

2022 AGM PACKAGE

AGM: February 27th, 2022 following the 10am Service. In Person and on ZOOM.

THE PARISH OF ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

6110 Fulton Rd., Edmonton, AB, T6A 3T3

AGM AGENDA

February 27th, 2022

- | | <i>Est.</i> |
|---|----------------|
| 1) Opening prayer | <i>2min...</i> |
| 2) Appointment of Recording Secretary and Declaration of Membership | |
| 3) Adoption of Agenda | |
| 4) Approval of Minutes of 2021 Annual Meeting (Included below) | |
| 5) Celebrations, God-moments, and motions of thanks | <i>10min</i> |
| 6) Rector's Ministry Report | <i>7min</i> |
| 7) Honorary clergy update | <i>2min</i> |
| 8) Financial Report and Proposed Budget for 2021 | <i>15min</i> |
| 9) Business | |
| <i>a) Annex Roof</i> | <i>5min</i> |
| <i>b) Memorial Garden</i> | <i>5min</i> |
| <i>c) Rector's Sabbatical</i> | <i>5min</i> |
| 10) Motion to approve signing authorities – <i>Rector, Treasurer, Wardens</i> | <i>2min...</i> |
| 11) Appointment of 2021 Parish Accounts Examiner – <i>Mwayi Kanjadza</i> | |
| 12) Commissioning of visioning group and Synod Delegates | <i>5min</i> |
| 13) Leadership thank yous | <i>5min</i> |
| 14) Closing prayers | <i>/~63min</i> |

Thank you for your prayers and presence here today!

Annual General Meeting Minutes from 2021

Date: February 7, 2021

Location: Zoom Meeting
Via St. Augustine of Canterbury Church
6110 Fulton Road
Edmonton, AB T6A 3T3

Incumbent/Rector: The Reverend Jonathan Crane

In Attendance: 45 People

Sheila New	Jim New
Phyllis Molyneux	Betty Sparling
Joe Sparling	June Miller
Val McCormack	Jordan Yeo
Rebecca Yeo	Megan Crane
Sherry Prokopuk	Barb Ash
Dan Ash	Paul Klann
Simone Klann	Aaron Parker
Giselle Parker	Heidi Schock
Lauretta Howard	Lindsay Batke
Tim Batke	Joanne Hoch
John Hanley	Lydia Stoll
Mikaela Hanley	Jacqui Chesterson
Clayton Ernst	Amanda Ernst
Bryan Lee	Linda Lee
Peter Wightman	Anne Wightman
Camille Wiens	Dave Wiens
Deana Thomson	Jodi Howard
Grace Johnson	June Kohar
Jim Ellis	Linda Kizan
Pat Jameson	Ralph Axani
Yvonne Axani	Shari Fuellbrant
Paul Fuellbrant	June Greig

Chairperson: Rev. Jonathan Crane

Declaration:

I solemnly declare that I am baptized and that I regularly attend Services of worship in the Parish of St. Augustine of Canterbury Anglican Church...

Jonathan asks if anyone is unable to declare the above statement. Raise your right hand if you can assent to that declaration. If we cannot see you we will trust that you make that declaration.

1) **Opening prayer**

Jonathan leads the group in an opening prayer.

2) **Appointment of Recording Secretary and Declaration of Membership**

Jonathan appoints Joanne Hoch as recording secretary and she announces 45 attendees for today's meeting

3) **Adoption of Agenda**

Jonathan invites a motion of adoption. Val McCormack motions to approve the agenda, Anne Wightman seconds. None opposed, the motion carries

4) **Approval of Minutes of 2020 Annual Meeting**

Jonathan invites a motion of adoption of the previous years minutes. He notes it must be someone who was in attendance at the meeting. There are no proposed amendments to the 2020 Minutes, Jordan Yeo motions to adopt the minutes as presented, Val McCormack seconds. All in favour and none opposed. The motion carries.

