



# WARDENS' UPDATE

Dear Friends:

November 2019

We are now well into our new fiscal year and before we get too deep into the Seasons of Advent and Christmas, this is a good time to take stock of the recent months at Christ Church.

While regular and ongoing communication about the "business" of our parish community may seem somewhat dry and uninteresting, it is an important part of what we do together at Christ Church. Please indulge us and take a few minutes to read this letter.

## VESTRY HIGHLIGHTS

On September 29, 2019 we held our Annual Meeting of Vestry to accept reports, elect officers, acknowledge appointments, approve the previous year's Financial Statements and approve the current's Annual Budget. It is striking and affirming that the meeting opened with applause following the viewing of our 2019 Stewardship video *Make Us One* and also concluded with spontaneous applause at the passing of Vestry motions supporting the ministry of a permanent deacon or deacons to be rooted at Christ Church and confirming Luigi Battista as a candidate for ordination to the diaconate. Such positive energy. In between, we welcomed back Stan Szepesi appointed, to the role of Rector's Warden and, for her first lay leadership role at Christ Church, Rachel Brown was appointed as Deputy Rector's Warden. Jonathan Tyner and Shumaila Desrochers remain members of Corporation as People's Warden and Deputy People's Warden, respectively. Many thanks is extended to Sonia Sobers and Stephen Nilam for their years of service on Corporation.

Among other reports that were accepted, both F2019 Financial Statements and F2020 Budget were unanimously adopted. Additionally, Vestry passed a motion to withdraw \$23,468 from the Heritage Fund to cover the F2019 deficit. The latter point is important so that we are not burdened with financing a debt.

Our F2020 budget is conservative in nature. We have adopted a budget with a modest 3% increase in both income and expenses (excluding salaries which remained unchanged for F2020). With continued generosity of our parish family, we are confident that we will be able to achieve this plan and indeed overcome the \$3,000 deficit that was approved. Clearly, your continued financial support of Christ Church is of utmost importance to us. We continue to closely monitor both our income and expenses.

Vestry minutes will be posted on-line by the end of this month and hard copies will be made available at the church for those who do not have access to read on-line.

## STEWARDSHIP

### Results

Our annual stewardship focus concluded on Rally Sunday with the Blessing of the Pledges. The results of which are an important input when preparing the budget. We simply cannot plan expenses when we don't have an idea of the expected income. Our Envelope Secretary reported to us that \$187,354 was pledged for F2020. At the end of the first quarter (September 30), total offerings applied to our annual pledge was 31%. This is good news and we are grateful to those parishioners that are fulfilling their pledge commitment.

To be clear, we do not know individual donor and/or pledging information but we do wonder why people give but are hesitant to make a pledge. Why is that? If something is holding you back, can we help?

## Interim Receipts & Pledge Tracking

As you review your enclosed **Interim 2019 Tax Receipt (January 1, 2019 to September 30, 2019)**, prayerfully consider your offerings to Christ Church. Does it reflect your Christian faith? We are reminded again and again that all that we have we receive from God. It is in the giving and receiving that we participate in God's life in a profound way. We are blessed that many of our Envelope Subscribers are disciplined and generous in their offerings. Conversely, many of our parishioners take advantage of our convenient monthly PAR program. They know that their contributions to Christ Church continue even while they are away! Contact our Envelope Secretary, Carolynne Atkinson at 905-453-8323 or email at: carolynneat@yahoo.ca should you require more information and/or wish to make a pledge for this year. *(Forms are available in the Parish Office)*

Pledge information now shows on our tax receipts as a helpful way to provide an update on individual pledge commitments. For those households who did make a pledge for Fiscal 2020, this information now shows your interim tax receipt. The "Pledge Summary" details your total pledge commitment for F2020 (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020), what has been applied in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter (July 1 to September 30, 2019) and balance remaining to June 2020. In many cases, pledge results for F2019 are also shown as our fiscal year straddles the tax year.

**Carolynne has reported to us that, collectively, pledge commitments for the first quarter is sitting right at 31%. Thank you to all those who are fulfilling your F2020 pledge to Christ Church.**

## 2020 Envelope Distribution

As we approach the calendar year-end, Carolynne will be busy reviewing and organizing the various tasks associated with her role as Envelope Secretary *(have we mentioned how hard she works and how grateful we are?)*. The 2020 Envelopes have arrived and will be available for pick-up starting the first Sunday in Advent.



Over the years Carolynne has carefully managed the distribution and use of our envelope sets. For Fiscal 2020 a prudent decision was made to reduce the order from 180 to 150 sets. We know that many people are very committed to envelope sets and we want to honour that. We also have approximately 40% of our parishioners on PAR so it remains a delicate balance to know exactly how many sets we should be ordering. Those parishioners in the 151-180 range will be reassigned a new number commencing in January. Those households will be notified individually.

