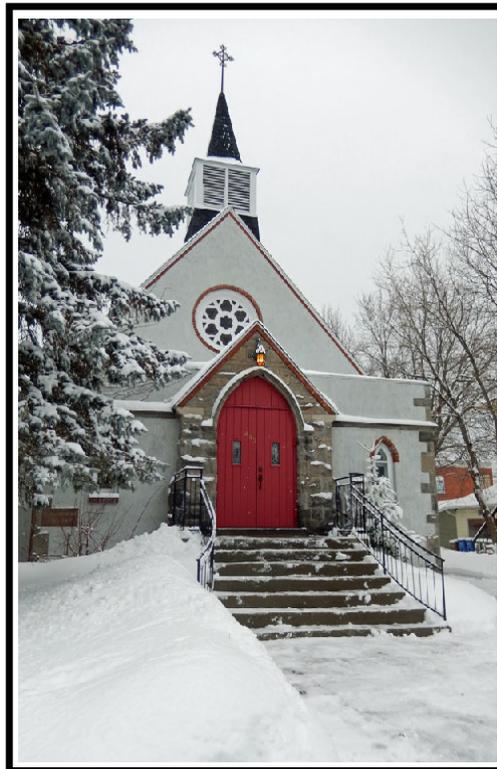


*St. Simeon's Anglican Church*

*Annual General Vestry*

*February 3, 2019*



*Agenda*

*Minutes*

*Group Reports*

# St. Simeon's Anglican Church

445 rue Principale  
Lachute, Quebec

**Mailing address:** 715 Meikle Street, Lachute, QC J8H 1V4

**Telephone:**

Church – 450-562-8937

Rectory – 450-562-2917



**Priests:**

The Reverend Josée Lemoine – Interim Priest in Charge

The Reverend Nick Brotherhood – Interim Priest

The Reverend Deacon Tania Lesack- Assistant Curate

**Administration:**

People's Warden - Janick Tremblay-Bouchard 450-562-0409

Rector's Warden - Susan Sioui 450-562-8451

Treasurer - Herb Sioui

Envelope Secretary - Grace Dubeau

Vestry Clerk - Karen Napp

Bulletin Secretary - Judy Evans

**Groups:**

Women's Fellowship - Ann Mason

Seniors' Lunches - Ann and Andy Mason

Prayer Group - Susan Sioui

**Worship Service:**

Organist and Choir Master - Janis Morrill

Lay Assistants - Priests of the LRM

Altar Guild - Margaret MacKenzie

Family Service - Edna Hall and Priests of LRM

Hosts and Readers - Shirley Dempster

Coffee Hour - Donna Silverson

Web Site - Susan Sioui

**Representatives:**

Cemetery Committee - Herb Sioui and Richard Pink

**Laurentian Regional Ministry:**

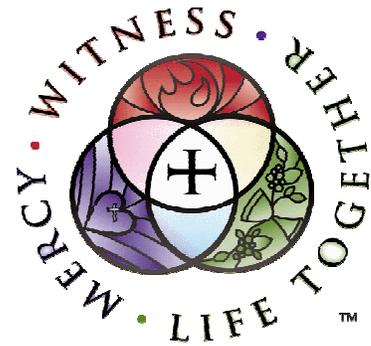
Management - Susan Sioui

Finance - Herb Sioui

# St. Simeon's Annual Vestry Meeting

February 3, 2019

---



1. **Welcome and Appointment of the Vestry Clerk**
2. **Opening Prayer**
3. **Adoption of the Agenda**
4. **Minutes of Annual Vestry of February 25, 2018**
  - 4.1. Business Arising
5. **Reports**
  - 5.1 Clergy Report
  - 5.2 Laurentian Regional Ministry
  - 5.3 Rector's Warden
  - 5.4 People's Warden
6. **Treasurer's Report**
7. **Group Reports**
  - 7.1 Lay Assistants
  - 7.2 Prayer Group
  - 7.3 Family Service
  - 7.4 Altar Guild
  - 7.5 Choir
  - 7.6 Bulletin Secretary
  - 7.7 Hosts and Readers
  - 7.8 Coffee Hour
  - 7.9 Envelope Secretary
  - 7.10 Women's Fellowship
  - 7.11 Seniors' Lunches
  - 7.12 Website
  - 7.13 Lachute Protestant Cemetery
  - 7.14 Other
8. **Appointments**
9. **Nomination Committee Report**
10. **Prayer of Dedication**
11. **Financial Stewardship**
  - 11.1 2019 Budget
  - 11.2 LRM Budget
12. **New Business**
  - 12.1 Laurentian Regional Ministry
  - 12.2 **Nomination** of Management Committee as the Search Committee
13. **Ministerial Priorities for 2019**
14. **Adjournment**

**ST. SIMEON'S ANGLICAN CHURCH**  
**Annual Vestry Meeting Year 2017**  
**February 25, 2018**

In attendance: The Reverend Nicholas Pang, plus those on the attached signed attendance list, making a total of 17.

