ST. PHILIP'S ON-THE-HILL

Anglican Church of Canada
9400 Kennedy Road
Unionville, Ontario
L6C 1N6



ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2025

VESTRY MEETING - Sunday, March 1, 2026

Incumbent:	**The Rev. Stephen Kern**
Honorary Assistant:	**The Rev. Ajith Varghese**
Deacon:	**The Rev. Lorraine Runza**
Churchwardens:	**Benjamin Cheung *(Rector's)***
	Claudette Rawlins *(People's)*
Deputy Wardens:	**Andrew Estabrooks**
	Connalyn Willoughby

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ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING

ST. PHILIP'S ON-THE-HILL ANGLICAN CHURCH, UNIONVILLE

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 2026

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. **CALL TO ORDER & OPENING PRAYERS**
2. **APPOINTMENT OF VESTRY SECRETARY**
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2024 VESTRY MEETING – March 9, 2025** (page 5)
4. **ADOPTION OF CHURCH WARDENS' FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2025** (page 43)
5. **PRESENTATION & ADOPTION OF BUDGET FOR 2026** (page 44)
6. **ADOPTION OF ENVELOPE SECRETARY'S REPORT** (page 31)
7. **ADOPTION OF ALL REPORTS**
8. **MOTIONS BEFORE VESTRY** (page 20)
9. **APPOINTMENTS & ELECTIONS** (page 19)
10. **GENERAL BUSINESS ARISING**
11. **CLOSING PRAYERS & ADJOURNMENT**
    God our heavenly Father, who has called us to be members of your Church which is the body of your Son: Grant that your Holy Spirit may direct us now in all our concerns and deliberations for the welfare of this parish. We give thanks to you for all the blessings of the past year, and for the opportunities of the present time. Teach us in all things to seek first your honour and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

DECLARATION

"I solemnly declare that I have been a member of the Anglican Church of Canada and of this congregation for at least three (3) months, that I have attended regularly scheduled services of worship with this congregation at least three (3) times in the past year, that I am of the full age of sixteen (16) years and that I have not voted as a member of any other vestry during the previous three (3) months, nor do I intend to vote in any other vestry during the ensuing year."

ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING FOR 2024

ST. PHILIP'S ON-THE-HILL ANGLICAN CHURCH, UNIONVILLE

MINUTES FROM MEETING HELD ON SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 2025

Chaired by The Rev. Stephen Kern
Attended by 30 parishioners

1. **CALL TO ORDER & OPENING PRAYERS**
   a. Meeting began at 11:44 am by Rev. Stephen Kern (Chair)
   b. Opening Prayer BAS p 676
   c. Circulation of attendance sheet and noted eligibility to vote as stated on the attendance sheet

2. **APPOINTMENT OF VESTRY SECRETARY:** Katherine Corbett appointed.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 2024 VESTRY MEETING**
   a. The Minutes of the 2024 Vestry Meeting and Special Vestries can be found on Page 8 to 14 of Annual General Vestry Meeting 2025 Report (Pink cover)
   b. **Moved:** Brian Cheung; **Seconded by**: JoAnne Carlisle
   c. No discussion
   d. **Vote:** Unanimously carried

4. **ADOPTION OF CHURCH WARDENS' FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2024**
   a. **Moved:** Anne Kern; **Seconded by:** Pres Harrison
   b. Presented by our treasurer **Kenny Fung**

AGM Treasurer's Report

We are pleased to present a new format, which aids year-over-year comparisons aligned with audited statement formats. Refer to 2024 Financial Reports for details.

Income

- **Total offerings** were down slightly from prior year, due to a one-time large estate donation in 2023, and some prior-year donations that were included in general donations but are now categorized differently.
- **Rent** remained steady, with a 5% increase in Montessori rent planned.
- **Revenue from fund raising events** is now reported as gross revenue, with associated expenses also reported in expenses.

Expenses

- **Salaries and benefits** were down from previous year, due to the positions of Youth Pastor and Music Director not being filled for the whole year.

Funds Report

- **Restricted Funds expense** represented completion of Refugee Sponsorship and of Discretionary Fund expenses.

Questions & Discussions

Q: What are included in Grants? A: Summer student grant and Diocesan Postulancy Grant.

Q: What is the Diocesan Allotment? A: Clergy salary & living expenses, support of Diocesan operations and resources. It is calculated for each parish based on a formula which considers 3 yr-average attendance and offerings.

Q: What is the Spiritual Formation Fund? A directed donation to be used towards speakers & events to nurture spiritual growth; dividends from the funds invested to be used to fund speakers, each year.

We are thankful for Kenny's skills, time, and talents.

Vote: Carried Unanimously

5. PRESENTATION & ADOPTION OF BUDGET FOR 2025

a. **Moved:** Gail Dickie; **Seconded by:** Anne Kern

b. Presented by **Claudette Rawlins (**Chair) on behalf of the Finance Committee

Projected Revenue for 2025

The 2025 budget has been prepared this year with quarter-by-quarter projections, to better reflect variation in revenue and expenses throughout the year. The budget also takes a conservative approach.

Rent: The Montessori school continues to provide us with significant ongoing rental revenue stability, and we anticipate a modest rent increase for them for Sept to Dec 2025. Additional rental of the church hall to AA will continue to add to this revenue stream.

Fund Raising: We do not plan to host the Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir again this year. Participation in our other fund-raising activities throughout the year will be greatly appreciated.

Interest & Dividend Income: Our investments provided a reliable steady income stream in 2024. However, for the 2025 budget, given the unpredictability of investment returns, there is no budgeted income from investments.

Operating Income Summary: Based on the foregoing revenue, your finance committee is projecting a total operating income of $447,824 for 2025.

Projected Expenses for 2025

Salaries & Benefits: For 2025, there is a 3.1% increase in salaries & benefits for all staff as recommended by the diocese.

Administration & Office Expenses: A modest increase is budgeted, which will include purchase of a new computer.

Insurance: it is budgeted to increase by ~$1000.

Maintenance: Planned improvement projects were described, including feasibility planning and budgeting for a cross to be erected on the east side of the church building (estimated ~$3500).

Worship: An increase in worship budget is planned for improved sound system and new choir music supplies.

Diocesan Allotment: For 2025, there will be a reduction in our diocesan allotment compared to 2024. This is calculated by the Diocese and is based on the average assessable income over the last 3 years.

Total Expense Summary: Together these budget expenses for 2025 total $473,308.

In summary, with a projected 2025 total revenue of $447,824 and an anticipated total operating expense of $473,308, the result is a loss of $25,484. However, with any investment income received (which was not budgeted for), the gap should be closed.

Respectfully submitted by: Claudette Rawlins on behalf of The Finance Committee and the Wardens

Questions & Discussion

Q: Can donations be designated for specific needs? A: Directed donations require a specific process to ensure essential information flows properly; wardens, finance committee, and envelope secretary iron out the details and communicate with the congregation.

Q: Is there any 2025 budget for grounds maintenance? A: There's no budget for gardeners this year, though volunteers have been tending to the flower beds, including solarizing to eliminate weeds.

Many thanks extended to the Warden team and the Finance Committee.

Vote: Carried Unanimously

6. ADOPTION OF ENVELOPE SECRETARY'S REPORT

a. **Moved**: Pres Harrison; **Seconded by:** Hortense Anglin

b. Submitted and presented by our cherished envelope secretary **Joanne Millett**. See p.28 of the Annual General Vestry Meeting Report 2025

c. Questions & Discussions: Minor challenges with tax receipt preparation, as CRA extended the deadline for donation receipts to be eligible for 2024 tax returns, where tax returns may (optionally) include donations made in January & February 2025; receipts will be sent out by the end of March.

d. **Vote:** Carried Unanimously

7. ADOPTION OF ALL REPORTS

a. **Moved:** Pres Harrison; **Seconded by:** Lou Gizzarelli

b. All Ministry Reports are in the Annual General Vestry Meeting Report 2025 Pages 28-45

c. Discussion

- Correction to page 22: Anthony Yates and John McNally should be included in list of parishioners who died in the last year.
- Page 23: add Shannon Haverstock under Chalice Bearers
- Page 23: add Intercessors to Ministry listing, and include Judith Brunton, Maggie Cheung, Gail Dickie, Shannon Haverstock, Anne Kern, Ruwani Seevakireedam, and Youth, as members

d. **Vote:** Carried Unanimously

8. MOTIONS BEFORE VESTRY P 26-27

Signing Officers and Auditor

a. **It is moved:** That this vestry grant signing authority to the Wardens and Deputy Wardens, the Parish Treasurer, and Steward for banking transactions and cheques. The signatures of any two of these are required on cheques. **Moved by:** Pres Harrison; **Seconded by:** Kenny Fung

b. **It is moved:** That the Corporation be charged to review our auditing needs and, if required, to engage a qualified accounting firm to produce a review engagement report for Vestry 2025. **Moved by:** Pres Harrison; **Seconded by:** Kenny Fung

c. No further discussion.

d. **Vote on both Motions:** Carried Unanimously.

Social Justice Motion

a. **It is moved:** We, the parish of St. Philip's-on-the-hill, in the Diocese of Toronto, urge the Province of Ontario to reverse the planned closure of safe consumption sites in Ontario, and to lift the ban on the creation of new sites, in order to expand life-saving harm reduction services to Ontarians.

b. **Move to adopt by:** JoAnne Carlisle; **Seconded by**: Anne Kern

c. Submitted and presented by Rev. Stephen Kern

d. No Further Discussion

e. **Vote:** Carried Unanimously

9. APPOINTMENTS & ELECTIONS page 25

a. Churchwardens: Standing from last year, no election required:

Ben Cheung (Rector's Warden, appointed)

Connalyn Willoughby (Rector's Deputy Warden, appointed)

Claudette Rawlins (People's Warden)

Andrew Estabrooks (People's Deputy Warden)

a. **Incumbent's Appointments:**

i. **Advisory Board:** Ruwani Seevakireedam, Gloria Varghese

ii. **Steward:** Pres Harrison

b. Churchwardens' Appointments:

i. **Envelope Secretary:** Joanne Millett, appointed by church wardens.

ii. **Treasurer:** Kenny Fung

iii. **Cemetery Board Chair:** Steve Watson

iv. **Advisory Board, Honorary:** JoAnne Carlisle

c. Positions Elected by Vestry 2025

i. **Lay Members of Synod:** Joanne Millett and Hortense Anglin

ii. **Synod Alternatives:** Dwayne Taylor and Tracy Nwonyimi.

iii. **Youth Advisory Board:** Open, no names at this time.

10. GENERAL BUSINESS ARISING: No general business

11. CLOSING PRAYERS & ADJOURNMENT

a. **Moved:** Pres Harrison; **Seconded by:** Claudette Rawlins

b. **Vote to Receive:** Carried Unanimously

c. Closing Prayer

d. Meeting Adjourned at (2:17pm)

God our heavenly Father, who has called us to be members of your Church which is the body of your Son: Grant that your Holy Spirit may direct us now in all our concerns and deliberations for the welfare of this parish. We give thanks to you for all the blessings of the past year, and for the opportunities of the present time. Teach us in all things to seek first your honour and glory. Guide us to perceive what is right, and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Katherine Corbett	March 9, 2025	Katherine J. Corbett
Vestry Clerk	Date Completed	Signature

The College of Bishops Pastoral Letter to Vestries, 2026

to be read or circulated on the Sunday of the parish's annual vestry meeting

Diocese of Toronto
Anglican Church of Canada

To the clergy, churchwardens and parishioners of the Diocese of Toronto:

Beloved Siblings in Christ,

"So they cast [the net], and now they were not able to haul it in because of the quantity of fish." – John 21:6

God's goodness to the Diocese of Toronto amazes us every day. As your bishops, it is our joy and privilege to bear witness to the rich blessings, the varied gifts, the talents and skills, the sacrificial generosity, and the deep faithfulness of the Body of Christ in this Diocese. Every parish and community, and the many devoted Anglicans who make them up, inspire us. It has been a natural response for us to "Lift Up Our Hearts" in a spirit of gratitude and encouragement in 2025.

