utilities	\$9,072	\$10,150	\$11,014	\$10,470
Taxes - GST/HST	\$2,482	\$1,970	\$2,298	\$1,900
Youth	\$0	\$200	\$0	\$200
Cemetery Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES:</b>	<b>\$279,534</b>	<b>\$270,553</b>	<b>\$277,173</b>	<b>\$278,377</b>
Excess of income over expenses before other items:	<b>-\$9,751</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>-\$2,545</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments:	<b>-\$41,868</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$32,791</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Excess of income over expenses:	<b>-\$51,619</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$30,246</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**St. Martin's Anglican Church**  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of December 31, 2024

	<u>31 Dec 2024</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
1000 · C I B C	15,760.19
Total Chequing/Savings	<u>15,760.19</u>
Accounts Receivable	
1100 · Accounts Receivable	5,700.00
Total Accounts Receivable	<u>5,700.00</u>
Other Current Assets	
1300 · Prepaid Expenses	3,305.00
Total Other Current Assets	<u>3,305.00</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>24,765.19</u>
Other Assets	
1910 · Rectory Trust Fund	434,577.47
Total Other Assets	<u>434,577.47</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><u>459,342.66</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
2000 . Accounts Payable	545.30
Other Current Liabilities	
2020 · Deferred Income	
2022 · Cemetery - Perpetual Care	5,230.00
2028 . Urgent Response Fund	1,328.75
2029 . Youth Group Fund	1,381.64
2031 . Rent Deposit	4,000.00
2052 . Rotary Club Garden Bed	133.09
Total 2020 · Deferred Income	12,073.48
2110 · Accrued Liabilities	3,863.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>15,936.48</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>16,481.78</u>
Total Liabilities	16,481.78
Equity	
3100 · Retained Earnings	412,615.63
Net Income	30,245.25
Total Equity	<u>442,860.88</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><u>459,342.66</u></u>



**ST. MARTIN'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**

**OUTREACH**

**As of December 31, 2024**

**Brought Forward from 2023:** \$4,919.11

**INCOME**

FAITHWORKS	\$18,056.00	
FOOD BANK	\$1,460.00	
LOON BANK	\$470.00	
RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND	\$1,050.00	
UNDESIGNATED	\$1,761.00	
HELPING HANDS	\$100.00	
DARS	\$367.85	
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$23,264.85</b>	<b>\$23,264.85</b>

**EXPENSES**

**INTERNATIONAL:**

WORLD VISION (Abner Javier)	\$588.00	
<b>Total International Expenses:</b>	<b>\$588.00</b>	

**LOCAL & NATIONAL:**

CANADIAN BIBLE SOCIETY	\$500.00	
FAITHWORKS	\$15,302.60	
FOOD BANK (St. Paul's On-the-Hill) - Parish Donations	\$1,460.00	
HELPING HANDS	\$2,686.24	
LUKE'S PLACE	\$500.00	
RECTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND	\$360.74	
WATER FIRST	\$500.00	
BACK DOOR MISSION	\$500.00	
DURHAM ALLIANCE	\$500.00	
DARS	\$867.85	
DURHAM YOUTH SERVICES	\$150.00	
OUTREACH SUNDAY	\$34.48	
<b>Total Local &amp; National Expenses:</b>	<b>\$23,361.91</b>	

**Total Expenses:** -\$23,949.91

**Net:** \$4,234.05

**Carried Forward to 2024** **\$4,234.05**

Committed Not Paid: Rector's Discretionary Fund \$1073.45



## ENVELOPE SECRETARY'S REPORT

As can be seen from the chart below, during 2024:

- The number of envelope sets issued remained constant
- The number of envelopes used at least once remained fairly constant
- PAR usage dropped slightly
- The number of individual CanadaHelps donations stayed fairly consistent
- The number of individuals using CanadaHelps dropped slightly

PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) continues to be a popular choice and now 60% of donors use that method. In addition, those donors may use envelopes for special occasions, including festivals such as Easter or Christmas.

CanadaHelps, an organization which accepts donations and distributes them to the specified charity, continues to be an important source of donations. It is convenient and several donors are not involved with our parish.

Beginning in 2026 we will not be issuing envelope sets to PAR donors. The envelope number for PAR donors, as well as many regular envelope donors, will be changed. This will save on buying many envelope sets but will still enable tracking for tax receipt purposes.

