



CATHÉDRALE
CHRIST CHURCH
CATHEDRAL



Photo by Carole Pelletier

ANNUAL REPORT

for the year ending

December 31, 2018



We gather in the traditional territory of the
Haudenosaunee and Anishinabe

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Christ Church Cathedral, Montreal
Annual General Meeting of the Vestry
Sunday, 17 March 2019
A g e n d a

1. Opening Prayer
2. Secretary to Vestry
3. Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Vestry meetings
 - 3.1. February 10, 2018
 - 3.2. March 18, 2018
4. Election of People's Warden
5. Election of Deputy Wardens
6. Election of Officers
7. Election of General Vestry Nominating Committee
8. Approval of Lay Administrators of the Chalice
9. Dean's Report
10. Warden's Report
11. Reports of Organizations and Committees
12. Budget for 2019
13. Spire Campaign
14. Motion of Adjournment

**Christ Church Cathedral, Montreal
Annual General Meeting Of The Vestry
Minutes of the Meeting - Part I**

Sunday, 18 February, 2018

- 1) **Opening Prayer:** Interim Rector Amy Hamilton opened the meeting in Christ Church Cathedral with prayer at 11:25 AM.
- 2) **Secretary to Vestry:** On acclamation by the assembly, Diana Bouchard, Secretary to Vestry, was appointed to take minutes. The Secretary observed that 51 persons were present, as noted in the minute book, which constitutes a quorum.
- 3) **Motion of Adjournment to Part II:** moved by Adrian King-Edwards, seconded by Ann Elbourne, unanimously approved that the meeting be adjourned to Sunday, March 18 at 12 Noon in Fulford Hall. Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

**Christ Church Cathedral, Montreal
Annual General Meeting Of The Vestry
Minutes Of The Meeting - Part II**

Sunday, 18 March, 2018

- 4) **Opening Prayer:** The Very Reverend Bertrand Olivier, Dean of Christ Church Cathedral, opened the meeting in Fulford Hall with prayer at 12:14 PM.
- 5) **Secretary to Vestry:** On acclamation by the assembly, Diana Bouchard, Secretary to Vestry, was appointed to take minutes. The Secretary observed that 52 persons were present, as noted in the minute book, which constitutes a quorum.
- 2a) **Approval of the Agenda:** Approval of the agenda was moved by Donna Riley, seconded by Adrian King-Edwards, and unanimously supported.
- 6) **Approval of Previous Minutes:** the minutes of General Vestry meetings on February 19 and October 12, 2017, as well as Part I of this meeting on February 18, 2018, were awaiting approval. Moved by Janet King, seconded by Ann Elbourne, and unanimously voted that all these minutes be approved as presented.

7) Election of People's Warden

8) Election of Deputy Wardens

9) Election of Officers (Cathedral Forum, Delegates to Synod, etc.)

10) Election of General Vestry Nominating Committee

These four items were handled as one, with the candidates as listed in the Nominating Committee portion of the 2017 Annual Report. On motion by Donna Riley, seconded by Bob King, the elections were unanimously approved. The assembly profusely thanked Janet King for her efforts as Chair of the Nominating Committee to assemble a full and competent slate of new volunteer leaders for our congregation. Immense gratitude was expressed also to Donna Riley and Donna Jean-Louis, who are stepping off Corporation, for their years of dedicated service.

11) Approval of Lay Administrators of the Chalice: with the addition of Amanda Van Oort and Cassidy Vander Schee to the list (by Jean-Daniel Williams), approval of the list was moved by Ann Elbourne, seconded by Jane Aitkens, and universally supported.

12) Report of the Wardens: details of this report are in the 2017 Annual Report.

Presentations consisted of updates on important activities.

Construction (Donna Jean-Louis): current activities are part of Phase I, which consists of masonry repairs and replacement to hold up the repaired spire. Scaffolding cannot be built from the ground up because of the presence of the shopping mall underneath the Cathedral. This phase is expected to finish by early summer 2018. In Phase II, the spire will be cut in half (because of its weight) and lowered by crane to be repaired on the grounds. Transportation to another work site is impossible because of the fragility of the spire. Phase II will not begin immediately after Phase I because it will require separate permits and a separate tendering process. Funding is being obtained from the Conseil du patrimoine religieux du Québec (CPRQ), Parks Canada, and donations (which continue to be solicited).

Music Director Search (Sheena Gourlay): Patrick Wedd will be retiring as Music Director of the Cathedral on June 24 after 22 years of service. A party is planned for June 17. Patrick announced his intention late in 2017, but the search was postponed so that our new Dean could be part of the process. Nick Capozzoli and Rob Hamilton, our current assistant organist and organ scholar, are willing to serve as interim music directors until the end of 2018. Sheena Gourlay is the contact person on Corporation (rectorswarden@ccc.gmail.com) and has been gathering information from other parishes on similar searches. A search committee will shortly be formed.

Thanks to Clergy (Donna Riley): A number of members of our clergy have provided continuity and support beyond measure during our transition to a new Dean. Thanks were profusely expressed by those present to Donald Boisvert and Amy Hamilton in particular.

Support for French Ministry (David Searle / Jean-Jacques Goulet): Concern has been expressed about how to continue and grow our French ministry. The 12:45 Sunday service is attended by a faithful but very small (typically 10-15) group of congregants. People from the 10 AM congregation could attend now and then to boost these numbers. Bible study in French has, however, been going strong for three years, and our participation in Journées de la culture and Nuit blanches gets many French speakers to come into the Cathedral. The youth group, the monthly 6 PM contemporary service, and the children's ministry all include francophone participants. Nevertheless, new ways to support this essential ministry must be sought.

13) Report of the Director of Music

14) Reports of Organizations and Committees

These were accepted as included in the 2017 Annual Report on motion by Veronica McDermott, seconded by Beth Adams, and unanimously approved.

15) Budget (Jane Aitkens):

The proposed 2018 budget is \$90K in deficit, which is unsustainable. Any deficits are made up from our investment funds, which thereby become less capable of generating income. Other parishes have had to cease operation after they ran through their investment funds in this way.

Giving is down because several large donors have died, moved away, or otherwise left the parish. Investment income is stable and cannot be counted on to fill any gaps.

Clergy expenses have been down during the transition but should rise to normal levels now that our new Dean has been installed. We need a number of clergy to do our job as a Cathedral, and cuts in this area would be difficult.

Insurance has risen substantially, but this is determined at a Diocesan level and is out of our control. Some concerns were expressed about possibly overpaying for electricity in the office space.

Dean Bertrand Olivier recommended approval of the budget as a basis for improvement in the coming year.

On motion by Jane Aitkens, seconded by Barbara Smith, the budget was approved.

16) Grace: The Grace was said by all to close the meeting.

17) Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:28 pm.

Cathedral Staff on December 31, 2018

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| The Very Rev'd Bertrand Olivier | Dean of the Cathedral |
| The Rev'd Amy Hamilton | Associate Priest |
| The Rev'd Jean-Daniel Williams | Assistant Priest |
| The Rev'd Jean-Jacques Goulet | Assistant Priest |
| The Rev'd Dr. Donald Boisvert | Honorary Assistant |
| The Rev'd Jennifer Bourque | Honorary Assistant |
| The Rev'd Deacon Peter Huish | Deacon |
| Patrick Wedd | (January – June) Director of Music |
| Nicholas Capozzoli | interim Director of Music |
| Robert Hamilton | interim Director of Music |
| Sarah Sabol | Organ Scholar |
| Elizabeth Shama | Administrator and Bookkeeper |
| Ardyth Robinson | Office support |
| John Cavacece | Senior Verger |
| Rodney Roberts | Assistant Verger |
| Gregory Telfer-James | Assistant Verger |
| Jennifer Stewart | Assistant Verger |
| Erica Jacobs-Perkins | Concert Rental Manager |
| Boran Zaza | L'Oasis Musicale Manager |

Resigned in 2018

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Jeffrey Mackie | Assistant Verger |
| Catherine St Arnaud | L'Oasis Musicale Manager |

Retired in 2018

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Patrick Wedd | Director of Music |
| The Rev'd Jean-Jacques Goulet <i>(retired January 6, 2019)</i> | Assistant Priest |

Cathedral Register 2017 – omission from 2018 Annual Report

Confirmations

Elizabeth Rampersad

Cathedral Register 2018

Baptisms

*Faelan Shane McEwen
Theo Marsan-Turcotte
Avery Lee Gregoire
Siobhán Jacqueline Speeckaert
Brock Fosberg*

Blessing

Aja Keziya Soa

Confirmations

*Teffer Adjemian
Lucas Fava Mauriz
Elizabeth Wood
Melodie Lemay-Gaulin
Sarah Catherine Wicks*

Received into the Anglican Church

*Chantal Joanne Rozon
Luis-Carlos Moreno-Torres
Serge Sasseville*

Marriages

*Catherine Anne Weiner and
Nigel John Swytink-Binnema*

Sara Knox and Tyler Reid

Funerals

Francois Dell’Aniello

Memorial Service

Bryan Bailey Marler

We remember those of our parish family and friends who have died in the past year.

Catherine Georls, Pippa Shaddick, Dónal Ward, George and Shirley Brickenden, Robert Gibson

Statistical Report

Ann Elbourne

Sunday Averages – Communicants 2012 – 2018

Please note, the number of people attending a service is always higher than the number of communicants, by roughly 20 at the 10:00 am Eucharist and 7 at the 12:45 Eucharist

| | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
|--------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 8 am | 12 | 10 | 14 | 14 | 13 | 12 | 14 |
| 10 am | 91 | 104 | 100 | 101 | 108 | 98 | 93 |
| 12:45 | 0 | 18 | 18 | 22 | 18 | 17 | 17 |
| 6 pm | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 31 | 42 |
| Total | 103 | 132 | 132 | 137 | 136 | 158 | 166 |

Easter and Christmas Communicants 2012 – 2018

Christmas services 2018 at 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 11:00 pm Christmas Eve and 10:00 am Christmas Day. Combined Christmas attendance was 577 in 2018, with 348 communicants.

Easter services include the Vigil, 8:00 am and 10:00 am. Combined Easter attendance was 556 with 427 communicants.

| | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
|------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Easter | 345 | 394 | 434 | 422 | 514 | 452 | 427 |
| Christmas | 379 | 328 | 432 | 370 | 468 | 333 | 348 |
| Combined | 724 | 722 | 866 | 792 | 982 | 785 | 775 |

Dean

The Very Rev'd Bertrand Olivier

'Cathedral: A space where people can get in touch with the spiritual and the sacred, welcoming to people of all faiths and no faith'

I find myself looking back and thinking: is it already a year since I arrived in Montreal, on a snowy early February day? Time has passed quickly, a winter and a summer gone, with short mid-seasons in between, and it is time for my first annual report on the life of Christ Church Cathedral Montreal.