The very first Call of our Cast the Net visioning process was a Season of Spiritual Renewal. We heard over and over again that our Diocese is hungry to know and love God more deeply. During the season, more than 40 workshops were offered, geared to priests, deacons, lay leaders and people desiring to deepen their spiritual lives, hone leadership skills and discern God's call. We held five "Lift Up Our Hearts" worship services: at St. James Cathedral; All Saints, Whitby; Trinity, Streetsville; St. James, Orillia; and St. Paul, Bloor Street. Large crowds gathered to worship, sing and pray for the renewal of the Church. Each one was a moment of grace and joy. The Season of Spiritual Renewal officially draws to a close with the end of the season of Epiphany 2026. Now a small group gathers to discern how we continue to grow disciples, enhance ministry and form servants of the Gospel, building on the foundation of what has been offered. Stay tuned!

The Netminders is a group of clergy, lay leaders and staff who continue to help parishes engage with the Cast the Net Calls and to bring them to life in each community. Every parish was invited to choose three or four Calls from the 20 – those that reflect the ministry that they are a part of now or hope to be in the future – and to bring them to Synod for discussion and mutual encouragement. With each part of the Body engaging our common Calls in different ways, we move as one.

At the annual clergy conference last May at Trent University, our speaker, the Very Rev. David Monteith, Dean of Canterbury, offered reflections based on Jesus the Good Shepherd, an image that resonated with our clergy, particularly in this time of disruption and uncertainty. Our clergy work so hard at hauling in the nets, and we say to them now, to all our priests and deacons: we see you, and we are grateful to God for the ministry that you do. The annual clergy conference is always a wonderful opportunity to renew friendships and make new ones, and this year was no exception. It was also our joy to host smaller clergy retreat days in the spring and fall. These were opportunities for clergy to gather in deanery groups for Bible study, to hear from their bishop and archdeacons, to deepen fellowship with one another and to share a meal. We want to respond to Call #12 to "continue and enhance support for all ordained people" as they engage in vital ministry.

Regarding shared ministry, our partnership with the Diocese of Brasilia continues to flourish, now entering our third year of seven. Our motto, "Partners in Christ, united in mission" (*Parceiros em Cristo, unidos na missão*) is grounded in Calls #4 and #13 regarding our participation in God's healing work and ministries of service in the world. Dr. Paulo Ueti from Brasilia and the Rev. Canon Dr. Christopher Brittain from Toronto offered an online bilingual study day on liberation theology for clergy and lay leaders of both dioceses last March. The Rev. Dr. Rodrigo Espiuca from Brasilia invited us to seek signs of resurrection in his keynote address at the Outreach Conference in October. Bishop Mauricio Andrade participated in our bishops' Advent series in December. Looking ahead, we will welcome Dr. Paulo Ueti as our guest speaker at this year's clergy conference, and we can't wait to receive a delegation of Brazilian youth for the ReCharge Youth Retreat. We also hope a small group of Toronto Anglicans can visit Brasilia this year.

We are pleased to be moving ahead with our work on equity, decolonization, diversity and inclusion with the hiring of our new EDDI Advisor, Dilesha Stelmach. Dilesha brings a strong experiential and educational background in this ministry, centered around Ephesians 4: 4-6: "there is one body, one Spirit, one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father, Creator of all, who is above all and through all and in all." With support from our HR department and the Bishop's Committee on Intercultural Ministries, Dilesha is mindfully engaging, both practically and theologically, with our people – volunteers, staff, clergy – and with our infrastructure – policies, practices and the constitution and canons of the Diocese. She will be helping us to see the familiar in unfamiliar ways as we build up the ministry of every single beloved child of God in our Diocese.

To all our faithful people in so many vital ministries in our Church: thank you. To our hard-working churchwardens and treasurers, children and youth ministry workers, parish musicians, office administrators and envelope secretaries, altar guilds and custodians, ACW and outreach volunteers, and countless committee members: thank you. To our diocesan volunteers, members of Synod Council and participants on bishop's committees: thank you. To the staff team at the Synod Office: thank you. Together we all make up the strong net of the Diocese of Toronto, and together, by following the ways of Jesus, we receive "more than we can ask or imagine" – so many blessings collected in our net that we are barely able to haul it in.

When the nightly news seems especially dire, when anxiety is pervasive and the future seems uncertain, God's reign can feel far away. Yet our commitment to our baptismal covenant, our tenacious acts of faith, persistent resistance to the powers of evil, small but powerful acts of kindness towards our neighbours, and a deep, unshakable, unwavering belief that "the earth is the Lord's and all that is in it" (Psalm 24) will carry us through troubled times.

Please pray for us, as we pray daily for you.

Yours faithfully in Christ Jesus,

+ Andrew Toronto

The Right Reverend Andrew J. Asbil
Bishop of Toronto

+ Riscylla Shaw

The Right Reverend Riscylla Shaw
Suffragan Bishop of Toronto

+ Kevin Robertson

The Right Reverend Kevin Robertson
Suffragan Bishop of Toronto

INCUMBENT'S REPORT

Grace and peace to you friends of God at St. Philiip's.

As part of our youth meetings each week, we start out with sharing "thorns and roses," challenges and blessings that we have experienced recently. It's an important time, everyone gets to share, and it builds up our community. I thought I would use that pattern for this letter today.



"Thorns" of 2025

Diocesan funding for our Mandarin Ministry ran its course in 2024 and on February 9, 2025, we said farewell to dear Rev. Esther Deng and concluded our Mandarin Language ministry. I miss the fellowship of our friends who connected with St. Philip's through Rev. Esther's ministry. We will always remember her deep faithfulness, compassionate pastoral care and hard work. We had many years of fruitful ministry and sent her off with our love and gifts. I am happy to say that she is doing weekend ministry in Halifax, N.S. and sends her warm greetings!

Life is a pilgrimage, and the journey expands from this life to the next. In 2025 we celebrated the lives of Nick Harris, George Brown, Donna Svistunenko, Ted Taylor, Grace Avey, John Gordon and Wenhui Bi. Our hearts go out to all who mourn their loved ones. We take strength in knowing that by grace our goodbyes are not final partings but "until we meet again." As mentioned in the excellent warden's vestry report, we also said goodbye to Ajith Stephen parish administrator, Pastor Kenny Risk and Music Director Isaiah Yankech. I appreciated their energy and faithfulness, and we wish them all the best as they continue the journey.

"Roses" 2025

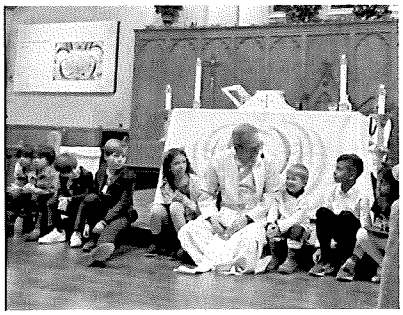
I am grateful to share that I have many roses to share from the past year! The baptism of Rev. Lorraine's great-granddaughter August 10th, the completion of Fr. Ajith's curacy May 4th, and hiring Aidan Rampersad for his second summer internship. Jennipher Kean joined the team in March, and we are grateful for her many gifts, in-depth understanding of diocesan protocols and her commitment to Christ in the Anglican way. Jennipher's ministry with us, which is three days a week, has been wonderfully supported and amplified by the generous and gifted volunteer admin work of Katherine Corbett. Katherine is often in the office two days a week to cover for Jenn, and we all appreciate her gifts of time and many talents.



The summer musical theatre camp was a great success with new friends joining the cast! Our young stars continue to grow and develop in Christian formation, stage presence and personal confidence. We appreciate the many gifts and commitment of Kirk, Carlynn, Joanna and the all the elective volunteers.

Working with our confirmation class of seven young people was a true blessing of the year. Cooking, playing games, growing in our faith together was a delight. Our whole congregation was so very proud when Bishop Andrew came December 14th to confirm the faith of 6 of our young people and one adult Melina. What a great celebration, an early Christmas present for the church. God bless our young people as they grow and mature in Christ. As another early Christmas blessing, Kevin Parks joined our team as the new Music Director on December 1st. Kevin

brings with him forty years plus of music ministry in the Church and has made a significant contribution helping us move forward in revitalizing our worship, blending excellent music newer and older.



Christmas Eve services were well attended as we continue to work our way ahead out of the Covid slump. Monthly ministry at Union Villa brings encouragement to a regular community of 25-35 people, part of St. Philip's outreach to our community. Our Saturday evening prayer group, regularly about 15 attending, has grown together through Covid days to become a committed, warm and supportive community. Several of whom are not able to come out to in-person church. Our mutual support, prayers and care for one another is a testament to the strength of Christian fellowship. And what a blessing to receive four new families into our fellowship in November! What a joy to officiate at the June wedding of Alison Brunt and Devon Keller- God bless them as they walk together in this sacramental life.

I continue my work at the diocesan level, as a facilitator of the Fresh Start program supporting clergy transitioning to new parishes. I also am a member of the Bishop's Committee for Creation Care, helping our churches to lean into our baptismal commitment... "Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?" And the church responds, "**We will, with God's help.**"

We all need help in the path of life, and we would not have a fruitful ministry here in Unionville together if it were not for all of the St. Philip's Angels who carry out a myriad of ministries for one another, our church and the wider community. I am deeply grateful for the long faithfulness of Rev. Lorraine in her diaconal ministry, for her wisdom, friendship and commitment to our common life. Father Ajith joyfully assists as his busy schedule allows, and we are grateful for his ministry and that of Gloria in our Sunday School. The warm and faithful presence of your family in our midst blesses the whole congregation. Our warden team is an inspiration of Christian service: Claudette Rawlins, Ben Cheung, Connalyn Willoughby and Andrew Estabrooks. Ben will be stepping down as warden this year and we thank God for his faithful service to the well being of our church building and family. Thank you, dear Ben!

I am so blessed to have the wonderful and gifted support of my dear wife Anne. Thank you, Anne, for all you do in support of our home life, my ministry, and our church. I couldn't do it without you.

Looking Ahead

Can something be both a rose and a thorn? I do believe so. It was with both joy and sorrow that I announced my retirement plans for September 1, 2026. As a church we find ourselves in the midst of a transition. A change in leadership is a natural progression in the life of a church and is an expression of new birth and revival. Serving here with Anne and so many gifted members of the congregation has been the highlight of my career as a priest. We shall never forget our time here. Gratefully, this letter is not a farewell letter, but a vestry report! I will continue to serve with the best of my energy and look forward to further developing convergent worship and developing new leaders. I will support our leadership team and Bishop as they chart a way forward to bring on a new incumbent who will serve and lead this wonderful community in the next chapter.

Yours in Christ,

Stephen+

HONORARY ASSISTANT'S REPORT

As I look back on this past year, my heart is simply full of gratitude. It has been a real gift to serve St. Philips-on-the-Hill, and I thank God often for this parish and the place you have given me in its life.

I have especially cherished the opportunities to preach and to celebrate the Holy Eucharist. To open Scripture together and to stand at the Lord's Table with you are not just duties to me — they are sacred moments that continually renew my own faith. Each time we gather, I am reminded that *"we have this treasure in jars of clay"* (2 Corinthians 4:7). It humbles me to be entrusted with such holy work.

What has stood out most this year is the beauty of this community. I have seen kindness in hospital visits, faithfulness in worship, generosity in service, and quiet compassion in the way people carry one another through difficult times. This is not just a congregation — it is a family of faith. Truly, *"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another"* (John 13:35).

I am deeply thankful to our Incumbent, Rev. Stephen Kern, for his steady leadership, encouragement, and the gracious way ministry is shared. My thanks also go to our Church Wardens for their faithful care and wise stewardship, and to our Office Administrators, whose behind-the-scenes work keeps so much running smoothly. To the rest of our ministry team — Rev. Dn. Runza, lay leaders, musicians, volunteers, and all who serve — thank you. We really are, as Paul says, *"God's fellow workers"* (1 Corinthians 3:9).