1. **Opening of the Meeting:** Rev. Nick Pang opened the meeting with a prayer and read from Philippians 4.
2. **Regrets:** Grace Dubeau, Judy Evans, Janick Bouchard-Tremblay
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Rev. Nick moved that the agenda be approved: seconded by Ann and Joan. All in favour. Motion carried.
4. **Election of Vestry Clerk:** Andy Mason nominated Karen Napp as Vestry Clerk. Seconded by Darren and Andy. All in favour. Motion carried.
5. **Minutes of Last Annual General Vestry Meeting:** Approval of minutes from January 2017 for Year 2016: Moved by Karen to accept; seconded by Janis and Joan. All in favour. Motion carried  
**5.1 Business arising:** no business arising from the minutes
6. **Reports:**
  - 6.1 **Clergy Report:** Report attached. Rev. Nick Pang welcomed Rev. Josee Lemoine and Assistant Curate Jane Bell (who is ordained as a deacon and now a priest) to the Laurentian Regional Ministry. Rev. Nick thanked all for stepping up at events and activities with their help & support. From his report Rev. Nick commented on “Messy Church” which was a good initiative and went well. The Bible Studies held during Lent and Advent were good studies and were well received by those in attendance.  
  
Shirley Dempster, Garth & Janis Morrill left the meeting at 11:08 due to bad weather conditions outside.
  - 6.2 **Laurentian Regional Ministry:** Reported attached. Rev. Nick noted that the LRM survey report is now on our website. Susan commented that the LRM was formed two years ago and would be on a two-year trial period and then assessed. This parish survey was responded to by 85 people and information was compiled into the survey report. Rev. Nick asked for reception of the survey results. Seconded by Edna and Andy. All in favour.
  - 6.3 **Rector’s Warden:** Report attached. Susan expressed her appreciation of Drummond’s help and support. Susan thanked Rev. Nick and expressed that it has been a pleasure working with him. Thanks were given to Susan for all her hard work. Janick will now be People’s Warden, replacing Drummond Hall.
  - 6.4 **People’s Warden:** Report attached. Drummond Hall thanked everyone for their help and encouragement. He reported that renovations continue at the rectory. Rev. Nick thanked Susan, Drummond, and Janick for their continued commitment and for all the work they do.
7. **Treasurer’s Report:** Report attached. Herb presented the financial report for year 2017. For 2017 total revenues were \$68 749, expenses \$55 196, leaving an operating surplus of \$13 553. Herb thanked Andy Mason for the verification of the financial reports, and Andy thanked Herb for his very

organized record keeping. Thanks were also given to Grace in her capacity as envelope secretary. Herb moved report be accepted as presented. Andy and Darren moved to accept; all in favour.

## 8. Group Reports

- 8.1 **Lay Assistants:** Report attached, submitted by Joan Painter.
- 8.2 **Family Service:** Report attached. Edna thanked everyone for their support and a special thank you to Rev. Nick for his leadership.
- 8.3 **Altar Guild:** Report attached. Edna thanked helpers.
- 8.4 **Choir:** Report attached. Andy thanked Janis for her great job at leading the choir and thanked also all the choir members.
- 8.5 **Bulletin Secretary:** Report attached. Ann thanked Judy for her great work in the preparation of the weekly service bulletins.
- 8.6 **Hosts and Readers:** Report attached. All is well.
- 8.7 **Coffee hour:** Report attached. Thanks were given to Donna for her efforts to always have coffee hour hosts each Sunday.
- 8.8 **Envelope Secretary:** Grace, our envelope secretary and PAR representative, presented her report, copy attached. Herb thanked Grace for her great work.
- 8.9 **Women's Fellowship:** Report attached. Ann Mason thanked everyone for helping with projects of the Fellowship. Darren would like to join this group!
- 8.10 **Christmas Bazaar:** Report attached. The successful bazaar was convened by Pet and Edna thanked her for her work in organizing it.
- 8.11 **Seniors' Luncheons:** Report attached. Andy expressed special thanks and appreciation to Garth and Janis for their commitment and organization of these luncheons over the past 20+ years.
- 8.12 **Website:** Report attached, submitted by Susan Sioui. Susan reported the website is up to date and suggests that people refer to it for important information and news.
- 8.13 **Lachute Protestant Cemetery:** Report attached. Herb reported that this committee is actively looking for new members.

Rev. Nick thanked everyone for their participation and help in all ministries. A motion was made to accept these reports that have been duly received and commented on. Joan and Susan approved acceptance of the reports. All in favour.

- 9) **Nomination Committee Report:** Nominations of officers were presented by the Nominating Committee consisting of Karen Napp and Andy Mason. Andy moved to accept persons as nominated, seconded by Edna and Susan. All in favour. The committee nominates the following people to the various offices:

Vestry Clerk	Karen Napp	
People's Warden	Janick Bouchard - Tremblay	
Envelope Secretary	Grace Dubeau	
Host Family & Readers Coordinator	Shirley Dempster	
Coffee Hour Coordinator	Donna Silverson	--
Rep. to Protestant Cemetery Comm.	Herb Sioui, Richard Pink	
Management Comm. Rep.	Susan Sioui	

The positions of Deputy People's Warden and Synod Delegate have not yet been filled but the committee continues to look for people and will follow-up with Vestry on this subject.

Susan Sioui has accepted to be Rector's Warden for another year.

Rev. Nick commented that it is important to have a Synod Delegate. Synod conference is now a three-day conference and that the business portion of the conference is on the Saturday. This year's conference will be held from June 14<sup>th</sup> to June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

- 9.1 **Appointment of Treasurer:** Herb Sioui was appointed as treasurer by the Corporation. This appointment was accepted at this year's Annual General Meeting.