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>	<b>2024</b>
Envelope sets issued	136	132	128	120	119	119
Envelopes used at least once	121	114	101	106	100	99
PAR users	57	63	61	64	61	59
Total number of CanadaHelps donations	8	27	19	32	13	14
CanadaHelps individual donors	7	8	6	11	8	6

***Respectfully submitted***

***Peter Davidson, Envelope Secretary***

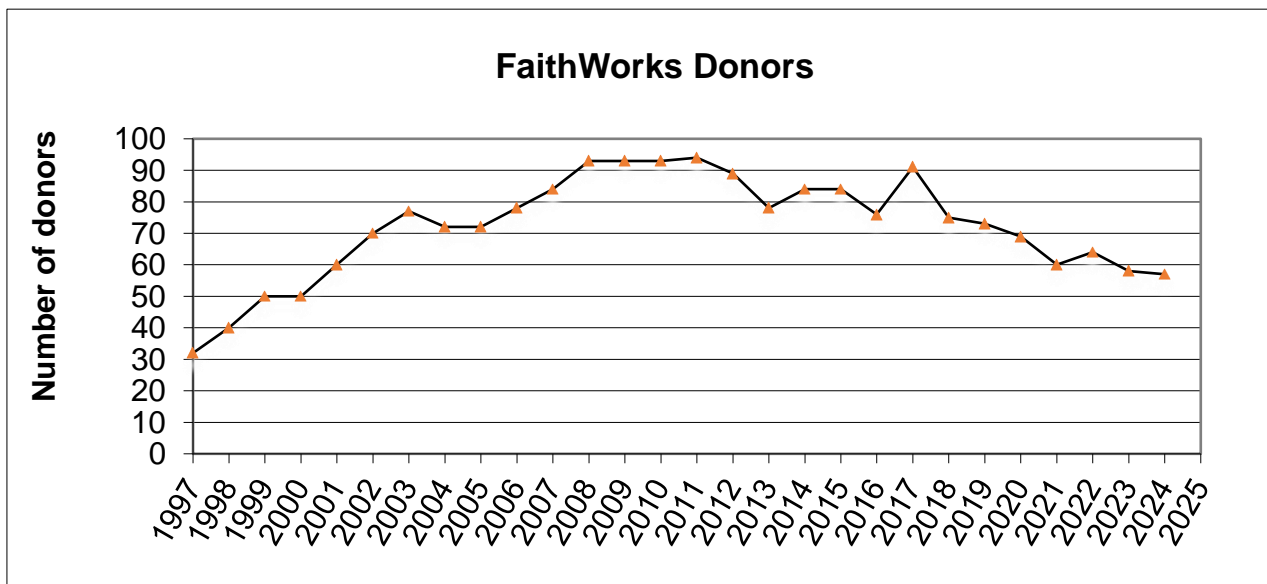
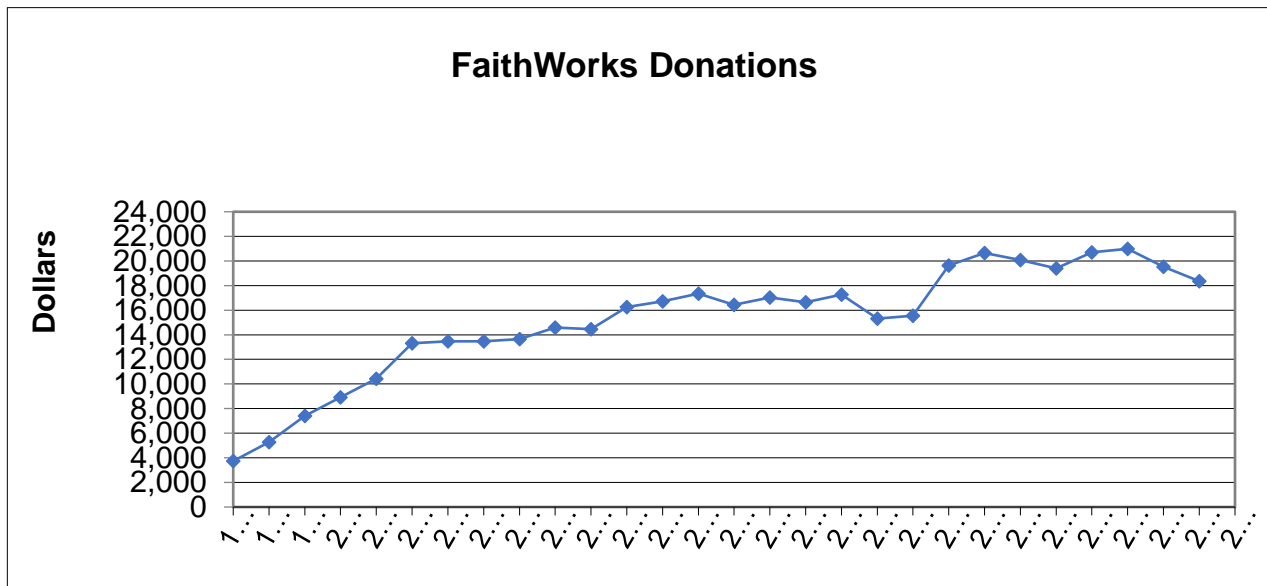
## FAITHWORKS REPORT

There was a drop in FaithWorks donations during 2024, down 6% to \$18,356. The number of donors also decreased slightly to 57.