Personally, I continue to grow through serving at St. Philips. This parish blesses me in countless ways. As we look to the year ahead, my prayer is to serve more wholeheartedly, more attentively, and more faithfully — that together we may *"grow in every way into him who is the head, into Christ"* (Ephesians 4:15).

Thank you for the privilege of walking this journey of faith together.

Submitted respectfully,

Yours in Christ's Service,
Rev. Ajith Varghese
Honorary Assistant,

DEACON'S REPORT

By virtue of our Baptism, **we have all been commissioned** to do a servant ministry among the people in our community. I am humbled by your trust in allowing me to represent the ministry of St Philip's in the greater community of Unionville.

The ministry of a deacon takes place mostly outside of the "church" – but in the greater community.

Due to the fear of illness, people are hesitant to let others into their homes. I have continued my ministry as much as possible through telephone and emails, however, I have done 'some' visits in hospital. It is also sad that we, largely, cannot visit in private homes at this time since people are still nervous.

> **Please let the office know if there is any way I can be of assistance to you –**
> **or if you just want to chat – and I will be happy to get back to you.**

We are sad to acknowledge the loss of friends and neighbours over these last months and many people are grieving. We pray for the families and friends of those lost in 2024 - 2025. Over this past year, I have conducted one funeral and two internment of ashes.

In 2025, I preached ten (10) times, assisted at 2 ordinations and 1 Induction (celebration of new ministry).

I attended a sexual misconduct training – all on Zoom.

It appears that many of our visitors now need visitors! We are aging "in place" .....

Thank you all, priest, wardens, and congregation for your prayers and also for continuing to support my ministry among and with you.

When possible, my various duties include the following:

- Visiting parishioners usually in homes or nursing homes.
- Attend training and teach classes regarding ministry to the sick and elderly
- Numerous telephone visits.
- Lead Baptism preparation classes from time to time.
- Attend meetings.
- I am licenced to anoint for healing and take home communions through the virtue of my ordination.
- I attend Synod and meetings.
- I am a member of the Community of Deacons, thus attend their meetings (these days on zoom).
- I assist liturgically in regular Sunday worship and other services as required (funerals) and preach from time to time
- Preside at funerals when requested.
- Guest preach at other churches when requested.

My passion has always been for ministry to the elderly and women's issues. I am a strong supporter of the ecumenical movement and rejoice in the good relationships between clergy in Markham/Unionville.

May we together and as individuals recognize Christ in each person and strive to be as Christ to those with whom we work and play. We are called, prepared and sent out as ministers of Christ in a needy world.

Let us go forth into the world in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you in this role.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Deacon Lorraine Runza

CHURCHWARDEN'S REPORT

Once again, we experienced several staffing changes throughout 2025. We were sorry to lose our Mandarin Ministry, especially our beloved Esther Deng, and wish her all the best in her future endeavours. Youth Pastor Kenny Risk resigned as our Christian Education Minister, and we remain committed in our search for the right person for this ministry. Jennipher Kean has been a wonderful addition to our leadership team and adeptly keeps our office running smoothly and efficiently. We are also fortunate to have Katherine Corbett volunteer to assist Jenn in the office as required. We were delighted to welcome Kevin Parks as Director of Music and are grateful for his tremendous talent and innovations in our music program.

The successful application for an Anti-Hate government grant allowed the purchase and installation of cameras to protect our church property. Although we were disappointed that our application for the government EASE grant (Enhancing Access to Space for Everyone) was denied, we remain committed to renovate our upstairs washrooms - construction will be starting shortly with the help of generous donations from parishioners.

New long-term leases with both the Montessori School (5 years) and Alcoholics Anonymous (3 years) have been successfully negotiated. Additionally, some scheduled minor kitchen renovations and updates will allow us the opportunity to increase revenue through additional rentals of our hall and other facilities. We were pleased that a group of Markham District High School students used our space to conduct a fundraiser in support of Markham Stouffville Hospital, and will continue to allow worthy non-profit organizations access to our facilities.

We have endeavoured to foster community both inside and outside our church by openly welcoming new parishioners at Sunday services and encouraging them to share a bit about themselves with the congregation. Additionally, members have embraced the use of the new nametags which are readily accessible in the Narthex, along with a posted Leadership Board that clearly identifies our staff and wardens. In recognition of the stewardship of on-line donors, we now provide laminated cards for the offering plate that acknowledge their contributions. We look forward to the installation of a large cross on the east side of our property which will identify and promote SPOTH as a community Christian church.

As always, the wardens are thankful for the dedication and support of our ministry team, our staff and the many volunteers who help us along the way. It is our honour and pleasure to serve the SPOTH congregation.

Respectively Submitted,
Ben Cheung Claudette Rawlins Connalyn Willoughby Andrew Estabrooks

ADVISORY BOARD REPORT

The Advisory Board gathered in May of 2025. Ruwani Seevakireedam was re-elected as the Chair for 2025 to preside over meetings. Gloria Varghese was re-elected as Secretary for 2025 to record and distribute Meeting Minutes. There were nineteen active Advisory Board members for the 2025 year: Reverend Stephen Kern, Rev. Lorraine Runza, Lay Pastor Kenneth Risk (January 2025-June 2025), Reverend Ajith Varghese, Ben Cheung, Claudette Rawlins, Andrew Estabrooks, Connalyn Willoughby, Joanne Millett, Pres Harrison, Kenny Fung, Carol Dykeman, Amber Dykeman, Hortense Anglin, Tracy Nwonyimi, Carlynn Reed, Ruwani Seevakireedam, Brian Cheung, Gloria Varghese, and Jo Anne Carlisle. All members contributed valuable insight and recommendations during the meetings, pertaining to the various areas of Parish Life and Church Ministries. A special thank you to each member for their invaluable contributions, and to Gloria Varghese for creating and distributing comprehensive Minutes for each meeting.

The Board met via Zoom five times over the year, from May 2025 to February 2026.

Following Canon 17, the Board mandate is to:

- Advise the corporation
- Receive a quarterly financial statement and report from the wardens
- Make recommendations regarding important matters occurring in life of parish such as: Mandarin Ministry, Youth & Family Ministry, Outreach, Chancel Guild, Stewardship, Cemetery, Synod representatives, Hospitality & food preparation
- Review the proposed budget before vestry

We also received Financial Reports and discussed issues important to the life of the Church. The focus of the 2025 year included the continued implementation and furthering of our Strategic Plan, supporting a welcoming environment through new initiatives such as name tags, strengthening church communications, the life and growth of our Music Ministry, and continued improvements to our Live Streaming services.

Within the Advisory Board, we ensure to remember the importance of sharing and prayer. All Ministries are conducted in service to God, and we mindfully seek God's continued blessings upon our Church life and family.

Members of SPOTH are welcome to observe our meetings and share their ideas. Minutes of our meetings are filed in the GREEN binder on the counter in the office for anyone to read. Please suggest items of concern be added to the agenda of our meetings.

It has been a pleasure to have worked together with such a faithful group this year.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruwani Seevakireedam, Chairperson

PARISH STATISTICS

Average Attendance	2021		2022		2023	2024	2025
January – June	n/a	53	67*	93	115	120	100
July & August	26*	38	48	69	86	69	85
September – December	49**	81	92**	111	129	135	129
Easter	n/a	77	164	196	195	189	177
Christmas	n/a	68	181	181	286	194	245

NOTES:

*2021: return to in-person services every other week
**2021: in-person Sunday services, 8:15 & 10:00 am
*2022: return to in-person services Feb. 13
**2022: in-person services only (Mandarin Gathering resumed in-person in October)
2021 & 2022 figures include all services; in-person, drive by Eucharist, Zoom Evening Prayer and Zoom Mandarin services
2025 figures include in-person, Zoom Evening Prayer and Union Villa services

Average Weekly Attendance
(not including online viewers)

2023	2024	2025
108	108	105

YouTube Statistics	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Weekly Averages – Sunday Services & Morning Prayer	84	123	173	210	174
Sunday Service Averages	32	38	37	37	64
Easter		62	42	99	65
Christmas		208	122	159	157

Average Weekly Attendance
(including online viewers)

2023	2024	2025
145	145	169

FROM THE REGISTERS

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
BAPTISMS	0	5	5	1	1

"We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood."

Hilary Elizabeth Carr August 10, 2025

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
CONFIRMATIONS	6	6	0	0	7

Kori Clarke	December 14, 2025
Melina Jesuvant	December 14, 2025
Mikaela Rampersad	December 14, 2025
Alyssa Rampersad	December 14, 2025
Timi Oladeji	December 14, 2025
Tomi Oladeji	December 14, 2025
Noah Rampersad	December 14, 2025

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
WEDDINGS	0	0	1	2	1

Devon Nathaniel Keller and Alison Mary Brunt	June 19, 2025

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
FUNERALS	11	5	9	15	8

"Give rest, O Christ, to your servants with your saints, where sorrow and pain are no more, neither sighing, but life everlasting."

Nicholas George Harris	February 6, 2025
Grace Avey	February 15, 2025
Donalda Elizabeth Svistunenko	March 21, 2025
Alfred Edward "Ted" Taylor	March 29, 2025
Michael Bradley	October 3, 2025
Joseph Ronald Noseworthy	October 10, 2025
Wenhui Bi	November 15, 2025
John Donald Gordon	November 21, 2025

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
HOUSEHOLDS ON PARISH LIST	282	281	270	272	276

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
NEW FAMILIES	3	3	1	2	5

APPOINTMENTS & ELECTIONS

INCUMBENT'S APPOINTMENTS

POSITION	2025	2026
Churchwarden – Rector's	Ben Cheung	
Deputy Churchwarden	Connalyn Willoughby	
Steward	Pres Harrison	
Advisory Board	Ruwani Seevakireedam	
Advisory Board	Gloria Varghese	

CHURCHWARDEN'S APPOINTMENTS

POSITION	2025	2026
Envelope Secretary	Joanne Millietttt	
Treasurer	Kenny Fung	
Vestry Secretary	Katherine Corbett	
Cemetery Board Chair	Steve Watson	
Advisory Board, Honorary	Jo Anne Carlisle	

POSITIONS TO BE ELECTED BY VESTRY

POSITION	2025	2026
Churchwarden – People's	Claudette Rawlins *(2024)*	Claudette Rawlins – *in position until Vestry 2027*
Deputy Churchwarden	Andrew Estabrooks *(2024)*	Andrew Estabrooks - *in position until Vestry 2027*
Synod Lay Representatives	Hortense Anglin Joanne Millatt	*Next Synod Nov 19-20, 2027 – in position until Vestry 2027*
Alternate Synod Lay Representatives	Brian Cheung *(2024)* Tracy Nwonyimi *(2024)*	*Next Synod Nov 19-20, 2027 – in position until Vestry 2027*
Advisory Board	Brian Cheung *(2024)*	
Advisory Board	Tracy Nwonyimi *(2024)*	
Youth Advisory Board	Open	

*Please note that nominations for elections are open until the Vestry meeting, March 1, 2026. If you would like to nominate someone, please complete a nomination form and speak to Rev. Stephen or one of the Churchwardens.

MOTIONS BEFORE VESTRY

1. **SIGNING OFFICERS:**
   It is moved:
   That the Vestry of St. Philip on-the-hill, Unionville grant signing authority to the Churchwardens, the Deputy Wardens, the Parish Treasurer and the appointed Steward for banking transactions and cheques. As per Canon 15. Section 4. subsection 7. Cheques, credit card payments, electronic funds transfers or any other disbursements shall be authorized by two (2) signatures; one (1) of the signatures shall be that of a Churchwarden.

   Moved By: **Seconded By:**

2. **AUDITOR:**
   It is moved:
   That the Corporation, Incumbent & Churchwardens, be charged to review our auditing needs and, to engage a qualified accounting firm to produce a review engagement report for 2026.

   Moved By: **Seconded By:**

3. **Social Justice Vestry Motion for 2026:** Recommitting to "protect, sustain and renew the life of the earth."

