

Dear Friends:

Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth.Amen and Amen.

(Psalm 72:18-19)

None of us are immune to the ongoing turbulence brought on by Covid-19. While restrictions have loosened over the past months, we know that we are not out of the woods and are called to continually adapt to new routines and changes. This alone can be challenging but we have a good and gracious God who has a steadfast love for us. We have so much to be thankful for. The beginning of the new church year is the 1st Sunday in Advent and like any new year, change is in the wind and plans are unfolding.



Remembrance Sunday November 7, 2021 (left & below)

LEADERSHIP CHANGES

<u>The Rev. Michelle Jones</u>: As announced on November 7, 2021, The Rev. Michelle Jones has been called to St. James Caledon East as Priest-in-Charge. Michelle's last Sunday with Christ Church will be The Reign of Christ (November 21, 2021). It has been a joy and privilege having Michelle serve among us at Christ Church. Throughout this transition, please note:

- "Writing My Story" will continue as planned untilits conclusion on Thursday, December 23, 2021
- Lectio Divina on Friday mornings will be paused effective Friday, November 18, 2021
- + Evening Prayer on Tuesdays at 8:00 pm via Zoom will continue

Please keep Michelle, St. James Caledon East and Christ Church in your prayers as we enter the Holy Season of Advent and the new liturgical year in this time of transition. As always, we are confident that God is on the throne.



Corporation & Advisory Board: At our Annual Meeting of Vestry (October 17, 2021), Shumaila Desrochers and Stan Szepesi were appointed Rector's Warden and Deputy Rector's Warden, respectively. Sarala (Sara) Golla was elected Deputy People's Warden. Jonathan Tyner remains as the People's Warden. Sean Joseph was elected Advisory Board Chair at the November 2, 2021 meeting of Advisory Board. We are deeply grateful for those who previously served in these roles, namely Rachel Brown as Deputy Peoples' Warden and Chris Bird as Advisory Board Chair. Their dedication and leadership over the many years has served our parish well.

Treasurer: Effective January 2022, Kathy Newbert will be taking on the role as Treasurer. Kathy responded to a call at the Annual Meeting of Vestry wherein we highlighted this need. God certainly does provide. Again, we want to express our deep appreciation to Paul Wren for his time as Treasurer and before that as a member of Corporation.



WARDENS' UPDATE The Reign of Christ, November 2021

DISCIPLESHIP

<u>Children & Youth:</u> Our first ever virtual children's party was our 2020 Pumpkin Party and here we are a year later still at it! Who would have known how successful these seasonal events would be? Is this us catching up to where God wanted us to be? This year, Tina graciously invited The Church of the Holy Family to join us at our 2021 Pumpkin Party and we were delighted that they did! A party of prayer, scripture and icing cookies was all delivered via Zoom. We have watched and marvelled as the Canon Allen Room has turned into a "staging area" for kit after kit that has been compiled for "Thursday School", seasonal parties and pop-up events. Once these kits are put together, they are then delivered ~ every 6 weeks or so. We are pretty sure that Tina's GPS has had a good work-out over the past 20 months while out delivering kits ~ to say nothing of her creativity and dedication! A special thanks to Sarah White who faithfully supports Tina at Thursday School. As we move into the Season of Advent, we know that Tina has things well in hand for the Advent Party, Advent-focused Thursday School and another virtual Christmas Pageant.

Our Youth Group continues to meet semi-monthly on Friday evenings via Zoom. This group of young people have also been steadfastthroughout the pandemic. Their first in-persongathering since October 2020 was held last month. A round of Frisbee Golf followed by pizza at Tina's home was a welcome change from Zoom. The use of technology and a gift card allowed a member of the Youth Group to join us remotely from Niagara Falls both on "the course" and for pizza. Careful consideration is being given to further in-person events.



Over 25 children attended our Virtual Pumpkin Party in October.





Contact Tina for a Zoom invitation and party kit!