Despite the decline, St. Martin's can be very proud of the support that it continues to give to this program which provides funding to so many ministries in need throughout the Diocese of Toronto.

Thank you for your support during 2024. Please continue to support this cause during 2025. The easiest way is through PAR, automatic monthly withdrawals. If you would like more information, please speak to me.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Davidson, FaithWorks Co-ordinator*



## SOCIAL JUSTICE VESTRY MOTION 2025

### **Social Justice Vestry Motion 2025: Protecting and Expanding Harm Reduction in Ontario**

**We, the parish of St. Martin’s, Pickering in the Diocese of Toronto, urge the Province of Ontario to reverse the planned closure of safe consumption sites in Ontario, and to lift the ban on the creation of new sites, in order to expand life-saving harm reduction services to Ontarians.**

Ontario is currently in the midst of a deadly overdose crisis, which claims an average of seven lives every day.<sup>1</sup> Safe consumption sites, also called supervised consumption sites, (SCS) are on the front lines of this crisis, having reversed more than 21,000 overdoses in the province between March 2020 and January 2024.<sup>2</sup> Each one of these is a life saved. The sites offer an indoor, supervised space for people who use drugs to do so safely, with clean equipment and boxes for the safe disposal of used needles. They also have healthcare workers and other staff on hand to reverse overdoses, address other health issues, and connect people to other supports, including treatment. No death has occurred within an overdose prevention site since they were opened.

In 2018, the province put in place a cap of 21 such sites in Ontario, but has only funded 17. A few other supervised consumption sites in the province have received federal approval but no provincial funding. Two of these, in northern Ontario, have closed due to a lack of funds, while one in Toronto has continued to operate through donations. Other communities, such as Barrie, Cobourg, Oshawa, and Orillia, remain without such sites, despite demonstrable need in those communities.<sup>3</sup>

In August 2024 the provincial government announced a ban on supervised drug consumption sites within 200 metres of schools and childcare centres. On Nov. 18, 2024, the province introduced Bill 223, the “Safer Streets, Stronger Communities Act,” which, in addition to implementing this geographic ban, prohibits municipalities or any other organizations from starting up new sites. As a result, ten SCS are slated to close by March 31, 2025, five of which are in Toronto. Another Toronto SCS, the Moss Park site on Sherbourne St., will also close, as the location is subject to redevelopment and a move to a new location would count as a “new” site under the ban.

Concerns about safety near the sites reached a fever pitch after a mother of two was killed by a stray bullet not far from the South Riverdale site in July of 2023. This is indeed a tragedy. Yet the external review commissioned by the province in the wake of the shooting, while making recommendations concerning safety, security, and community engagement, did not recommend the closure of the site, but noted “a clear need for the services” in that location and recommended that the site continue to receive provincial funding.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Ontario Drug Policy Research Network, <https://odprn.ca/occ-opioid-and-suspect-drug-related-death-data/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://amho.ca/amho-news/addictions-and-mental-health-ontario-calls-for-community-driven-and-evidence-based-approach-to-expanding-addictions-care/> These figures are a lower estimate than that given by the Registered Nurses’ Association of Ontario

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.orilliamatters.com/local-news/city-push-for-treatment-services-harm-reduction-marred-by-provincial-announcement-9391095>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.ontario.ca/files/2024-08/moh-consumption-treatment-service-review-unity-health-en-2024-08-19.pdf>

The province claims that crime rates are higher near supervised consumption sites, but has not provided statistics to back up this claim, despite repeated requests to do so. Rather, analysis of data from the Toronto Police Service indicates that incidents of most types of crime dropped in neighbourhoods with SCS, often to a greater degree than in neighbourhoods without sites, and for crime rates which did not drop, there was no significant difference in the change of crime rates between neighbourhoods which had opened sites and neighbourhoods without them.<sup>5</sup>

It is also worth noting that supervised consumption sites are located where they are because these are areas that already see high levels of drug use. Closing the sites will not change that fact. Indeed, the sites' closure would lead to more public drug use, in parks, alleyways, and coffee shop washrooms; more discarded needles and other drug paraphernalia in public spaces; more blood-borne disease from the sharing of needles; and more likelihood of people overdosing and dying in public. This does not equate to greater safety for anybody in the community, including the children the province ostensibly wishes to protect.

Moreover, by responding to overdoses quickly, safe consumption sites reduce the strain on first responders and emergency services, saving taxpayer dollars. Without these sites, demand for ambulances and emergency rooms will only increase, leading to longer wait times for anyone who needs emergency medical treatment.

Along with the announced closures, the province announced an investment of \$378 million to open "Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment" (HART) hubs. While investment in treatment is welcome, several aspects of the announcement are problematic. Firstly, the name unjustly conflates the issues of homelessness and drug addiction. Most people with a substance use disorder are housed; and even though the experience of homelessness can cause people to increase their substance use, many people experiencing homelessness do not have substance use disorders. Moreover, the amount to be invested in the HART hubs is insufficient to meet the need for either treatment beds or supportive housing across the province. Further, the proposed HART hubs would be barred not only from providing supervised consumption, but also from providing sterile injection equipment, a proven public health measure which has been in place for decades, which is known to be a crucial tool in preventing the spread of blood-borne disease and infectious and bacterial complications. This flies in the face of medical best practice.