As you can readily read from the many attached reports, life has again taken many dimensions at CCC in 2018, and changes in the senior leadership team, with my arrival and the retirement of our Director of Music Patrick Wedd, have been only some of the many developments and activities in the life of our community.

Week by week, as we read the announcements in the bulletins, visit our website, and follow our Facebook, Twitter and Instagram feeds, there is one thing that is obvious: the people of CCC are active and many of you contribute to our life and outreach as we seek to follow Jesus here in downtown Montreal and wherever we may be.

This is true in our liturgical life, where it takes many to make our worship of God beautiful, meaningful and transformative. It is also true in our life of witness to the world in the many activities supporting social justice and the challenge to unjust structures of society. It is true in our pastoral care of one another and in our ministry of welcome and hospitality. And it is also true in the energy given to the Cathedral for its governance and the running of its day to day affairs. It is not possible for me to list all those who, in small or big ways, contribute to our life, but on behalf of our community, I thank you all for making CCC the vibrant place that it is.

As well as settling into Montreal life and getting to know as many of you as possible, a number of projects have been uppermost on my agenda this year.

Spire restoration and fundraising

After some delay due to late start of the construction work as well as the discovery of additional masonry restoration needed, Phase 1 was completed in September 2018, laying the groundwork for Phase 2. There is still much work to be done in planning, budgeting and cost optimising, as well as securing enough finance in order to commit to this second phase. This has been taking much time from me, the Treasurer, Corporation as well as those involved with congregational and other fundraising. It is likely to occupy our minds and energy for at least another three to five years, and we need all the prayers as well as support from the congregations and users of CCC.

Music Search Committee

It was heartening that, after a thorough and wide ranging process, we were able to appoint Jonathan White to lead our music. In the course of consultations, we very much heard the aspiration that, in parallel with maintaining our tradition of musical excellence, more outreach work could be done with children and young adults. We believe that Jonathan's skills will help in developing that aspect of our ministry in the coming years, and we look forward to welcoming him in June 2019.

Ministry

In the Autumn, Corporation and Forum decided to change the shape of Sunday mornings in order to better focus our mission to the francophone community with a service that is at a potentially more attractive time. This has had an impact of course on all of us, and it will take a little while to see the fruits of this change. Throughout the year we have endeavoured to review our liturgical offerings in order to work better with the needs of families with children, with our Radio VM timeslot for sung evensong, and have also doubled the number of 'La Cathédrale à 18h00' services to support the growth of this popular service.

I am grateful for the members of Episkope for their wisdom and creativity during the year, and their support of a mission-shaped vision. There is of course plenty more that can be done, and it is the responsibility of all of us, members of the Cathedral, to continue to invite friends and strangers to join us for events and services and to make them welcome, that they too may experience the unconditional love of God which is so visible in our community.

Communication

Like many large organisations with diverse programmes, the Cathedral is a community which is good at what it does, and often not very good at letting the world know that it is happening. In 2018, we started to think through how best to improve our communication, both internal – letting one another know about activities and projects in a timely manner – and external, to ensure that the wider community in Montreal and beyond is fully aware of all the good that is being done in the name of Christ in this place. This is crucial as we seek to welcome others to join us on our journey of faith, and also as we continue to build up our 'corporate profile' at a time when politicians and funders are looking at us to evaluate our work and their contribution to our fundraising efforts.

Unity despite many activities

We have instituted regular team meetings across departments in order to build a strong ethos among all those who work and volunteer here. And we are fostering greater reporting and accountability by the various groups and committees in the day to day life of the Cathedral. Groups will be presenting regularly at Forum in order to engage more with our congregations and seek their views, so as to create greater bonds as well as awareness.

None of us individually represent the Cathedral, and older members, staff or volunteers do not represent the Cathedral more than our newest recruits. We are a learning and supportive community seeking to achieve the vision of God's kingdom here, and we can only do that if we listen to one another, and go forward together. It is exciting to see the Cathedral groups working across generations, and we need to find more ways of doing that.

Team changes

We welcomed new members to the team this past year, and are also facing some further changes. Patrick Wedd, our long standing Director of Music, retired in June and Jean Jacques Goulet retired at the end of the year. We are extremely grateful for all that they did for our community during their time with us, and the way in which they inspired us in different ways. Nick Capozzoli and Rob Hamilton rose to the challenge of the interim co-directorship of music with great ability. Boran Zaza took over the management of Oasis Musical from Catherine St Arnaud with skill and energy. Amy Hamilton, our Associate Priest, has indicated that she will be leaving at the end of April 2019. We will be looking for another Associate, and plans are in place. We are hoping that a replacement may join us by early Autumn.

Conclusion

One year is not long in the life of a Dean, and there is no doubt that there is much to do simply to run the programmes that we run already. Yet, there are many questions facing us, which will require of us to be a strong community focused on the mission of this Cathedral to the world outside our walls, rather than simply to those already inside. In the coming years, I am hoping that we can develop further our program of engagement with the community through public theology activities, as well as develop our service to the community by reviewing existing activities against current needs. I also hope and pray that we will continue to grow in faith, hope and love as we seek to bring our restoration and renewal programme to fruition for our building and our outreach, and that – as we do all these things – we may always seek to glorify God in Jesus Christ here in Montreal.

Associate Priest

Education, Liturgy

The Rev'd Amy Hamilton

This time last year we were welcoming Bertrand as the new Dean and looking forward to an early Easter and spring. As we slowly moved from transition to stability, we as Christ Church Cathedral, have been given a wonderful gift of being able to start to reassess and transform how we are doing things and to see and feel new ways of how we are being called to be community, to do outreach and be a spiritual presence in downtown Montreal.

I have continued to direct, create and work with those involved in all aspects of our liturgies. This year we decided to keep the Season of Creation from September 2nd to October 7th, 2018. It was an interesting process to put together the liturgies with the help of Nick and Rob. We had wonderful music choices that highlighted the season and theme. Nick and Rob also provided the support needed to be able to use Eucharistic Prayers number four and five from the Book of Alternative Services (BAS) with the sung congregational responses. Observing the Season of Creation was also a great opportunity for those of us who preached to look at the scriptures through the lens of creation. ESJAG were able to offer educational sessions which also helped highlight the theme of the environment. I hope that we can continue to work together so that those themes in the liturgical seasons and the Scriptures can be highlighted within the educational offerings and focus of our outreach ministries.

This Advent and Christmas season we overhauled the Advent and Christmas carols and lessons and the Blue Christmas service. The Advent and Christmas carols and lessons were shortened so that the whole service would be broadcast in our Radio-VM time slot. With the collaboration of Nick and Rob we were able to find the key kernels to the services and make sure that they shone. The Blue Christmas service was moved to the third Sunday of Advent Evensong slot which enabled us to focus the service on a more open and peaceful service of prayers and music. Next year I think that we should add either a homily or more music.

We said good bye to Katherine Speeckaert who stepped down as the head server. We miss her and she assures us that we will still see her from time to time when the train schedule allows it. We are in the process of thinking how we can share and support the leadership among the servers and reviewing different models of leadership. All the servers have stepped up in making sure that services are prepared for and being flexible as we changed services times. We met once as a group this year on November 25th, 2018 to come together and review what changes were coming up and take the chance to discuss questions or issues. Thank you to all the servers for the support and the vital role and ministry you perform in the services.

In May 2018, Rob Wells stepped down from the committees and duties that he held to enjoy retirement. A new coordinator, Andrea Videtic stepped in for the readers and intercessors. She makes sure that we have readers and intercessors for 10:30 am service and tries to make sure people are prepared and feel comfortable to do either of these ministries. We had a training and gathering of the readers and intercessors on Sunday, October 14th between the 10:00 am service and the 12:45 pm. New resources for intercessors have been created to help with the process of creating/writing intercessions. Thank you to Andrea for your hard work in making sure we have readers and intercessors each Sunday and thank you to all of you who participate in this ministry. If you are interested in either of these ministries, please talk with Andrea Videtic.

Thank you to the flower committee and the Linens group. Both groups are small but mighty, and they would love more people to join them to lighten the load. If you are interested in either of these ministries please talk with me. There is training and mentoring for both jobs.

During the week the Cathedral offers Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer. We have a dedicated group of people who come to pray and lead the daily offices, sometimes alone and sometimes with one or two people. On Tuesdays, we as a Cathedral team come together in the morning to pray the office together. It has been a wonderful boost to the numbers but also to gather to pray together has been a wonderful experience. Thank you to all the leaders who come weekly to lead the offices. We are a small group but enjoy coming to pray the daily office with whoever would like to join. If this type of ministry interests you, please talk with me.

This year with Bertrand's arrival, I was able to focus on our adult education program. During Lent, we had a series called, "Teach us to pray". Over five weeks we learned about different methods of prayer. Thank you to Vivian Lewin, Ben Stuchbery, Gideon Strauss and Patrick Wedd who each led one of the sessions and shared their wisdom from their own prayer practises. We had the popular summer book groups again this year. Donald, Jen, Peter and Vivian from the Episkope team made wonderful book suggestions for summer reading and from what I heard the discussion groups for each of these books were filled with good conversation and good food.

On Monday November 19th, 2018 we had a public lecture titled: "Dying to Die", which engaged in the topic of medical assisted death. We had two speakers, The Rev'd. Canon Douglas Graydon, speaker and educator on the subject of end of life care, healing ministries, spiritual and religious care and pastoral counseling, and Ms. Lori Seller, medical ethicist at the McGill University Health Center's Centre for applied ethics. It was a good and challenging event and left those of us who attended with much to reflect on.

This Advent season's learning opportunity was a series called Advent bites, which was done between the 10:00 am and 12:45 pm services. Members from Episkope spoke about the "things" that make us Anglicans. We heard about the liturgical colours, the Sacraments, the lectionary and had an open Q and A. Thank you to Bertrand, Donald, Jean-Daniel and Jen who presented these topics and answered the interesting and sometimes difficult questions afterwards.

Throughout the year, I have done both baptismal and confirmation preparation and continue to have inquiries about these two important sacraments in the life of the Church community.

Thank you to Elizabeth Shama for all the wonderful work she does in the Cathedral office and for being a great resource, editor, and formatter. Thank you to Ann Elbourne, a great proof reader and ready to help with anything. A special thank you to Raymonde Proulx who proof reads the French that we use in our bulletins and notices. And thank you too to Stephen Petrie for joining the liturgy production team in the new year, and to all of you for your continued support. As always it has been a year of much learning, prayer, laughter and hard work. Thank you for the opportunity to be a member of the clergy here at the cathedral and for the responsibilities entrusted to me this year.

