

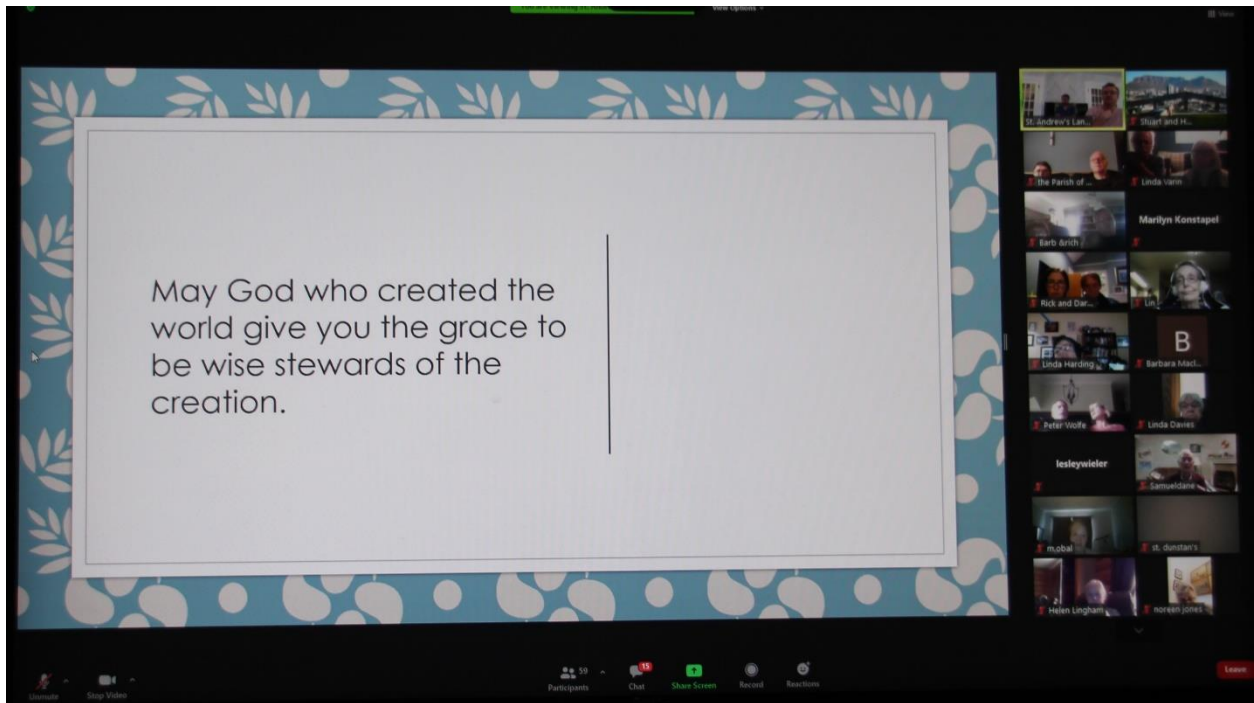
St Andrews Anglican Church, Langley



Planning For 2021

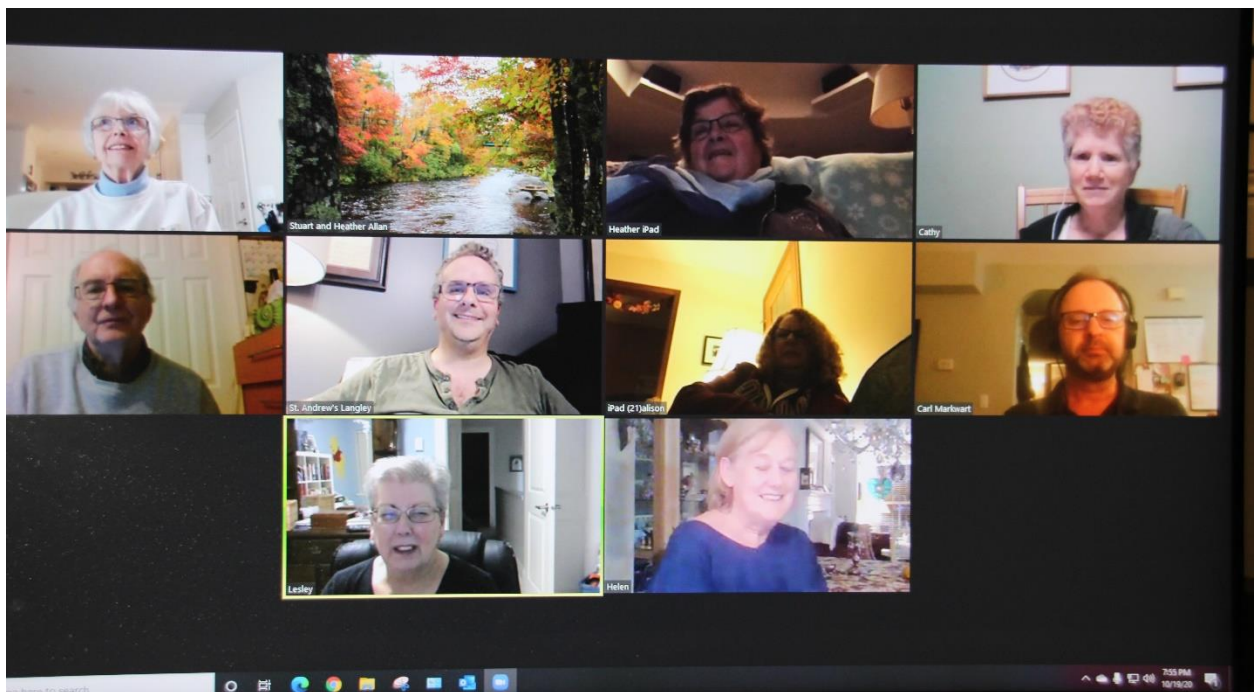
When we held our 2020 Vestry meeting last February, we certainly had no idea what was about to happen. Since then we all have been part of a global pandemic, something not seen in 100 years. We have learned there is no quick solution and we have slowly been adapting to this new way of life. For many of us this it has meant that we have been unable to travel and to see friends and family. As we begin our 9th month of Covid19, we still face an uncertain future. Churches have been forced to adapt as the health authorities feel they are particularly vulnerable to spreading the virus.