In our baptismal covenant, we pledge to "safeguard the integrity of God's creation and respect, sustain, and renew the life of the earth." This is part of our duty of care for our neighbour, particularly those who are most vulnerable to the ravages of climate change, and for whom Christ had a preferential bias.

Over 88,000 peer-reviewed scientific studies on the damage caused by CO_2 point in the same direction: that the planet is warming at a rate that poses significant threats to Creation.[1]

The consequences of the warming include:

1. More frequent and more severe weather events (hurricanes, floods, fires, tornadoes)
2. Increased desertification of land and acidification of the oceans
3. Reduced food production capability from the land
4. Rising sea levels from glacial melt
5. Loss of freshwater resources
6. Loss of habitat and sustainability for plants, animals, and other organisms.

Secondary consequences of global warming are already massive.

1. Wars over resources
2. Increased numbers of people displaced by climate impacts
3. Diminished biodiversity
4. Increased numbers of invasive species of plants and insects due to the changing climate zones
5. Increased economic inequality (the most vulnerable nations and people will suffer the most.)
6. Increased health issues from heat, smoke, and water scarcity.

Our lived experience of 2025 offers independent confirmation of the science. It was the hottest summer on record (following the previous hottest summer of 2024)[2] It was the second most destructive forest fire season in Canada, with attendant smoke hazards for much of the country.[3] While harder to quantify, we have also experienced many significant floods following torrential rains.[4]

Despite these growing impacts, and the overwhelming scientific evidence, the amount of CO_2 has increased every year.[5] Scientific data alone has failed to persuade governments and industry to protect the most vulnerable and future generations by ensuring a livable planet. As Christians, we must embody our faith commitment with actions that show our care for those whom we may not know, but who will be most susceptible to the climate emergency.

Our faith informs the way we act. We proceed in hope – not fantasy, not wishful thinking – but Christian hope, which means living 'as though' we already dwell in the kingdom of God. Consistent with living this way, we celebrate all of creation, and protect woodlands and animals, birds and sea creatures, oceans watersheds, clean air and the rains, thanking God for their variety and working to ensure their vitality.

If we live this way, we will plant more forests, not chop them down.[6] We will use less energy, particularly in transportation, industry and agriculture. We will not consume more than our basic needs. We will recycle and repurpose, sharing more with our neighbours who have less.

We will also advocate for governments to honour their climate commitments. In 2015, 196 countries adopted the landmark Paris Agreement, a legally binding international treaty on climate change. The goal of the Paris Agreement is to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, relative to pre-industrial levels. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, to achieve this goal and a net-zero-emission world by 2050, countries must significantly reduce their greenhouse gas emissions without delay. **Yet, current global commitments fall far short of this, leading to projections of warming by 3 degrees Celsius by 2100.**[3]

Since 1990, the Government of Canada has made many domestic and international commitments to address climate change, including commitments to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions and reach net-zero emissions by 2050.[7] Yet Canada's greenhouse gas emissions have decreased by only 8.5% in the 19 years since then.[8] Oil production from the tar sands generates as many CO^2 emissions as all Canada's other human-generated sources combined.[9] Canada is the worst performing of the G-7 countries in terms of meeting its targets.[10]

In June 2025, the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada passed Resolution A200 endorsing the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty, and urging the federal government to:

- **End expansion of any new coal, oil or gas production** in line with the best available science as outlined by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the United Nations Environment Programme;
- **Phase-out existing production of fossil fuels in a manner that is fair and equitabl**e, taking into account the respective dependency of countries on fossil fuels and their capacity to transition; and

- **Ensure a global just transition to 100% renewable energy globally**, support dependent economies to diversify away from fossil fuels, and enable all people and communities, not least the Global South, to flourish.[11]

This vestry motion, which urges the government of Canada to honour its commitments to the 2015 Paris Accord, aligns with General Synod's Motion. Moreover, it aligns with our Diocesan Cast the Net Call #8 "Intensify advocacy and action in response to the climate crisis," and our own baptismal commitments. There are many ways in which we can bring action and advocacy to bear on the climate crisis. To learn more, please refer to the additional resources in support of this motion, which will be made available on the Diocesan website at www.toronto.anglican.ca/vestrymotion.

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[1] https://news.cornell.edu/stories/2021/10/more-999-studies-agree-humans-caused-climate-change

[2] https://www.cbc.ca/news/science/risky-heat-climate-central-1.7636309

[3] https://www.cbc.ca/news/climate/wildfire-season-2025-1.7606371

[4] https://www.theweathernetwork.com/en

[5] https://ourworldindata.org/co2-emissions

[6] https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/diocesan-life/social-justice-advocacy/creation-care/communion-forest-movement/

[7] https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/weather/climatechange/climate-plan/climate-plan-overview/healthy-environment-healthy-economy.html#toc14

[8] https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/environmental-indicators/greenhouse-gas-emissions.html

[9] Nature Briefing, January, 2024

[10] https://www.oag-bvg.gc.ca/internet/English/att__e_43947.html

[11] https://fossilfueltreaty.org/faith-letter#faith-letter laying out a binding global plan to:

We, the parish of St. Philip on-the-hill, Unionville in the Diocese of Toronto,

- **Pledge to honour our baptismal commitment to "safeguard the integrity of God's creation"**
  and
- **urge the Government of Canada to honour its commitments to the Paris Accord, 2015: to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 40-45% below 2005 levels by 2030 and to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.**

Moved By: **Seconded By:**

MINISTRIES LIST

MINISTRY	CHAIR/CO-ORDINATOR/MEMBERS
Evangelism & Member Ministry	
Greeters	Jenny Brunt, Jo Anne Carlisle, Sammy Chan, Ben & Maggie Cheung, Bob & Nancy Clarke, Katherine Corbett, Godwin & Mabel Ifejika, Anne Kern, Ivor Pavamani
Prayer Chain	Shannon Haverstock
Cemetery Board	
	Steve Watson (Chair), Ben Cheung, Katherine Corbett, Gerry Heath, Joanne Millett, Gabe Runza, Joan Watson
Discipleship	
Children, Youth & Family Ministry	The Reverend Stephen Kern & Gloria Varghese
Sunday School Assistants	Jo Anne Carlisle, Katherine Corbett, Nicole Garib, Alex Lee, Tracy Nwonyimi
Drama Program	Carlynn Reed, Joanna Carneiro
Men's Bible Study	The Reverend Stephen Kern
Women's Bible Study	Anne Kern
Zoom Bible Study	Betty Taylor
Stewardship & Administration	
Envelope Secretary & Counters	Joanne Milliett
Building Committee	Benjamin Cheung
Finance Committee	Claudette Rawlins
Mission & Outreach	
MAP	The Reverend Stephen Kern
Outreach	Jo Anne Carlisle, Doris Chiu, Janet Gillespie
Food Bank	Gerry Heath
Parish Life Ministries	
Archives	Jean Wright
Catering Group/Hospitality	Janet Sunderani & Grace Wickham
Coffee Hour	Maggie Cheung (Coordinator), Anna Ching, Katherine Corbett, Janet Gillespie, Sandra Miller, Bob & Joanne Millett, Tracy Nwonyimi, Ivor Pavamaini, Heather Wallace
Greeting Card Ministry	Maggie Cheung
Lay Pastoral Visitors	The Reverend Lorrine Runza
Photo Ministry	Andrew Estabrooks
Social Media	Anna Ching & Ruwani Seevakireedam
Staff & Lay Assistants	
Incumbent	The Reverend Stephen Kern
Honorary Assistant	The Reverend Ajith Varghese
Deacon	The Reverend Lorraine Runza
Minister of Music	Kevin Parks
Minister of Christian Education	Vacant *(Kenny Risk – Jan to Jun 2025)*
Parish Administrator	Jennipher Kean
Property Manager	Trevor Joyce
Synod	
Lay Representatives	Hortense Anglin & Joanne Millett
Alternate Lay Representatives	Dwayne Taylor & Tracy Nwonyimi

Worship	
Cantors	Brian Cheung, Eva Chan, Michael Harding, Eva Lau
Chalice Bearers	Hortense Anglin, Judith Brunton, Jo Anne Carlisle, Ben & Maggie Cheung, Amber & Carol Dykeman, Pres Harrison, Shannon Haverstock, Anne Kern, Connalyn Willoughby
Chancel Guild	Carol Dykeman & Amber Dykeman (Coordinators)
Team #1	Janet Sunderani, Dorothy Boland, Jane Harris, Nancy Clarke
Team #2	Carol Dykeman, Joyce Nichols, Amber Dykeman, Lee Wagman
Team #3	Judy Prentice, Judith Brunton, Connalyn Willoughby, Christine Herbert
Electronic Commission Committee	Andrew Estabrooks & Benjamin Cheung
Flower Coordinator	Joyce Nichols
Lay Anointers	Shannon Haverstock, Esther Jesuvant, Anne Kern (Coordinator), Laura Pavamani
Liturgical Assistants	Hortense Anglin, Judith Brunton, Jo Anne Carlisle, Carol Dykeman
Prayers of the People	Hortense Anglin, Judith Brunton, Maggie Cheung, Gail Dickie, Shannon Haverstock, Anne Kern, Wendy Tung
Readers	Hortense Anglin (Coordinator), Judith Brunton, Jo Anne Carlisle, Sofeene Chan, Janet Gillespie, Lou Gizzarelli, Pres Harrison, Carolyn Maxwell, Laura Pavamani, Judith Prentice
Tech Team	Brian Cheung, Andrew Estabrooks, Ruwani Seevakireedam, Dapo Oladeji

PARISH REPORTS

EVANGELISM & MEMBER MINISTRY

GREETERS

Coordinator: Anne Kern

A note of thanks for all the greeters who have helped keep our Sunday worship as safe and comfortable as possible for those who were able to come to church. We are deeply grateful for your faithful ministry. Our veteran greeters are: Jenny Brunt, Sammy Chan, Jo Anne Carlisle, Ben Cheung, Maggie Cheung, Nancy Clarke, Bob Clarke, Anne Kern, Ivor Pavamani, Wendy Tung, Katherine Corbett, Godwin and Mabel Ifejika.

Thank you all for being a warm welcoming presence as we come up to worship!

Our team members have been flexible, and members have filled in for each other at a moments notice if needed. Thank you to all parishioners for your continued support. Perhaps you would like to consider joining the greeting team? It is a fun, warm and engaging ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Kern

PRAYER CHAIN

Coordinator: Shannon Haverstock

Currently there are 23 members of the prayer chain. In May 2025 the prayer chain members met to thank Jean Wright for her past leadership and welcome Shannon Haverstock as the new leader of the prayer chain. The group discussed how the prayer chain was working and made suggestions for the future.

Individuals can request prayer for themselves or for someone they care about by speaking with Stephen, talking to a member of the prayer chain or sending an email to Shannon. Permission is needed to pray for the person who accesses the prayer chain. Prayers remain confidential and often include requests for healing, surgery and/or family issues. There have also been prayers for thanksgiving.

Members of the prayer chain will pray for 2 weeks unless an update was received to pray longer. Sometimes the prayer request will guide the length of time we need to pray. For example, "I'm having surgery and then rehab will take 6 weeks."

If there are any questions or you or someone you know requires prayer from the prayer chain group, you can send an email to Shannon with your request. She will then send out the request to others.

Shannon's email address is havers241@gmail.com.

Our God is a healing God. We ask that his healing touch be felt by us all.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon Haverstock

CEMETERY BOARD

Chair: Steve Watson

The Cemetery is managed by a group of volunteers who are responsible for ensuring the cemetery is cared for in a proper manner and to ensure the provisions of the Cemeteries Act and the regulations thereto are observed and enforced.

Your Cemetery Board held two in person meetings during 2025. Most of the work is done outside of meetings as each member has a portfolio of responsibilities to handle. The review and attention to the fence, tree trimming and headstone repair is ongoing and Gabe Runza is thanked for his dedication to the care of the cemetery. We were pleased to receive donations and financial support to enable the board to maintain and expand the cemetery.