Assistant Priest

Children's Church, Young Adults and Students

The Rev'd Jean-Daniel Williams

The cathedral has a core of committed families with children and, committed volunteer teachers that keep our children's church a place of bilingual singing, praying, learning, and worshipping. Attendance varies widely, from 2 or 3 to about 12, week-to-week. Our children once again participated in a special Good Friday service and led a successful and well-attended bilingual pageant for Christmas. We continue to have a challenge finding volunteers. Our children need your example and presence! Sarah Wicks has been our consistent and diligent nursery leader, caring for our smallest saints while their parents worship.

Slowly but steadily we are increasing our ministry to older kids and pre-teens who have outgrown children's church but still yearn for community. Emily Stuchbery and Maddy MacGregor have been leading a monthly junior youth group for this age range. Even if small, it is important we offer ministry and community to all ages.

Our young adult ministry is thriving. Much of our work is done in cooperation with the Ecumenical University Chaplaincy. Our Hungry Minds Bible study continued throughout the entire summer. Our weekly attendance during the academic term is usually about 15 people, out of a group of 40 who are regularly involved. While not all Bible study attendees are Sunday morning worshippers with us, an ever-increasing number are. Two or three pews of university students have become a regular sight at our morning services. As of January 2019 our young adult group now runs multiple study and contemplation groups in multiple parts of the city. I personally supervise an on-campus group for students, and older young adults have taken peer leadership of their small groups. Our young adults are involved deeply in the cathedral community. They are on committees, many are servers and intercessors and children's ministry volunteers and musicians. They have been the leaders for Journées de la Culture and for Nuit Blanche.

The 6:00 pm service now takes place twice a month and is steadily reaching new people. While it is primarily attended by young adults, we have been grateful to see the faces of others from the wider cathedral and diocesan community and welcome their participation. We have had Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson preside and have celebrated baptisms and confirmations there. We look forward to continuing to develop ways of liturgical outreach of these and other services through Facebook live and other livestreaming and social media channels.

One exciting possibility in the coming year will be creatively working with our incoming music director to use music as a way to include our youth and reach out to youth beyond our cathedral.

Assistant Priest

Francophone Ministry, Pastoral Care

The Rev'd Jean-Jacques Goulet

I served Christ Church Cathedral from October 1, 2014 to January 6, 2019, on a half-time basis, first as an associate minister responsible for pastoral care, and since my ordination on May 24, 2016, as a half-time priest responsible for pastoral care and several other areas of ministry.

My responsibilities included a special focus on the French ministry of the Cathedral. Since my ordination as priest in May of 2016, I have had the honour of presiding and preaching at the Sunday 12:45 pm Eucharist and the Thursday 12:15 pm French Eucharist.

The French Bible study group, Pain, Partage et Prière, has met every other week. The group, since its inception as the post-Alpha group, has seen people come and go for various reasons. I am impressed with the commitment of the core group to continue whether six or twelve are present. This year, Diane Wood has frequently led this group. Pain, Partage et Prière continues to be open to others, and has been proactive in inviting people to participate. The format remains the same; a simple meal at the beginning, when individuals share what has been happening in their lives, followed by Bible study. We always close with prayer where each person states what they would want to bring to God.

A very strong sense of community has evolved in this group. Last December, we finished our nearly two-year study of the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5-7. It was an excellent and rich time of study and sharing.

In November, Diane Wood and I organized the viewing of a French documentary on the search for spirituality in French Quebec. Guillaume Tremblay, the producer who was present, shared what prompted him to make the film. Roughly 25 people attended.

Throughout the year, I presided and preached on a regular basis in the English services.

As far as my pastoral care responsibilities: I followed up with the newcomers to the church who filled in a welcome card. I truly enjoyed this ministry of welcome and seeing how the newcomers could find their place in our congregation.

I met with individuals or families as the needs presented themselves and administered home communions to shut-ins. Five individuals have requested this ministry regularly.

This coming year, five parishioners, Sam Keuchguerian, Ben Stuchbery, Vera Hurt, Natasha Henderson and Sheena Gourlay continue to be involved in the pastoral care visitation program. If you know of a parishioner who could benefit from this ministry, or if you would appreciate a regular visitor, please inform Amy or Bertrand.

Other aspects of my pastoral responsibilities included coordinating occasional events for our LGBTQ+ community, as well as being a liaison for the broader LGBTQ+ events (Parade and Community Day in the Village). This last August, for the third consecutive year, we hosted a diocesan Pride Mass at the close of Pride week. The altar was again draped with the rainbow banners, a powerful statement of our inclusivity!

Finally, I continued to coordinate, with Vivian Lewin, an important prayer ministry in the congregation. Angie Taylor, Ben Stuchbery, Vivian Lewin, Donna Jean-Louis, Adrian King-Edwards, Peter Huish, Michele Rattray, Rosemary Cass-Beggs, Amanda VanOort and Madison McGreggor are part of the team that share this ministry. During each 10:30 a.m. Sunday Eucharist, two of these prayer ministers respond to the requests of those who seek them out in the side chapel. They also use that time to pray for the congregation. I encourage you, whether it is to give thanks to God for a blessing or if you would like support in prayer, to come, after receiving communion, and experience God's blessing in prayer.

In closing, it was a very rewarding four years + of ministry at the Cathedral. I want to thank you again for the opportunity you gave me to serve you in Christ's name.

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| Interim Directors of Music |
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| Nicholas Capozzoli and Robert Hamilton |
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In June 2018, we celebrated the retirement of long-time Director of Music Patrick Wedd. The weekend of June 16 was a marathon of choral, organ, and orchestral music to honour his legacy. Our Stravinsky Gala raised \$12,501.65*. We would like to thank Beth Adams, the music committee, and all the volunteers who made that weekend unforgettable.

Since Patrick's retirement, we have worked hard to maintain a high level of choral and organ music at our services. Over the summer, Nick created an online catalogue of the music library, totaling over 1,500 items. We also hired Sarah Sabol as Organ Scholar, who contributes greatly to our choral and organ offerings.

Our personal highlight was providing beautiful music for the Advent and Christmas season. Led by our professional tenor Walter Mahabir, we continued our annual singalong Messiah. This production was entirely student-run—conductor, orchestra, soloists, managers—and we had an impressive turnout. The choir sang beautifully at our Advent Carols, Christmas Carols, Christmas Eve, and Christmas Day services—all with completely different music. This music would not have been possible without the amazing support from our clergy and dedication of our singers. Their hard work and goodwill have made our interim period productive, instructive, and enjoyable.

Throughout this whole period, a search committee worked tirelessly to find the Cathedral's next Director of Music. This resulted in an audition for each of the three finalists, who conducted an Evensong in January 2019. We would like to thank this committee for their time and insight.

*\$10,000 was allotted to the Cathedral 2018 budget (Fundraising concert). \$2,501.65 remains in the newly established Patrick Wedd fund.

Vergers

John Cavacece

A lot of change has happened around the Cathedral. It has affected the verger staff more than most. There was work in the front of the cathedral, the work on Ste. Catherine Street and the work on Phase One of the Cathedral Campaign.

We also had a change in staff with the loss of Jeffrey but we have added Jennifer who has been a positive addition to the verger staff team.

Since we took over snow removal last year it has been a challenge. Winter came early, and this year has been more ice than snow.

There have been some major changes with the itinerant people. We have seen fewer but they have been more withdrawn and more aggressive at the same time. They resist any authority or authority figure. We are continuing to strive to maintain good positive relations with them, and hope that a climate of trust and cooperation can be restored.

The best news for 2018 is that we have a new Dean who has taken the lead of this heritage site. His positive support is appreciated.

In ending, I would like to mention the loss of Patrick and Rob who were a fixture of the church and were so dedicated. The verger staff would like to say a special thank you to both of them for all that they contributed behind the scenes and beyond the music department.

Wardens

Sheena Gourlay, Michele Ratray-Huish, Diana Bouchard, Paul Helmer, Edward Yankie

“A Cathedral, like any other church, is a visible symbol of the presence of God in the world, and Christ Church Cathedral, with its spire pointing to the sky in the midst of steel and glass buildings that are far taller, but focused on the earth, is a vital symbol reminding all those who work, shop or play around St Catherine Street and beyond that God is there with them, in their joys, sorrows and every moment of the day.” – Dean Bertrand Olivier

2018 has been a year of change and challenges at the Cathedral as we welcomed our new Dean, Bertrand Olivier, and said farewell to our retiring long time Music Director, Patrick Wedd and his spouse Rob Wells. Also retiring at the beginning of 2019 was Jean-Jacques Goulet who so ably developed and led the Cathedral’s French services. A new Corporation was elected by vestry with Sheena Gourlay and Michele Rattray-Huish taking up their roles as Rector’s and People’s Warden respectively. Also new to the team were Edward Yankee, Paul Helmer and Diana Bouchard as Deputy Wardens, and the Corporation was completed with Jane Aitkens (Treasurer), Amy Hamilton and Elizabeth Shama. Great appreciation is expressed for the outgoing Corporation comprising Donna Riley, Donna Jean-Louis, Les Stutzman, Louise Lockhart and Rob Wells.

A committee was set up under the auspices of Corporation to find a new Music Director. Dean Bertrand Olivier, Sheena Gourlay, Beth Adams, Cassidy Vanderschee, Carole Thérien and Joseph Hafner have worked hard all year, consulting with the Cathedral community, sending out advertisements, reviewing applications and finally interviewing potential candidates. As of writing (January 25th), the in-person interviews are still in process. However, the committee hopes to have someone in place soon after Easter. It also gives its heartfelt thanks to Nick Capozzoli and Rob Hamilton, who so more than ably filled in as interim Directors of Music since Patrick’s retirement.

A new Social Media Forum was established this year, ably headed by Lee-Ann Matthews, where everyone is invited to hang out in an informal online setting to ask questions, share ideas and express concerns about Email, Websites, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc. and to check out the new Social Media page on our website. Work on re-vamping and expanding our on-line presence continues.

Other changes this year involved physical work on the building as Phase I of the Capital Campaign came to an end in the fall with the Spire surrounded by scaffolding as we await the roll out of Phase II. While it had been hoped to complete Phase II in two years, it looks like the Cathedral will be more likely to receive the necessary grant funding if this can be spread over four years. Discussions about phasing are ongoing with architects and contractors. This, along with the increased costs of Phase I due to the discovery of unforeseen problems with the tower, difficulties in maintaining cash-flow for the construction, and the proposed work on Union Avenue by the city have all led to a delay in starting Phase II. The projected total costs are now \$10 M. A total of \$5.6M has been raised or pledged so far as follows:

- Government grants received total \$3.3M
- CPRQ has given us just over \$2M so far.
(We have \$231,000 still to claim from the \$700,000 grant for 2018.)
- Parks Canada gave 2 grants: \$25,000 and \$1M
- Non-government pledges total \$2.3M, but these pledges cover several years up to 2023 so not all the money has been received yet - \$1.17M has been received up to the end of 2018.
- Within that \$2.3M, 61 members of the cathedral congregation pledged a total of \$393,531, which well surpasses our target of \$350,000. We are very grateful for this strong support of the campaign by the Cathedral family.