5) **Celebrations, God-moments, and motions of thanks**

- Jonathan thanked all involved in organizing the kid's camp, the visitor's and participants, and especially the Klann family who were instrumental in the implementation of the camp
- Lindsay Batke reiterated Jonathan's thanks regarding the kid's camp.
- Linda Lee expressed thanks for the pinecones bird feeders throughout the Sunshine Garden, and throughout Fulton. They were created as part of the 100 years of Fulton Community League
- Pat Jameson really enjoyed and appreciated the outdoor services in the summer
- Linda Lee loves walking by the beauty that is the Sunshine Garden
- Peter Wightman stated his appreciation for the tech team in this difficult year where we could not gather in person
- Laretta voiced her appreciation for Megan, and believes the music makes everything so much more meaningful
- Camille reiterated what Laretta stated, the music gave strength to carry on
- June Kohar expressed her thanks for the zoom services, especially the advent service. June also thanks Barb for her awesome newsletters
- Val McCormack thanks God for the answered prayers of younger families

- June Miller is thankful for something to look forward to every Sunday morning and coffee chat afterwards. The weeks being cooped up in a room have been dreadful and Sunday mornings have been a bright spot every week.
- Lauretta expressed her admiration for the newsletters since Barb started completing them, especially the artwork, which is so gorgeous and has brought her to tears at times.
- Lauretta thanked Charlotte and Miriam for making the services so special
- June Kohar thanked the team for the blessed candles delivered to homes
- Jonathan, in response to June's above comment thanked those that volunteered to deliver all of the candles
- Jonathan expressed his thanks to Barb who stepped in to be Treasurer this year, and despite the learning curve through Covid, she's been doing a great job
- Shared in chat: Sherry: thank you also to Val for the thoughtful and meaningful prayers this year. they have been very comforting and poignant this year
- Shared in chat: Mikaela, if Isabel were here, she would say that she is very thankful for the coffee chat hours during the summer

6) **Financial Report and Proposed Budget for 2021**

- Presented by Barb Ash, current treasurer
- AGM package included the wrong sheet of information
- Barb shared that she is so proud to be a part of this community
- We benefitted four times from the Canadian relief wage benefit and received a total of \$5865.96, which went towards Jonathan's salary. The program continues through to the end of June 2021.
- One of the challenges starting this year was rentals due to the pandemic. There has been a great fluctuation of rental us, specifically of the annex building. This year we will ask a certain amount, rather than what they could pay, so we can budget with more clarity. We are currently asking \$700 per month, but the ideal amount is to receive \$1000 per month. We are looking to treat them with care, and we are reaching out as they are struggling just as many small churches are.
- Barb shared that there were several unexpected costs in this last year including the water heater replacement and plumbing issues. Our community as always rose to the challenge in this difficult year.
- Tithe.ly increased leaps and bounds compared with previous years, and the recurrent giving is substantial
- The Barnett Fund had an opening balance of \$60632.95, we reinvested \$208, and the total amount currently in the fund is \$60840
- We have come to the end of the Reach Funds with the last installment being \$425. The total amount received by St. A's was just under 24000

- In regards to the Roof Repayment, Barb shared that as of the end of 2020, \$12861 is how much is still owed, and the loan will be completely paid off as of Sept 2023
- Barb shared that Tech Support was \$5634.69 for this year. Jonathan adds that there is a government grant which is being looked into and hopefully some, if not all of this amount may be covered.
- When looking at the budget, Barb directs attention to the Rainy-day fund, which the visioning group decided to put it in place for \$150 per month. We are looking at investing it somewhere so it's not just sitting there.
- Jonathan invites a motion to accept the 2021 budget
- Motion for approval from Dan Ash, Joe Sparling seconds the motion. All in favour, none opposed. Motion to approve the Budget for 2021 as presented is passed.

7) **Rector's Ministry Report** (given during 10am service)
Jonathan has posted his report below in completion:

Homily and AGM Report
February 7th, 2021
St. Augustine of Canterbury Anglican Church
Rev. Jonathan Crane

Let us draw in these words again:

"From the one who is beyond the circle of the earth"

"Who stretches out the heavens like a curtain."

"Who brings princes to naught"

"But gives power to the faint."

"And strengthens the powerless."

We are currently powerless as individuals against the pandemic.

We are in the hands of science and those we have charged with decision making in our nation.

Some of us are feeling faint, and tired, and worn.

But God does not grow weary.

