

**CHRIST CHURCH
ANGLICAN, BOLTON**
KNOW JESUS.
LIVE LIKE JESUS.

**GROWING OUR
FAITH
THROUGH
GENEROSITY**



Stewardship Appeal for 2022

A Message from our Interim Priest-in-Charge

Over twenty-eight years of parish ministry, I realize that I have written an awful lot of stewardship messages. I hate to admit it, but as much as I try to be creative in writing them, often they are very formulaic. Generally, they begin with a statement on how the parish is doing and where we as a congregation are headed. They then move into a look at our vision and some of our upcoming plans and programs, and finally, they focus on our need to continue to fund it all. Keeping the work of the parish and its needs before the congregation, is a natural and important part of leadership in any normal year.

But this has been anything but a normal year. Who could have imagined that in the winter of 2020 we would be closed down to in-person worship, or that in the late fall of 2021, we would still be struggling to completely re-open our doors? Our life as the church took a radical shift, and we've spent this year racing to catch up. I don't remember who said it, but it is very true, "The future is what happens while we are making other plans."

Given these very strange circumstances we find ourselves in, they call for even greater faithfulness and support from us than usual. We aren't simply launching into a new church year. We are holding a scattered congregation together looking forward to a day when everyone will feel comfortable to come together in worship, fellowship and community. We have experienced new forms of worship and fellowship through Livestream worship and Zoom gatherings. We have worked hard to keep the flames of our beloved Christ Church alive, while we wait for that great day when warm hugs, joyful singing, and face to face fellowship are possible once again.

For me, our situation reminds me of the Jewish Diaspora. The word simply means scattering and refers to the scattering of the Jewish people among the nations. What we are dealing with now is very different than what they dealt with, but in a similar way, our Pandemic experience has left many of us feeling scattered, isolated and alone. What

we need in this time though is the same as what they needed then. We need to trust in God. We need determination to hold our faith and keep our traditions alive. We need to maintain our identity and our enthusiasm as a lively and engaged Christian community and do all that we can to nurture our connections with one another and with our community.

In that light, I ask you to think deeply and seriously about your response to this year's Stewardship Campaign. Our church is precious and irreplaceable. Our calling in these unprecedented times is to keep our faith community and its work in the broader community strong and healthy. Whether we are together or apart, our calling is to remain faithful and strong. If you are unable to pledge this year you are no less a beloved member of our community. But if you are able, please consider continuing or increasing the loving and generous support you have blessed us with in the past.

The Rev. Donald A. Davidson O.St.G., A.C.S.C., B.A., M.Div.
Interim Priest-in-charge

Year in Review

There were many challenges that we faced during 2021, the biggest of which was the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on the ways in which our Church offered services and undertook the business of church administration and outreach. We certainly felt the impact of rules on gatherings and numbers which seemed to change on a month-to-month basis. We were guided throughout by the Diocese of Toronto which worked closely with the public health experts in the City of Toronto and Peel Region.

Our long-serving Church Secretary retired in May and our Priest departed in June to take on a new challenge at a historic Anglican Church in downtown Toronto. We welcomed a new Church Secretary in June, an Interim Priest-in-charge in July, and another in November. We are delighted by the energy and enthusiasm that they have infused into the life of the Church.

Through all of this, we were not deterred in maintaining the connectedness of our parish. By using technology, we were able to communicate effectively through email and our web site, to conduct meetings virtually by Zoom and to deliver our Sunday services through Forget Me Not, a livestreaming service. We are ever so grateful to our Priests, Music Director and volunteer servers, readers and intercessors for bringing life to the online worship services, especially during times of isolation and limited Church occupancy. Through the leadership of the Missional Team and our Wardens, we also endeavoured to create "church outside the Church," through an emphasis on four areas: the Community Garden; Prayer & Spiritual Development, Hiking Church, and Social Justice & Advocacy.

Among our collective efforts have been:

- close to \$5,000 being raised by the Christ Church team in the “virtual” Coldest Night of the Year event -- with proceeds to Caledon Community Services (CCS) to help the homeless, hungry and hurt;
- significant repairs to the deteriorating exterior brickwork on the Church building;
- the re-paving of the front and side outdoor walkways of the Church;
- preparing, planting and nurturing the Community Garden and then harvesting 978 pounds of fresh produce and delivering it (through 33 trips) to the Exchange, CCS’ food bank in Bolton;
- eight “Hiking Church” outings;
- online spiritual development sessions and the initiation of Pathways to Prayer offered at the Church;
- pastoral care calls and initiatives to those among us who are alone or isolated;
- our annual Bazaar (held in a hybrid format) that raised \$3,500 for the Church;
- a number of social justice initiatives that have included a six-week book study on racism, connecting with Dufferin-Caledon MP Kyle Seebach regarding unfulfilled government Truth & Reconciliation and related indigenous concerns, reconnecting with our Muslim friends at the Mubarak Mosque in Brampton and observances of Orange Shirt Day, the National Day of Truth & Reconciliation, and White Ribbon Day; and
- continued stewardship of our facilities and finances.