With regards to giving in support of our regular activities, it has been noted that many people have pledged the same amount for the last 3-5 years, but – despite ongoing efforts - our costs are always rising. In order to not run a budget deficit next year, we appeal to those who can, to review their giving in an effort to increase their regular pledge.

We want to express our appreciation for the active support of all our parishioners who give generously of their time, talents and financial resources to ensure our continued growth. The opportunities for such involvement and contributions are many and varied: Forum, which is open to all; the Social Service Society which feeds the homeless; the Music Committee and concerts, particularly the weekly Oasis Musicale Concert; liturgical dance and the arts; the Ecological and Social Justice Action Group (ESJAG); Children's Church and family activities; Bible study and reflection/discussion groups; prayer and meditation sessions; and many others. We would like to acknowledge particularly the devoted volunteers (servers, stewards, intercessors, readers, lay administrators of the chalice, prayer partners, coffee hour helpers and others) whose contributions are essential to support our worship services throughout the year.

The community joyfully celebrated the ordinations of Joel Amis and Tania Lesack to the transitional diaconate and Jhon Steeker Saint-Clair to the vocational diaconate. They were feted at a reception at Fulford Hall, organized by the Cathedral. We were extremely proud of Cathedral members Tania Lesack and Joel Amis, who both graduated with the M. Div. degree. Tania received two awards, including one for preaching (a memorable sermon on Cranmer was cited). Joel received multiple awards too, including being voted by his fellow students as having made the most substantial contribution to student life during the year. Jeffrey Mackie received the Frank and Jocelyne Toope Memorial Bursary to continue his studies. The Primate, Fred Hiltz, gave a moving convocation address and also received an honorary doctorate.

Other members of the congregation and wider diocese were also honoured in various ways. These included the installation of Vivian Lewin as a member of the Board of Diocesan College, Dean Bertrand as an Honorary Canon of Nicosia Cathedral in the Diocese of Cyprus and the Gulf, Ann Elbourne as recipient of the Bishop's Award, and The Rev'd. Dr Jesse Zink as Principal of Diocesan College. Our organist, Rob Hamilton, was one of four finalists for the annual Lynnwood Farnam competition sponsored by the local chapter of the RCCO (and named for one of the Cathedral's most illustrious former musicians). Finally, Remrov, our talented artist, was recognized with his "Lion King" drawing being used on the obverse of a new special edition African Lion coin in Tchad.

This year we welcomed Jennifer Stewart as a part-time assistant verger. We also welcomed Boran Zaza as L'Oasis Musicale's Manager. She is in charge of the weekly concert series at the Cathedral. Sarah Sabol joined us as an organ scholar and incoming Master's student at McGill. She comes to us from Houston, Texas, where she received a Bachelor of Music from Rice University. Last but by no means least, Eden Mancor was hired through a government grant, allowing us to have a summer student working as a visitors' guide.

Other successful celebratory events at the Cathedral need mentioning. Our thanks go out to the dozens of volunteers who organized, prepared food and hot chocolate, and otherwise contributed time and energy. The Cathedral participated in Nuit blanche (2000 thousand cups of hot chocolate served to the public) and Journées de la Culture (2000 persons passing through the Cathedral). We celebrated La Semaine de la Fierté (Gay Pride Week), with members of the congregation and clergy participating in the Diocesan Pride Mass, Pride Community Day where we had a booth, and of course wrapping up the week on Sunday, August 19th, with the Pride Parade, in which our CCC contingent participated dressed all in blue – the colour of the day. In the summer, ESJAG initiated a plastic free picnic after the 10:00 am service in the quadrangle. It was lovely to see all the inventive ways people found to bring their food without using plastic. Also under the auspices of ESJAG the Amnesty International letter writing campaign continued apace, with many heartfelt letters and postcards written by members of the congregation to Governments all around the world- seeking justice and mercy for various incarcerated people. Closer to home, we have no doubt that our letter writing efforts as a congregation paid off when the ailing mother of one of our choir members (Yevgenia Amis) was given a visa to allow her to come and live with Yevgenia here in Canada, after first having been refused.

Finally, after so many years waiting, the Social Service Society was able to announce the arrival of the Syrian refugee family in Montreal. The Cathedral congregation were extremely generous and we were able to supply the family with many of the items needed to start life here. For the next year, volunteers have agreed to walk with them as they settle into a new life. Our thanks go out in particular to Janet King, Gabrielle Boyd, Janet Dench and Donna Riley for their tireless work.

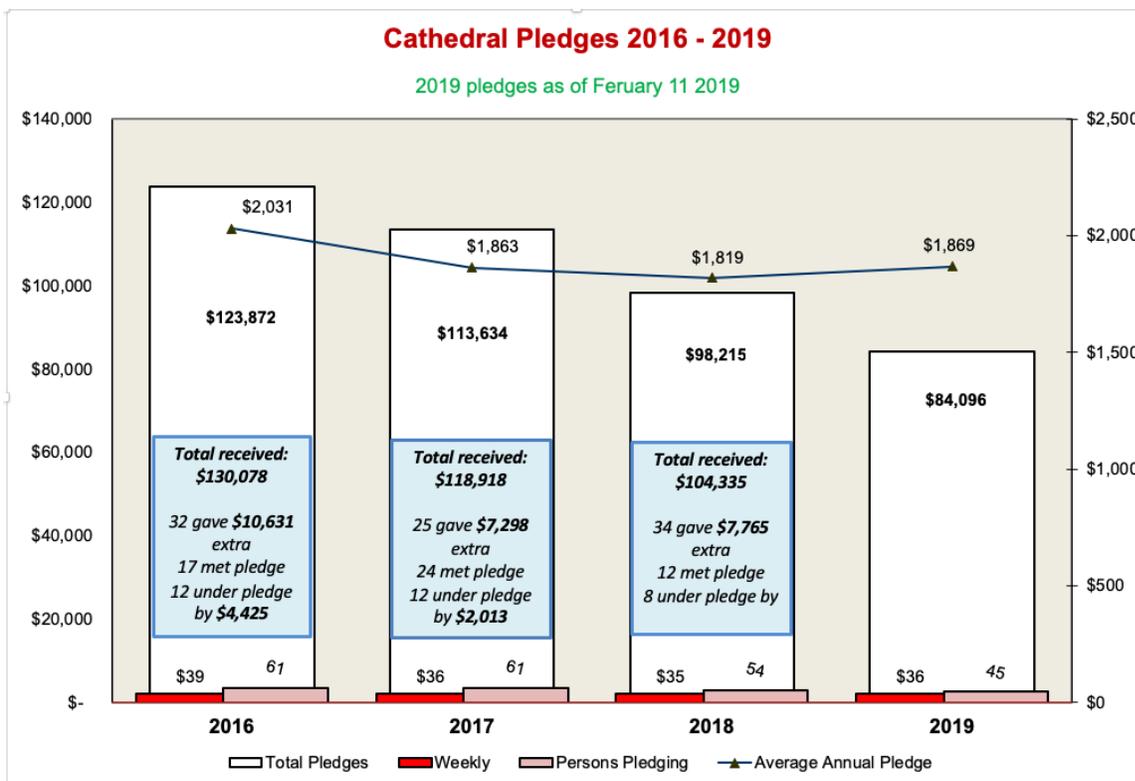
Treasurer

Jane Aitkens

Pledges

In 2018, the number of pledges dropped from 61 to 54. The pledged amount of \$98,215 was reached and exceeded by \$6,120; \$104,335 was received. 34 people gave above their pledge, 12 met their pledge exactly and 8 fell short.

Here is a chart showing the pledges and actual amounts received, from 2016 on.



The drop in the number and amount of the pledges over the past three years is due to the departure of a number of parishioners - moving away, retirement, death. There was a loss of previous pledges totaling \$22,000 in 2017 and \$10,000 in 2018. The average donation of these previous pledges was \$2,215, well above the overall averages.

Another \$10,000 loss in pledges from people who have left will occur in 2019. The most common pledge (the mode) has remained at \$1,200 - \$23 weekly - for the past two years. This is below the averages of \$1,863 and \$1,819.

The Cathedral has no ‘alumni’ as do universities, nor can we canvas the general public, as can Centraide. The Cathedral’s identified givers are ‘just us’. In order for the Cathedral’s finances to remain healthy, I ask that you seriously consider the challenges of tithing and pledging. Here again is the information on this year’s pledge form.

How much will I give?

Skills, time, and financial resources are part of our lives.

We regard them as part of ourselves. In community, we receive each other’s gifts and share our own.

As Christians, we believe each person and every family has the capacity and the responsibility to share in God’s work.

Tithing (giving a fixed portion of one’s income) is a way to accomplish this.

The “modern” tithe for Canadian Anglicans is 5%.

| Gross Income | 5% | | 4% | | 3% | | 2.5% | |
|--------------|-----|-----|----|-----|----|-----|------|-----|
| | WK | MO | WK | MO | WK | MO | WK | MO |
| \$ 20,000 | 20 | 83 | 16 | 67 | 12 | 50 | 10 | 42 |
| \$ 30,000 | 30 | 125 | 24 | 100 | 18 | 75 | 14 | 63 |
| \$ 45,000 | 45 | 188 | 36 | 150 | 27 | 113 | 22 | 94 |
| \$ 60,000 | 60 | 250 | 48 | 200 | 36 | 150 | 29 | 125 |
| \$ 80,000 | 80 | 333 | 64 | 267 | 48 | 200 | 38 | 167 |
| \$ 100,000 | 100 | 417 | 80 | 333 | 60 | 250 | 48 | 203 |

My gross income \$ _____ x 5% (my tithe) = \$ _____ (annual tithe).

Annual tithe ÷ by 52 = \$ _____ weekly or ÷ 12 = \$ _____ monthly.

Operating Budget

In 2018, we bravely (or foolishly) approved a deficit budget, with a breathtaking shortfall of \$87,500. The tentative year-end numbers for 2018 have us ending the year with a ‘lighter’ deficit of \$33,400. The difference, \$54,100, is the result of higher income (+\$23,823 in identifiable income, +\$20,239 in non-identifiable income, +\$7,483 in investment income). The 2018 expenses are under budget by a slender \$1,554.

It is clear that 2019’s income must also grow if we wish the Cathedral’s activities to carry on. Every attempt is being made to reduce expenses, but this is hard, as the majority of our expenses are people - clergy, vergers and office staff.

