

St Andrews Anglican Church, Langley

Preparing for 2022



As we begin to look forward to 2022, we are all hoping that the Covid 19 global pandemic will be gone or at least under control. We do realize that there is no quick solution, and that we will have to continue to adapt to this new way of life. For many of us the Covid vaccine has meant that we have been able to again see friends and family and feel a bit safer as we go about our daily activities. Unfortunately, there are likely several more months before things will return to near normal both here and around the world.

Looking back at 2021

This past year has seen us have 8 months of a very successful joining of St Andrew's and St Dunstan's on Sunday mornings for Zoom services and finally a return to in person services in September. Thanks to the hard work of Rev. David Taylor and Rev. Andrew Halladay, we were able to enjoy interactively getting together for worship. Sharing this difficult time with St Dunstan's congregation was great. It is hoped that in 2022 we will find other projects to work with St Dunstan's on, now that they feel like part of St Andrews' family.



August Picnic with St Dunstan's

With the current provincial health guidelines in place, we are now able to have regular services in person every week at 8 am and 10 am at St Andrew's. It still feels a bit strange with everyone wearing masks and limited social activity before and after the service, but safety is the primary goal. We do plan to continue to offer the 10 am service on Zoom for those who can't make it into church.

In September, we were pleased to welcome Rev. Lorie Martin to our ministry team. Lorie is studying for her master's degree in Divinity and will be a Transitional Deacon at St Andrews for the first half of 2022.

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

Even our weekly Yoga gathering is restarting, and anyone who feels like joining us on Wednesday evenings is welcome.

The church has been able to continue to operate smoothly under this strange and different situation. Our operating revenues to the end of October were \$142,570 (which included \$24,400 from the Federal Government wage subsidy program) and our expenses were \$123,610. (\$5,250 of assessment payments were "waived" by the Diocese in 2021). We again, this year, have been unable to carry

out some of our traditional fund-raising activities like the Orpheus Choir or our Spring garage sale, but have been able to introduce some new ideas like our Easter and Halloween baskets.

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

During 2021, we have managed to accomplish some needed building upgrades, including a major replacement of the entire flat roofed section of the church building at a cost of \$66,100. We also replaced the two skylights over the narthex (\$6,300), installed a new security system (\$2,400) and removed some dangerous trees and branches (\$4,100). This work has all been paid for, but it has reduced our Building Fund to \$33, 767.



We have also welcomed the addition of a donated electric organ, adding a new sound to our Sunday services.



Plans for 2022

As we look forward to 2022, we will continue to develop plans to grow our congregation, be more visible in the community and provide the opportunity for worship and spiritual growth to both our congregation and the community of Langley. We certainly hope, as the pandemic eases and the children get their vaccinations, to see more people back at our Sunday services. We also are hoping that we can return to coffee time after church, and other activities like Messy Church and Sunday School for the children.

Rev. Lorie Martin is working on a plan to create a Centre for Spiritual Renewal at St Andrew's. She is currently talking to Parish Council and some members of the congregation to determine their interest and ideas. She plans on beginning to introduce us to the program in Advent, with more events and plans being scheduled for the new year.

We also hope to be able to continue to provide support to our Afghanistan refugee family in their journey to re-establish themselves in Canada.

We are considering building a vegetable and fruit garden on the church grounds and hopefully growing enough items to be able to supply the Food Bank or other groups in need.

We are also continuing to work on our plans to upgrade the flooring in the church, now almost 40 years old. We will bring final plans to Vestry in February with the hope that we can upgrade the Sanctuary in 2022. We have started this work by repositioning some of the pews and removing the raised choir section. We have a small team determining what needs to be done. This likely includes painting, as well as lighting and technical upgrades in order to continue to use computer projections and zoom services.