Supervised consumption sites take a harm reduction approach to drug use. Recognizing that some people use drugs, and may not be ready, willing, or able to stop doing so entirely, harm reduction focuses on meeting people where they are, without ignoring or condemning them. By offering a place of support that meets people where they are, and respects the inherent dignity of each human being, these sites not only keep people alive to get treatment, but offer a place of community and compassion. These sites should not be seen in opposition to addiction treatment, but as part of a continuum of care available across our province.

"Jesus met people on the margins where they were, with compassion and respect," says Keren Elumir, an Anglican who works as a nurse at the Moss Park site. "Everyone we meet is made in the image of God and loved by God. Harm reduction is holy work."

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<sup>5</sup> Centre on Drug Policy Evaluation. Supervised Consumption Services in Toronto: Evidence and Recommendations (Toronto, November 2024).

## COMMITTEE AND MINISTRY REPORTS

### Acolytes/Servers

With the continued help of a small group, most services in the past year have included a server. Many thanks to Sharon Jones for carrying the bulk of the duties. We have added two new members who will be trained shortly.

Submitted by

Rob Mackay

### Altar Guild

The Altar Guild is the Ministry responsible for the maintenance and preparation of the altar and its furnishings. We prepare for every service that occurs here at St. Martin's including Sundays, Wednesdays, baptisms, weddings, and funerals.

**Mission Statement:** Attending to God's house carefully and reverently with dedication and loving attention to details.

**What we do:** We maintain the beauty, elegance, and grace of the sanctuary. We look after the Eucharistic vessels by polishing the brass and silverware, dress the altar in the liturgical colour of the season, wash, and iron the linens removing stains and wax, and other duties as directed by the clergy.

**Our Teams:** There are 4 teams rotating on a weekly basis and a clean up crew on Wednesdays. We had a couple of people step aside after many, many years of dedicated service; thank you, Marg Wade and Joan Wilson. We gained a new member, Margaret Carter-Charles; thanks for stepping forward.

Currently our teams include Debbie Cuciurean, Shelley Moore, Margaret Carter-Charles, Adelaide Pieterse, Gail Suckling, Janis Lynch, Sharon Jones, Michelle Loftus, Ellen Corbin, Gillian Bevan, June Hall, and Felicity Martin. I give you all a huge shoutout for your continuing dedication!!!!

If you feel moved to join us, please contact me at any time. On the spot training will be provided!

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Davidson

### Communication

The Communications Committee provides what congregants need to know about St. Martin's. The AV and projection team project the weekly services through enhanced screens and AV equipment and broadcast the services weekly on YouTube (141 subscribers). We continue to broaden our social media presence with 599 followers on Facebook. While the content of weekly announcements is developed by the Social Committee, the Communications committee ensures that the announcements are made to parishioners in an easily accessible manner. The Communications Committee ensures that all communications emanating from St. Martin's comply with Diocesan requirements.

The mandate of the Communications Committee has expanded in line with the overall initiative at St. Martin's to grow our presence in the community. To this end, a major undertaking during 2024 has been

the review and update of our website. Much of this update is complete with a few remaining items to be completed in the first quarter of 2025. This involved not only a huge, committed effort by the members of the Committee but also the leads of all committees and ministries, the office of St. Martin's and Rev. Shelly. Thank you so much to all. Now our virtual face to the world is ready to welcome new visitors to St. Martin's.

The website is not the only communication project to fulfil our St. Martin's growth initiative. The projection and audiovisual teams have been expanded and trained to provide services in a variety of situations, including marriages, funerals and other special religious holiday services where photographs of our people and special events are displayed. Fortunately, photography is also part of our team. Photography really shows the life of the Parish. It is our digital time capsule and has helped us in many ways, from use for advertising our events, to letting us look back to see how an event was set up. Thank you so much to Eugene Farrugia who always has a discerning eye that manages to capture the magic in any church event.

Eye-catching posters have been created for the key events at St. Martin's. Some of these posters have been distributed to the broader community to attract visitors to St. Martin's. Thanks so much to our resident artists for these. A new St. Martin's banner was created for community events such as the Youth in Policing event which gave St. Martin's visibility and encourage youth in our community to come to St. Martin's for volunteering opportunities. Coming in 2025, the committee is looking to expand our reach through increased signage in the community in which St. Martin's resides. Preliminary investigations into types, sizes and costs have already been made. More use of paid advertising is being explored. Stay tuned!