How to Give

As I do every year, I recommend the PAR (pre-authorized remittance) system, which is currently being used by approximately 31 parishioners. Using PAR is a way to contribute monthly to the Cathedral through automatic withdrawals from your bank account. The United Church of Canada offers this service to all churches at a very reasonable cost. It is the best way to ensure your pledge is met, it helps our cash flow throughout the year, and it is a great time saver for the Cathedral bookkeeper.

There is more information (and the form you need to send in, along with a void cheque) on the website: <http://www.montrealcathedral.ca/index.php/donate/pre-authorized-giving>
Or you can ask me for the PAR form when you see me in church. I keep them handy!

Note that it is also possible to use the PAR system to make monthly contributions to the major fundraising campaign, as well as to PWRDF.

A second way to contribute 'electronically' is by e-transfer from your bank account to ours. The email to send your e-transfer to is: accounting@montrealcathedral.ca. Some banks allow you to set up scheduled transfers.

In mid-2018, we terminated our agreement to receive credit card payments, as the expense was not warranted given its low use. We are however considering 'tap and go' systems that would allow giving by contactless credit and debit cards in the Cathedral.

The website offers yet another way to contribute – via CanadaHelps. This is great for distant friends and visitors to our website, but I want to **discourage** you from using it for regular giving, as CanadaHelps takes a 3.5 percent cut, so the Cathedral does not get the full amount of your donation.

Finally, I again would like to thank Elizabeth Shama, our Cathedral Administrator. It is such a pleasure to work with her. As our bookkeeper, she was a real sleuth over the past year, uncovering extra income and expenses anomalies.

Christ Church Cathedral Annual Report 2018

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| Spire Campaign | Jane Aitkens |
|----------------|--------------|

| | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | Totals |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| | | | | | <i>to end of February</i> | |
| Income | | | | | | |
| <i>Government Grants</i> | | | | | | |
| CPRQ | \$ 95,360 | \$ 154,031 | \$ 332,997 | \$ 1,495,232 | \$ 427,163 | \$ 2,504,783 |
| Parks Canada | | | \$ 380,530 | \$ 644,470 | | \$ 1,025,000 |
| <i>Fundraising</i> | | | | | | |
| Amounts received | \$ 82,130 | \$ 379,652 | \$ 374,867 | \$ 334,678 | \$ 32,456 | \$ 1,203,783 |
| Sub-total income | \$ 177,490 | \$ 533,683 | \$ 1,088,394 | \$ 2,474,380 | \$ 459,619 | \$ 4,733,566 |
| Outgoing - 50% of taxes included | | | | | | |
| Campaign Expenses | \$ 266,261 | \$ 261,359 | \$ 115,502 | \$ 59,535 | \$ 4,270 | \$ 706,927 |
| Construction Costs | \$ 84,357 | \$ 275,005 | \$ 732,426 | \$ 3,041,499 | | \$ 4,133,288 |
| Architects' Fee | \$ 20,913 | \$ 167,724 | \$ 2,365 | \$ 386,227 | | \$ 577,229 |
| Bank Fees | | | | \$ 720 | \$ 110 | \$ 830 |
| Sub-total expenses | \$ 371,531 | \$ 704,089 | \$ 850,293 | \$ 3,487,981 | \$ 4,380 | \$ 5,418,274 |
| Total | \$ (194,041) | \$ (170,406) | \$ 238,101 | \$ (1,013,601) | \$ 455,239 | \$ (684,707) |
| Cash from Investments | \$ 151,000 | \$ 345,423 | | | | \$ 496,423 |
| Balance | \$ (43,041) | \$ 175,017 | \$ 238,101 | \$ (1,013,601) | \$ 455,239 | \$ (188,284) |

2015 was a year of preparation - we hired Architects (EVOQ) and Fundraising Consultants (BNP). We took money from the Investments to help pay for these up-front costs. CPRQ funds were used to restore some stained glass windows (Phase 2).

2016 - repairs to the roof and the interior arches. CPRQ allowed us to use part of a \$170,000 grant previously awarded for Phase 3 of the restoration of our stained glass windows to start repairing the roof. We got a Parks Canada grant (\$25K received in 2017) to survey the building. Another grant from CPRQ (\$170,000) helped to pay for the architect's report and \$1M was awarded in 2016-17 for the Spire.

2017 - May 30, the public campaign was officially launched. We dropped BNP and hired Shaun Lynch and Mollie O'Neil in June. 2017 was the year (and into 2018) to spend the \$1M Parks Canada grant, matched by \$1M from CPRQ. The Tower masonry was repaired. CPRQ grant for 2017-2018 = \$500,000.

2018 - Lot (Phase 1) - Tower repair almost complete. CPRQ grant for 2018-2019 = \$700,000. Shaun Lynch withdrew and we hired Philanthropica as our Fundraising consultants.

Going forward:

Bids for Lot 2 - the work on the actual Spire - were received. The lowest bid was Rainville's - \$4,762,852 (before tax). Architect and other fees and 10 Contingency are expected to be \$1,033,970 (before tax). Total with 50% tax: **\$6,230,859**

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Pledge completion - 6 years: | \$ 1,115,000 | | | | | |
| | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 |
| | \$ 342,095 | \$ 316,985 | \$ 252,635 | \$ 91,580 | \$ 81,200 | \$ 30,000 |
| CPRQ funding - 4 years | ??? | ??? | ??? | ??? | | |

Depending on the amount of the CPRQ grants, we will need to raise another 1-2 million dollars to complete Lot 2. It is estimated that the Cathedral interior projects (lighting, pews, flooring, etc.) will cost an additional \$2 million.

Investment Committee Report

Steven Atkinson

Christ Church Cathedral Investment Committee – 2018 Annual Review - February 26, 2019

Attendees: Kathy Fazel and Alana Singer (RBC PH&N), Fund Managers; Dean of the Cathedral, Bertrand Olivier; Jane Aitkens, Treasurer-CCC; Stephen Atkinson, Chair

Regrets: Robert King

- Kathy Fazel and her associate, Alana Singer, represent the manager, RBC Phillips Hager and North (PH&N) Investment Counsel.
- The 2018 portfolio return was -2.8% in line with the Benchmark -3.0%. Canadian CPI was 2.0%. The 5-year return was 6.0% p.a. compared to the Benchmark 4.8% p.a. CPI for this period was 1.7%.
- The combined funds of the Cathedral finished 2018 totalling \$3.87 million down 0.28 million from \$4.15 million in 2017. The (paper) drop in value occurred primarily in the 4th quarter owing to issues such as concerns regarding the US/China trade agreement, US economic slowdown and tax loss selling.
- The market recovered in January with the combined funds reaching \$4.11 million.
- The asset mix at the end of 2018 was 63% equities and 37% fixed income including cash (small – about 1%).

In terms of mix, we have moved to a low volatility strategy and added emerging market equities (6%) reflecting the slowdown in US and in China.

Change in Portfolio ValueFrom October 1st 2018 to December 31st 2018

| | Endowment | Bequest & Gift | Total |
|---|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| Ending market value at October 1 st , 2018 | \$ 3,505,334 | \$ 671,866 | \$ 4,177,200 |
| Net Contributions (withdrawals) | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |
| Disbursed Income | \$ 38,322 | \$ 9,719 | \$48,041 |
| Disbursed Income – Monthly Income Fund | \$ 6,086 | \$ - | \$ 6,086 |
| Investment management fees paid | \$ (5,835) | \$ (1,110) | \$ (6,945) |
| Market Change | \$ (244,776) | \$ (58,760) | \$ (303,537) |
| Ending market value at December 31 st , 2018 | \$ 3,254,722 | \$ 611,996 | \$ 3,866,719 |

| | | | |
|---|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Ending market value at February 22 nd , 2019 | \$ 3,458,376 | \$ 655,879 | \$ 4,114,255 |
|---|--------------|------------|--------------|

Christ Church Cathedral

Market Values / Asset Mix – December 31st, 2018

| | Endowment Fund | | Bequest & Gift Fund | | Combined Funds | |
|----------------|----------------|------|---------------------|------|----------------|------|
| Cash | \$ 6,319 | 0% | \$ 3,226 | 1% | \$ 9,545 | 0% |
| Fixed Income | \$ 1,292,405 | 40% | \$ 114,484 | 19% | \$ 1,406,889 | 36% |
| Equities | \$ 1,955,998 | 60% | \$ 494,286 | 81% | \$ 2,450,284 | 63% |
| Canada | \$ 1,138,837 | 35% | \$ 224,485 | 37% | \$ 1,363,302 | 35% |
| U.S. | \$ 395,787 | 12% | \$ 131,360 | 21% | \$ 527,147 | 14% |
| International | \$ 421,373 | 13% | \$ 138,462 | 23% | \$ 559,835 | 14% |
| Portfolio \$ | \$ 3,254,722 | 100% | \$ 611,996 | 100% | \$ 3,866,719 | 100% |
| Portfolio % | 84% | | 16% | | | |

Balance in "Rising Up" Capital Campaign Fund : \$9,921

*Transfer-in of Novo-Nordisk ADR on Nov 6th = +\$4,928

Christ Church Cathedral

Endowment Fund & Bequest & Gift Fund

Rates of Return as at December 31st, 2018

| | 3 months % | 1 Year % | 3 Years % | 4 Years % | 5 Years % | 10 Years % | *Since Inception % |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Portfolio | -5.8 | -2.8 | 6.0 | 5.1 | 6.0 | 8.1 | 6.1 |
| Benchmark** | -4.6 | -3.0 | 4.3 | 3.5 | 4.8 | 6.8 | 4.8 |
| Canadian CPI*** | 0.4 | 2.0 | 1.8 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 1.6 |

*Date of Inception: February 26, 2008

**New Benchmark Effective Jan 1, 2019 : 35% FTSE TMX Universe Bond Index, 35% S&P TSX Composite Index, 25% MSCI World Index, 5% MSCI Emerging Markets Index

Previous Benchmark: 45% FTSE TMX Universe Bond Index, 40% S&P TSX Composite Index, 15% MSCI World Index.