2022 Stewardship

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.**

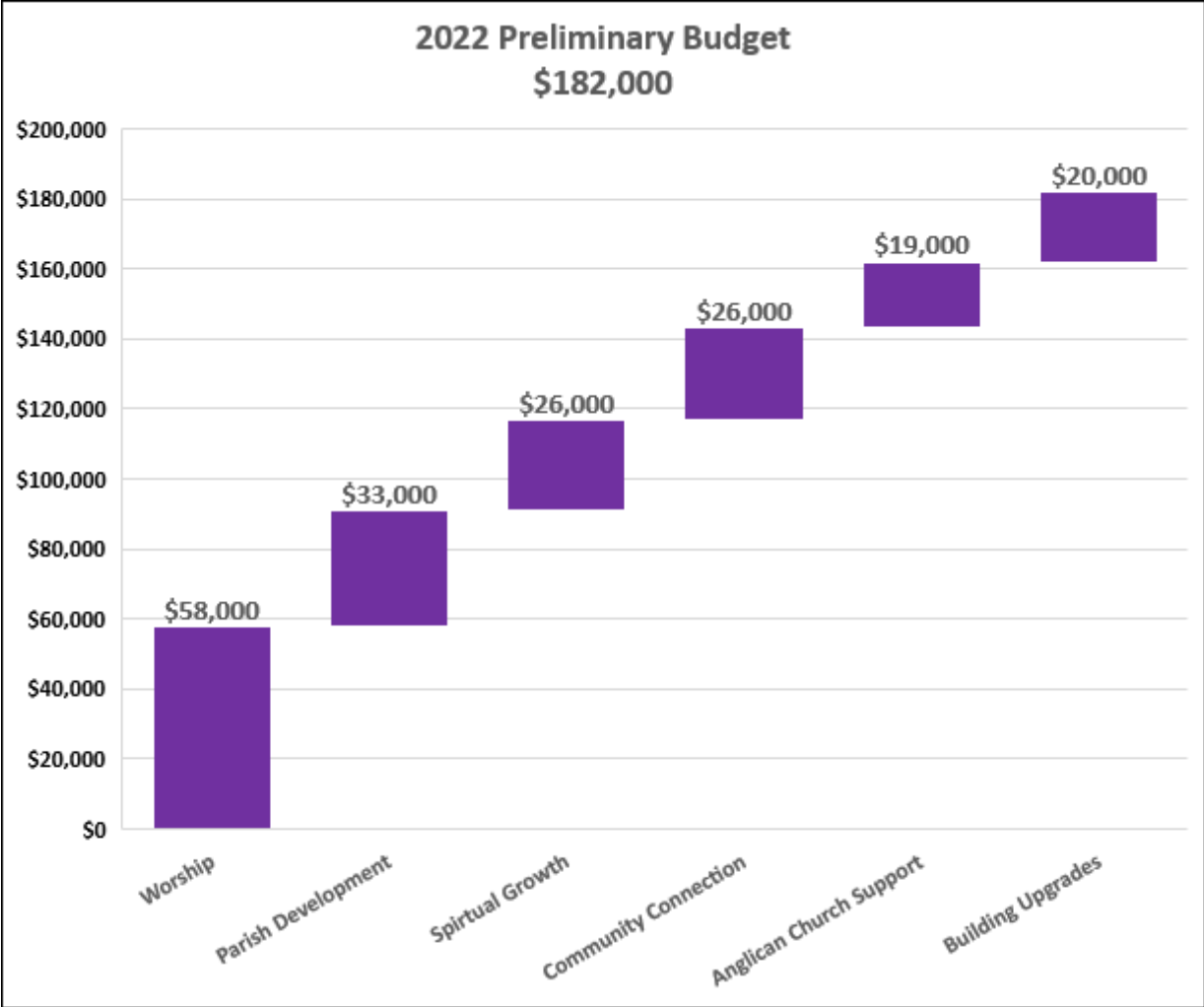
We currently owe the Diocese about **\$37,000** for outstanding past assessments. This has been reduced from nearly \$100,000, 5 years ago). One of our goals will be to repay an additional \$5,000 to \$10,000 on our diocesan loan at the end of 2022.

Our preliminary **operating budget for 2022 is \$162,000.** We know some of our operating costs will increase next year as utilities and salaries are all expected to rise. We believe this is a realist budget to begin our 2022 plan, taking into consideration the uncertainties of the pandemic and revenues in the Fall of 2021. 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 would like to start refinishing the floor and upgrade the Sanctuary in 2022. The cost has yet to be determined but preliminary thoughts are that this will cost around \$35,000 to \$40,000.

This means that we will have to plan to increase our Building Fund to handle this cost while maintaining a contingency fund to account for unidentified “emergencies”. Our Building Fund is at **\$33,767** today. Our current plan would be to **increase this by \$20,000 in 2022.**

This will bring our total budget for 2022 to \$182,000.



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. Once again we are planning for 2022 with still 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 2021 and complete the attached pledge form, indicating what you believe you will be able to give to support St Andrew's in 2022.

In addition, as we hopefully return to normal operations in 2022, we will need help in several areas. We will need to increase the number of volunteers and participants working in our Ministries. In 2022, think about trying something new. Join a bible study, come to a Spiritual Renewal activity, join yoga, volunteer to help with building or yard maintenance, work in the Altar Guild, become a reader for example. Parish Council will be looking for new members.

Please print and complete the attached pledge form and return it to the church by Sunday November 28, 2021.

If you wish to complete the form online and email it to the Envelope Secretary, Carl Markwart at markwartfam@telus.net or mail it to the church office 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 2022.



THANK-YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT

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