And power and strength are shared.

The psalm says,

"The Lord takes pleasure in those who fear God,"

We need to understand right now that whenever it is said, that here "fear" we should translate "Awe"

And is closer to a kind of humility that understands that God is God and we are not.

So we might hear instead, "God takes pleasure in those who understand that they exist in a limited, humble, and fragile state, and who let God love and support them"

The opposite of those who “fear God” are those who think they are or should be in God’s place, who stomp on others to get their way, who oppress the poor, who judge God’s other children as unworthy and unimportant.

We need to understand our place in relation to God’s place. We need to be in awe of God over and through all things. We need to know that we are just one piece of God’s creation.

We are in a weird place in this pandemic, and understanding our limits, and living in humility of what we can and cannot do has become critical to our mental health.

What can we actually do?

We can call someone, we can clean our house, we can cook healthy food, we can pray, we can choose how and where we spend our money, we can go for a walk, we can choose what books to read, we can meditate, we can choose life or we can choose despair.

We cannot, unless we are certain elected officials, we cannot make the vaccine come any faster, we cannot force our neighbour to hold the same opinions as we do, we cannot make our housemates exactly as we might want them, we cannot make this year much easier on our kids than we are, we cannot see the future, nor can we see the world as God sees it or understand exactly why God doesn’t end suffering once and for all.

We are limited for sure, but we can choose how we behave and respond. We can practice humility and the way of love in the world.

“the Lord lifts up the downtrodden.”

“Let us hope in God’s steadfast love.”

--

I am so thankful that these words of comfort have landed with us on this Sunday we are celebrating our Annual General Meeting.

Among everything we have been doing as a church, I have to say, I find meetings like this AGM the most weird. I just don’t like them during COVID. I want us to be close, and talk, and encourage one another, but I just want to push the business aside for another day.

Of course, we can’t do this for a number of reasons, so we are making do, and I am pretty sure I won’t like the business part again until we get back in person and we can gather for lunch after the service and do our meeting actually together, actually side-by-side.

So, after the service we will switch over to Zoom and we will do our AGM as it needs to be done.

We will review a financial plan for the 2021 year we will elect and commission our vision group members and delegates to Synod and do all those regular things.

Anyone who has been connected to St. A’s in person previously, or even who has just been signing on through this service during the pandemic can join the AGM. I think we do them well here. The only stipulations that our church canons make are that you be baptized (as a sign that you are heading in the same way with us), and that you are not voting in another AGM elsewhere. If you are interested to just check out what St. A’s does in this way, please join us. Send me a quick note if you want the zoom link.

It is one of my goals to keep things as short and focused as possible, so I am giving my Rector's report here during the service, so we can just jump right in.

And truthfully, I don't have anything long to say, It is really just one small thing, but I do feel it is important to say it in the context of an Annual Review Meeting looking back over the last 12 months.

I have only one major feeling that rises as I look back at the church this last year:

I am just really proud of the St. A's community and how you have found the way of life and the way of God within these strange times.

All the "God-stuff" has been happening: Praying, Caring, Serving, and Learning

-Praying: I never thought our church would feel so connected in any online format. I know it's not perfect, and there are still some folks who have not been able to connect for several reasons, but I didn't think we could feel as together as we do. I love the commenting and the emails of appreciation that seem to suggest that we are doing ok for the time. Zoom gatherings have also brought us into kind of the same room, and has even made some meetings easier since we don't have to travel to connect.

-Caring: This is sometimes a little under-cover, sometimes not. I know that as a pastor I just get to hear so many great stories about people connecting and caring for each other. "I dropped this off at so and so's house", "I called this person just to say hello", "I had a card in my mailbox from so and so and it made my day." "I am so glad so and so called, it has was a rough day."

All these little moments make a real difference. They are like the glue that holds us as a community and reminds that this is not just a random church community – this is extended family. In this way, we might grow into the Cree-Nehiyawak teaching of "All my relations" - that we are all connected. These small acts of caring speak to our familial ties and God who has called us all beloved children and placed us in this life together.