We continue to look at ways to increase the availability of burial and cremation plots to meet our long-term needs. We created a new cremation plot area closer to the church than the existing cremation section. The new plots cost more to purchase because they are larger which provides the option of installing pillow markers instead of only flat markers. This expansion helped generate new sales. We will also continue to benchmark prices for burial and cremation plots and adjust them as required based on projected costs to maintain the cemetery.

During 2025 we had 6 interments (all urns). There were 3 burial plots sold and 3 cremation plots sold.

Our revised bylaws were approved by the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO) in May 2025.

The historic practice of sending Care and Maintenance (C&M) funds to the Diocese for investment finished in 2025 based on direction from the compliance department at the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO). All cemeteries will now invest the funds with GFD which is an established financial services institution specializing in the bereavement sector.

2025 Finances

Opening Balance	$ 35, 295.19
Closing Balance	$ 49,805.00

Here is the Board for 2025

1. Cemetery Board Chair – Steve Watson
2. Monuments – Joanne Millett
3. Property – Gabe Runza
4. Plot Sales – Steve Watson
5. Burials – Steve Watson
6. Treasurer – Gerry Heath
7. Cheque Signing members – Gerry Heath, Ben Cheung, Joanne Millett and Steve Watson
8. Records management – Joan Watson
9. Public registry – Steve Watson
10. Photographer – Ben Cheung
11. Member at Large – Katherine Corbett

I would like to thank each member of the cemetery board for their dedication and teamwork. We were pleased to welcome Katherine Corbett as a new member of our board. Finally, after serving as Board Chair

for the past 5 years, this coming year will be my last which means a new Board Chair will be appointed at the 2027 Vestry meeting. I will remain on the board to assist the new Chair during the transition.

Respectfully submitted by the Cemetery Board
Steve Watson, Chair

DISCIPLESHIP

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

Coordinator: The Rev. Stephen Kern
MEETINGS: Tuesday 4:30-6:15 pm (Drama/Youth), Sunday 10:15-11:00 am (children's Sunday school)

We were very pleased to hire Mr. Kenny Risk in the fall of 2024. We were very hopeful of the development of his ministry at St. Philip's which he undertook with devotion. Unfortunately, his career plans with the diocese did not come to fruition as we had hoped, and Pastor Kenny resigned the end of June 2025. Since that time, I (Rev. Stephen) have been working with the youth and supporting our wonderful drama program. Gloria Varghese has kindly and generously stepped in and taken charge of our Sunday School program. Warm thanks to you Gloria! Please see her added report for the Sunday School.

Sunday School- See Gloria Varghese' report which follows.

Youth Groups
Our youth group meets in tandem with the Drama program every Tuesday from 4:30 pm until 6:15 pm. Our average attendance is 12 children, ranging from 8-12 weekly. The younger cohort starts in the sanctuary in the Drama program while the older cohort starts in the parish hall Youth group. The groups switch places at approximately 5:15 pm. The youth group in the parish hall shares their weekly "roses and thorns" followed by prayer requests and a short bible lesson. We also play games, make crafts, and enjoy snacks.

Drama Program- See Carlynne's report which follows.

Special Events
Our end of the year Sunday School party had to be postponed due to weather, and we rebooked the event as a celebration following Musical Theater Camp. It was a wonderful time for the cast and their friends and family. The kids enjoyed the pool on a hot sunny day, roasting hot dogs over the fire and a picnic lunch, and rides on the ATV and wagon. A fun way to end off a great year together.

Confirmation Class
Jo Anne Carlisle and I had seven wonderful young people prepare for confirmation on December 14th. We had seven fall Saturday morning sessions using the Youth Alpha video program as a guide for our faith conversations. We also cooked a meal for the group together like omelets, pancakes, crepes, pizza followed by games and activities. It was an enjoyable time together and a blessing to grow in faith with our gifted young people.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Stephen Kern

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Since September 2026, the children have been receiving their Sunday school curriculum based on the Anglican Church of Canada's lectionary gospel passage for the Holy Eucharist.

The Sunday School lesson is presented to the children using power point and is developed to give children of all ages instruction that is thoughtful and age appropriate. The children are given a chance to read the lectionary passage and to watch short videos that are found on YouTube from a variety of Christian sources related to the specific gospel lesson. The children are also given the chance to answer questions and to demonstrate their understanding of their key learnings. The lesson is followed by a craft and/or activity and light refreshments are provided.

On days with the highest attendance, there has been as many as 16 children in attendance. There are typically 6-10 children in attendance on average. The ages of the children vary from age 3 to age 15.

The children are engaged and are a positive force in the Church. Over the Christmas season, the children sang and danced to a new iteration of "Go Tell it on the Mountain". They practiced for several weeks, and Alex Lee provided his support by playing the guitar to accompany the children. The congregation was pleased to interact with the children and to hear their voices lifted in song together.

For 2026, a key focus is to find a Christian Education Minister who will be a strong and consistent source of children's leadership. As Connalyn leads the search committee, some of the work that will be a focus is to create a Sunday School email and phone registry so that all parents can be notified of upcoming events and be sent reminders as needed. As well, work to consider the Sunday school curriculum will be needed. Over the last several months, some consideration has been made for whether the Spark curriculum could be the best resource for the next Christian Education Minister, once the new Minister is confirmed, a focus on the right resources for the Minister and the children is recommended.

It has been a blessing to support the children and get to know them more as their Sunday School teacher. The children ask very thoughtful questions and are keenly interested in learning more about God. They keep me on my toes and as a result, I try to be well prepared for the lesson. In reflection, I have learned that the lesson is most successful when it is about 20 minutes long and the activity/crafting time is allocated to the remaining time.

Please feel free to let me know if you have any questions.

In Christ,
Gloria Varghese

DRAMA PROGRAM

BLAZING LIGHTS & SHOOTING STARS

The typical process to prepare for Sunday Service presentations is this: Stephen and I select the dates for Youth Sunday which is scheduled every 6 or 7 weeks. He gives me the Scriptures from the Liturgical calendar. I select the two that feel like they could be turned effectively into scripts for each group. I write all the scripts to fit our kids. Between the two groups they number 14 – 16 actors.

I give each actor as many lines as they can handle and character elements that will challenge them. They receive their scripts before first rehearsal, and we start working hard right from the start. Memorizing their

lines is just the first phase. The biggest work is to build their characters through authentic strong voices and intentional movement around the space, as well as listening and responding to each other. Our goal is to make the performances compelling and understandable – and to make us all think with fresh minds. We pray for one another and give thanks to God for this privilege.

In our Summer Musical Theatre Camp in July, we take on a larger story either directly from the Bible or inspired by Biblical truth. Most of our weekly kids are involved in that as well. If there is space (we cap it at 20) we open it up to the community.

This is kingdom ministry in which we dig into the kingdom stories in the Bible, and allow ourselves to be instruments of God's passion. None of this would happen without the steady creative presence of Joanna Olan and the musical brilliance of Kirk Reed. We are a team. I look to them a lot for another "outside eye" opinion. Of course, parental support is critical for the expected level of excellence. For summer camp we are joined by several volunteers who help in small group rehearsal segments in the morning, and another group of artists who lead creative elective workshops in the afternoon.

Respectfully submitted,
Carlynn Reed – Director

CHRISTIAN FOUNDATIONS

Coordinator: The Rev. Stephen Kern

As part of on-going discipleship in the church, we had a Tuesday evening study group of the workbook, Christian Foundations printed by the diocese. We met online from 7:30-8:30 PM on ZOOM and had four total in the group. We grew together in our understanding of Jesus, core Christian teachings, church history and the life of faith. One is considering baptism, and one participant went on to be confirmed on Dec. 14th. Thanks be to God!

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Stephen Kern

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Coordinator: The Rev. Stephen Kern

We have 1—12 wonderfully faithful men who come to church for fellowship, breakfast and bible study each week at 6:45 AM on Thursday mornings. We each take a turn bringing in breakfast for the group, and share stories about life events, job challenges, family blessings, and perspectives on current events. We spend the bulk of our time studying the Scriptures and sharing life experiences, musings and insights from the Word. Pastor Kenny did a wonderful job leading the group from Fall 2024-June 2025. I have been leading the group since in a conversation through Paul's letter to the church in Rome. In the dark and the cold of early morning we inspire each other on the Journey and pray for the well-being of all. Any men who are interested would be warmly welcomed.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Stephen Kern

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Coordinator: Anne Kern

Thursday Morning 10 am women's Bible study; average attendance 7, range 5-14. We meet in person at the church and in inclement weather we revert to zoom.

We finished studying the Gospel of John; God's Love Letter, and shuffled over to Ephesians, only to gently lay that aside to jump into the season of Epiphany, (women's Christmas in Ireland).

We have been challenged and blessed through our conversation and sharing, our prayers and our fellowship in community.

I personally look forward to each gathering, and we welcome all who are free on Thursday mornings to join us.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Kern

WRITING CIRCLE

Coordinator: Anne Kern

Apparently, the basket of Loaves and Fishes was filled with stale bread and dried fish.

This has allowed for a new creation: This Lent Gail Dickie and I will begin a weekly writing / journalling group (name TBA). The group will focus on journalling as part of our faith journey. We will explore many of the various ways writing/ journalling draws us deeper, draws our attention and illumines our path on our personal walk with Christ. We will be following the lectionary for our scripture focus each week.

Looking forward to seeing many of you there!

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Kern

ONLINE BIBLE STUDY

Coordinator: Betty Taylor

Small Group Bible Study on Zoom meets every other Wednesday evening from 7:00-8:45 pm.

The Mission Statement of the small group is to study the Bible, grow in faith and become better followers of Jesus Christ.

In the new year of 2025, the group completed a study of the Lord's Prayer using the book "The Lord and His Prayer" by N.T. Wright. We grew in our understanding and appreciation of Jesus' message of forgiveness, and call to focus on the Kingdom of God.

In the spring, the group focused on the Beatitudes from Matthew's Sermon on the Mount. And this fall, we began a book entitled "Choosing Gratitude Your Journey to Joy". This study is inviting us as the author says, to look carefully at what Scripture has to say about the grace of gratitude, what it means to be a grateful person, and why it matters.

The small group gives members the opportunity to pray together, study scripture, and share in community with each other. New members are always welcome. We would love to have you join us!

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Taylor

STEWARDSHIP & ADMINISTRATION

ENVELOPE SECRETARY & COUNTERS

Coordinator: Joanne Milliett

As Envelope Secretary, I am responsible for recording the monetary donations to St. Philip's on-the-hill and issuing the income tax receipts for these donations, excluding those donations made through Canada Helps. I am very fortunate and thankful to have Katherine Corbett as my partner in carrying out these functions for our Parish.

Thank you also to those parishioners who are enrolled in the Pre-Authorized Givings ("PAG") program, who donated through Canada Helps or who used pre-numbered envelopes for their 2024 donations. These donation options lighten the work for our group of counters and also for Katherine and me as we record the donations and prepare the tax receipts.

I also want to acknowledge and thank our group of dedicated counters, Ivor Pavamani, Bill Carnaghan, Doris Chui, Agatha McPhee, Ian Cowling, Gerry Heath and John Pownall for giving of their time to count, record and bank the donations and all the other incomes of the Parish.

Thank you also to Julia Warren, Jo Anne Carlisle, Pres Harrison and Mary Carr for volunteering to count the receipts when help is needed.

If you have any questions with regard to your personal donations or donating in general, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone or email.

If you wish to join the PAG program, please contact our parish administrator, Jennipher Kean during office hours, 905-477-1991.

Below is a snapshot of the donations received in 2025 to the 3 Ministry Funds, General, Youth and Chancel Guild, as well as a comparison with donations to those funds in the 4 previous years.