***CPI data seasonally adjusted – as at December 31st, 2018

Historical Information
From 2015 to 2018 – Q4

| | Endowment Fund | | | | Bequest & GR Fund | | | | Total | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 |
| Market Value - Jan. 1st | \$3,420,501 | \$3,208,666 | \$3,253,416 | \$3,493,684 | \$850,645 | \$821,446 | \$602,839 | \$652,398 | \$4,271,146 | \$4,030,112 | \$3,856,255 | \$4,146,082 |
| Net Contributions | -\$101,000 | -\$175,000 | \$75,000 | \$ | -\$50,000 | -\$245,423 | \$ | \$ | -\$151,000 | -\$420,423 | \$75,000 | \$ |
| Disbursed Income | \$102,568 | \$94,789 | \$95,105 | \$97,276 | \$27,721 | \$19,244 | \$19,387 | \$19,825 | \$130,289 | \$114,033 | \$114,492 | \$117,101 |
| Disbursed Income MIF* | \$24,386 | \$22,370 | \$24,301 | \$24,411 | | | | | \$24,386 | \$22,370 | \$24,301 | \$24,411 |
| Fees | \$22,976 | \$22,581 | \$23,444 | \$23,606 | \$5,736 | \$4,412 | \$4,322 | \$4,462 | \$28,712 | \$26,993 | \$27,767 | \$28,068 |
| Market Value - Dec. 31st | \$3,208,666 | \$3,253,416 | \$3,493,684 | \$3,254,722 | \$821,446 | \$602,839 | \$652,398 | \$611,996 | \$4,090,112 | \$3,856,255 | \$4,146,082 | \$3,866,719 |
| Change in Market Value | | | | | | | | | -\$61,321 | \$279,559 | \$247,594 | -\$251,295 |

*Monthly Income Fund

Recommendations of the Nominating Committee for the Year 2019

Donna Jean-Louis

A very warm thank-you to all members of our cathedral community who served on committees for 2018, and our great appreciation is extended to those whose term continues beyond this meeting and into the next term. You keep the wheels rolling here at Christ Church Cathedral Montreal.

Secretary to General Vestry: To be nominated and approved at Annual General Vestry meeting.

Conflict Resolution Group: (Ann Elbourne, Michael Patry and Flo Tracy)

The nominating committee is making the motion (in agreement with the committee members) that the group be disbanded. In the many years since its formation, it has never had a conflict to resolve.

The Nominating Committee proposes the following candidates for election in 2019.

Cathedral Corporation

Wardens for 2019-20

Rector's Warden: Sheena Gourlay

People's Warden: Michele Rattray-Huish

Deputy Wardens: Paul Helmer, Diana Bouchard.

And 1 other, TBA

Deputy Warden, Edward Yankee, has stepped down from his position due to work commitments.

FORUM - (previously elected members and currently nominated slate):

Ex-officio members: All Cathedral Clergy, Director of Music, Wardens and Deputy Wardens, Treasurer (Jane Aitkens), Delegates and Alternate Delegates to Synod, Lay Readers (Sam Keuchguerian, Vivian Lewin, and Constance Middleton-Hope - Lay Reader Emerita)

Term ended or withdrawn 2019: Patricia Fraser, Ben Stuchbery, Yevgenia Amis, Gideon Strauss, Natasha Henderson, Vera Burt.

Members for 2019-2020: Ann Doherty, Robert Bernardski, Marie-Claire Fournier, Peggy Simpson, Irene Broitman, Ann Elbourne, Cynthia Davidson, Dorothy Oidi, Eva Szalay, Marjorie Sharp, Amanda VanOort, Carlos Torres,

Nominated for 2019-2020-2021: George Deare, Nina Hermes, Robert King, John Matheson, Gabrielle Boyd, Edward Yankee.

Music and Arts Committee

Term ends March 2020: Elizabeth Adams (chair), Yevgeniya Amis, Natasha Henderson and Benjamin Stuchbery

Term ends March 2021: Mary-Sue Philpott [Gibson] (filling Bob Gibson's seat), Veronica McDermott and Carole Therrien

Nominated for a term ending March 2022: Joseph Hafner, Cassidy VanderSchee, and Meg Graham.

Ex-officio: Director(s) of Music (Nick Capozzoli, Rob Hamilton), the Dean (Bertrand Olivier) and a liaison with Corporation (Paul Helmer).

PWRDF Representative: Peggy Simpson

SYNOD

Lay Delegates to Synod: Sam Keuchguerian and Flo Tracy

Alternate Lay Delegates: Jane Aitkens and Janet King

Nominating Committee

Vera Burt, Natasha Henderson, Sam Keuchguerian, and Donna Jean-Louis

If anyone is interested in serving on Corporation or becoming a voting member of Forum, or contributing to The Music and Arts Committee for next year, please contact the nominating committee.

**Administrators of the Chalice 2019
to be authorised by the Bishop
for Christ Church Cathedral**

Jane Aitkens
Diana Bouchard
George Deare
Ann Elbourne
Stephanie Felkai
Marie Claire Fournier
Sam Keuchguerian
Janet King

Robert King
Adrian King-Edwards
Donna Jean-Louis
Sheena Gourlay
Vivian Lewin
Jeffrey Mackie
Michèle Rattray
Donna Riley

Jonathan Sa'adah
Elizabeth Shama
Marjorie Sharp
Ben Stuchbery
Flo Tracy
Cassidy VanderSchee
Amanda Van Oort
Diana Wood
Helen Wiegand

Amnesty Writing Circle

Jan Jorgensen

On most second Sundays of the month, in 2018, parishioners, visitors and friends took time at coffee hour after the 10:00 am (and sometimes also after the 12:45 pm services and evening services to sign petitions and postcards on behalf of Amnesty's International's campaigns for social and ecological justice.

This year, as a community, we also reiterated our appeals to the government of Canada to implement the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and to initiate an inquiry into the missing and murdered indigenous women, as well as to create a framework to address gender-based violence.

Internationally, we advocated on behalf of asylum seekers, LGBTQ people, and persecuted minorities, as well as many individual human rights defenders and prisoners of conscience. The annual Write for Rights event organized in December by Jan Jorgensen drew many letters to authorities around the world, as well as cards and messages of support to the individual prisoners. Greta Stretham ensured the presence of Amnesty's material at the Cathedral's commemoration of the International Human Right's day. Taddy Stringer has had to step back from organizing CCC's Amnesty activities, and, since December Gabrielle Boyd has very kindly taken responsibility for ensuring that the CCC Action Circle activities continue.

Heartfelt thanks to all who have contributed to this important work and witness. For updates on the success of the actions in which we have been involved, see amnesty.ca and amnistie.ca .

Concert Rentals

Erica Jacobs-Perkins

Concert rentals remained stable from 2017 to 2018. We had 22 rentals in 2018, exactly the same number as in 2017; ten of those rentals (eight clients in total) were repeat bookings from previous years. About half of those rentals were student/emerging artist groups who were unable to secure an Oasis concert date. As of January 1st, 2019, a new pricing structure is in operation for concert rentals, aiming to generate greater total revenue for the Cathedral while containing expenditure. So far, returning renters have been willing to work with this change to the best of their abilities. Rentals tend to be booked four to six months in advance, so I have been working with the new prices for some time; this planning ahead is a positive change from past years, as it allows more time for planning, publicity, and general organization. The outlook for 2019 is good, with ten concerts already booked for the year and others under discussion.

Deacon

The Rev'd. Deacon Peter Huish

Last year's Deacon's Report took advantage of the greater visibility in an interregnum year of the important ways, through initiatives and leadership by a number of individuals and groups, in which the cathedral community has a home-grown distinctly diaconal heart and character, situating us well for the support and development of our Christian social witness under a new Dean.

This first year of transition has brought many challenges, not only the obvious changes in personnel, thoughtful and responsive innovation and movement in our liturgical life and worship, surprises at the shifting scope and cost of the Spire project, but the less visible organizational and infrastructure adjustments required in this context. As close as Christian social witness, our diaconal vocation in following Jesus, is close to the heart of Dean Bertrand, there has been little space in this year to reflect on the large dimensions of that vocation and to bring into focus the many elements and their relatedness. With Dean Bertrand I look forward to sharpening our diaconal focus, our greater intentionality about that which grows out of our faith, about what we do and say in connection with the issues and concerns of the society of which we are a constituent part, living the Gospel, out of our worship and prayer, informed by our shared theological reflection.

There are lights shining from current action into our diaconal future:

ESJAG has organized important events to inform and motivate us in three major areas, reducing as much as possible our use of plastics (with a number of accounts of our members' effective initiatives); an information occasion attuning us to the experiences of indigenous peoples; and our participation in a climate change march in Montreal.

ESJAG's Fair Trade project flourishes and brings to our attention regularly not only excellent fair trade products but also encouragement and suggestions for making ethical choices when we buy and consume.

The Social Service Society of Christ Church Cathedral continues its monthly Sunday lunches for the needy, and in spite of some change in demand has been challenged to think about adding to the ten months per year pattern. Perhaps this question can be part of the intentional focusing on our *diakonia*. The SSS is to be congratulated for its leadership and coordination of the Syrian Family Refugee Project which came to fruition this year. The SSS has also made appreciated and important financial contributions to the work of St. Michael's Mission and Communitas.

SSS models well diaconal service: “modeling the servant ministry of Jesus, to reach out to and serve all, particularly the poor, the hungry, the lonely, the helpless, the sick and the disenfranchised”. Also ongoing is our daily hosting, in the Undercroft of the Cathedral, the social ministry of welcome to those with mental health challenges by the project Amitié Bénévole whose premises were destroyed by fire some few years ago.

Communitas, whose weekly Open Door community meetings take place in Fulford Hall every Tuesday evening, continues now in its 20th year of assisting the social reintegration of motivated prisoners returning to life in the community. Open Door is the most public and best known of the activities of Communitas and makes a very important contribution to the recovery of those who have fallen out of Community while also contributing significantly to Public Safety. Many are grateful to Christ Church Cathedral and the Diocese of Montreal for their support of this ministry.

Let us listen carefully to what the Holy Spirit is saying to us about the diaconal vocation of Christ Church Cathedral.

Environment Social Justice Action Group Outreach Budget

Jan Jorgensen

The Outreach Budget of 2018 was divided equally between PWRDF and local organizations. The recipients of the local donations were St. Michael’s Mission and The Native Women’s Shelter of Montreal who each received \$1050. These donations reflect our respect for the work that each organization is doing to assist and advocate for the people who have need of their services.

Fair Trade

Lisa Middlemiss

This year has been another busy year with Fair Trade at the Cathedral. The Fair Trade Group is proud to be part of the Environmental and Social Justice Action Group (ESJAG) Ministry at the Cathedral. We promote fair pay and safe working conditions for farmers and artisans around the world through the small everyday choices we make through the items we purchase. The Fair Trade Group supplies the Cathedral Coffee Hour with fair trade coffee and tea.

The monthly fair trade kiosk at the Cathedral has been going strong, thanks to your support. This year we expanded beyond the usual offerings of fair trade coffees, teas, chocolates, olive oil, spices, and other food stuffs for purchase, to for the first time ever featuring ecological items including the popular beeswax food savers from Victoria, British Columbia (not fair trade per se but local and ecological) – more soon on their way. This is in line with ESJAG’s focus starting in September 2018 on environmental justice.

