

**PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Meeting of**  
**Tuesday, January 16, 2024**  
**Bishop Reed Hall**  
**MINUTES**

**In attendance:** Suzanne Bisson, John Hancock, Joan Hounsell, Cynthia Greer, Pauline Adams, Joan Grayer, Joy Bowerman, Georgia Roberts, Carolyn Findlay, Gillian Morris, Janis Perkin, Michael Perkin, Bill Barber

**Regrets**

Rev. Julian Campbell

**Opening the Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

In Father Julian's absence Janis Perkin offered a prayer.

**Approval of the Agenda**

Approval was moved by Joy Bowerman and seconded by Michael Perkin *CARRIED*

**Business Arising From Previous Meeting**

1. Keys and locking up issues: New procedures for using the alarm system are being created by Penny Miller and Joy Bowerman.
2. Keypad for Link entrance: It has been decided to go with KEY-IT for the new lock. With the purchase of the lock and crash bar and the labour costs it is priced at \$1,335.00.
3. The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee update:

**75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Committee Report to Parish Council**  
**January 2024**

**Members of the Planning Committee:** Fr Julian, Joseph Amuah, Suzanne Bisson, Joan Grayer, Penny Miller, Gillian Morris, Georgia Roberts

The committee met on January 4, by Zoom, to discuss further the plans for marking our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

It has been decided that activities will begin on April 21, the Sunday before St Mark's Day, and will conclude on Sunday October 6. The kickoff, on April 21, will feature our history, with displays in Bishop Reed Hall and a presentation by Bill Barber about the church architecture. On October 6, our Bishop will be with us for a special service that will include confirmation. And there will be food both times!

Between those 2 dates, keep your eyes open for a tree planting, a spring tea or social, a picnic or bbq and a concert by Aged in Harmony. Dates are yet to be determined.

There will be some memorabilia for giveaway and perhaps for sale. And we have contacted IPC Canada, the company who produced the parish pictorial directory for the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, to get more information about possibly producing a directory for the 75<sup>th</sup>.

We also hope to include in our worship and celebrations some clergy who have had special connections to St Mark's.

Stay tuned! We will be asking for your help to make this a great 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Georgia Roberts

Chair of the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Committee

4. Black History Month 2024

Our four speakers have been confirmed. St. Rita's school has replied that they will again send artwork done by their students. We are collaborating on some activities with St. Thomas the Apostle and their committee. Penny Miller has agreed to be the food coordinator this year. Our activities have been added to the Diocesan Calendar. Both City Councillors have accepted an invitation to attend a service during the month.

**Correction to the Minutes from the December 12, 2023 meeting**

Under Rector's Report, Page 2 Christ should be Chris.

Under Treasurer's Report Page 2 September should be November and on page 3 in following the report Georgia should be replaced with St. Mark's.

**Approval of the Minutes from the December 12, 2023 meeting**

Approval of the minutes was moved by Joan Hounsell and seconded by Pauline Adams *CARRIED*

**Regular Reports**

**Rector's Report**

Rector's Report 16th January 2024

(In the rector's absence Suzanne Bisson delivered his report.)

Advent Devotions were held via Zoom @ 6: 30 pm on Sundays for the first 3 Sundays of Advent. They were facilitated by Fr. Julian (Hope and Peace), Keith Wilkins (Joy) and Michael Perkin (Love).

The Ojo children were baptized January 14<sup>th</sup> 2024.

Christ and Lisa's wedding is scheduled for Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2024 @ 11. The kitchen will be managed by Penny and Laurie. Joy will be the soloist and Joan the Matron of Honour.

Parishes are permitted to replace the Creed with Hymn #44 or #46 in Common Praise during the liturgy. Parishes are also permitted to use inclusive versions from the English Language Liturgical Consultation.

Check-out the new Clergy Development Check-in! The process to develop this form begins January 2024. Our Deanery is being used as a starter deanery. My appointment with the new archdeacon is February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The chairperson of BHM 2024 is Joan Hounsell. Announcements will begin as of 21<sup>st</sup> January 2024.

75th Anniversary Committee is headed by Georgia. She will give her first announcement to the congregation 21st January 2024. The kick off service will be 21st April which will also be observed as St. Mark's Patronal Festival.