Since current chair, Marilyn Dunnill, is being transitioned to the role of Treasurer, the Committee welcomes back the capable direction of Rob Mackay as Chair of the Communications Committee. Even as a committee member over the past year, Rob has contributed many thoughtful ideas and has a clear focus on the role of the Communications Committee in giving prominence and visibility to St. Martin's in the community. Thank you, Rob, for assuming the reins once again!

Submitted by Mariyln Dunnill

### **Fundraising**

- Final tally for Holly Bazaar is \$4293
- The Vendor Market in November was well attended and raised \$900,
- The Vandermeer flower sale raised \$250.00. Another is planned for the Spring.
- The Garage Sale raised \$1,000.00.

Respectfully submitted by  
Debbie Cuciurean

### **Helping Hands**

Helping Hands has had another productive year, sewing 223 pairs of men's & women's sleep pants. Due to generous donations of fleece fabric, we were able to make not only quilts for children, but numerous fleece blankets including full size bedding. These were distributed along with donated diapers, toiletries, five cases of toothbrushes, two cases of toothpaste and 29 receiving blankets made from the remnant fabric.

In February we lost Sheila Emblem, a devoted member of Helping Hands. During Covid lockdown she frequently drove from Avenue Road/401 to St. Martins parking lot to pick up or deliver sewing. She is missed.

If you are interested in joining Helping Hands, we meet from 1p.m. to 3 p.m. every first and third Monday of the month, except July, August and statutory holidays.

Thanks as always to you, the parishioners and your families, who support Helping Hands in so many ways.

Jacqueline Newton  
On behalf of Helping Hands

### **Hospitality**

This team is led by Adelaide Pieterse and an awesome team of volunteers. We are so grateful for all that they do for our community. If you have any questions, please speak to Adelaide or Rev. Shelly.

### **Intercessors**

"Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.

And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God." (Romans 8: 26 -27)

Since the Spirit intercedes for us with wordless sighs, let us therefore as intercessors, join with the Spirit and pray for each other.

"First of all, then I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for Kings and all who are in high positions so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity" (1Timothy 2: 1-2)

On October 8, 2023, The Rev. Shelly Pollard put on a workshop for Intercessors based on the format "INTERCESSORY PRAYER" by THE ANGLICAN FELLOWSHIP OF PRAYER (CANADA). The material was comprehensive and informative.

Today our team is made up of 9 parishioners.

I would like to extend my thanks and appreciation to this team, who graciously make themselves available by taking the time to compose and present the prayers when scheduled.

They are:

Elaine Watters  
Moyah Morgan  
William McCullough

Don Henderson  
Peter Davidson  
Sharon Jones

Enid Bourner  
Selwyn Newton  
Shirley Vasey

We are extending the invitation to more interested parishioners, in all reverence and seriousness, to participate in this Ministry at this time, under the guidance of The Rev. Shelly Pollard.

Submitted by  
Shirley Vasey

## **Music**

I feel very blessed to be able to enrich our liturgical service weekly in this stunning, small but mighty church, with this amazing and committed choir and our super talented guest artists, including but not limited to Denise Williams, Gordon Ratcliffe, and Matthew Vilord. Several adjustments had to be made in order to bring out even more musical meaningfulness to the service and involve our congregation in order to be relevant.

Each service and special event involve countless hours of administrative preparation and musical rehearsal time. Nonetheless, I feel indebted for the constant support from Rev. Shelly in our conversations regarding the context and the future of music in our services – while not only maintaining our rich Anglican traditions but also aiming to enlarge our music offering for Black History Month events, Indigenous themes, Christmas, Holy Week, and Easter. I am also very thankful to our choir members, who agreed to rehearse in the weekday daytime (instead of evening rehearsals), and especially to Mark who is often accompanies us on djembe or cajon, and Mike who sometimes shares his musical talents on trumpet. I am very appreciative of several members of our congregation for their constant feedback on our music selections and requests.

Furthermore, through the outstanding generosity of our parishioner Patrick Dunnill, we are very lucky to have a new piano that was delivered in November 2024. I am looking forward working with the local community in order to be able to host in our venue music events, concerts, lectures, etc.

As we continue to learn a lot of new music in different styles from the past several centuries, it is great to be able to enlarge our Hymns singing with “Voices United” (1996) and “More Voices” (2007), in addition to using “Common Praise” (1998) and “Sing a New Creation” (2022). Further, we aim to explore “Christ in Song: A Treasury of Hymns through the Ages” (2010) and “Lift Every Voice and Sing II” (1993).

Additionally, a wonderful source of music selection is CCLI (Christian Copyright Licensing International), a source of liturgy planning and charts for contemporary Christian songs.

It has been a year of musical discovery. Perhaps one day I will be closer to realize my dream of holding an outdoor summer concert at SMP, which possesses a very unique geographical location by the Frenchman’s Bay. Hopefully, creative musical support from our clergy, corporation, choir, and congregation will continue in the future.

