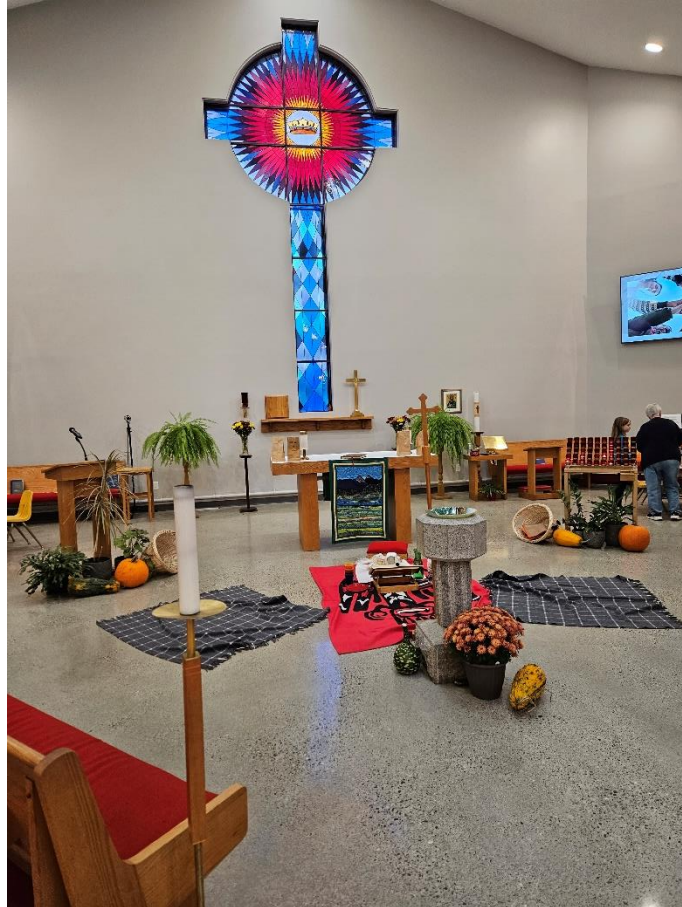


St Andrews Anglican Church, Langley

Review of the Stewardship Plan for 2023



In November 2022 we began looking forward to 2023 and in our Stewardship Plan presented some of our ideas of what we wanted to accomplish. They included:

1. We want to welcome our new members and we hope to see continued growth in 2023.
2. We are also preparing to say goodbye to Jonathan Decolongon as our parish musician at Christmas time (2022) and are working hard to find a suitable replacement.
3. We are really excited about the potential of adding more young families to our congregation. Activities like a monthly Family Service and reinitiating Sunday School for the children are on the list

4. We have applied for a 3-year Parish Development Grant from the Diocese. With this money we want to hire a part time Children's Ministry Assistant who would focus on developing activities for the growing number of children.
5. We will continue spiritual renewal at St Andrew's and of course Bible Studies and regular worship services (with Zoom) will continue.
6. We are considering building a vegetable and fruit garden on the church grounds
7. **At Vestry in February, we approved a budget of \$176,000 in revenue and \$171,000 in expenses at the Vestry meeting earlier this year.**

As we approach the last two months of 2023, we are happy to look back at some of our successes so far this year.

We continue to welcome new members and attendance at church services continues to grow. We have held 6 Family Service events (4 on Saturday evenings 2 on Sunday mornings) and have 2 more scheduled over the next 2 months. These events were well attended, targeting young families that have difficulty attending regular Sunday services. We had between 20 and 50 people join us ranging from young children to grandparents.

We were pleased to have Maureen Hollins become our musical leader directing the choir and providing us with great music at our services.

We were happy to be able to hire Emily Pettengell as our new Parish Administrator in August. In October, we restarted a program for the children attending the 10 am Sunday Service.

We were awarded a Parish Development Grant to help finance the growth of our young family ministry. For 2023, this grant will be \$8,000.

Financially, however we have not yet been able to meet our targets. Our expenses continue to be in line with our plans, and as of the end of September we had spent \$131,764, which is \$1,785 dollars lower than our budget. **Our revenues however are \$17,567 lower than we expected for the first 9 months of the year.** So far, this deficit has been managed by using surplus funds that we

had in the bank at the start of 2023. In the next two months we will receive extra revenue from the Parish Development Grant (\$8,000), and from 2 fund raisers, the Fall Fair held Oct 14 and the Orpheus Choir presentation on Dec 10.

The primary issue is that revenue is lower than expected regular donations from the congregation. To the end of September we have received \$9,900 less than we expected. This may be because people have been away in the summer and haven't caught up to their regular giving amounts.

What we really need is for everyone in the congregation to take a look at their giving so far this year and see if there is any opportunity to increase it. If everyone gave what they did in 2022 or pledged for 2023 we would be fine, but right now we are 15% below those numbers. You should have received by now a statement from our Envelope Secretary Sherry Wright, as to what you have given to the end of September.

We will begin to look at our plans for St Andrews in 2024, which hopefully will include returning to working on our flooring project. We will have our regular Stewardship planning presentation later in November, but for now we are focused on returning our current financial position to a sustainable position.

For all of us, including St Andrew's there are economic realities to consider including inflation and tough financial considerations. However, for the church to be able to support our community, we need to be able to balance our costs with donations from you.