I'm currently on call at the Ottawa Hospital on the following dates: Jan. 1-7, January 29-February 4, Feb. 26-March 3 and March 25-31 2024

Please remember Cathy Beach's family as they mourn the loss of Phyllis their mom. The funeral was initially scheduled for St. mark's but at the last minute it was taken to another church. May she rest in peace.

Thanks to all of you for the support shown to the Bowerman family during the passing of Connie Bowerman. May her soul rest in peace.

The following note I received from Archdeacon Rhonda Waters in connection with a conference titled, "You are Leaven Conference" hosted by the diocese. Information about the conference was never received by Joy or me. I was notified about it through Bishop Michael who was interested in attending. The conference will be held April 19-22 2024 at Queen of the Apostles Retreat Centre, Mississauga.

Hello Fr Julian,

I'm afraid that the conference is not accepting late applications at this time. The planning committee has been thrilled at the level of interest across the country, but it does mean that not even everyone who submitted on time will be accepted as we do not have space for them all. We hope to be able to offer similar opportunities in the future, though, so keep an eye out!

Yours,

Rhonda

### **Rectors Warden Report**

### **Rector's Warden Report**

January 16, 2024

Corporation met on January 2, 2024.

**Financial Advisory Committee** met Monday, January 15, 2024. The main topic was the 2024 budget and Joy will speak of this in her report.

**Vestry 2024** will take place on March 3, 2024, at 1:00 pm via Zoom. A nomination committee will be established. Most incumbents will be in their second year during 2024; an alternate synod position and a member-at-large position is to be filled.

Lenten Outreach will be discussed and agreed to at Vestry. As a suggestion, it is noted that a letter was received from Matthew House requesting monetary assistance. This is an organization that helps newcomers who need furnishings to settle into secure housing.

### **Garbage Limit in 2024 for Churches**

I have asked and received information from Riley Brockington regarding the City's date for the implementation of the three-bag limit. His response is: "Short answer - We don't have a specific date at this time. Longer answer - When we bring forward the implementation plan to Committee and Council, I anticipate we will be 3 months out from the start date of the new item limit. It will be important for us to roll out our communication campaign and based on industry

practices, we are planning to advertise for 3 months to ensure residents are aware.” Churches will fall under the three-bag limit when this becomes effective. Riley let me know that there are options for churches who have event rentals under the ‘yellow bag program’. Although we request that rentals take their garbage away with them, some do not. If we find that rentals are leaving their waste, we could pass the costs of the yellow bag to them. (yellow bags are sold in packs of four for \$17.20 at various Home Hardware retailers in the city). Here is the link - Garbage | City of Ottawa.

## **Property Report**

### **Property Report January 2024**

Code lock for link door.

I have two quotes concerning the cost of a code lock.

QuoteFirst is a verbal quote from Key It. After a quick look at some catalogs, a potential replacement was found for the existing commercial lock. The lock photo and a replacement example are shown in the attached file ( attached to the email but unable to add to this report). The cost is about \$500 for the lock, plus a handle to open the door, and installation fee around \$150 to \$250. I expect the inside bar mechanism would have to be replaced also, which has not been costed.

The second quote from NKLock is attached: \$3618.45  
Both companies require an on-site visit for a firm quote.

John Hancock

*Following the report:*

There is still water appearing in the furnace room and it is being investigated.

## **Treasurer’s Report**

### **Draft Budget 2024**

There are some changes in the reporting of finances in the yearly budget which should be noted. The term “Retained Earnings” will now appear as “Accumulated Funds” which is a term now being used by charitable institutions. Envelope giving and identifiable giving which includes PAR, Thank-offerings, etc. have been combined under the term “Identifiable Offerings”. The Telephone and Internet expenses will be combine for the 2024 budget.

In looking at the finances of 2023 we can see that the user fees were higher than usual. In 2024 we will be hosting Kiwanis, Pedalheads and the Carleton Memorial Summer Camp. Mar Thoma is using our spaces on the first and third Sunday of the month. Due to the fact that there was no permanent organist, the cost for a fill-in organist was higher. The Spring Market, an extension of the Fall Bazaar will be held this year as well.

The following motion was made:

“It is moved that the 2024 Budget, presented at Parish Council be approved for presentation at Vestry 2024.”