Our Youth Group meets semimonthly via Zoom.

Photos of these events and others can be viewed at: https://www.christchurchbrampton.ca/recent-events

Invitations to adults of any age:



Join us in prayer for a quiet and peaceful night. EVENING PRAYER Tuesday Evenings @ 8:00 pm on Zoom Zoom links are on website **Evening Prayer:** Tuesdays at 8:00 pm via Zoom, please join our Clergy as they lead us in Evening Prayer. The Zoom link is readily available on our website.

"Lord it is night. The night is for stillness. Let us be still in the presence of God."





A SONG DEVOTION SERIES BY SALLY CAMPBELL

"What's in a Song?" explores individual songs of worship and praise that you might hear on any Sunday morning. Our Worship Collective leader, Sally Campbell, hopes her reflections might provide insight to strengthen your own faith. Sally's reflections can be found at: https://www.christchurchbrampton.ca/music-theworshipcollective



WARDENS' UPDATE

The Reign of Christ, November 2021



What values are important? Why do I matter? What makes my life meaningful? Questions like these often pop up and no more so than in a pandemic. Curious?

So you may be asking "What is Alpha?" Alpha is a way to bring to create a space where people from any background can encounter Jesus ~ no matter where you are your journey of faith. Maybe your faith might be waiting to be discovered? Maybe you are questioning your faith? Maybe you are wanting to deepen your faith? For a few months now a team has been praying and preparing for our winter launch.

Starting on **Wednesday, January 19th at 8:00 pm,** Alpha runs for 10 sessions via Zoom (*you can be cozy at home*) and a Retreat Weekend in early March (*we are creatively looking at how we can do this*). Registration will be available on our website via Eventbrite on November 28th and <u>will close January 9th</u> to allow for our leaders to get further organized and pray some more! Since we have announced Alpha, there has been marked excitement has been expressed by those who have attended before...join us to find out why. And maybe there is someone in your life that you might invite.

ALL ARE INVITED | ALL ARE WELCOME | NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

LITURGY & WORSHIP

In-Person Worship is at 10:00 am on Sunday mornings. We kindly ask that you pre-register should you be planning to attend. This assists greatly with both our contract tracing obligations and our ability to meet the Public Health and Diocesan Guidelines during the pandemic. To register:

- 1. **Register online** via our website at <u>www.christchurchbrampton.ca</u> using Eventbrite.
- 2. Phone the office @ 905-451-6649 and leave a message for Martha.

Households may sit together but one "ticket" is required for each individual. Please be mindful of others and register only for the service you plan to attend and only register members of your own household.

<u>Online Worship</u> is available each week at 10:00 am and can be accessed directly from our website. Continued thanks to our Clergy, our Staff and Production Volunteers.

<u>Weekly Announcements/Service Bulletins</u> are available each week on our website to keep you well informed on the "happenings" at Christ Church and beyond. Again these are available on our website.

<u>Advent & Christmas</u>: A Christmas mailing will be released, however we wanted you to know what plans are in place to celebrate this year. Once again we will have joyous season as we prepare for the Nativity of our Lord.

- We will continue to celebrate Sunday mornings both in-person and online at 10:00 am. Please register for our inperson service.
- Lessons and Carols will be offered online on the Third Sunday in Advent (December 12th) at 7:00 pm.



Online

- Children's Pageant at 4:00 pm
- Christmas Service at 7:00 pm

- In-Person *
- Christmas Eve at 7:00 pm
- Christmas Day at 10:00 am

* Registration for In-Person Christmas Worship will be available late November. Please register early should you be planning to attend as we will be monitoring closely for seating capacity.