10. **Budget for 2018:** Report attached. Herb presented the new 2018 budget. Herb asked for acceptance of the 2018 budget, seconded by Donald & Margaret. All in favour.

Rev. Nick thanked Herb for the excellent job done on the preparation & presentation of the financial reports and budget for this 2018 AGM.

11. **Other Business:** No other business.

Darren thanked Rev. Nick for his good leadership.

12. **Adjournment:** The Annual General Vestry Meeting of 2018 for Year 2017 was adjourned at 12:25 p.m. by Darren. All in favour.

**The Grace:** Rev. Nick thanked all for coming and closed with a prayer and the Grace was said by all in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Karen Napp, Vestry Clerk

# Laurentian Regional Ministry (LRM) Clergy Vestry Report 2018

## **THROUGHOUT THE LRM**

The past year was a year of change and challenge for the churches and clergy team of the Laurentian Regional Ministry as we continue to discern how we are called to participate in God's mission in the world, to live out our Christian faith, and develop new ways to witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ in our daily lives.

The clergy team serves 10 churches - 10 communities - in a wide geographic area. Among the challenges in the LRM is balancing the unity to which we are called as members of one body in Christ with the desire of individual churches to maintain their individuality, and the challenges to participation in regional ministry events posed by the distance people must travel in order to take part.

The LRM is blessed with a strong core of volunteers of lay members, retired clergy and supply clergy. We thank all who are involved in this ministry.

## **Clergy and Lay Readers' Changes**

There were many changes in clergy and lay ministry leadership in 2018. In July we said farewell to Rev'd Nick Pang with a picnic and party to celebrate his ministry in the Laurentians and his new ministry in British Columbia. Josée was made Interim Priest in Charge in August.

On July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, we welcomed Nick Brotherhood as half-time Interim Priest of the LRM, with a special responsibility for the Parish of the Lower Laurentians (PLL) and St. Simeon's in Lachute. Since that time, he has had the pleasure of renewing acquaintances and making new acquaintances in the Lachute and the PLL congregations as much as his schedule has allowed.

In September, Tania Lesack joined the LRM clergy team. She was ordained Deacon in September and became Assistant Curate of the LRM. Tania received a warm welcome to Lachute and the PLL in September and was delighted that members of the community travelled to Montreal to the service at which Joel Amis, Jhon Steeker-StClair and she were ordained. A special thanks to Susan Sioui who helped Tania vest as a deacon for the first time at the service!

Rev. Peter Asbil has stepped down from the clergy team. Lay Reader Gail Turnbull moved to Ottawa during the year and resigned from her last commitments in the LRM by December 31. We are grateful for their many years of ministry in the Laurentians.

## **LRM 2018 Survey Report**

At Annual Vestry meetings in February 2018, all congregations received the report prepared by the clergy team following the 2017 survey completed by congregants of all congregations.

In response to the 2017 survey, the schedule of regular priests was modified so that they each stayed for fellowship two Sundays per 6-month period with the congregations that have early services on Sundays.

Also in response to needs identified through the survey, the clergy team led a Quiet Day for Lay Readers during which some time was devoted at learning more about Morning Prayer services, and the Advent Study this past year was on the subject of mission "What is Mission?". Congregations discussed what it meant to do mission in the 21st century, especially in the LRM. Josée led the study in Ste-Agathe, Rev'd David Sinclair led in St Sauveur, Wendy Crooks, Susan Sioui, Nick, and Tania took turns leading in Lachute and the PLL.

## **LRM Joint Services**

Joint services, regional ministry events and ecumenical services build bonds of fellowship and community, responding to the call to live in mutual love and prayer.

Joint services were held with the United Church in many parishes on Good Friday. Easter Vigil service at Holy Trinity in Ste-Agathe.

During the summer months, joint services were held between the churches of St. Francis of the Birds in St-Sauveur, Trinity Church in Morin Heights and the non-denominational church of Lac Marois. As it is customary, joint services were celebrated on Trinity Sunday and the Feast of St. Francis in Morin Heights and in St-Sauveur.

In September, a special service for the blessing of animals took place at Holy Trinity in Ste-Agathe, followed by a brief ceremony at Clark Cemetery with the spreading of ashes of pets that had passed away.

The churches of the LRM participated in Remembrance Day ceremonies to honour and remember those who had fought and those who had died in the wars of the past century. St Simeon's, Holy Trinity Ste-Agathe, Trinity Morin Heights and Grace Church also took part in the Canadian Legion's *Bells for Peace* on Remembrance Day, ringing church bells one hundred times to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the First World War. A special *Bells of Peace* prayer service was held in Morin Heights to which all congregants of the LRM were invited.

The Blue Christmas service was held once again in Morin Heights this December.

### **Laurentian Regional Ministry Management Committee (“LRMMC”)**

In 2018, Susan Sioui, Bevin Boyd, Robert Percy and David Ward were reelected by their respective communities to be members of the LRMMC.

Throughout the summer the members of the LRMMC visited the different congregations for a workshop/discussion about the survey report, gathering comments on the successes and shortcomings of the LRM, and what were people's recommendations for the coming years.

In December, the LRMMC finalized the Workshops Final Report and the Executive Summary Report, sent them to Bishop Mary and distributed them to parishioners in all congregations.