Submitted by:

Dr. Alexandra Weiss, Director of Music & Organist

## **Outreach**

The Outreach Committee meets regularly to distribute the funds that are raised through contributions to the specially marked giving envelopes, the 15% of funds designated to FaithWorks, and the Loon Bank. Through your generosity, Outreach as been able to provide financial support to the following International, National, Indigenous and local charities:

- World Vision (sponsored child)
- Canadian Bible Society



- Water First, Canada's largest charitable organization dedicated to resolving the water challenges facing First Nations
- Back Door Mission, a low barrier access hub for essential support, social services and primary health care for individuals experiencing homelessness and other challenges in Durham region
- Durham Alliance Outreach
- Durham Outlook for the Needy, providing food distribution to those experiencing challenges in Durham region
- St. Paul on-the Hill Community Food Bank, Pickering
- DARS, a local registered charity that responds and supports individuals and families experiencing homelessness, food insecurities and other challenges
- Helping Hands, a wonderful group of volunteers who get together to cut and sew sleepwear for women and children in local shelters
- Luke's Place, an organization that provides specialized family law support to abused women and children
- Durham Youth Services

There was an Outreach Sunday presentation by Selwyn Newton during the service on Sunday, September 29 in place of the homily for that day. The presentation was a good opportunity to learn more about the work that Outreach does at St. Martin's.

The second raised vegetable garden, along with the original garden, yielded a bounty of crops this summer and fall. We were able to distribute produce within our church, the St. Martin's Centre, and our local community.

Paddy McLoon continues to happily accept our loose change and over the past year we were able to provide donations to Durham Alliance Outreach and Luke's Place. We will continue to raise funds supporting various designated charities through this initiative – we ask that you continue to answer the call of the loon!

The Outreach Committee also organized very successful hands-on community initiatives to support the following:

- Participated in our annual collaboration with Jacky's Place (Durham Youth Services) to plant a vegetable garden at their transitional youth shelter
- Held a food drive to contribute to DARS ongoing needs and attended their open house to help support the new transitional housing at a working farm in North Pickering
- Partnered with Durham Youth Housing to participate in their Community Christmas Wish project to provide some Christmas joy to their clients who were experiencing increased needs at Christmas. The Outreach team provided a Christmas Wish tree with gift tags at the church for people to participate in the project and thanks to the incredible generosity of our St. Martin's family, we were able to fulfill their wishes.
- Continue to seek out opportunities to provide hands-on support to our local community

The current chair, Denise Farrugia, is stepping down and the Committee is pleased to welcome Andrea Ferrara into the role of Chair of this important Ministry.

The Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone for generous ongoing support, and we look forward to collaborating with our community partners to help make a positive difference for our vulnerable neighbours.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Farrugia  
Chairperson, Outreach Committee

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday afternoons from 1-3pm. We have 9 ladies who knit and crochet shawls, lap blankets and sometimes hats, scarves and mitts. The last items go to needy families. Last year we gave 10 items to parishioners and friends. Also 12 shawl and 12 lap blankets were given to the long-term care beside Ajax hospital.

Just a reminder these are available on request. They are blessed by Rev. Shelly at the altar with prayer for the person receiving it. As always, we welcome new people to join us for our casual meetings and fellowship we share.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gail Henderson

### **Property Committee**

During 2024 a number of things were accomplished

- A grab bar was installed to facilitate access to the Project/Recording booth
- The blinds on the west window were repaired with the motors and batteries being replaced under warranty
- Significant repairs were undertaken on the furnace for the lower level
- The sewage pump (located in a pit beneath the north parking lot) was repaired and is working fine
- The railing down the east side of the exterior stairs was loose and has been repaired
- The second raised garden bed was constructed, with thanks to the Rotary Club of Pickering for a grant to purchase the materials
- There was pruning of a number of shrubs along the north fence and around the cemetery
- The Bell connection was converted to Fibe to increase speeds for email and internet
- The fire alarm system was upgraded to new cellular technology

We will continue to undertake projects that funds will allow and do such work as is necessary to maintain the integrity of our church building.

***Respectfully submitted***  
***Peter Davidson***

## **Readers**

Effective June 2, 2024 we returned to reading the lessons from the Revised Common Lectionary. Soon after we went back to having printed readings as it was agreed by all readers that while it is nice to have the book again on the lectern, the printed readings were better on the eyes.

September 15, 2024 our Welcome Back Sunday was held. It was bittersweet for readers as coming out of Welcome Back Sunday, there were three (3) new readers that signed up to be a part of the Ministry giving us a total of twenty-one (21) readers and Team Lead, Elaine Watters passed the torch to Moyah Morgan. Thank you, Elaine, for previously leading this ministry for these many years through good times and challenging times.

To our readers, new and returning, thank you for answering the call.

Sincerely Submitted

Moyah Morgan, Team Lead

## **Social Committee**

Social Committee members are always ready to lend their manpower, expertise, and enthusiasm to support and collaborate with various events and initiatives and 2024 was no exception! We helped out with Pancake Supper, Holly Bazaar, Vendor Market and other various fund-raising activities when needed.