-Serving: You know, the GANG is still at it. They didn't slow down but opened an online store. If you are a grandmother and don't think you can do tech, just talk to the GANG. Many of you are connected to them. And, we have folks in the inner city serving food and figuring out how to do that with all the regulations. Pray for them, it has really come down to a few people to do the lion's share. We have storytellers who helped set up a storytelling system where you can call and have a real-live storyteller tell you a story over the phone. We have children and friends who have bent over backwards to care for those in care homes or isolated condos who can't do it all themselves. We had a number of successful appeals for help last year that people gave generously to. I have never seen so many people in the church and in the wider community just willing to step in and help out. A small example was the number of people who offered in a snap to drive out to who knows where to deliver a candle – a sign of God's presence.

-Learning: I have to say, I think perhaps the best book study I have ever been apart of happened during the pandemic this past year. Richard Rohr's Universal Christ seemed a worthy focus of study to a few this past June and a Wednesday night group met to discuss, and laugh, and cry, and wrestle with living a life where we might see God in all things and in all people. Pat

Jameson and I have been leading a few through the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius on Zoom. June Miller has been facilitating a group through the Education For Ministry program on Zoom. The choir has been meeting to sing on Zoom. June Greig has even been taking ukulele lessons on Zoom. Learning of all kinds does not stop.

All I have to say to you today is how proud I am and thankful that you are the kind of people who are just making it work when times are tough. The world needs more of that: People who can Pray and Care and Serve and Learn in any situation.

Which is not to say that you haven't had down days, and lonely moments, and high-stress, and just being Done with COVID. That's all normal stuff. But we get through together and by understanding what we can and cannot control.

So, Thanks for being a together people and a Godly people in this strange time. It is such a delight to walk with you in this way.

Our last Vision Group meeting we thought and prayed through what we need to be about this year. Where we are going, where God is at work. What we landed on is helpful and simple.

Two things:

- 1) Orienting ourselves around the church year and feast days. Lent. Holy Week. Easter. The Easter Season etc.
- 2) Second, to keep in the way of human connection. The candle drop off was part of that and we hope to do more along the way.

I invite you to make both of these elements – Liturgical and Human – your own focus this year also. Let the story of Jesus infuse you and these ancient traditions carry you through this strange time. And, whenever you think of it, reach out. Call, write, drop off, visit online or outside. Our needs are all the same: physical, emotional, mental, spiritual. Let us bear one another in the way of health together.

And as we go on in this year, and into our AGM, let us rest ourselves in God

“Who lifts up the downtrodden.”

“Who gives power to the faint.”

“Who strengthens the powerless.”

“Lord, we now rest ourselves in you.”

Amen.

8) **Commissioning of visioning group and Synod Delegates**

Jonathan explains that, mostly based on church size, a shift was made two years ago to a visioning group, rather than a traditional vestry board. The canons require a minimum of four meetings per year and the decision making group, named the Vision Group does this and its become more casual than in years past. We make bigger decisions, where we see God, where is the church going, etc. Jonathan feels it best to continue as we did last year. Below are the current members of the Vision group.

Jonathan+ (signing as Rector
Dan Ash (honorary clergy)
Anne Wightman (honorary clergy)
June Miller
warden)
Joe Sparling
Pat Jameson
Paul Fuellbrandt

Mikaela Hanley
Megan Crane
Sherry Prokopuk
Val McCormack (Signing as Rector's
June Greig (Signing as People's warden)
Barb Ash (Signing as Treasurer)

Jonathan presents the above list, and states the congregation do need to vote. Jonathan invites anyone to make a motion to receive this list as vestry 2021, Camille Wiens motions, Laretta Howard seconds, all in favour, none opposed, the motion carries.

9) **Motion to approve signing authorities – Rector, Treasurer, Wardens**

Jonathan invites a motion to keep the signing authorities the same as last year. They are as follows:

June Greig, signing as people's warden
Val McCormack, signing as Rector's Warden
Jonathan Crane, Rector
Barb Ash, Treasurer

Jonathan invites a motion to move forward with the above signing authorities. This group forms the formal corporation. Anne Wightman makes a motion, Lindsay Batke seconds the motion, all in favour, none opposed, the motion is carried.