### **Children/Youth Ministry**

Messy Church is an LRM - wide program started in December 2017 that meets in the geographic middle of the region (Morin Heights) and in the south (Lakefield). Since October 2018, Messy Church has been taking place on the first Saturday of every second month. It's an exciting, all ages ministry jointly organized and led by Josée, Tania and Rev'd Joelle Leduc of the United church. If you would like a taste of what Messy Church is like, visit the Facebook page (Laurentian Messy Church - L'Église pêle-mêle des Laurentides) and check out this video that we watched as part of our worship in October <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V9IOhGPrRvY>

St. Simeon's in Lachute has continued to hold their family service on the second Sunday of every month as they have in the past. This is a well-established, lay - led ministry.

### **Refugee Sponsorship**

The Syrian family that the churches of the LRM sponsored became independent from the sponsoring team in May 2018. Both parents found jobs during the year, the children are enrolled in school and daycare. The family's adaptation to Canadian life is a success and they are very happy to have immigrated to this country. Their dream is now to help some relatives to immigrate also to Canada so they would have a chance to offer a better future to their children.

### **Other Important Events and Ministries**

In November, John Richard received the Bishop's Award for his commitment and service to the church from Bishop Mary at Holy Trinity in Ste-Agathe.

In response to comments from non-stipendiary clergy in the LRM, in November, a first “enlarged” clergy meeting took place between the LRM Clergy Team and other clergy to discuss education in the LRM. Among the goals of education identified for the LRM ministries is helping lay people understand the changes that have taken place in churches in the last few decades and helping them revisit their theology and Christian responses to changes happening in society and how people are engaging with religion and spirituality (e.g. the “Nones and Dones”), or the “spiritual but not religious”.

Advent and Christmas were busy throughout the LRM, with community events (bazaars and dinners) and special services to celebrate the coming of our Lord.

### **Northern Region of the LRM**

Josée organized an Epiphany reception at the rectory in Ste-Agathe in January.

World Day of Prayer was celebrated with the Roman Catholic and United churches at Grace Church in Arundel in March.

Also in March, a palm cross making party was organized at Wendy Nelles' house for the members of the Altar Guilds of both St-Sauveur and Morin Heights.

After being unable to elect wardens at their Annual Vestry meeting in February, a reflection was undertaken with the members of St. Francis of the Birds in St-Sauveur to discuss the meaning and importance of the church in their life. Monthly meetings took place in March and April with the collaboration of Mike Tott, and a Special Vestry meeting was held in May to vote. Two wardens were elected at this last meeting and a volunteer from outside the congregation joined as an administrator of the church.

### **Southern Region of the LRM**

In the Parish of the Lower Laurentians, joint services were held on the 5th Sundays, one of which was followed by a lunch at Christ Church, Milles Isles. Summertime saw St-Paul's, Dunany, hold its annual Beach Service in July which was well attended with lots of music and a reception following. Holy Trinity, Lakefield, had a successful concert series throughout the summer, and was actively involved in school bag donations in September and Christmas baskets in December.

Speaking of Christmas, St-Aidan's, Louisa, held a well-attended service of Lessons and Carols, and, along with the Christmas Eve services at each church, Holy Trinity had their traditional free Christmas Dinner following the service, while St-Paul's, on Christmas Eve afternoon, had a family service with a skit in which members of the congregation read individual parts.

Members of St Simeon's and the LRM clergy are active in pastoral support to the seniors in care facilities in the Lachute - clergy are part of the ecumenical team that leads worship services at La Residence and Le Pavillon.

The Christmas pageant in Lachute is a highlight of the season for many. As is only appropriate there were crowds of angels and shepherds around the baby held in his mother's arms at this year's pageant.

The senior's dinner was well attended and offered Nick and Tania an opportunity to get to know the community better and vice versa, sharing a meal, serving tea and coffee as well as singing and playing music after dinner. Among Nick's talents are singing and playing the bodhrán.

### **Baptisms, Marriages and Funerals**

Throughout the LRM, clergy welcomed new members into the family of Christ in baptism, blessed them as they made their covenant to each other before God in marriage, and gave thanks for the life of loved ones, in faith and hope through the victory of Christ over death in funeral and interment services.

Nick officiated at one funeral, two interments, and one baptism in Lachute; and one wedding in Dunany.

Tania officiated at one interment in Ste Agathe and assisted at one baptism in St Sauveur, one wedding (Ste-Adèle), one funeral (Lachute) and two interments (Arundel, Ste-Agathe). Josée officiated at eight funerals, ten burials, three baptisms and six weddings throughout the LRM. Josée also delegated a few funerals and burials to supply clergy.

The clergy team very much looks forward to continuing ministry in the LRM; Josée as Interim Priest in Charge of the LRM, Nick as Interim Priest of the LRM, and Tania as Assistant Curate in the LRM.

*Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.*  
(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Respectfully submitted by

*the Rev. d. Josée Lemcins  
Lesa*

*the Rev. d. Nick Brotherwood and*

*the Rev. d. Deacon Tania*

## Laurentian Regional Ministry/ Management Report

The Management committee is in its third year of involvement and consists of seven representatives of the 10 different churches that make up the LRM, along with the Ministry team. The Committee is a dedicated group of individuals who are committed to finding solutions to the challenges faced by both the individual congregations and the priests who minister to them. This past year has been a very busy year and we have experienced many challenges and changes.