Dix Milles Villages Pointe Claire (the only remaining Dix Milles Villages store and mainstay fair trade artisanal store on the Montreal Island) supports our group in the fair trade provisions that we feature at the monthly kiosks. A major highlight this year was the Fair Trade Christmas boutique that was held at the Cathedral on Saturday, November 24th, a separate event raising funds for PWRDF. Members of the Cathedral and shoppers straight off of Saint Catherine Street were able to pop in and peruse the artisanal fair trade fares, which made for lovely and ethical Christmas gifts and stocking stuffers.

If you are able to volunteer your time once a month or occasionally to support set up, take down or serve at the monthly fair trade kiosks every second (2nd) Sunday, we are looking for volunteers. Please email fairtrade@montrealcathedral.ca

Forum

Jeffrey Mackie

Cathedral Forum is the sounding board of the Cathedral Parish; it is perhaps more commonly known as Parish Council. It is where issues and events affecting the life of the parish are discussed and voted on. All parish groups are responsible to report regularly on their activities to Forum. Cathedral Forum consists of clergy and elected lay members who agree to be present and active on Forum. Problems with attendance were addressed this year, as being regularly present at meetings is a requirement of agreeing to serve on Forum.

All Cathedral members are welcome to attend meetings and observe an integral aspect of the running of the Cathedral. Forum is convened once a month, usually in the St. Anselm Chapel in Fulford Hall. Forum has a Chair and Secretary, currently Jeffrey Mackie and Natasha Henderson. This year, under guidance from the Dean, changes were made to make Forum more efficient and more responsive at the same time. Cathedral groups were urged to come with prepared agenda items that they could share with Forum. This hopefully leads to Forum, and ultimately all Cathedral members, being better aware of the many opportunities available at the Cathedral to live out one's ministry. As Chair I would like to say I am always awed by how much is done at the Cathedral through the members' many gifts and talents.

One final reminder is that this is the last term for Natasha and me to be serving on Forum. I encourage Forum members to contemplate the running of Forum as part of their ministry.

Journées de la Culture

Lisa Middlemiss

The theme of the JDC this year was "les mots" (words) and there are many words to describe the event as hosted at the Cathedral – innovative, inviting and incredible, to be alliterative! All thanks to the organizers and numerous participants in the activities.

The Cathedral hosted over 2,000 visitors on Friday, September 28th and Saturday, September 29th during the Journées de la Culture.

There were archival displays about the Cathedral history, projections of Remrov's nature-inspired drawings, an organ demonstration, an interactive collage workshop and poetry workshop and three concerts, including two Oasis Concerts (Pianist Milena Trifonova and Opéra Bel Canto accompanied by professional calligraphers) and the choral group Ensemble vocale à contrevoix. It was a wonderful mix of French and English, music and art, words and images.

The weekend event ended with elevenses outside in the forecourt following the 10:00 am service on Sunday, September 30th, featuring fair trade tea and a wide variety of scones in a Scone-a-thon.

Lay Readers

Vivian Lewin

The Cathedral began the year with four licensed Lay Readers. Tania Lesack, our longest-serving Lay Reader, completed her theological studies and was ordained to the transitional Diaconate in June; she is now appointed to the Parish of the Lower Laurentians. Sam Keuchguerian received his first three-year license this November; Vivian Lewin received hers in 2017, and Marian Dagher, in 2016. Marian completed the four-year Education for Ministry (EFM) program in June. This year, our Lay Readers were active in leading the Daily Office and officiating at Choral Evensong and also took part in other lay ministries: serving at the altar, being part of the prayer team, leading the Prayers of the People, reading lections at the Eucharist, occasional preaching, and making pastoral and prison visits.

Music and Arts Committee

Beth Adams

2018 was a year of major transitions. In June, we said goodbye to our beloved Director of Music Patrick Wedd, who served our parish in such an extraordinary capacity for so many years. For our committee, this meant organizing a fundraising drive and reception for Patrick's farewell weekend: the Stravinsky Mass which was presented with orchestra in concert and during the 10:00 am Sunday service, and a special Evensong and open reception. Friends and colleagues of Patrick's were invited to send messages and tributes for the concert programme, and many parishioners and friends generously contributed to a fund in his honour. The reception was attended by a large crowd of well-wishers, singers, family members and friends from near and far. During that event, Patrick received a cheque and the choir presented him with some of his most-loved Christmas music in a newly-transcribed edition, and sang one of the anthems to him.

The focus then turned to the search for the cathedral's next music director, which had been ongoing since April. Our committee was represented on the Search Committee by two members, Beth Adams and Carole Therrien, who reported back regularly on the progress, including the feedback gleaned from the information-gathering and "visioning" sessions with various groups within the parish as well as open sessions for all parishioners. We expect some of the suggestions gained there to guide our work in the future.

Anticipating that the music committee's mandate will broaden as we look toward the future and necessary development efforts, both internally and using our music ministry as outreach to the wider community, we rewrote our outdated Terms of Reference. Veronica McDermott and Paul Helmer were responsible for this task. Because the work of the music committee is specific to that art, and we anticipate a number of tasks as we welcome and work with our new director of music, it is recommended we revert to being the "Music Committee" and that a separate "Arts Committee" now be formed for the visual and other performing arts, such as dance and drama, so that the current members are not stretched too thin, and other cathedral members with gifts and interest in those fields can find ways to increase the expression of these other arts in our community. Of course there will be overlap, and the music committee will continue to collaborate in whatever ways possible as we strive to continue and extend the tradition of excellence in the arts to all who come to the cathedral.

In the fall, we were extremely sad to lose one of our faithful members, Bob Gibson. Mary-Sue Philpott (Gibson) has agreed to take Bob's seat, and we are grateful to have her presence and wisdom with us.

We look forward very much to the arrival of our new director of music and wish to take this opportunity to thank the interim music directors, Nick Capozzoli and Rob Hamilton, who have done such a fantastic job of planning our music, directing the choir and playing the organ during this transition period. We also thank Sarah Sabol, our able and dedicated organ scholar, and last but not least, the professional and volunteer members of the choir themselves, whose commitment is extraordinary, and who have loyally continued to give the parish beautiful music every single week.

Nuit blanche

Ann Elbourne

Nuit blanche 2018

“Musique Mixe”, the Cathedral’s offering to the public for Nuit blanche took place on March 3, 2018. Seven thousand and ten people streamed through the doors, two thousand drank Fair Trade hot chocolate and large numbers sat and listened to the musical offerings. Between four and five hundred people listened appreciatively to Patrick’s Bach recital which started the evening and about the same number were in the audience for the jazz group at midnight. Our visitors in between appreciated the NFB movies, the displays and the 6 concerts from the two choirs – the lively offering from the Gay Men’s Choir was greeted with particularly loud applause and cheers, but Sympholies vocals also had a great reception. My favourite part of the evening was the monastic service of compline led by Anna Lewton and an excellent pick-up choir. In my mind’s eye I still see a young couple, sitting a pew with their arms around each other, sharing a candle and following the office in their service-sheet. I also see the reaction of many strangers as they came into the church – “Wow! This is so beautiful! I’ve never been in this church before.” A huge thank you goes to Cassidy Vanderschee and Catherine St-Arnaud for their efficient and imaginative leadership, and of course to the many volunteers. This year, for the first time, we received a grant of \$ 500 from the organisers of the city-wide event which was divided between the musicians. Other expenses – for hot chocolate, candles and late-night cleaners etc. - were covered by donations from visitors of \$1202. It is remarkable that the Cathedral can host so large an event so economically.

Oasis Musicale

Boran Zaza

Let me start this report by stating what a pleasure it has been working for Christ Church Cathedral as Manager of the Oasis Musicale concert series for the past six months! This report is based mostly on documents that were passed on to me by the previous manager.

2018 was a transitional year for Oasis Musicale. On the large scale, the dean of Christ Church Cathedral changed, and there has been no Music Director appointed for the most part of the year. On a smaller scale, the management of the concert series changed, as the previous manager went on to pursue her music career.

The highlight of the year which I have witnessed was certainly the Messiah Sing Along! This brought together 390 attending, 150 of whom singing the choruses, an orchestra of the brightest students of McGill University and not to forget the marvelous young conductor, Walter Mahabir who charmed the audiences with his charisma and strong musicianship. The Messiah event not only broke even, but also made a profit!

Extra efforts were put into fundraising for this event:

1. creating an online donations page on the Oasis Musicale website through which people could donate and get a charity receipt with Canada Helps.
2. Hosting two fundraising concerts rather than one, both were ushered by myself in order to be able to donate the usher costs towards funding the Messiah. One of the concerts was in collaboration with Université de Montréal, which is a partnership we hope to continue and grow in the future.
3. Accepting a donation from a donor who wanted to reserve pews. This idea is to be expanded in the future.
4. Promotional video for the event, which included filming parts of a rehearsal and interviewing the conductor. This video got over 2000 views on Facebook.

After a discussion with the Dean, the Very Reverend Bertrand Olivier, we decided to stop selling fair trade chocolate at Oasis concerts after my appointment. Selling food during a concert may send the wrong message to the audience members, implying that it is okay to eat during a concert, which is not the case for the serious concerts with fine musicians that Oasis Musicale produces. We must keep in mind that those concerts have no intermission. I also looked into the profits these sales made and decided that they were not enough to compromise the professionalism of the concert series.

Starting August 2018, I introduced “Online Applications” for performers interested in performing with us. Those applications require an audition video, which makes the process of selecting artists fair for everyone. The applications platform attracted over 45 applicants for 12 concert spots available in the following spring.

Promo videos for every concert were introduced in the last two concerts of 2018 and proved to be a valuable marketing tool. The first video received over 2000 views, the second video received close to 1000 views.

Here is 2018 in numbers:

- Total number of concerts: 43
- Total attendance: 3533
- Average attendance per concert (Including the Messiah): 82.2
- Average attendance per concert (Excluding the Messiah): 74.8
- Total audience donations (including the Messiah): \$17,838.55
- Average of audience donations per concert (including the Messiah): \$414.85
- Total audience donations (excluding the Messiah): \$14,616.10
- Average audience donations per concert (Excluding the Messiah): \$348
- Average donation per attendant per concert (Excluding the Messiah): \$4.65
- Total profit of artists: \$6462.45
- Average profit of artists per concert: \$179.51
- Total deposit: \$8039.15
- Average deposit: \$186.96

Note: We have two ushers per concert. Each usher is paid \$40.