The above are just some of the ways you've contributed to the ministry of Christ Church. Your sharing of time, talent, and treasures enables us to minister to the sick and the dying, to those needing pastoral care and spiritual direction, to keep us connected as a Church community, and to nurture new life in the Spirit through faith and spiritual formation. We look forward to another year of ministry and to further engaging and serving the community of Bolton. Your support ensures that our ministries not only continue, but that they can be further expanded and grown.

Consider volunteering for one or more of our ministries. Live your baptismal vocation and serve as another Christ in the world. Prayerfully reflect on how you can financially give back to God and God's people in gratitude for the many wonders God has done in your life. After you do, complete the form at the end of this brochure and drop it off either at church or in the Sunday collection in an enveloped marked “PLEDGE.” May God abundantly bless you for your sharing of time, treasures, and talent.

Get Involved in Ministry and Live Your Baptismal Vocation

There are various ways that we live out our Baptismal vocation. Your involvement enables us to continue the great work of this parish. Everyone can share in our ministry. Many of the ways you can get involved include:

Server
Lector
Sidesperson
Greeter
Lay Pastoral Minister
Lay Anointer
Sunday School Teacher
Hospital Chaplain
Church Warden
Deputy Church Warden
Missional Ministry Team
Choir Member
Help with the Christ Church Community Garden
Help with the Church Bazaar
Help with our Outreach Ministries
Help with Pastoral Care
Help with Parish Social Events (Parish Life)
Participate in the Coldest Night of the Year (CNOY)
Participate with CAFFI (Caledon Area Families For Inclusion)
Church & Rectory Property Team
Social Justice & Advocacy Committee
Worship Committee
Financial Committee
Chancel Guild

To learn more, contact:

Rev. Don Davidson, Interim Priest-in-Charge,
priest-christchurchbolton@toronto.anglican.ca
905-857-0433

This is an important element of Stewardship: to prayerfully consider aspects of our Church ministry to which we can pledge our time and talents during the upcoming 2022 year.

How to Support Our Ministry Financially

There are a number of ways by which you can financially contribute to the ministry of Christ Church. You can easily set-up pre-authorized giving as described below. You can even visit our Canada Helps page to donate online; simply visit <https://christchurchbolton.ca/donate/> to learn more.

Alternatively, you can place your donation in the collection plate each Sunday or even mail it to the church or drop it off. Whatever you decide to do, we are grateful for your support.

PRE-AUTHORIZED GIVING ~ Recommended!

To join Pre-Authorized Giving, please fill out a registration form with your banking information. Paperwork is available at either entrance or in the church office.

Already Enrolled in Pre-Authorized Giving?

If you are already enrolled in Pre-Authorized Giving, please fill out the Pledge Form only. You do not need to re-register for Pre-Authorized Giving each year, but you need to indicate the amount of your pledge.

Contribute through CanadaHelps

Another option is to contribute online through CanadaHelps. To either make a one-time contribution or to schedule an automatic monthly donation, please visit our CanadaHelps page:

<https://christchurchbolton.ca/donate/>

How do I Pledge?

Step 1: Prayerfully consider how much you will give monthly or yearly. To help us meet our commitments, consider increasing your pledge if you are able. This year, the rate of inflation in Canada is 4.1%.

Step 2: Fill in the pledge form on the last page. The form is also available online at:

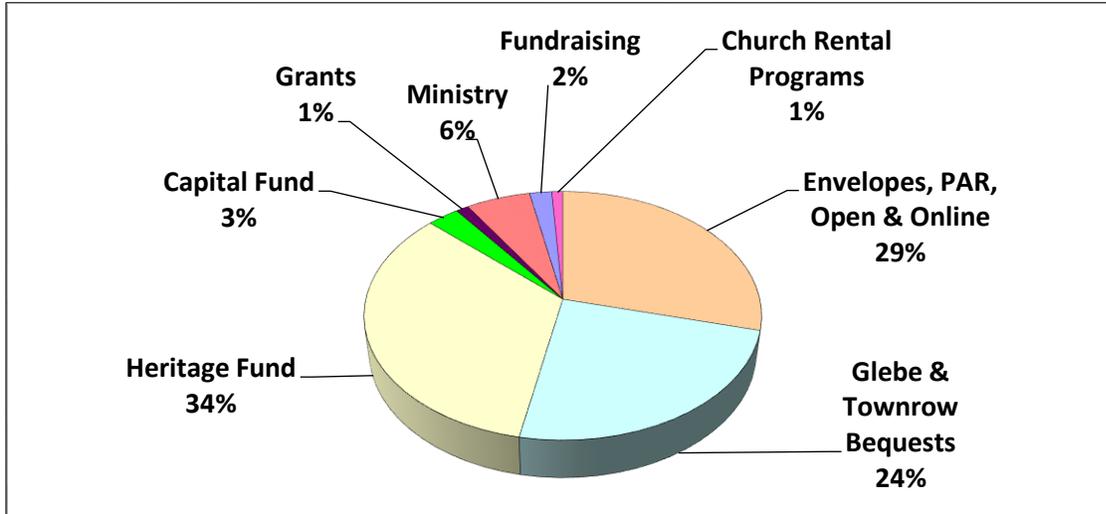
<https://christchurchbolton.ca/pledge-form-2022/>