Moved by John Hancock and seconded by Georgia Roberts **CARRIED**

## **Membership Report**

### **Membership January 2024**

There hasn't been much change. We lost Connie Bowerman on Christmas Day, and her memorial service / celebration of life was well attended. Our sympathies go to the Bowerman /Dee families.

During the past 6 months we have received quite a few members, or people who attend but haven't yet completely decided on making St Mark's their home.

Guy Lavoie has decided to attend a French church. We are reaching out to several people who have changed from a landline to a cell phone, but if they don't let us know, and we don't have their email address, it isn't simple.

Numbers on a Sunday are around 40, although a month ago they were up to 50, for no known reason.

The gift bags have been well accepted. Thank you, Joan and friends.

Black history month is coming up and might bring us some visitors. Please wear your name tags and welcome our visitors. Cynthia Greer

*Following the report:* there was some discussion concerning the need for Greeters on Sunday mornings.

## **Stewardship Report**

### **Stewardship January 2024**

Many thanks and praises to the Financial Stewardship team. We came together in prayer and purpose which resulted in a great and successful campaign. We received a large amount of donations and quite a few PAR increases and new subscribers. Monies are still coming in and January will see the increases in PAR donations.

On another note, please prepare for your saintly trivia during this year's Lent Madness. Starting the Thursday following Ash Wednesday I will be posting the daily competition of Lent Madness. I encourage you all to join in this fun yet informative way of journeying through Lent. Forward Movement's "Lent Madness" is a spin-off from the March Madness phenomenon that happens in College Basketball in the U. S.

Michael Perkin

## **Outreach Report**

### **Outreach Report January 2024**

1. I have made 2 deliveries of food, cash, and cheques to DDFH since our last meeting.
2. A very generous parishioner bought the remainder of the knitted items from the Bazaar. These were delivered to DDFH after Christmas.
3. Milk bags were given to Anne Riley who will deliver them to Grace at All Saints, Greely for mats and cushions.
4. Stamps were collected on the 8<sup>th</sup> and delivered to OXFAM the next day.
5. Welcome Kits are a big hit. I have made up 21 of which 15 have been given to visitors. The kits now include a colourful trifold of information, a St Mark's bookmark and a small prayer shawl along with a pen, note pad, CCC information and a directory of phone numbers and social media platforms.

Joan Hounsell, Outreach

## **Coffee, Company and, Conversation**

### **January 2024**

CCC began its 2024 winter session on Thursday, January 11, 2024. There were 35 people in attendance, who were very happy to be back enjoying the atmosphere and seeing friends. On average, the attendance has ranged from 30-35 people. The weekly voluntary donations allow the coordinators to cover expenses and thank special guests.

Since its inception in September 2018, this community outreach for older adults has grown considerably, despite the COVID shutdown. Besides “word of mouth”, CCC is in the monthly diocesan newsletter “Crosstalk” and is now in the Council on Aging’s weekly email letters which publicize community activities for seniors in Ottawa. In addition, CCC’s program is now appearing in NRORC’s (Nepean, Rideau, Osgoode Community Resource Centre) weekly email list of community events. Other churches and locales are spreading the word as well.

This community outreach program could not thrive without its volunteers: the coordinating team, the generous and talented St. Mark’s baking group, Its publicists and others.

Laurie Slaughter

## **Choir Report**

### **Choir January 2024**

Last month saw a few weeks when our numbers were down, but we seem to have our usual number now. We are coping with different organists, but we have been very lucky with those we have had.

Glenn will be here until almost the end of February, and then off for a couple of weeks, and back with us. It is quite awkward for any long-term preparations when the organist changes frequently, and obviously it isn't the best situation.

However, the choir is doing the best it can, using the time to see different people in action.

This is not a long-term solution, but I'm thankful that people are flexible enough at this point.

Hopefully we will have a more permanent way soon, because while we do our best, sometimes other things turn up which we would like to do, and our commitment to every Thursday and Sunday lessens gradually if we don't keep vigilant.

I would like to thank the choir members for their commitment, and their lack of complaining.

Cynthia Greer

## **New Business**

### **Meeting time**

Parish council approved the change to have evening meetings for the next Parish Council year starting in March 2024.

### **Wedding Planning**

Planning was discussed for Chis Robertson and Lisa Lewis’s Wedding on January 27, 2024.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting date will be Tuesday February 13th at 10 am.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am with the saying of the Grace.

Respectfully submitted by Janis Perkin