Perhaps the biggest change in 2018 was in the Ministry team. In August, Rev. Nick Pang left us for a new calling in Penticton. His dedication to service and his witness of faith will always be remembered as a gift to the LRM. In July, Rev. Nick Brotherhood joined the ministry team on a half time basis. He has been given pastoral charge of the Southern parishes of the LRM and has been a tremendous support to us, and I thank him for that. (I have grown very fond of people named Nick) Bishop Mary then appointed the Rev. Deacon Tania Lesack as assistant curate to the LRM. Tania moved into our Rectory in September and is serving the wider community while being mentored by the Rev. Josée Lemoine, Interim Priest in charge.

At the beginning of the summer, the Committee appointed a Chairman, Hugh Mitchell, and as a group, we are now beginning to examine the role of the "Management Committee" within the structure of the LRM. The Priests are in charge of course. However, the committee does have an important role to play – more of a support group or a facilitation group, as opposed to another layer of governance. Having said that, there is an understanding that in order to survive, the LRM needs to remain focused on the ministry to the people within its territory without burning out our priests. To achieve that goal, we need to work cooperatively with a common vision of what that ministry will look like.

Most of this past year has been spent following up on the information collected from the 2017 Survey. The MC convened workshops in all of the parishes from June to September and listened to the concerns and opinions of all who attended. We were encouraged by the participation of many people at these workshops. The committee met several times to compile a report on these workshops, and with that report, an Executive Summary was put together and reviewed by all. Both Reports were sent to Bishop Mary before Christmas and then were presented verbally to her this January.

The Executive Report records the collected information from the Workshops under the seven headings: Priestly Presence, Pastoral Care, Shrinking Congregations and Resources, Individual Congregation Identity, LRM Organization, Communications, and Successes. Recommendations were listed at the end of each section in the report. Most of you have had an opportunity to read and react to these documents in November of 2018.

To be clear, the Bishop had specified that this document had to be completed before she would be ready to give us permission to begin the process of hiring a full-time priest to replace Nick Pang. We have now procured that permission. Our next step will be to review the LRM Profile, created in January 2017. There are a surprising amount of revisions to make in it; however we will be meeting soon to begin that work. Once the profile is completed, we will be able to advertise for a priest to work with Rev. Josée, covering the enormous task of ministry within the LRM.

I am honoured to serve you on this committee for the coming year. At the next AGM we will be voting for a representative for the following two years. Thank you for your confidence in me over these past years.

Susan Sioui,

Representative for St. Simeon's

## Rector's Warden Report

The marvelous thing about these annual meetings is that it not only offers us an opportunity to reflect on the year gone by, but it also provides an occasion to express our thankfulness for all that God has blessed us with over the past year.

I am so very grateful for this community, for these people who gather together in worship and in fellowship. It is truly a privilege to work with you, to experience your support and to witness your love for this church and for each other. St. Simeon's is a beautiful family of God. We have an abundance of talent gathered into one place and what a blessing it is to all of us that people are willing to share their gifts.

2019 marks our third year of involvement within the structure of Laurentian Regional Ministry and it goes without saying that 2018 has been a year of many challenges and changes.

The biggest change has been in our ministry team with the departure of Rev. Nick Pang and the arrival of both Rev. Nick Brotherwood on a half-time basis and Rev. Deacon Tania Lesack in the role of assistant curate to the LRM, training under the tutelage of Rev. Josée Lemoine.

We have also experienced some changes in our worship. Each week often brings a different priest to the pulpit which presents different perspectives and styles of leadership. Because we have an earlier service, the priest who comes is often rushing off to a second service, so there has been little time to get to know them. The LRM is looking at solutions to allow more time to socialize.

Our local Lay Assistants have been challenged with the task of leading Morning Prayer services more often as there are fewer priests to cover our large territory. I am very thankful for their willingness to accept this leadership role and also very gratified by the positive support offered by our parishioners.

The Family service continues to offer a Family-oriented service of praise and story-telling on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month. 2019 will represent 20 years of worship in this style and we have been so fortunate to have a team of lay people, (supported by the clergy and led by Edna Hall,) dedicated to this ministry... special thanks to all of them and especially to Gordon and Rolanda McPhee who drive from Chateauguay each month to help.

I have written a separate article to highlight our appreciation to Katie Heatlie for her thoughtfulness and hard work to raise funds for a project in memory of Shelby-Lee Teresiuk. Please read this short thank you.

Music has always played an important role in Sunday worship. The dedication of Janis Morrill as organist and all the members of our choir has been one of our greatest assets. We are a community of people who volunteer to read lessons, greet people at the door, and serve coffee in the Hall after the service. Judy Evans faithfully prepares and prints the bulletin each week as well as many other little jobs that just need doing. Drummond Hall has been outstanding in his willingness to take care of the maintenance problems that come up at the Rectory and the Church. We are a congregation that pitches in when things need to be done and I am grateful to all who do so.

As a special mention, I would like to express my very deep appreciation to two distinctive people: to Herb for the hours of time that he puts into our bookkeeping and to Janick, for his support and his willingness to take on the responsibilities of running a church. We are all very appreciative of your dedication. Thank you.