Year	***Regular Donors****	***Average Annual Donation***	***Median Annual Donation***	***Total Donation by Regular Donors***
2025	**215**	**$1,146**	**$1,200**	**$246,329**
2024	**167**	**$1,514**	**$800**	**$266,459**
2023	**150**	**$1,898**	**$1,000**	**$284,640**
2022	**150**	**$1,922**	**$1,100**	**$288,251**

2021	**134**	**$2,113**	**$1,300**	**$283,119**

**PAG and regular Canada Helps donors and regular envelope users are considered as "Regular Donors".*

Respectfully submitted,
Joanne Millett

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Chair: Benjamin Cheung

At SPOTH we have a Building Committee who are responsible for keeping our Church Physical Plant in working order. In 2025 our committee members consisted of Benjamin Cheung, the Rev. Stephen Kern, Gabe Runza, Duayne Tayor, Doug Willoughby and Ed Wong. We are constantly looking for Angels who are willing to volunteer to keep our beloved Church in good working order with the help of our Building Manager Trevor Joyce. Please contact me if you like to come on board.

Last year we identified that our washroom facilities needed an upgrade in accessibility and also the entrance to our church need the same upgrade. Committee member, Ed Wong took charge in designing the upgrade along with Duayne Taylor assisting with the details. We managed to find a contractor to work with and they were awarded the contract.

Thanks to Gloria Varghese we applied for two Government Grants available to help fund the improvements to our building.

1. Ontario Anti-hate Security and Prevention Grant
2. Enhancing Access to Spaces for Everyone (EASE) Grant

We were successful in getting the Anti Hate Grant and with the funds we were able to install 8 security cameras that will protect our church with video coverage 24/ 7.

Unfortunately, we were notified in early 2026 that we were not successful in getting the EASE Grant. Despite this, we are moving forward with the accessibility upgrades. We have had many parishioners generously donate to these projects already – this support is very positive.

We received great news regarding the construction of a large outdoor Cross that will identify us as a church – a parishioner has generously provided the funding to make the project a reality – what a blessing. It will be built at the same time as the door and washroom upgrades.

One major concern that was mentioned at last year Vestry meeting was the possible failure of the HVAC system for our Sanctuary. It is 40 years old and has lasted longer than its life expectancy. We are diligently getting quotes for its replacement.

Respectively Submitted
Benjamin Cheung
Chair

FIANANCE COMMITTEE

MEMBERS: Claudette Rawlins (Chair), Lou Gizzarelli, Pres Harrison, Suku Navaratnam and Kenny Fung.

The mandate of the Finance Committee is to provide oversight into the overall budget and finances of the church. The committee meets as necessary (3 to 4 times a year), in addition to advising on investments and responding to requested reviews of revenue and expenses. Effective February 2025, our Treasurer Kenny Fung became a full member of the Finance Committee rather than a liaison officer. Welcome to the team Kenny.

One of the primary functions of the committee is to develop the projected budget for the upcoming calendar year for the Wardens approval, and eventual presentation to the annual Vestry (AGM) for discussion and eventual adaptation. The committee also provides regular updates re: the budget, as well as on a variety of other financial matters, to the Advisory Council.

During 2025, the Finance Committee met via Zoom and in person discussed and strategize as to a new way forward for our Financial Accounting and Reporting. The committee has worked diligently and agreed on excellent recommendations for transparent Financial Reporting and has produced the 2025 Financial Reports as well as the 2026 projected budget.

We will continue with our planned quarterly meetings during 2026, to report to the Wardens and the Advisory Board in a timely manner as to the church's financial position and advise accordingly on any necessary actions required.

Special thanks are again extended to our faithful congregation for their ever-responsive support With God's help may we continue as faithful Stewards to our church and Ministries for which we are called to undertake.

Respectfully submitted,
Claudette Rawlins

MISSION & OUTREACH

MAP COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

Our present Map Communication Committee members are Gary Guthrie, Anna Ching, Ruwani Seevakireedam, Brian Cheung and me.

Anna Ching continues to publish St. Philip's events both on Instagram and Facebook.

As of this report we have 553 followers on the SPOTH Instagram account and 296 on Facebook. It is our hope that by posting pictures, and videos online as well as our live streamed services, people will find us interesting and come for a visit.

Now that we have a new Music Director, Kevin Parks, we could look at putting some of our music online.

Even with all the technology at our disposal, we still rely on the telephone to reach out to parishioners who do not have computers and email. We hear from many of them who express their thanks for the ability to reach out and speak to someone on the phone. They are most thankful for Rev. Stephen's home visits.

With the First phase of MAP Communication near completion, our next goal is to reach out to non-parishioner near SPOTH. This may include advertising on Facebook or Instagram as well as having door

hangers made and delivered to homes around the church or producing a direct media piece and having it delivered using a postal drop to selected homes in our neighbourhood.

Respectively submitted,
Benjamin Cheung, Co Chair

OUTREACH

Co-Chairs: Jo Anne Carlisle and Doris Chiu

Walkathon
Our 2025 walkathon was held on Saturday May 4th. Approximately 15 of us met at 10am at the church and went as a group to walk on the trails through the woods around Toogood Pond. Our group always enjoys the fresh air and our chats. It's always a good opportunity for us to get to know each other. Following our walk, a light lunch was prepared and served by our dedicated kitchen crew organized by Janet Sunderani.

This year, proceeds of $4,415 raised from the walkathon were donated to FaithWorks. FaithWorks is a charitable programme of the Anglican Diocese of Toronto. They offer support to our Ministry Partners as they serve the needs of people who are Indigenous, homeless, hungry, at-risk women, children or youth, immigrants or refugees, or individuals struggling with HIV/AIDS. Our donation to FaithWorks also helps to support aid efforts in the developing world and in remote communities throughout Canada's far north.

A big thank you to our walkers, donors and volunteers who helped make this walkathon a successful one.

Care 'N' Share Program
The need in our community is greater than ever as families struggle with high inflation, soaring housing and food costs. Thank you to all the Care 'N' Share Angels! This year, with your generous donations, we raised $3,035. Similar to previous years, we partnered with St. Justin Martyr Catholic Church where the money raised was used to purchase gift cards to give needy families at Christmas.

Exciting News
Jo Anne and I are thrilled to announce that Janet Gillespie has joined the Outreach Committee.
Welcome Janet!

Please let us know if anyone is interested to join our committee to work on future meaningful outreach programs.

Doris Chiu, Jo Anne Carlisle
Co-Chair, Outreach Committee

PARISH LIFE MINISTRIES

ARCHIVES

Coordinator: Jean Wright

Archives are unique, original records which have a continuing and permanent value. The word "archives" is also used to describe the place where these records are preserved and accessed.

Presently we have 23 boxes of archives in storage; each box is numbered, each box contains a list with an inventory of its contents. Today most everything is digitally stored, e.g., Minutes of Wardens, financial, parish groups and organizations, pew bulletins.

I have enjoyed looking after our Archives for a number of years, but it is now time for me to step down. I have someone in mind I'm hoping will take my place; Stephen then will be able to name that person at Vestry.

Respectively submitted,
Jean Wright

COFFEE HOUR

Coordinator: Maggie Cheung

The return of the Coffee/Tea Social after the 10 a.m. service is getting underway and making progress as more members of the congregation participate. We now have the social once every two weeks, thanks to the support of our team members Heather Wallace, Sandra Miller, Bob and Joanne Millett, Anna Ching, Katherine Corbett, Ivor Pavamani, Janet Gillespie, and Tracy Nwonyimi. If you are interested in joining our teams, please contact Maggie Cheung by leaving her a message at the Church Office. God bless!

Respectfully submitted,
Maggie Cheung

GREETING CARD MINISTRY

Coordinator: Maggie Cheung

The Greeting Card Ministry is a big help for St. Philip's to keep in contact with her parishioners, marking happy events like birthdays, anniversaries, new family additions, and special celebrations. On sad occasions, it sends sympathy and condolences to our members, showing that we care and wish to comfort them in their sufferings and loss, and encourage them to carry on under the love and grace of the Good Lord. Please contact Maggie Cheung if you have input for the ministry by leaving a message for her attention at the Church Office. Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,
Maggie Cheung

LAY PASTORAL VISITORS

Co-ordinator: The Rev. Deacon Lorraine Runza

The mandate of these gifted and dedicated people is to visit and be a "soul friend" to those members of our congregation who can no longer attend church or activities due to sickness, age or other infirmity. The visitors begin their ministry after going through an intensive course of study. After an initial introduction, made by the incumbent or me, these persons visit a member of the congregation, keeping them in touch with the community which is St Philip's Church.

It seems that our ministry has changed from a 'ministry of visiting' to a telephone ministry. We are trying to keep in regular contact with members of the congregation to keep them in touch with our church community. It is not as good as a visit, but people are happy to receive a call!

From time to time, using a telephone list of the whole congregation, we recruit members to call everyone on our parish list. **Many thanks** to everyone who helped with these very important calls! If you could help to make a few of these short telephone visits, we would appreciate any assistance. The more people reaching out, the more people we can reach.

You might consider joining us in this vital ministry. If you are interested in joining us in the telephone ministry, or the ministry of visiting, please speak to Deacon Lorraine or Rev. Stephen.

We give grateful thanks for the commitment of the following: Mary Carr, Maggie Cheung, Ben Cheung, Katharine Corbett, Gail Dickie, Rose Heath, Laura Pavamani, Ivor Pavamani, Claudette Rawlins, and Gabe Runza. We are truly blessed!

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Deacon Lorraine Runza

PHOTO MINISTRY

Coordinator: Andrew Estabrooks

The photo ministry at St. Philip's is a group effort of many individuals who take and share photos and video of the events and celebrations at the church. It's wonderful to see pictures posted on the monitor in the lobby. Ben Cheung, as always, has stepped up and taken photos of children's time each Sunday as well as special services and forwards to them to be posted on our website as well as the monitor in the lobby.

We want to thank Anna Ching for all her work in keeping our Instagram and Facebook page updated with photos and videos. We encourage everyone with a social media account to follow us and share our posts – let people know what we are doing!

We look forward to many events at the Church this year to be able to document with pictures.

Respectively submitted,
Andrew Estabrooks

SOCIAL MEDIA UPDATE

Platform	Followers						
	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
X (Twitter)	329	335	369	361	366	368	352
Instagram	553	541	524	481	461	409	374
Facebook	296	291	283	n/a	238	185	181
YouTube	228	197	102	64	25	64	

Respectively submitted,
Anna Ching

163rd REGULAR SESSION OF SYNOD

Clergy Delegates: Rev. Stephen Kern, Rev. Ajith Varghese, Rev. Lorraine Runza
Lay Delegates: Hortense Anglin and Joanne Millett

The 163rd Regular Session of Synod was held on Nov. 7-8, 2025, at the Sheraton Parkway, Toronto North hotel in Richmond Hill. The Pre-Synod meeting happened virtually on Oct. 4, 2025.

Synod started with a worship service that included the Bishop's Charge. In his Charge, Bishop Andrew Asbil spoke about the Diocese being on a pilgrimage since the COVID-19 pandemic. Inspired by John 21 and the Cast the Net visioning process, the Diocese and parishes are engaging with the 20 Calls, which were unanimously endorsed by Synod in 2023. The calls focus on four areas of mission and ministry: renewing spirituality; inspiring faith in action; reimagining ministry; and transforming diocesan culture. Bishop Asbil gave examples of how the calls are being lived out. Initiatives include the Season of Creation's 40 workshops and five Lift Up Our Hearts services; St. George, Grafton providing food and funding to a Habitat for Humanity build; St. Stephen in-the-Field, Toronto supporting the homeless; the Diocese hiring a DEI advisor; hybrid ministry; and regionalization. He thanked the clergy and deacons, Synod Office staff, the chancellor and his wife Mary. "My love for you grows day by day," he told them.

Synod enjoyed a number of Call and Response Moment, which showed how churches and groups in the Diocese have been responding to Cast the Net's 20 calls to action.