10) **Appointment of 2020 Parish Accounts Examiner – TBD**

Previous accounts examiner, Jeff Baker has retired, and we must find a new accountant to assist in tax filing and year end reports. It must be an active accountant. Barb shares we've been looking at different options for this requirement and are currently speaking with Grant Thorton as they currently work with the Diocese. We would like to offer their name as accounts examiner for 2021. Barb Ash motions, Peter Wightman seconds, all in favour, none opposed, motion carries. Happens by June 30, 2021

Completion of main business for our AGM

11) **Leadership thank you's**

Trying to keep as much steady while the world around us is in turmoil
Annex Meeting, we will be an invitation soon for a meeting about the building.

12) **New Business**

a) **Synod Delegate**

Three names that have come forward: Peter Wightman, June Miller, and Barb Ash. Synod is the diocesan AGM. Synod means come together and it is more than just a meeting. This year Synod includes electing a new Bishop as well as other business decisions. For the meeting they break up how many parish delegates per size of the church. Rector and people's warden go (June Greig), as well as a number of delegates and alternates. For our size, we have one delegate and one alternate. We will elect two people who will be able to go. Jonathan believes that the delegate is able to go, but not able to vote. An online poll is set up in the Zoom meeting by Jordan Yeo. Megan is put forward as delegate and Peter is put up as the alternate. As we get closer, we will get more information and see who the options are for bishop. Megan and Peter will provide more information to the greater congregation as we get closer. Thank you for all that put their names forward.

Motion for adjournment: Megan Crane motion for adjournment at 12:34 p.m.

13) **Closing prayers**

Jonathan leads us in a closing prayer

Thank you for your prayers and presence here today

2022 Reports and Updates

Celebrations Report

By you when we gather!

AGM Financial Report on Year 2020



St. Augustine of Canterbury
2022 BUDGET - DETAILS 2

Revenue

	2021 Budget	Total Actual 2021	2022 Budget (Draft)
Undesignated Offerings			
4010 General (pledges)	\$ 65,000.00	\$62,715.00	\$ 64,000.00
PAG (pre-authorize giving thru diocese)	\$ 68,000.00	\$66,854.96	\$ 67,000.00
Tithe.ly (online giving)	\$ 26,000.00	\$37,474.98	\$ 36,000.00
4030 Open (cash)	\$ -	\$131.85	\$ 200.00
Misc. (Bus.recognizing our community)	\$ 2,000.00	\$750.00	
Designated Offerings			
General -Altar Guild	\$ -	\$200.00	
Clergy Discretionary	\$ 500.00	\$2,000.00	\$ 500.00
Outreach	\$ 3,000.00	\$665.00	\$ 1,000.00
Other Revenue			
4210 Weddings/Funerals	\$ 1,000.00		\$ 1,000.00
4225 Church Rentals	\$ 3,000.00	\$2,250.00	\$ 2,500.00
4222 Annex Rentals	\$ 8,400.00	\$7,600.00	\$ 9,750.00
4230 Annex Utilities		\$1,266.07	
4240 Fundraising	\$ 1,500.00		
4250 Interest - Diocese Funds (Barnett trust)	\$ 1,500.00	\$1,175.00	\$ 1,200.00
4260 Sundry;/Prov. Grant/Business gift		\$4,103.73	
Bank charges refund/GST refund			
Memorial	\$ 1,000.00	\$4,350.00	\$ 1,000.00
Total Revenues	\$ 180,900.00	\$191,536.59	\$ 184,150.00