OUTREACH

Contactless
2021 Caring & Sharing
This year we are partnering with local
ministry charities
JFJ Hope Centre
and
Boys & Girls Club of Peel
Worship Fully| Speed Less | Give More | Love All
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Caring & Sharing is an annual tradition at Christ Church. Last year, we managed to do the "pandemic-pivot" by introducing a contactless way to participate. It was a marvellous success. Christ Church parishioners and friends were so very generous. The need this year is even greater with the toll that the pandemic has taken in our community. Our ministry partners this year include the JFJ Hope Centre, the Boy & Girls Club of Peel and Knight's Table. This year, we have committed to:

- For the JFJ Hope Centre Christmas party, we are providing 85 sets of pajamas, 25 gifts for Dads and 35 gingerbread kits.
- On Saturday, December 11th from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon we will be having a Drive-By/Drop-Off to fill the JFJ Centre Care Cupboard.
- For the Boys & Girls Club of Peel, we will providing Christmas in its entirety for 5 families.
- + For the Knight's Table we will be providing grocery gift cards.
- + Fulfilling needs other needs as they arise and as we are able.

What Can You Do to Help? To keep everyone safe, a small group of individuals are doing the shopping and we are asking you to help fund this ministry. You can do this by making a financial donation and clearly marking it "<u>Caring & Sharing</u>". It will be included in your 2021. Donations can be dropped off at the church, e-transferred, mailed or pick-up. For more information please contact either Jean Jamieson at 416-457-5686 or Martha Whittaker at 416-420-3765. See our website at: https://www.christchurchbrampton.ca/caring-and-sharing for more information.

Why not ask your family, friends and neighbours if they would like to get involved? Compassion and generosity go hand in hand.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Interim Receipts

As you review your enclosed **Interim 2021 Tax Receipt (January 1, 2020 to October 31, 2021**), prayerfully consider your offerings to Christ Church. Does it reflect your Christian faith? It is in the giving and receiving that we participate in God's life in a profound way. We continued to be blessed by many parish families who are disciplined and generous in their offerings. They know that their contributions to support the ministry of Christ Church whether they are worshipping with us either Online or In-Person. 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 on the website at https://www.christchurchbrampton.ca/commitment-2021-2022

Please note that contributions made by E-Transfer are included as Christ Church is the receipting charity whereas contributions made via CanadaHelps will not be included as CanadaHelps is the receipting charity.

2022 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. Another "behind-the-scenes" volunteer that we are thankful for! The 2022 Envelope Sets are available for pick-up at the church. Following the Christmas season, we will make plans to have those not picked-up delivered. Many of our Envelope Subscribers have moved to E-transfer, however they still maintain the same envelope number.



2021 Tax Receipts

2021 Tax Receipts will be made available in late February. Providing an interim receipt at this point provides an opportunity for you to confirm its accuracy from January 1, 2021 to October 31, 2022. Should you have any questions or need for clarity, please contact Carolynne.

F2022 Financial Results – Quarter 1 (September 30, 2021)

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, 2021 to September 30, 2021*) compared to the same time period in 2020.

Christ Church (Brampton)

For the period ended Sept 30, 2021				Actual						Actual			
Tor the period ended Sept 30, 2021	September 30, 2021							September 30, 2020					
	General Future				121			General		Future			
Statement of Operations		Fund		inistries		Total		Fund		linistries		Total	
Revenue													
Donations	\$	72,311				72,311	Ś	80,272				80,272	
Rental income		8,505				8,505		8,100				8,100	
Other income		3,408				3,408		1,387				1,387	
Investment income		1,845				1,845		1,829				1,829	
Memorial income		125				125		3,051				3,051	
HST rebates		1,468				1,468		3,075				3,075	
Program Offset						-						-	
Grant income										4,500		4,500	
Total revenue	\$	87,662			\$	87,662	\$	97,714	\$	4,500	\$	102,214	
Expenditures													
Salaries and benefits	\$	56,458	\$	10,766	\$	67,224	\$	56,889	\$	10,098	\$	66,987	
Diocesan allotment		15,099			\$	15,099		15,688				15,688	
Repairs and maintenance		9,465			\$	9,465		10,879				10,879	
Utilities		3,406			\$	3,406		3,173				3,173	
Insurance		5,856			\$	5,856		3,390				3,390	
Harmonized sales tax expense		2532			\$	2,532		4271				4,271	
Special Projects					\$	-		1,786				1,786	
Program education		708			\$	708		1,362				1,362	
Music		400			\$	400		56				56	
Outreach expenses					\$	-						-	
Professional fees		1,500			\$	1,500		1,500				1,500	
Admin expenses		3,797			\$	3,797		8,971				8,971	
Bank charges and interest		240			\$	240		170				170	
Total expenditures	\$	99,461	\$	10,766	\$	110,227	\$	108,135	\$	10,098	\$	118,233	
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures before other items	\$	(11,799)	\$	(10,766)	\$	(22,565)	\$	(10,421)	\$	<mark>(</mark> 5,598)		<mark>(16,019)</mark>	