Synod approved Motion #2, which commits to a continuation of the Reconciliation Land Tithe through Synod 2027. The motion reads as follows: "It is moved and seconded that, whereas the Diocese of Toronto is committed to upholding our sacred obligations to reconciliation, we commit to a continuation of the Reconciliation Land Tithe through Synod 2027. With the oversight of the Reconciliation Land Tithe Committee and Synod Council, we will continue to commit the balance of the MAF tithe (on a rolling basis) for the purpose of Indigenous-led initiatives. The extension of Motion 12 (2021) from 2026 forward to 2027 will support Synod Council and the Reconciliation Land Tithe Committee so that, in 2027, a new motion may be presented that embeds permanent funding for reconciliation with Indigenous peoples into the life of our Church."

Bishop Mauricio Andrada brought greetings from the Diocese of Brasilia, which is the companion diocese of the Diocese of Toronto. The companionship is now well into its second year and will continue until 2031.

The Rev. Canon Philip Der and the Rev. Canon Jennifer Schick gave a presentation about the Season of Spiritual Renewal, which is Call 1 of Cast the Net's 20 Calls. The season focused on prayer, scripture, worship and evangelism. The season included 40 workshops, booklets and other resources and five special worship services, which attracted about 1,600 people.

The Rev. Canon Jesse Parker and the Rev. Canon Rob Mitchell spoke about the work of the Areas and Area Councils Working Group. After widespread consultation, the Areas and Area Councils Working Group is recommended a number of changes, including;

- That the Diocese not seek to replace the area councils with another analogous structure, such as an archdeaconry council or a deanery council.
- That each of the bishops be provided with a budget to fund parish-based ministry projects that do not meet the requirements of existing grants. The total amount of money would be $54,000 per year.

To facilitate the administration of these grants, the regional deans would work with parishes that are applying to ensure that their requests are aligned with the goals of the grants.

- Create a discretionary budget for regional deans of $2,000 per year to use at their discretion to foster collegiality among clergy and to promote ministry and collaboration within their deanery.

At the end of their presentation, it was moved that Synod approve the resuspension of Canons 43 and 44 until the next Regular Session of Synod, as they relate to areas and area council, as recommended for approval by Synod Council and presented in the Convening Circular. The motion was approved.

The Priorities and Plans 2025 to 2027 outlined what the Diocese will do over the next two years to help the Diocese and the parishes live out the Cast the Net vision and the 20 Calls. The work will reflect the four areas of the vision: renewing spirituality, inspiring faith in action, reimagining ministry and transforming diocesan culture. The Diocese projected income of roughly $10.2 million for both 2026 and 2027; an increase of about $1.4 million compared to the 2024 actuals. On the expense side, the Diocese budgeted $9.9 million for 2026 and $10.2 million for 2027, which represents increases of $1.4 million and $1.7 million respectively over 2024. Overall, this will give the Diocese a slight surplus in 2026 and a balanced budget in 2027.

Due to the limited time left at Synod, a motion on Christian nationalism was referred back to Synod Council for a decision. It will be a different Synod Council than the one that forwarded it with its approval to Synod. The motion – Motion #8 – can be found in the Supplementary Convening Circular on the Diocesan website.

Taken from the Diocesan Website
Synod Highlights,
https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/news/synod-highlights-day-1-2025/
https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/news/synod-highlights-day-2-2025/
https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/about-us/corporate-information/synod/past-synods/?lang=en

WORSHIP

CHANCEL GUILD

Coordinators: Carol and Amber Dykeman
Members: 14

The Chancel Guild has the great privilege of caring for and setting up the Chancel area every week for the regular church services, funerals, baptisms, and special services (Lent, Easter, Advent, Christmas).

We have three dedicated teams of ladies that care for the setting up for communion each week, polish the brass and any thing else needed to make the ministerial duties run smoothly. We also dedicate the church for holidays – Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Every team is on for a two-week period, but we also all work together, and fill in when someone is sick or on holiday.

We are grateful for two new members to our Chancel team who are joining us in 2026 - Christine Herbert and Jenny Brunt. We look forward to their commitment to this wonderful ministry and hope they are as blest as we are.

Our next fun-loving get together will be making Palm Crosses on Saturday, March 28th. Please join us – more information will follow in the Church bulletin.

Gratefully submitted,
Amber and Carol Dykeman

ELECTRONIC COMMISSON COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs: Benjamin Cheung and Andrew Estabrooks

The Electronic Commission has a mandate to livestream the services so people who are not able to attend in person can join online. We also display bulletin on the monitors at the front of the church so congregation can follow the service without the use of a paper bulletin. Paper bulletins are still being provided to those who want them.

The two large monitors in the sanctuary facing the congregation have had minor repairs this year but are holding up well. We have had no hardware issues with the other equipment and only minor issues with software licensing. We have had a new microphone installed and are continuing to calibrate the sound to make sure that the live stream has appropriate volume for speaking and singing.

Live-streaming this year has been successful with a dedicated group of volunteers: Ruwani Seevakireedam, Andrew Estabrooks, Brian Cheung, Ben Cheung, Pres Harrison and Dapo Oladeji. We have been averaging over ten concurrent viewers on a Sunday with higher numbers for special services such as when our drama groups are presenting. All our services are available on YouTube and are viewed throughout the week. In addition to live-streaming Sunday services our volunteers have stepped up to live-stream funerals and special events when called upon. As amazing as the technology is, it's the dedication of the volunteers that make the live-streaming possible, whether it's upgrading software, contacting vendors to repair broken equipment or improving processes, we are always working to deliver the Sunday service to those who cannot make it to Church. If anyone is looking to join a great team and would like to be a part of this important ministry, please let any one of us know. We would love to have more help.

To the Commission part of the committee, we are always looking into how best to reach out to more people in our church area. Rev. Stephen uses Zoom meetings for evening prayers, and it is used as well for warden meetings and Bible study. Technology enables us to connect present and past parishioners who no longer able to come to church in person. Another benefit is that it helps us to connect with shut-ins too. With Rev. Stephen's guidance we hope to reach out to more people as Jesus commands us to do.

Respectively submitted,
Andrew Estabrooks and Benjamin Cheung
Co-Chairs

FLOWER MINISTRY

Coordinator: Joyce Nichols

Our Vestry Flowers ministry offers an opportunity for anyone to donate and dedicate flowers in memory of a loved one, to mark a special occasion in your family's life (birthday, anniversary, graduation, wedding etc.) or just a special offering to God for his many blessings.

These beautiful arrangements are provided by Village Grocers and after the Sunday morning service they are divided by the Chancel Guild and given to two parishioners who are sick or celebrating a special day.

Since the pandemic, the cost of the flowers has almost doubled ($125.00 + tax) so we now do the flowers for the Church's feast/holy days.

We all agree that beautiful flowers cheer us up, we also know these are hard financial times and hope donations at a minimum of $70.00 will have more members making dedications (this amount can be more if one wants to do so).

Requests can be made by calling the Church office leave your name and contact phone number, I'll follow up with a call for the dedication details.

Grace and Blessings everyone,
Joyce

LAY ANOINTERS

Coordinator: Anne Kern

Anointing with Holy Oil is a practice blessed by our Lord who sent out the twelve disciples to proclaim the kingdom of God with power. In Mark 6:12 we read, "So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them." As a sign of the Kingdom of God amongst, and in obedience to our Lord's command, we continue to offer the sacrament of anointing with prayer.

We currently have 4 anointers Shannon Haverstock, Anne Kern, Laura Pavamani, and Esther Jesuvant. We offer anointing twice a month and we have healing services (eg St Luke's Day) where all of us are present to anoint all who wish.

We welcome any who might feel led to undertake such a special ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Kern

MUSIC MINISTRY

Minister of Music: Kevin Parks

It is truly a blessing to have joined the St. Phillips-on-the-hill community, and I thank everyone for their gracious and warm welcome, and words of encouragement as I begin my time as your Minister of Music.

I began on Dec 1, and so was involved in the planning of worship for three Sundays in Advent, Christmas Eve and the first Sunday of Christmas in 2025. I was pleased by the response to the call for a choir at the later Christmas Eve service. I look forward to continuing to build this group in 2026. Likewise, it was a gift to have Ian Estabrooks perform on Alto Saxophone at the Christmas Eve services alongside our professional trumpeter, Brian Roberts. Brian will return on Easter Sunday and on Remembrance Sunday in 2026. And I look forward to hearing again from Ian, and all the youth involved in the drama group in the future. Worship

is a work of the people—all the people, of all ages and stages and abilities. Thanks be to God for all who bring their gifts as an offering in our worship!

I am blessed to have wonderful colleagues in liturgical ministry in Stephen, Ajith and Lorraine. We have already established a close working relationship and have found much common ground in our approach to preparing for our worship together. There have been several planning conversations about reinvigorating the music program of the congregation in 2026. We are catalyzed by the music survey taken during the final months of 2025. The results have been tabulated, and were presented after church on January 18. In broad terms, we see that there is support for exploring innovation in our music offerings, while continuing to honour the heritage of what many call 'traditional' approaches. In many ways, this is confirmation for the way music has been offered here at SPOTH for some time; a blending of old and new forms, traditional and contemporary approaches, honouring our heritage while welcoming innovation. This is so well exemplified in Psalm 98 which calls us to "Sing a new song unto the Lord" because God has "remembered his (past) love and his faithfulness" and because "all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God." Have a look at the rest of the psalm, where not only the people, but all creation—the rivers and seas, and mountains and trees—sing and perform in jubilant celebration of God. What a model for us to follow, to be a people who remembers our past but is unafraid to venture to God's future!

As I said in my comments on Jan 18, my focus is on amplifying the word that is preached through well selected hymns, psalms and spiritual songs whose texts speak to the Gospel message we bring to the world, with melodies that both uplift the soul and bring comfort and balm to our hearts. We will express this in our congregational singing, through the work of our dedicated team of Cantors, by bringing the choir back and discerning how the presence of the choir will evolve in our worship, and by embracing the occasional use of instruments to augment our experience of music in the liturgy.

I hope to involve a broad cross-section of the congregation in our worship music. The invitation is open to anyone who feels they have a gift to offer through music in worship, whether as part of a group, or individually. If you would like to offer a gift of music, as a vocalist or instrumentalist, please reach out to me at music@spoth.ca.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevin Parks
Minister of Music

READING MINISTRY

Coordinator: Hortense Anglin
Meetings: None scheduled
Membership: 14

The clergy and congregation at St. Philip's appreciate the commitment and dedication of members of the Reading Ministry for their participation in this important aspect of our worship services.

A full Eucharistic Church service is held at 10.00 a.m. on Sundays and Readers participate in these services as scheduled. Services are live-streamed and recorded to allow accessibility at any time. Evensong on Saturdays at 5.00 p.m. which includes scripture readings, followed by half-an-hour social time has made a tremendous difference to our spiritual journey and we are grateful to Rev. Stephen for instituting and delivering this service.

Please check your emails on a Friday for the Parish Newsletter which includes "Happenings on-the-Hill" providing an outline of activities in our church life as we journey together through this new year.

This is an invitation to anyone interested in participating in the Reading Ministry. Scheduling is about every other month, except for special services which may alter that schedule. An email with your full name, telephone number and address, either to the undersigned at hvanglin@rogers.com or Jennipher Kean, our new Parish Administrator at office@spoth.ca, will initiate the process. Our congregation will be blessed with your involvement in the Reading Ministry.