## 2019 Tax Receipts

2019 Tax Receipts will be made available in February. Providing an interim receipt at this point provides an opportunity for you to confirm its accuracy from January 1, 2019 to September 30, 2019. Please note that for those parishioners who attended Bella Roma in June of this year, tax receipting information for the Future Ministries Fund will be added to your final tax receipt.

## **HELP US SHARE THE STORY**

Did you know that you can now follow Christ Church on both Facebook and Instagram! Join today. We get the word out about Christ Church if you "like and share" our posts. It is that easy to spread the word. There are lots of photos of life on our website. While you are there make sure to check out the "Make Us One" video. All at:

[www.christchurchbrampton.ca](http://www.christchurchbrampton.ca)



**MAKE US ONE**

## F2020 FINANCIAL RESULTS – QUARTER 1 (September 30, 2019)

As you will know our fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30. It can be a challenge getting your head around this when we use the calendar and/or church year for other aspects of our lives. Below you will find results for the first quarter of our fiscal year (*July 1, 2019 to September 30, 2019*).

Christ Church (Brampton)  Statement of Operations	Actual September 30, 2019			Actual September 30, 2018		
	General Fund	Future Ministries	Total	General Fund	Future Ministries	Total
	<b>Revenue</b>					
Donations	\$ 81,514	\$ 650	\$ 82,164	\$ 85,537		\$ 85,537
Rental income	8,100		8,100	6,600		6,600
Other income	3,679		3,679	2,840		2,840
Investment income	1,745		1,745	1,652		1,652
Memorial income			-			-
HST rebates	2,673		2,673	2,145		2,145
Program Offset	100		100	1,167		1,167
Grant income			\$ -		5,000	\$ 5,000
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$ 97,811</b>	<b>\$ 650</b>	<b>\$ 98,461</b>	<b>\$ 99,941</b>	<b>\$ 5,000</b>	<b>\$ 104,941</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>						
Salaries and benefits	\$ 51,463	\$ 9,348	\$ 60,811	\$ 47,727	\$ 12,224	\$ 59,951
Diocesan allotment	17,190		17,190	17,169		17,169
Repairs and maintenance	9,611		9,611	8,416		8,416
Utilities	2,259		2,259	4,701		4,701
Insurance	4,132		4,132	4,248		4,248
Harmonized sales tax expense	3,712		3,712	3,064		3,064
Special Projects	3,000		3,000			-
Program education	1,081		1,081	2,031		2,031
Music	1,851		1,851	289		289
Outreach expenses						-
Professional fees	1,500		1,500	1,500		1,500
Admin expenses	4,620		4,620	3,269		3,269
Bank charges and interest	271		271	113		113
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 100,690</b>	<b>\$ 9,348</b>	<b>\$ 110,038</b>	<b>\$ 92,527</b>	<b>\$ 12,224</b>	<b>\$ 104,751</b>
<b>Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures before other items</b>	<b>(2,879.4)</b>	<b>(8,698.0)</b>	<b>\$ (11,577)</b>	<b>\$ 7,414</b>	<b>\$ (7,224)</b>	<b>\$ 190</b>

### Key Points:

- We have experienced a solid start to the fiscal year.
- Our challenge in the months to come will be to maintain the same level of donations. This is really one specific area where we can all play a part and, of course, the ongoing management of expenses.
- The \$3,000 expenses to Special Projects is for the refurbishment of the outdoor signs which was generously underwritten by two parish households.

## PARISH LIFE

*"Escape to Freedom" Bus Trip to Niagara (October 2019)*



*A big shout-out of thanks to our Lay Representatives to Synod – Samir Tikaram, Jeremy l'Anson-Joukema, Sara Golla and Isaac Olurotimi with Michelle Jones and Byron Gilmore (November 2019)*



*Remembrance Day 2019 - Laying a Wreath at the Cenotaph (left) and 2019 Day Camp "Shipwrecked" (right)*



**ADVENT & CHRISTMAS** – A Christmas mailing will be released in December but we would be remiss not to bring to your attention the special Advent events already being prepared. Please mark your calendars and prepare to attend:

1. *Caring & Sharing* ~ our annual outreach program starts on Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>.
2. *Mini Bazaar* in support of Local Outreach on:
  - Saturday, November 30<sup>th</sup> | 7:30 – 9:00 pm
  - Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup> | 8:30 – 10:30 am
  - Sunday, December, December 8<sup>th</sup> | 8:30 – 10:30 am
3. *Family Advent Event* on Sunday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 @ 10:30 am.
4. *Children's Pageant* on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 am.
5. *Lessons & Carols* on Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> @ 4:00 pm ~ Our Choir's seasonal offering
6. *T'was in the Moon of Wintertime* on December 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 4:00 pm ~ **New This Year!**

## OUR THANKS

In closing, we offer our deepest thanks to all those who join us in partnering with God and His mission in Brampton and beyond. We looking forward to seeing you over the season of Advent.

*Stan Szepesi*  
Rector's Warden

*Jonathan Tyner*  
People's Warden

*Rachel Brown*  
Deputy Rector's Warden

*Shumaila Desrochers*  
Deputy People's Warden