Key Points:

- Our general offerings are **10% less** as compared to the same time period last year. While not alarming, we will keep a close eye on this area in the months to come. This is one specific area where we can all play a part.
- We continue to monitor our expenses closely.

VARDENS' UPDAT



The Reign of Christ, November 2021

Financial Giving: Throughout the pandemic, Christ Church has been blessed by the ongoing generosity of our parish family. The life and vitality of our Church and the community we serve is important to us. We are grateful to those who have played a part in ensuring our ministry continues to flourish. Intentional, purposeful and sacrificial gifts enable us to invite, welcome and connect all of us together with Him who abides with us in all times and circumstances.

Many of our Envelope Subscribers continue to make regular donations by way of the mail, drop-off, arranging for a pickup or using an electronic method of giving. Other ways to give include:

- 1. Pre-Authorized Remittance ("PAR") is convenient way of giving to Christ Church in that a set monthly amount is withdrawn from your bank account. PAR provides a convenient way to ensure your offerings are received on a regular basis. PAR forms are available here: https://www.christchurchbrampton.ca/how-to-give
- 2. <u>E-Transfers</u> via the Interac system.
 - a. Simply set-up Christ Church Brampton as a payee on your internet banking account.
 - b. Email address required: christchurchbrampton@bellnet.ca
 - c. No password is required
 - d. Upon making an offering you will receive an email notification as will Christ Church.
 - e. Your offerings will be included in your annual tax receipt.
- 3. You can donate electronically via **CanadaHelps** using your credit card through the Christ Church Brampton website. At the top of the homepage – click "Online Giving via Canada Helps". It takes you to the following link. In this case, CanadaHelps provides you with a tax receipt.

https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/christ-church-brampton/#donate-now-pane

In F2021 a total of just over \$250,000 was received in these various electronic methods of giving.

- 4. However, you can drop off your church envelope in the mail slot at the church The not-so-obvious-mail slot is located just below the buzzer on the right hand side of the office doors...it's a wee bit tricky because it is a vertical slot. Of course, you may place it on the offering plate should you be attending in -person worship.
- 5. You arrange for a pick-up by calling Martha at: Office: (905) 451-6649 / Phone or Text: 416-420-3765

HELP US SHARE OUR STORY

By following Christ Church on our social media platfroms you can participate on God's mission in Brampton. You might give people the hope that they are looking for. The following are easy ways to help you tell our story.





Follow us on

Instagram



Doing What Love Requires



Enjoy our Annual Parish Video. Subscribe to our YouTube Channel and read our weekly annoucements.

OUR THANKS

In closing, we pray for all our Christian brothers and sisters in Brampton and that we can find ways to minister to one another well. We give thanks for the excellent riches God has given Christ Church and we give thanks to our Clergy, staff and lay leaders who continue to navigate the choppy waters of the ongoing pandemic. Please join us this Advent and Christmas as we lean into the expectation, hope, joy and peace of God with us.

Shumaíla Desrochers Rector's Warden

Jonathan Tyner People's Warden

Stan Szepesí Deputy Rector's Warden Sarala Golla **Deputy People's Warden**