Respectfully submitted
Hortense Anglin

FINANCIAL REPORT YEAR END 2025

	Actual Q4 YTD	Budget Q4 YTD	Budget Variance	Percentage Variance	Prior Year Q4 YTD	Prior Year Variance	Percentage Variance
REVENUE							
General Offerings	244,192	280,662	(36,470)	(13%)	272,223	(28,031)	(10%)
Open Offerings	3,768	3,867	(99)	(3%)	3,751	17	0%
Flowers Donations	690	979	(289)	(30%)	950	(260)	(27%)
Restricted Fund Donations	23,708	22,743	965	4%	12,360	11,348	92%
Renovation Fund Donations	10,650	-	10,650		-	10,650	
Outreach Donations	14,790	16,704	(1,914)	(11%)	16,202	(1,412)	(9%)
Other Donations	4,024	1,284	2,740	213%	1,245	2,779	223%
Total Donations	**301,822**	**326,240**	(24,418)	(7%)	**306,731**	(4,909)	(2%)
Total Rent	**88,322**	**87,615**	**707**	**1%**	**84,153**	**4,169**	**5%**
Annual Gala	15,986	12,570	3,416	27%	10,557	5,429	51%
Mardi Gras Dinner	1,040	1,398	(358)	(26%)	1,356	(316)	(23%)
Concerts	-	1,500	(1,500)	(100%)	4,165	(4,165)	(100%)
Total Fund Raising	**17,026**	**15,468**	**1,558**	**10%**	**16,078**	**948**	**6%**
Total Grants	**9,749**	**13,325**	(3,576)	(27%)	**12,846**	(3,097)	(24%)
Total Other Income	**6,175**	**5,176**	**999**	**19%**	**5,020**	**1,155**	**23%**
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	**423,094**	**447,823**	(24,729)	(6%)	**424,828**	(1,734)	(0%)
Investment Income - Building Fund	1,424	-	1,424		1,355	69	5%
Investment Income - Memorial Fund	2,909	-	2,909		2,768	141	5%
Investment Income - Operating Fund	3,519	-	3,519		3,366	153	5%
Investment Income - Brodie Fund	19,668	-	19,668		18,714	954	5%
Investment Income - Rectory Fund	38,634	-	38,634		36,759	1,875	5%
Investment - Unrealized Gain/Loss	65,838	-	65,838		51,559	14,279	28%
Total Investment Income	**131,992**	**-**	**131,992**		**114,521**	**17,471**	**15%**
TOTAL REVENUE	**555,086**	**447,823**	**107,263**	**24%**	**539,349**	**15,737**	**3%**
EXPENSES							
Total Salaries & Benefits	**222,637**	**272,540**	**49,903**	**18%**	**238,091**	**15,454**	**6%**
Restricted Fund Expenses	**32,874**	**14,124**	(18,750)	(133%)	**121,141**	**88,267**	**73%**
Total Admin & Office Expenses	**24,859**	**23,240**	(1,619)	(7%)	**22,616**	(2,243)	(10%)
Special Donations / Gifts	**19,949**	**20,128**	**179**	**1%**	**10,618**	(9,331)	(88%)
Total Church Expenses	**59,234**	**66,033**	**6,799**	**10%**	**60,166**	**932**	**2%**
Total Worship Expenses	**6,232**	**8,772**	**2,540**	**29%**	**7,829**	**1,597**	**20%**
Diocesan Allotment	**45,520**	**44,436**	(1,084)	(2%)	**47,544**	**2,024**	**4%**
Total Program Expenses	**14,219**	**16,867**	**2,648**	**16%**	**17,745**	**3,526**	**20%**
Total Travel Expenses	**284**	**575**	**291**	**51%**	**558**	**274**	**49%**
Capital Assets Amortization	**6,597**	**6,592**	(5)	(0%)	**6,592**	(5)	(0%)
TOTAL EXPENSES	**432,405**	**473,308**	**40,903**	**9%**	**532,900**	**100,495**	**19%**
NET EXCESS (DEFICIT)	**122,681**	(25,484)	**148,165**	(581%)	**6,449**	**116,232**	**1802%**
NET OPERATING EXCESS (DEFICIT)	(9,311)	(25,484)	**16,173**	(63%)	(108,072)	**98,761**	(91%)

BUDGET FOR 2026

	Actual Q1 YTD 2025	Budget Q1 YTD 2026	Actual Q2 YTD 2025	Budget Q2 YTD 2026	Actual Q3 YTD 2025	Budget Q3 YTD 2026	Actual Q4 YTD 2025	Budget Q4 YTD 2026
REVENUE								
General Offerings	49,961	51,210	103,634	106,225	154,265	158,122	244,192	250,297
Open Offerings	789	809	1,549	1,588	2,559	2,623	3,768	3,862
Flowers Donations	-	-	-	-	250	256	690	707
Restricted Fund Donations	3,915	4,013	16,325	6,733	17,920	8,368	23,708	14,301
Renovation Fund Donations	-	-	-	-	9,850	10,096	10,650	10,916
Outreach Donations	1,303	1,336	7,924	8,122	9,814	10,059	14,790	15,160
Other Donations	2,015	2,065	2,653	2,719	2,653	2,719	4,024	4,125
Total Donations	**57,983**	**59,433**	**132,085**	**125,387**	**197,311**	**192,244**	**301,822**	**299,368**
Total Rent	**25,643**	**26,650**	**51,101**	**53,110**	**52,121**	**62,825**	**88,322**	**91,771**
Annual Gala	-	-	-	-	-	-	15,986	12,884
Mardi Gras / Hoedown	1,040	1,066	1,040	1,066	1,040	1,591	1,040	1,591
Total Fund Raising	**1,040**	**1,066**	**1,040**	**1,066**	**1,040**	**1,591**	**17,026**	**14,475**
Total Grants	**3,117**	**-**	**4,385**	**-**	**8,557**	**4,276**	**9,749**	**5,498**
Total Other Income	**1,138**	**441**	**5,838**	**6,676**	**5,467**	**7,056**	**6,175**	**7,176**
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	**88,921**	**87,589**	**194,449**	**186,239**	**264,496**	**267,992**	**423,094**	**418,288**
Investment Income - Building Fund	356	-	712	-	1,068	-	1,424	-
Investment Income - Memorial Fund	727	-	1,455	-	2,182	-	2,909	-
Investment Income - Operating Fund	880	-	1,759	-	2,639	-	3,519	-
Investment Income - Brodie Fund	4,917	-	9,834	-	14,752	-	19,668	-
Investment Income - Rectory Fund	9,659	-	19,317	-	28,975	-	38,634	-
Investment - Unrealized Gain/Loss	14,751	-	28,602	-	58,304	-	65,838	-
Total Investment Income	**31,290**	**-**	**61,679**	**-**	**107,920**	**-**	**131,992**	**-**
TOTAL REVENUE	**120,211**	**87,589**	**256,128**	**186,239**	**372,416**	**267,992**	**555,086**	**418,288**
EXPENSES								
Total Salaries & Benefits	**62,057**	**54,674**	**120,941**	**116,175**	**175,019**	**184,816**	**222,637**	**249,122**
Restricted Fund Expenses	**19,147**	**1,000**	**19,372**	**2,000**	**29,847**	**3,000**	**32,874**	**4,000**
Total Admin & Office Expenses	**4,089**	**3,384**	**7,596**	**13,709**	**12,041**	**17,881**	**24,859**	**33,259**
Special Donations / Gifts	**4,500**	**4,613**	**6,203**	**6,358**	**10,618**	**10,883**	**19,949**	**20,448**
Total Church Expenses	**26,987**	**31,630**	**32,923**	**41,815**	**41,558**	**51,239**	**59,234**	**66,963**
Total Worship Expenses	**602**	**1,267**	**1,957**	**4,574**	**2,805**	**6,894**	**6,232**	**9,476**
Diocesan Allotment	**11,110**	**13,436**	**22,220**	**26,871**	**34,410**	**40,307**	**45,520**	**53,742**
Total Program Expenses	**1,643**	**1,380**	**2,221**	**2,747**	**7,894**	**9,724**	**14,219**	**15,627**
Travel Expenses	**284**	**-**	**284**	**-**	**284**	**-**	**284**	**-**
Capital Assets Amortization	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	**6,597**	**6,592**
TOTAL EXPENSES	**130,419**	**111,383**	**213,717**	**214,249**	**314,476**	**324,744**	**432,405**	**459,228**
NET EXCESS (DEFICIT)	(10,208)	(23,794)	**42,411**	(28,010)	**57,940**	(56,752)	**122,681**	(40,941)
NET OPERATING EXCESS (DEFICIT)	(41,498)	(23,794)	(19,268)	(28,010)	(49,980)	(56,752)	(9,311)	(40,941)

BALANCE SHEET – DECEMBER 31, 2025

ASSETS	
CASH	
CIBC Chequing - 81-02112	264,587.84
Petty Cash	132.05
TOTAL CASH	264,719.89
INVESTMENTS	
Fund Investments	749,155.78
TOTAL INVESTMENTS	749,155.78
TAX REBATES	
GST Rebate (50%)	1,320.08
PST Rebate (82%)	4,496.26
TOTAL TAX REBATES	5,816.34
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	
Accrued Receivable	12,405.88
TOTAL ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	12,405.88
OTHER CURRENT ASSETS	
Prepaid Expenses	12,913.71
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT ASSETS	12,913.71
FIXED ASSETS	
Leasehold Improvements	131,840.00
Accum Amort - Leasehold Improvement	-46,144.00
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS	85,696.00
TOTAL ASSETS	1,130,707.60
LIABILITIES	
CURRENT LIABILITIES	
CPP Contributions	2,754.54
EI Premiums	1,040.94
Employee Tax Contributions	1,997.06
Accrued Payable	8,793.26
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	14,585.80
TOTAL LIABILITIES	14,585.80

NET ASSETS	
RESTRICTED FUNDS	
Brodie Memorial Fund	524,625.24
Building Fund	68,540.02
Capital Asset Fund	92,293.41
Incumbent Discretionary Fund	601.99
Memorial Fund	93,513.21
Operating Fund	78,067.35
Spiritual Formation Fund	20,000.00
Youth Ministry Fund	10,508.83
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	888,150.05
UNRESTRICTED FUND/EXCESS	
Unrestricted Fund	105,290.53
Excess (Deficiency)	122,681.22
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUND/EXCESS	227,971.75
TOTAL NET ASSETS	1,116,121.80
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	1,130,707.60

Fund Name	GL Account	GL Account	GL Account	Opening Balances	Donations	Expenses	Dividends	Unrealized Gains	Transfers	Net Change	Closing Balances
Brodie Memorial Fund	3002	N/A	N/A	524,625.24	0.00	0.00	19,668.44	47,053.18	0.00	66,721.62	591,346.86
Building Fund	3003	4003	5091	68,540.02	1,045.00	0.00	1,423.68	3,405.93	0.00	5,874.61	74,414.63
Capital Asset Fund	3004	N/A	5500	92,293.41	0.00	-6,597.41	0.00	0.00	0.00	-6,597.41	85,696.00
Incumbent Discretionary Fund	3005	4014	5092	601.99	2,468.50	-1,944.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	523.75	1,125.74
Memorial Fund	3006	4013	5093	93,513.21	5,755.00	0.00	2,909.64	6,960.80	0.00	15,625.44	109,138.65
Operating Fund	3007	4006	5094	78,067.35	0.00	0.00	3,518.88	8,418.23	0.00	11,937.11	90,004.46
Spiritual Formation Fund	3010	4009	5097	20,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20,000.00
Youth Ministry Fund	3011	4010	5098	10,508.83	1,940.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,940.00	12,448.83
Prevention Security Fund	3012	4012	5095	0.00	10,000.00	-10,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Renovation Fund	3013	4020	5096	0.00	10,650.49	-2,526.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	8,123.71	8,123.71
Total				**888,150.05**	**31,858.99**	-21,068.94	**27,520.64**	**65,838.14**	**0.00**	**104,148.83**	**992,298.88**

Outreach Programs	GL Account	GL Account	Received	Paid Out	Organization
Faithworks	4021	5140	4,020.00	4,020.00	The Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Toronto
Walkathon	4022	5140	4,415.00	4,415.00	The Incorporated Synod of the Diocese of Toronto
Care & Share	4024	5140	3,035.00	3,035.00	St. Justin Martyr Parish
Daily Bread Ministry	4025	5140	145.20	145.20	Our Daily Bread Ministries Canada
Markham Food Bank	4026	5140	1,370.00	1,370.00	Markham Food Bank
Yellow Brick House	4027	5140	745.00	745.00	Yellow Brick House
Alongside Hope	4029	5140	1,060.00	1,060.00	Alongside Hope
Total			**14,790.20**	**14,790.20**	