There are so many more people to recognise as doers in this community. *How many people does it take to run a church?* Just one – a Body of people who are dedicated to their Creator and Redeemer. May God continue to be at the center of all we do. Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Susan Sioui, Rector's Warden

## People's Warden Report

This year has been my first as people's warden at St. Simeon's. It is an honour and a privilege to serve, especially when one is called to do it with dedicated people who have been blessed with gifts of all kinds. A parish like ours simply couldn't and wouldn't be without the efforts, perseverance and dedication of those involved. All those people do it because of their faith and the love they share for St. Simeon's and the Church.

I would like to mention the indescribable amount of work that my fellow warden does regarding so many facets of the life of our church. What I have enumerated above is summed up in the person of Susan Sioui. We are extremely fortunate to have Susan serving this portion of the people of God. I would like to thank her especially for her work on the Laurentian Regional Ministry Management Committee. Her experience and knowledge of the life of the Church and of congregational realities have been and continue to be an invaluable contribution as we go through important changes in this area.

All those who are involved in various capacities in our parish are also motivated by that same spirit of dedication and generosity and without them our parish life would be considerably diminished and so we have to be very thankful for their involvement.

Our church is open to the life of the community at large and many of the activities and events that we organize at St. Simeon's are geared towards this objective of making our community welcoming and lively, whether it is the Pancake Supper, the Seniors' Lunches, the Advent and Lenten Series. These events are well attended and very much appreciated by the wider community. They are recognized as events that bring people together and are looked forward to. They also help St. Simeon's contribute in a very concrete way to the life of other social-minded organizations of this area and elsewhere through the donations that we receive.

On top of caring for the spiritual needs of its people, a congregation also must take care and preserve the buildings that houses so much of its life and worship. In addition to the regular maintenance of the church and rectory, we have been able to go forward with our plan to replace the kitchen fan, install the new window and repaint the wall in the church hall kitchen.

Other short long-term plans regarding the church and the rectory will be looked at in the 2019. The new outside board is an ongoing project which should see its completion in the months ahead. As stated in last year's report a new electrical panel, as well as other short-term projects for the rectory will be at the top of our agenda.

In early October, a group of dedicated parishioners worked tirelessly to clean and clear some of the vegetation around the church. Because of their efforts, we may not have to repeat this exercise in a few years and so I would like to thank this team of valiant workers composed of Drummond Hall, Don Hamilton, Andy Mason, Herb Sioui and myself.

After many years of good service, our church caretaker, Jimmy MacDonald, has retired, and so we thank him for his efforts in making sure that our church would always be ready to welcome us. We also thank Karen Napp who has accepted to take those responsibilities on a trial basis for a few months. Karen also worked on the rectory grounds in the course of the year and we thank her for that as well.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Drummond Hall for his constant help and availability in making sure that everything regarding our church and rectory is looked at in the best possible way.

I look forward to the new projects that St. Simeon's has for 2019, and the more so because of the involvement and dedication of all.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janick Tremblay-Bouchard, People's Warden

## Lay Assistants

Once again, St. Simeon's Anglican Church expresses sincere appreciation to five of its members who volunteered to serve as Lay Assistants at Morning Prayer and Holy Communion services in 2018. Sincere thanks go to Edna Hall, Susan Sioui, Janick Tremblay-Bouchard, Richard Pink, and Joan Painter. The duties undertaken by the lay assistants included opportunities for leading the occasional Morning Prayer services and continuing to assist in the Holy Communion services as well as involvement with the Laurentian Regional Ministry and its varied activities. The many challenges of the past year have been met with a willingness to expand the traditional duties of a lay assistant thanks to continued guidance and leadership.

The lay assistants will continue to make our Morning Prayer and Communion services an integral part of our community service. We would welcome participation from those in our Church who would like to be part of a unique way to serve St. Simeon's Church by increasing their knowledge and becoming a lay assistant. The commitment to serve makes the Prayers of the People a special part of the church service and brings a warmth and genuine concern for the needs of the community.

We thank all who have contributed their services as lay assistants and pray for a year ahead that has challenges that can be met in a vibrant community where we can develop and share our faith.

Respectfully,

Joan Painter

## Prayer Group

In his book *Prayer and Peacemaking* Henri Nouwen wrote: "Prayer is the center of the Christian life. It is the only necessary thing (Luke 10:42) It is living with God here and now."

A dedicated group of people have been gathering to pray every Thursday morning for 2 years now. We have recorded our requests in a prayer journal, and we have been able to see many of those prayers answered. We pray for matters of the church, and for people in need near and far.

People often think of prayer as something personal and private. Praying out loud in a group can be intimidating for some. I believe that God hears what is in your heart so if speaking out loud causes anxiety in you, then pray in your heart. It is not a matter of trusting each other to accept what we have to say, it is a matter of trusting God. We gather to pray because it is in prayer that we are acutely aware that we are not only a vital part of God's family, but that He welcomes us into his presence, into his embrace. Prayer time give all of us a time to quiet our hearts, to wait on God, to hear his voice, and to feel his peace.

You are welcome to join us at 9:30 on Thursday mornings. Please speak with me if this is something that you feel called to do. I sincerely thank each member of this group for their dedication and their willingness to share in this ministry. We are learning and growing together. If you know someone who needs prayer, please let us know the situation and we promise to be praying for them. Thanks be to God.