In addition to the activities listed above, this committee was very active with our planned Social Committee events:

- Strawberry Social was held outside on the front lawn on an early summer day in June.
- Welcome Back Sunday in September included the food competition and the Ministry Poster Display. The food and fellowship were enjoyed by all! Outreach Committee won the coveted food competition with their entry Lemon Fluff pie
- We revived the Poster competition, and the honour went to the Intercessors with their creative and informative poster
- The Social Committee and the Back Pew Players presented "It's a Wonderful Life" Radio play directed by Fr. Richard. Over 100 guests enjoyed the play and a Wine and Cheese Reception. Over \$900 was raised from this event
- Our annual Christmas Potluck was filled with food, fellowship and a healthy dose of Christmas spirit where we shared in a meal, took pictures with Santa and sang carols, including a rousing rendition of the St. Martin's version of the Twelve Days of Christmas
- This year we hosted an original presentation written, produced and performed by Matthew Vilord called a Christmas Story. There was also a luncheon, and the Viva Senior Choir provided an opportunity for a Christmas Carol singalong. This free event was well attended and well received an annual fellowship.

We also coordinated two Crockadoodle road trips and dinner at a local restaurant.

We are busy planning some exciting events for 2025, including our perennial favorites.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee Lynn

## **Social Justice**

We seek to be faithful to God's call to compassion and justice, live out our baptismal vows, and engage faithfully with the world. The Vestry motion from the Diocese for 2024 was aimed at protecting and advancing the right to housing which we passed. We held a series of information and discussion sessions to share information and learn more about the topics. We made strong connections with Durham Youth Services as well as the Community Safety & Well-Being Advisor for the City of Pickering. These events were well attended and extremely informative.

This year's Social Justice Vestry Motion addresses the planned ban on Supervised Consumption Sites by the Provincial Government. We feel there is a lot of information that is not well known about this issue and we intend to learn more and share with the congregation and community. The motion itself and some background information is presented separately elsewhere in this Vestry Report. For more than a decade, the Social Justice and Advocacy Committee at the Diocese has drafted annual vestry motions on concerns our Diocese is connected with. These motions are non-partisan, and the College of Bishops approves their final wording before commending them to parishes for consideration. When parishes support social justice vestry motions, it strengthens the bishops' voices in their advocacy with government. The motions also inform Anglicans about diocesan social justice concerns. Please take time to review the motion and information. We hope our congregation will again support this motion as well as some of the events we have planned to help better educate and advocate on this very pressing issue.

Submitted by,

Rob Mackay

## **St. Martin's Centre**

St. Martin's Centre is an apartment complex with 58 units and is geared towards housing for residents in their senior years. Currently, there are approximately 60 residents. There are seven members on the Board of Directors, which include the Incumbent and three parishioners as well as two members appointed by the Bishop and one by the residents. The Board meets several times throughout the year with the Property Manager to review finances and oversee the general operation of the Centre.

The Centre is operating well and in good shape both physically and financially. At the end of the year, the Board approved the transfer of property management from Progressive Management to Apex Property Management and Consulting Inc. This is due to the closing of Progressive Management on the retirement of its owner. We sincerely thank Mr. Michael McAlear for his many years of excellent work with us and wish him a very happy retirement.

Submitted by,

Rob Mackay

## **Stewardship**

Stewardship means making wise decisions with all the resources God has given us. Our giving reveals our desire to interact with God. Our gifts of time talent and treasure are expressions of thanks to a generous and gracious God.

Spring 2024 saw the Stewardship Committee prepare a detailed analysis of statistical and financial trends from 2008 to 2023 of parishioners attending St. Martin's, its income, expenses, Outreach givings, and committee involvement. Four presentations were conducted to bring to the attention of the congregation the great works of our parish and how we see our future unfolding. The presentations created very constructive feedback and action plans have been put into place. It is our desire to continue keeping the analysis and statistics current with each passing year and providing regular updates to parishioners.

In October 2024 we undertook a Time and Talent auction. Over 50 people attended, and bidding was vibrant on the 25 live auction items and approximately 15 silent auction items. A highlight of the evening was entertainment by professional singer soprano Denise Williams accompanied by our Dr. Alexandria Weiss on piano. The evening was a tremendous success, with great fellowship and total gross proceeds from the event raising a little over \$2,600.

It should be noted that the Stewardship Committee works with many of the St. Martin's Ministries in an effort to support and enhance their endeavours of time, talent, and treasure for the benefit of all.

Please contact David Bevan if you are interested in joining this essential ministry.

Respectfully Submitted

Stewardship Committee, David Bevan, Chair

## **Stewards of Creation**

During the past year, Stewards of Creation continued to focus on education and advocacy regarding protecting God's greatest creation.