As you know St Andrew's and St Dunstan's have joined on Sunday mornings for Zoom services. Thanks to the hard work of Rev. David Taylor and Rev. Andrew Halladay, we have been able to enjoy getting together in worship, in a very interactive way. While many churches are using video streaming for their services, the use of Zoom allows participation by all of us. Sharing this difficult time with St Dunstan's congregation has been great.



Attendance on Sunday's Zoom services has been amazing. We even have had people joining us from churches other than St Andrew's and St Dunstan's. Please feel free to invite friends or family to sign in and join us.

We have also been able to hold monthly Parish Council meetings and have regular church executive meetings through Zoom.



This Fall we re-introduced “in person” services following strict public health hygiene and social distancing guidelines. As of October 25th we began to hold our 10 am zoom service from the church. We will be alternating between St Dunstan’s and St Andrew’s for the foreseeable future. We are working on a plan for both “in church” and Zoom services for Christmas. While none of us can predict what the next few months will bring, what we can do is continue to adapt and pray that a vaccine is developed soon, so that we can return to a more normal life.

While the church continues to operate smoothly under this strange and different situation, without in person attendance and due to the loss of several long-time members, our financial giving has fallen. From April to August our expected operating costs were reduced (thanks to significant contributions by the Diocese, in reduced clergy salary and assessment costs). As of September 1, we are now responsible for meeting all our operating expenses. We have lost the ability to have some of our traditional fund-raising activities like the Orpheus Choir but have introduced some successful new ideas like our Halloween baskets.



We continued to reach out to the community by increasing our social media presence on Facebook, Instagram, and our updated website.

As we look forward to 2021, we will continue to develop plans to grow our congregation, be more visible in the community and provide the opportunity for worship and spiritual support to both our congregation and the community of Langley.

Stewardship 2021

The first goal of this Stewardship campaign is to ensure that **we continue to receive the revenues necessary to sustain church operations and repay our debts. To ensure our revenues match our expenses for the final 4 months of 2020, we will need \$30,000 in contributions before year end** (a similar amount to what was received in November and December 2019).

We currently owe the Diocese about **\$47,000** for outstanding past assessments. This has been reduced from nearly \$100,000 4 years ago). One of our goals is to repay an additional \$10,000 on our diocesan loan at the end of 2020.