Susan Sioui

## *Family Service*

I am pleased to report that the Family Service continues the second Sunday of most months as the regular worship service of the day. We are truly blessed that on those Sundays parishioners of all ages meet together to worship in a casual manner. Each service focuses on a theme and includes a Bible reading, a lesson based on the reading, song, prayer and a related activity. At Thanksgiving and Easter, the children participate in a traditional worship service. The Christmas Pageant is always a highlight of our year. On December 9<sup>th</sup>, there was an atmosphere of excitement in our church as 80 people either participated or enjoyed a presentation of the Nativity story. Children and adults narrated the story as the others formed a beautiful tableau. We were fortunate to have a lovely baby playing the role of Jesus as well as a very special guest, Lamb, who added to the festive feeling. A 4 PM Family Christmas Eve service was also well attended.

There are many people who give of their time to make this service possible. First, we are blessed with the clergy leadership of the LRM. Secondly, we are blessed with the Lay Team of Gordon McPhee, Rolanda Murphy, Jenna Sioui, Susan Sioui, Ann Mason and Edna Hall who lead the regular services. Thirdly, we are blessed to have very talented musicians, Gordon McPhee and Janis Morrill. And lastly, we are truly blessed to have the wonderful families who place an importance on the Christian faith and a whole congregation that embraces each and every one. Thank you to all who help in the services.

Please uphold this ministry in your prayers.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Family Service Team,

Edna Hall

## *Shelby Lee Library*

The Corporation and Vestry would like to thank Katie Heatlie for her initiative of raising funds as a memorial to Shelby Lee Teresiuk. Shelby Lee was beloved by all who met her. She demonstrated an unwavering faith in a God who she knew, loved her. She was undeniably a teacher to each one of us. She is missed and always will be.

Thanks to Katie and her efforts, we are building a library of children's books along the back pew in the nave of the church. It will be "Shelby Lee's Library". At present, the bookcase is under construction and will be installed shortly.

The Corporation has asked the Family Service team to administer the funds and to buy Christian Children's books to fill the library. These books along with some of Shelby's books (which will be donated by her mother, Tania) and other donations will offer children of all ages the opportunity to enjoy the pleasure of reading.

To Katie and to all who have offered their support, we humbly thank you.

## *Altar Guild Report*

As always, the Altar Guild members, Judy Evans, Edna Hall and I, are committed to the maintenance of the vessels and their service to the congregation. I thank Judy and Edna for their dedication to this commitment.

Commitment was also evident when Karen Noble and Grace Dubeau assisted with the Thanksgiving and Christmas decorations. Thank you to you both.

Altar Guild members, as always, appreciate receiving requests for memorial flowers at least 2 weeks before the date required for their placement in the church.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret MacKenzie

## *Choir Report*

This small group of faithful singers continues to enrich our Sunday worship. They lead the congregation in singing the familiar hymns, and on special occasions present anthems which they have learned through diligent and cheerful practice.

Sometimes their performance is further enhanced by the sweet sounds of Andy's clarinet. This is a treat indeed!

I am so grateful to them for their dedication and willing cooperation.

Janis Morrill,

Organist and choir director

## *Bulletin Secretary*

### **MATERIALS**

Quarterly schedule from Josée and assistants - to provide readings names of officiants

BAS to provide correct Proper and prayers for the week

Common Praise – to verify hymn numbers

Internet connection to locate Diocese prayers for the church

Ink cartridges

References – for imaginative “Minute Meditations”

Library of religious images for weekly graphic on cover page

### **RESULTS**

**30+** Holy Eucharist Bulletins

**10** (approximate) Morning Prayer Bulletins

**A few** Special Services Bulletins - Funerals, Baptisms, Lessons and Carols, etc.

**Twice a year** – Memorial Flowers List

**Frequently** – Update of Sick and Shut in lists

## GRATITUDE

These jobs are done with the assistance of many. At the end of each week a draft copy is sent to the clergy and assistants for their scrutiny. Corrections, additions and changes are frequently suggested, and the final copy is printed on Saturday.

Special thanks to: Nick, Josée, Tanya, Edna, Susan, Joan, Richard and Janick for their editing skills.

Thank you to Janis for providing the hymns weekly.

Thank you to those who provide info for Announcements.

Thank you to Susan for giving me a break once a month when she does the Family Service bulletin.

Thank you to Shirley Dempster for providing a list of Hosts and Readers for every bulletin.

A very special thank you to Edna who steps in whenever I am unable to do the bulletin and she then does it seamlessly.

I hope this document steers you through the weekly service with clarity. I enjoy providing it for you.

Judy Evans

Bulletin Secretary

## *Hosts and Readers*

I am very proud of our hosts and readers.

Hosts are those early rising people who accomplish many things before they smilingly greet you as you enter the church. We are blessed with many excellent readers in St. Simeon's who read the Bible passages for us. These folks, both hosts and readers, turning up without fail make my job so easy. Thank you for being so faithful and dependable.

Sadly, we have lost some of our hosts: Bob and Joan Dixon, Keith and Pet Farmer ----- so

"Why don't you become a host,  
Hosts are what we need the most!"

Sincerely,

Shirley Dempster

## *Coffee Hour*

Coffee hour is going well thanks to everyone taking their turn. I would like to thank everyone for their support in taking turns serving coffee and snacks.

Thank You

Donna Silverson

## Envelope Secretary/Par Representative

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every parishioner for their dedicated support.