Our activities in 2024 included:

- We collaborated with Jacky's Place and Outreach to plant a vegetable garden for their clients
- The second vegetable along with the original on provided a bountiful harvest which we were happy to share with parishioners, St. Martin's Centre and the local community throughout the growing season. The gardens also provided a fellowship opportunity
- When team members work in the gardens, they have a chance to chat with our neighbours who come by the garden.
- The pollinator garden continued to flourish and provide home and nourishment to nature's pollinators. It also provided beauty and joy to all who pass by, including the children and parents at the Montessori school.
- This team continues to advocate on environmental issues through letter writing, and email campaigns.
- The two planters outside at the front of the church are changed seasonally for all to enjoy

It was a great joy to welcome new members to the Garden Maintenance team this past year. This dedicated group maintains the raised garden beds, the pollinator garden, the perimeter church gardens and the cemetery to keep these areas looking their best.

Faithfully submitted by,

Lee Lynn

### **Sunday School**

We have been blessed to have a group of teachers and volunteers who are dedicated to making Sunday Schools an enjoyable and learning experience for all the children.

Each week we worked to impart the Word through the bible readings and related crafts. We enjoyed listening to the children speak of their joys, concerns and questions weekly.

We are always looking for new ways to enhance our children's activities and recently joined the Messy Church program. Messy Church will be held on select Saturdays for children and adults wishing to attend. Activities include crafts, coloring stations, story times, music, games and snack break. We are very appreciative of all the members and volunteers who made our first Messy Church a success.

We thank God for the privilege to spend time with the children each week.

Respectfully submitted by Janis Lynch for the Sunday School Team.

### **Synod Report**

Not Held in 2024

### **Welcome Team**

Good day everyone! The Welcome Team has a robust team of volunteers with 10 members of St. Martins serving in this Ministry.

We have 2 members of the team serving every Sunday, and both sides of the Church being asked to keep to their side while taking Communion.

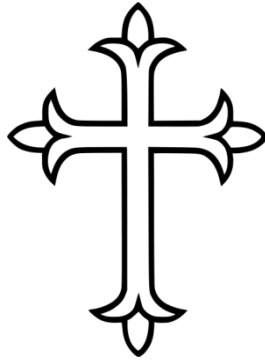
We are often the first face someone is seen coming into the Church, and it is nice to say that we keep our welcoming words, and smiles to each and every member coming in. A handshake, a greeting, and yes, sometimes even a hug, can brighten someone's day, and we are happy to be participating in that Ministry on behalf of our Lord.

We can always use new volunteers and look forward to welcoming anyone aboard!

Respectfully submitted by,

Art Slade, Team Lead

## FROM THE CHURCH REGISTERS IN 2024



### **Baptisms:**

Connor Jacob Reid  
Mikayla Nicole Saucier  
Olivia Anne Ruth Nichols

### **Burials:**

Amanda Michelle James  
Elaine Agnes Gibson  
Peter Harrison Tidy  
Victoria Irene Davis  
Richard Alan May  
Esther Naa Mokok Boi-Doku  
Lillian Venita McGrath  
Sharon Rose Chappell  
Brian John Nation  
Erna Haller  
Gerald Warren Farrell

## APPOINTMENTS AND NOMINATIONS 2025

### Appointments

Rector's Warden	Rob Mackay	These positions are appointed by the Incumbent/Churchwardens. All are members of Advisory.
Rector's Deputy Warden	Art Slade	
Treasurer	Marilyn Dunnill	
Envelope Secretary	Peter Davidson	
Appointed members of Advisory	Brent Levy <b>TBD</b>	

### Nominations

People's Warden *	David Bevan	These positions are elected at Vestry. The names shown have been nominated for the respective positions.
People's Deputy Warden *	<b>TBD</b>	
Lay Delegate to Synod *	Art Slade	
Alternate Lay Delegate to Synod	Marilyn Dunnill	
Elected members of Advisory **	John Loftus <b>TBD</b>	
St. Martin's Centre Board *	Peter Davidson Rob Mackay Ross Strickland	Each * indicates how many persons from that group are members of Advisory Board.
Parochial Tribunal *	Peter Davidson Felicity Martin	

### Committees & Ministries

Altar Guild	Anne Davidson	These representatives are selected from among the members of each group, by the group itself. They represent their group on Advisory Board.
Choir	Helen Locke	
Sunday School	Janis Lynch	
Youth	Natasha Baird	
Servers	Rob Mackay	
Welcome Team	Art Slade	
Social Committee	Lee Lynn	
Outreach	Andrea Ferrara	
Communication	Rob Mackay	
Property	Peter Davidson	
Cemetery Board	John Loftus	
Stewardship	David Bevan	
FaithWorks	Peter Davidson	
Fundraising	Debbie Cuciurean	
Stewards of Creation	Lee Lynn	
Hospitality	Adelaide Pieterse	
Social Justice	Denise Farrugia	
Readers	Moyah Morgan	
Intercessors	Shirley Vasey	