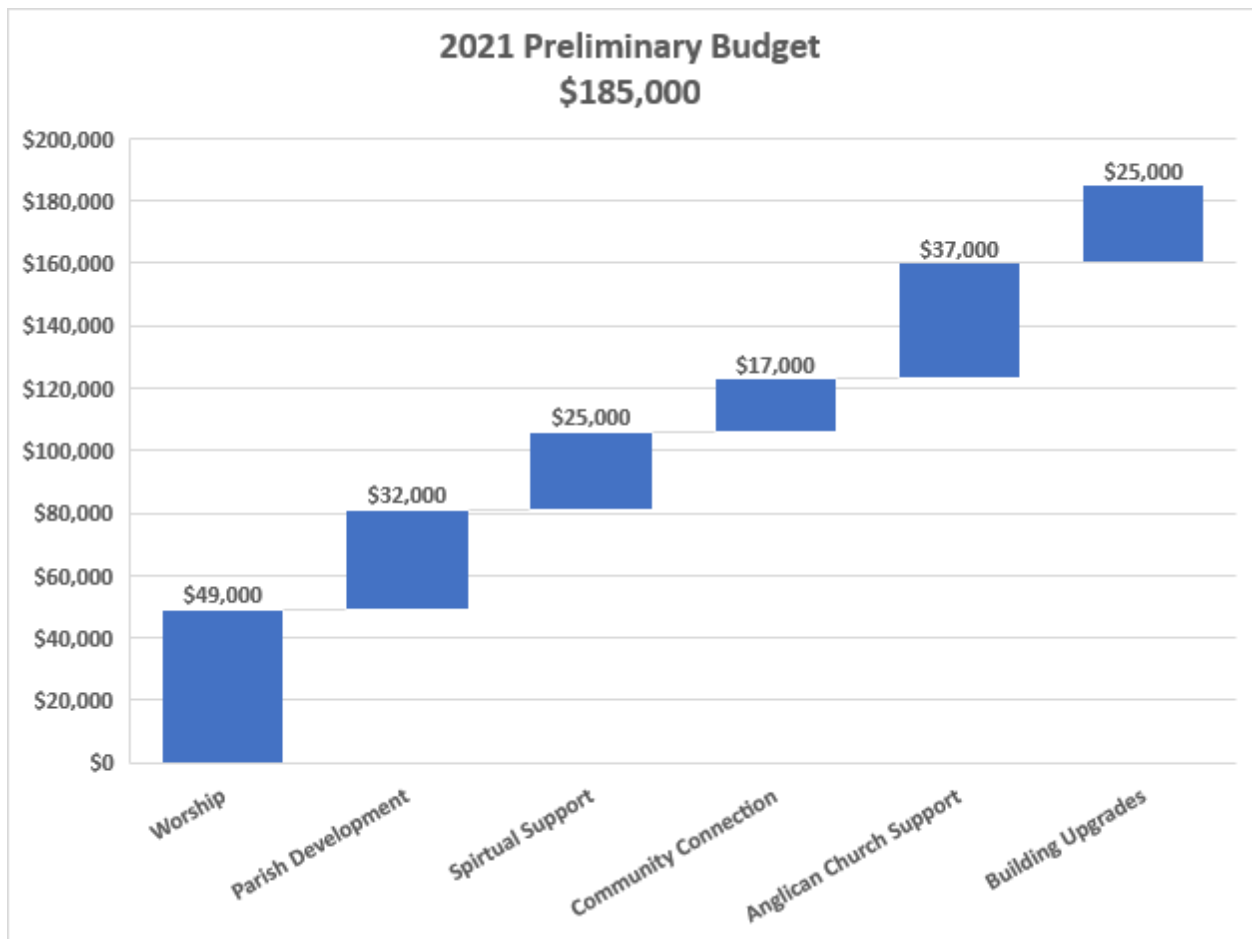
Our preliminary **operating budget for 2021 is \$160,000. This will cover our expected operating costs and \$8,000 further repayment of the Diocesan loan.** We know some of our operating costs will increase next year, for example, our building insurance is expected to increase by 15%! We believe this is a realist budget to begin our 2021 plan, taking into consideration the uncertainties of the pandemic and having seen reduced revenues so far this year. Final budgets will be prepared for Vestry in February, once we have reviewed pledges and year end finances.

As far as major expenses are concerned, we continue to need new flooring throughout church. The existing carpets are almost 40 years old. Initial estimates were about \$80,000 and that the project could be done in 3 stages, first the Sanctuary, second the hallways and meeting rooms and finally the large halls. Under the current circumstances, we have put this project on hold but are looking at alternatives to reduce the cost.

In addition, a roofing report provided to us last spring indicated that we had no more than 2 years of life left in the roof over the hall, kitchen and meeting rooms. By 2022, it will be 20 years old – a normal life expectancy for a roof like ours. We will have start work replacing at least half the roof in 2021 and the rest in 2022. We do not yet have an estimate of the cost yet but expect it to exceed \$60,000.

This means that we will have to plan to significantly increase our Building Fund to handle these two major costs. Our Building Fund is at **\$57,188** today. Our current plan would be to **increase this by \$25,000 in 2021**, so we can begin these major projects, which may take several years to complete.

This will bring our total budget for 2021 to \$185,000.



Your Support

For all this to become reality however, we need to have everyone in the congregation believe that this is what God is calling us to do and we need your financial support to achieve these goals. This year, in particular, we are planning for 2021 with a significant amount of uncertainty.

Please take the time to consider everything you have read, consider what additional donations you might be able to give in 2020 and complete the attached pledge form, indicating what you believe you will be able to give to support St Andrew's in 2021.

In addition, when we return to normal operations in 2021, we will need help in several areas. We will need to increase the number of volunteers and participants working in our Ministries. In 2021, think about trying something new. Join a bible study, volunteer to help with building or yard maintenance, work in the Altar Guild, become a reader for example. Parish Council is always looking for new members.

Please print and complete the attached pledge form and either drop it off or mail it to the church on or before Sunday November 29, 2020.

If you wish to complete the form on line and email it to the Envelope Secretary, Carl Markwart at markwartfam@telus.net that would also be fine.

The primary purpose of this pledge form is to have you think about what you will be able to share in time, talent, and money and secondly to help us develop a viable plan for 2021.



THANK-YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT

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