There were 8 donations to the Christmas Bazaar for a total of \$540.00

Being able to count on regular donations means increased overall financial stability and also the ability to plan for regular expenditures. The Pre-Authorized Sunday Giving is still available. Your contribution can be increased, decreased or cancelled at any time.

Thank you for your support, please call me for any inquiries. (450-533-4359)

Peace in Christ

Grace Dubeau,

Envelope secretary and PAR Rep.

## Women's Fellowship Report

In 2018, the caring, talented members of the Women's Fellowship organized the following important events:

A reception on January 14, in honour of Therese Billingham, on the occasion of her retirement from St. Simeon's Choir.

The 8th Valentine's Day Tea at The Rotary Apartments, attended and enjoyed by 34 of the residents there.

A reception for 60 people on March 25, after a service celebrating the 50th Anniversary of ordination of Peter Asbil, Peter Mason and other members of that class.

Two St. Simeon's kitchen clean-up days on March 21st and 28th.

A reception, in April, after the funeral of Winnie Napp, who contributed time and energy to St. Simeon's over many years. The Fellowship donated money to The Lachute Residence foundation in Winnie's name.

On May 26, a reception after the Memorial Service for Shelby-Lee Teresiuk.

On June 2, a Plant Sale which raised \$200.

On November 25th, a 90th Birthday Celebration for Therese Billingham.

It is with sincere appreciation that we thank all those who helped us by supporting our endeavors.

In 2018, besides supporting St. Simeon's Church, donations were made to Drs. Without Borders, Citad'elle and Tyndale St. George's.

This year, rather than focusing on fund raising, the members of the Women's Fellowship have decided to take the word Fellowship more seriously and continue with more time for friendship, support, discussion and reflection at our warm get-togethers.

We would be pleased to welcome new members. We meet on the 2nd Thursday of most months at 12:30 pm. Please call me if you are interested.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Mason 450-562-7217 President

**ST. SIMEON'S WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
2018**

**Bank Balance at January 1, 2018** **+200,95\$**

**RECEIPTS:**

Receptions - Donations	1 100,00	
Green Thumb Sale	206,00	
Green Thumb Sale – Advance in	150,00	
	1 456,00\$	+1 456,00\$

**DISBURSEMENTS:**

Valentine Day Tea	73,38	
Green Thumb Sale - Advertising	10,00	
Green Thumb Sale – Advance out	150,00	
Reception supplies	70,33	
Coffee Hour Supplies	42,25	
Gift	20,00	
*Donations	500,00	
	865,96\$	-865,96\$

**Bank Balance at December 31, 2018** **790,99\$**

*Donations -		=====
Tyndale – St. George's	150,00	
La Citad'Elle Lachute	150,00	
Doctors without Borders	150,00	
Lachute Regional Residence Foundation	50,00	
	500,00\$	

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Napp, Treasure

## Seniors' Lunches

This ecumenical event, although held in the church hall of St. Simeon's, is coordinated and produced by members of several local churches and is open to all seniors in the community - the only restriction being space. In 2018, two Seniors' Lunches were held, a Christmas Turkey dinner at absolute capacity and an April Ham dinner attended by approximately 70 people.

These popular lunches are not considered a fund-raising activity, but as proceeds exceeded expenses, the committee dispersed funds to the following community organizations.

La Citadelle de Lachute, The Lachute Residence Foundation and St. Simeon's Church

The dinners enjoy the benefit of having approximately 20 volunteers including 4 students from LRHS to help with the serving. These young people take their job very seriously and are essential to the smooth running of the dinner. We are thankful for all the volunteers who make it possible to produce these special meals.

We appreciated the musical group Mountain Steam which provided entertainment at the April luncheon and Janis Morrill who elevated Christmas spirit in the church hall as she led us in the singing of favourite Christmas Carols.

A special thank you to those who join us for camaraderie, great food and entertainment at St. Simeon's on these occasions.

For 2019 the committee needs one or two people to help co-ordinate one of these dinners. We hope to see these luncheons continue for many years.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann and Andy Mason

## Web Site

Our Website has been running on the web since 2011 and like every website, we make every attempt to keep it current and active.

A website is a picture of just who we are  
A snapshot presented to folks near and far.  
It can't be one person who writes all the words  
Diverse opinions need to be heard.

Websites are work 'cause they're constantly changing  
Articles and headlines all need rearranging  
Schedules and activities - information you want  
Can all be found there – each with their own font!

Bulletins, Calendar, pictures and links  
Check it all out – let me know what you think.  
Feedback's essential to webmasters you know  
We don't want our page to remain status quo.

So please check our site out – it's easy to find  
And bookmark the page if you're so inclined.

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

It's free and accessible every single day.

Susan Sioui,

Webmaster

## *Lachute Protestant Cemetery*

2018 saw the election of a new Board of administration:

**President:** Herb Sioui

**Vice-President:** Ralph McQuat

**Secretary-Treasurer:** Cathy Deacon

The Board members also include the following: C. Berry, R. Duncan, D. McRae, K. Gordon, J. Wilson, Heather Gordon, Mike Campeau, and Richard Pink.

The ground maintenance has again been contracted to Heather Brown.

The only other project in 2018 was the removal of numerous tree stumps. The trees on the property are very mature and some are in poor health. In recent years a number of trees have been removed for reasons of safety.

Respectively submitted

Herb Sioui

*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God  
and  
the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with us all  
evermore.  
Amen*