Step 3: Place your Pledge Form in a Pledge Envelope, available at either entrance, and put it on the offering plate or take it to the church office. (Alternatively, submit it in your own envelope marked "2022 Pledge.")

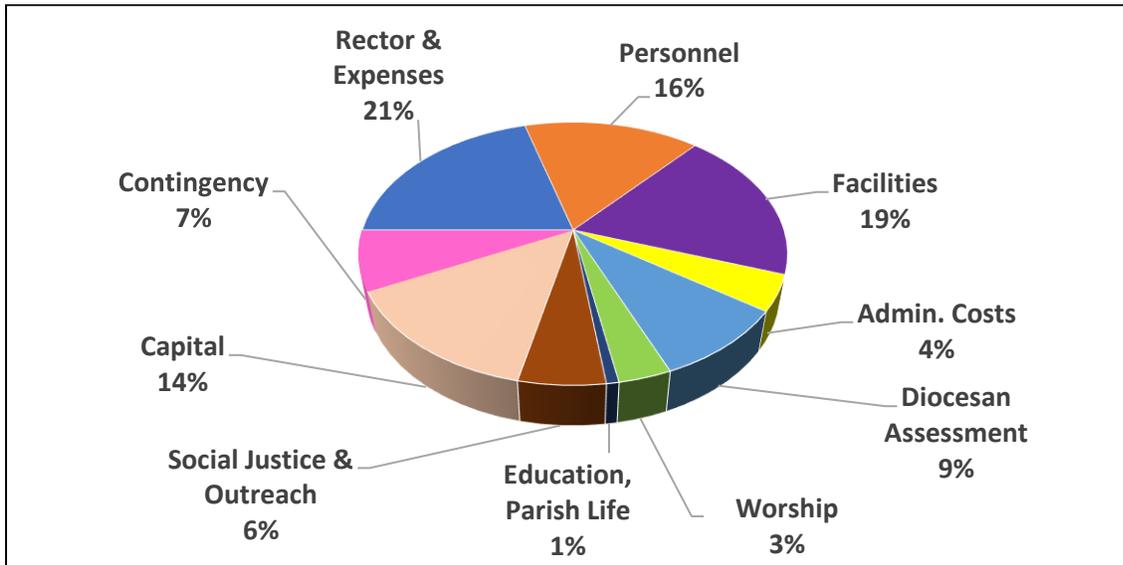
It is everyone's responsibility to submit a Pledge Form to indicate your financial commitment or to request envelopes.

2021 Budget in Review

Income



Expenses



Notes

1. Charts based on 2021 Operating Budget approved at Vestry in February 2021.
2. Heritage Fund income includes carryover funds from the Mildred Norris 2019 bequest to fund ministry expenses and further Church restoration (capital) expenses, plus the 2020 Heritage Fund contribution.

PLEDGE FORM FOR STEWARDSHIP 2022

Pledge Sunday, December 19, 2021

You can also complete this form online by visiting:

<https://christchurchbolton.ca/pledge-form-2022/>

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Please add me to the parish email list.

I/We wish to contribute: \$ _____ per week per month per year

Remember that your pledge is totally confidential and may be changed at any time.

- I/We wish to begin contributing through the Pre-Authorized Remittance Program (PAR). The completed form and void cheque are enclosed. (Forms available in the office)
- I/We already contribute through Pre-Authorized Remittance, and would like to increase our amount to: \$ _____ per month
- I/We would like to continue at the current monthly amount.

Signature(s) _____

Date _____

I/We would prefer to give through envelope giving.

I/We would like to give by post-dated cheques.

The number of envelopes we request for 2022 is: 12 26 52 Other _____

Using pre-authorized remittance or a set of monthly post-dated cheques ensures a consistent flow of funds to our Church to meet ministry and operating expenses through all 12 months of the year.

Thank you for your support of Christ Church!