PWRDF

Jan Jorgensen

The focus of Montreal's PWRDF campaign continues to be Maternal, Newborn and Child Health – working with partners in Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe. The guest speaker at last year's annual PWRDF supper was Zaida Bastos, director of Development Partnership Program at PWRDF. At the cathedral we held a modest campaign over the 12 Days of Christmas to raise money for farm equipment, seeds, and animals for our African partners. Those who responded were generous. We are extremely grateful to those who regularly donate to PWRDF using the blue envelopes in the offering envelope boxes – these givings were: \$1,417 and added to the cathedral outreach donation (\$2100) we were able to send \$3,517 to PWRDF in 2018. Thank you.

Readers and Intercessors

Andrea Videtic

I took on the coordinatorship of the readers and intercessors at Christ Church Cathedral in June 2018. At that time, I met with Rob Wells at the church office so that he could share the readers list with me and train me in the use of the online sign up site. During that meeting I met with Amy Hamilton and Elizabeth Shama so that they would be aware that I was taking on this portfolio. Subsequently, during the summer months, I announced my new position during church services on Sunday mornings, and invited new people to become readers and intercessors in order to add to the existing group. In September, in order to encourage more people to join and to feel more comfortable in reading, I planned and organized, with Amy, an information and teaching session to clarify the procedure of signing up for, and reading on Sundays. I also created a reader's instruction tip sheet to help new and experienced readers navigate the process. The session took place in early October and was well attended. I continue to share the tip sheet with readers when required.

During my time as coordinator, I have prioritized the welcoming of new readers and the encouragement of diverse voices. I am pleased to note that the group is growing in number. I communicate weekly with the group through emails to let them know the weekly needs. I troubleshoot when there are last minute changes and requests. In addition, I monitor the sign-ups on the online platform in order to make sure weekly requirements are met. The biggest challenge is making sure that people sign up in advance. My aim is always to make sure that the rotas are filled two weeks ahead to facilitate Elizabeth's ability to produce bulletins in a timely manner. I hope to continue in this position with a desire to encourage more people to read, while exploring new ways of making the sign up process easier and more timely.

Cathedral Reading Group

Diana Bouchard

The Cathedral Reading Group met eight times in 2018, including seven book discussions plus our traditional pre-Christmas movie night. We read the following books:

- Helen Humphreys, *Coventry*: the story unfolds during the famously destructive bombing of Coventry during World War II, including the burning of the medieval cathedral. The atmosphere of menace, surprise, and resilience is very well re-created.
- Sarah Perry, *The Essex Serpent*: a mythical river serpent becomes intertwined with the story of a London family trying to reconstruct their lives in rural England. Masterful reconstruction of Victorian atmosphere and writing style in a modern work.

- Jane Urquhart, *Map of Glass*: a history of a family, an island, and a way of life in eastern Ontario from the early nineteenth century until today. Great sense of place and time.
- Helen Simonson, *The Summer before the War*: a marvellous tale of innocence and English country life under the looming threat of the First World War. Beatrice Nash, a spirited young woman who arrives to teach in Rye in the summer of 1914, provides a strong center for the rollicking cast of characters, some of whom, alas, are lost in the war to come.
- Colum McCann, *Let the Great World Spin*: a great character romp across New York City over space and time, revolving around Philippe Patrel's famous tightrope walk between the World Trade Center towers in 1974.
- Kathleen Winter, *Annabel*: a gender-indeterminate child (Wayne or Annabel, depending) navigates growing up and discovering identity in rural Labrador, St. Johns NL, and Boston.
- Claire Rothman, *My October*: the lives of an improbable French-English couple, their son, and various other personages in their world evolve at breakneck speed against the backdrop of the October Crisis. Much of the book is convincingly set in the gritty streets of St. Henri and the ingrown, conflict-ridden world of the French Montreal intelligentsia. We all felt that compressing the events of the book into one month was a stretch of dramatic credibility.

As a grand finale to the year, our annual movie night with egg nog was held at Jane's place and attracted six people to watch *Our Souls at Night*. We read the book (by Kent Haruf) last year and enjoyed comparing the two tellings of the story.

The reading group this year has maintained a core of 5-6 regulars but always has room for more. We have attracted a couple of new members, while others have dropped off to focus on other activities. We concentrate on fiction (usually recent) but have been known to stray. Suggestions for good reads are always welcome. With a goodly number of people in the room, the lively discussions can last well into the evening. Come join us if you like a good book and a chance to talk about it!

Social Service Society

Janet King

The work of the Christ Church Cathedral Social Service Society (CCCSSS) is carried out not only by the actual members (membership fee \$2 annually) but by many ex-officio and volunteer people at different levels – particularly by the vergers, the helpers in the kitchen at the Last Sunday of the Month Lunches, those of the 8:00 am service who come afterwards to set up tables for 126+ people for the Lunch, those who deliver plants and cards at Easter and Christmas, and by those who keep in touch with local social agencies. That list should, but does not, include many others inside and beyond the congregation who are concerned about the social service needs around our holy space – so small a proportion of our worshipping community actually live downtown. The Cathedral's membership in RAPSIM (Reseau d'aide aux personnes seules et itinerantes de Montreal) gives access to a great deal of information about the city's homeless population, about political promises and community reactions to complex interwoven problems. For example, our direct contact with St. Michael's Mission reveals a serious loss in funding for day centres linked with an increased funding emphasis on sustainable housing. The CCCSSS has been able to increase our financial aid for St. Michael's. This is a small measure of support for George Greene and his team, but he writes, "The City's marginalized will always need access to food and warmth while they await a long-term solution to the lack of affordable housing". Further information about their good work can be found at www.stmichaelsmissionmtl.org

Meanwhile, the number of guests at our Last Sunday of the Month Lunch has decreased, but stabilized now, to about 100. We were still subsidized in 2018 for two months' food by MAZON, a Canadian Jewish organization which works to alleviate hunger, and also by parents and schools such as LCC, Selwyn House and others, who contribute volunteer youth as well as money for food. The CCCSSS alone spends up to \$2700 a year towards the cost of the lunches.

Our main income is from a substantial estate left for our work by the late Hester Kerr. The capital is managed by the Anglican Balanced Fund of the Synod of the Diocese of Montreal. We withdraw as needed for the donations made to the work of local social ministries and for the monies raised specifically for the Refugee Sponsorship project. Appeals for specific needs are still permitted, such as PWRDF, socks for the homeless, or the travel/medical bill for the refugee family, but we draw down on our capital for monthly expenses.

The sponsored refugee family arrived in Canada on June 19, 2018, after a frustratingly long process which we began in May 2015. The parents and their three elementary-age children have received amazing donations from the parish and wider community. It has been enough to well furnish their apartment and to give them a great welcoming start to their new life here. They are living on the West Island, and are working on learning French and English so that they can integrate into Quebec society and read public signage.

Action Réfugiés has been an invaluable resource in helping us and them with the how and when to register for services such as federal and provincial child allowances, French classes, and so on – however, they also recommend strict confidentiality rules for preserving the newcomers' privacy. The volunteers working with the family are very aware of the power imbalance (“it is more blessed to give than to receive”) and of the opportunity to help the family to make their own decisions and not to lose their culture and values and dreams while learning life in Canada. The children are all doing very well in school, and the father is about to update his driver's licence from Syria to Quebec. Our current focus is on preparing for June 19, 2019 when our sponsorship and money finish. The volunteers have been providing much driving to dental and medical appointments, interpreter services, moral support, and specific assistance such as extra money for winter clothing, as well as the monthly budget. Thank you to everyone for your very generous support of this important initiative.

Spiritual Direction and Retreats

Vivian Lewin

No parish retreats or quiet days were organized in 2018, a departure from our usual pattern. A weekly Lent series introduced different modes of prayer with workshops led by Amy Hamilton (visio divina), Vivian Lewin (Ignatian prayer), Gideon Strauss (hard psalms), Ben Stuchbery (Daily Office), and Patrick Wedd (spirituality and music). In addition, parishioners were invited to attend the Quiet Day organized by the Spiritual Direction Group of our Diocese in October, and several did.

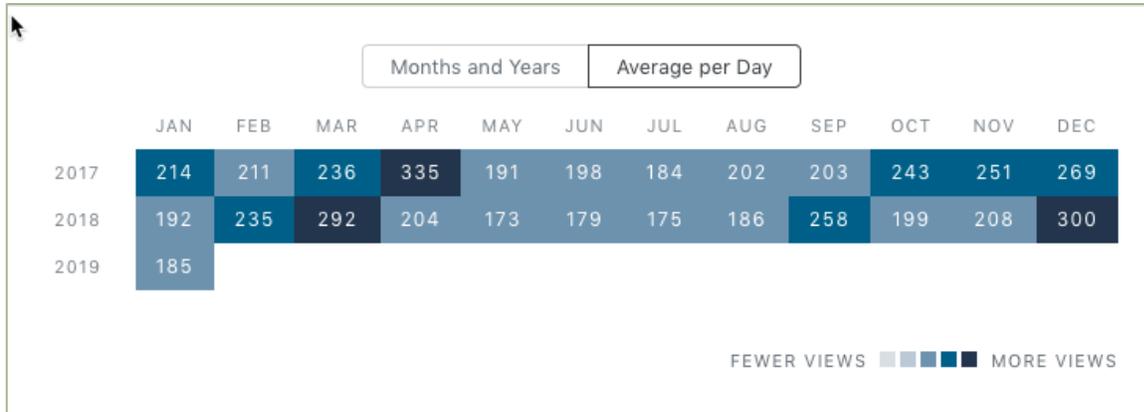
As one of the licensed Spiritual Directors in our Diocese I am always ready to connect people with a variety of resources including retreats and opportunities to be matched for individual spiritual accompaniment.

Website - <https://www.montrealcathedral.ca/>

Jane Aitkens

The Cathedral website provides access to the Sunday bulletins, Ann’s weekly newsletter, and written and audio sermons in English and French. This year, we switched to the more secure https.

The improved subscription service begun last year is working well; there are currently 177 subscribers who receive an email informing them of a new addition to the website as it is posted. Here are some ‘viewing’ statistics over the past two years:



The most popular day to visit the website is Sunday, and the highest use is around Easter and Christmas, as you can see. The day with the most views ever (1,173) was October 29, 2017, the day we announced the appointment of our new Dean and Rector, Bertrand Olivier!

Late in the year, the website’s colour changed slightly; the ‘accent’ colour is now green rather than gold. The new icon for the site was also added. More changes are planned for 2019.



The Cathedral has other related websites and social media offerings:

The Major Fundraising Campaign website: <https://campaign.montrealcathedral.ca/>

Oasis Musicale website: <https://www.oasismusicale.ca/>

The Cathedral on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchMtl.>

The Oasis Musicale on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OasisMusicale/>

We sadly miss Dónal Ward's labour of love for the Cathedral music program, no longer offered due to his passing.

On a brighter note, the Cathedral’s Twitter account has been re-activated: Follow @ChristChurchMTL