Expenses

6010 - Clergy Stipend	\$ 88,912.20	\$81,804.18	\$ 90,378.36
6030 - Automobile Allowance			
6060 - Diocesan/Conferencel/bymod fees	\$ 720.00	\$83.97	\$ 700.00
Clergy Discretionary		\$315.14	\$ 500.00
Spiritual Direction		\$100.00	
Total 6001 - Parish Ministry			
6211 - Bookkeeping	\$ 2,000.00	\$2,932.41	\$ 2,500.00
6220 - Photocopier	\$ 1,500.00	\$2,059.97	\$ 2,000.00
6230 - Office Supplies and Postage	\$ 1,000.00	\$1,035.00	\$ 1,000.00
6240 - Advertising			
6241 - software and services; Zoom, Website	\$ 1,000.00	\$855.67	\$ 1,000.00
		\$715.94	\$ 700.00
6260 - Bank Charges	\$ 250.00	\$99.14	\$ 100.00
6270 - DDF/ Loan Interest	\$ 4,878.00	\$2,845.49	\$ 4,878.36
6280 - Accounting and Auditing Services	\$ 500.00	\$600.00	\$ 600.00
Total 6200 - Office Administration			
6310 - Music Ministry - parish pianist	\$ 12,000.00	\$10,331.53	\$ 12,000.00
6313 - Music Ministry - supply musician,	\$ 600.00	\$299.72	\$ 400.00
6320 - Worship Supplies (flowers/wine /cords	\$ 1,000.00	\$892.54	\$ 1,000.00
6330 - Adult Education	\$ 300.00	\$351.19	\$ 300.00
6340 - Youth and Sunday School	\$ 300.00	\$53.33	\$ 300.00
6360 - Other/loop Supplies	\$ 500.00	\$1,226.69	\$ 1,000.00
Total 6300 - Worship and Programs			
6410 - Repairs and Maintenance	\$ 3,000.00	\$3,236.09	\$ 3,000.00
Waste management	\$ 830.00	\$874.75	\$ 875.00
Rainy Day Fund	\$ 150.00		
6420 - Insurance/elevator	\$ 5,022.00	\$5,610.67	\$ 5,600.00
6430 - Janitorial	\$ 2,000.00	\$2,057.75	\$ 2,000.00
6436 - Janitorial Supplies			
6440 - Yard Maintenance & Snow Removal	\$ 5,000.00	\$6,883.52	\$ 7,000.00
Total 6460 - Utilities Church/annex	\$ 22,000.00	\$17,187.13	\$ 20,000.00
Total 5400 - Church Properties			
6800 - Special - Parish Events	\$ 500.00		\$ 500.00
6810 - Special -OutReach (ie:medical cars, biscoll examples:(medical cards, Biscoll, etc)		\$1,897.44	
6800 - Other Expenses,Angloan FDN	\$ 145.00		\$ 150.00
6880 - Weddings/funerals			
Total Special & Other(OEA)	\$ 1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
Honarium		\$2,400.00	
6710 - Assessment & Apportionment	\$ 21,936.00	\$21,936.00	\$ 23,580.00
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 177,543.20	\$170,185.26	\$ 183,561.72

Annex Roof

Since our 2017 engineering report on the Annex, we have known that the annex roof needed replacement. The growing moss, standing water areas, bubbled membrane, and displaced gravel led the engineers to give it two or three more years only.

Working closely with the Diocesan property committee, Paul Fuellbrandt, Mikaela Hanley, and Rev. Jonathan have met with structural engineers, an architect (Anglican connections!) and pulled several quotations for replacement of the flat roof. Straight replacement is desirable because if we add a pitch to the roof or do anything beyond replacement we run into a slew of coding changes on the whole building and further engineering work.

With help from Brian Jolly of the property committee (who used to work for PCL) we have settled on a quotation from A. Clark Roofing. This was incidentally the lowest quote, but also the company we felt most comfortable with. They are also the only company listed on the Edmonton Heritage building approved contractors list.

The range of quotations went up to \$70K. We are asking for parish approval for \$40K for a job expected to cost \$35K (already including an extra \$5K in case any of the roof bed needs to be replaced.)

We will complete our existing roof loan (~\$400/month) on the main church in 2 years, we are suggesting we secure another loan (likely through the Synod office administration again) to cover the cost of this new Annex roof. If we choose, we could choose to dip into our reserves to pay off a portion of the capital upfront and off-set future interest.

MOTION: That the Parish of St. Augustine's secure a loan of up to \$40,000 to begin roof replacement work on the Annex roof beginning this Spring.

Rewilding Update

We are:

NURTURING OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LAND THROUGH RESTORATIVE ECOLOGICAL DESIGN, EDUCATION, AND SACRED COMMUNITY SPACE.

These are the words developed by the small steering committee of church members and community stakeholders who are dreaming about what this land at St. A's needs to be. The native landscape around Edmonton is actually a very unique biome – “aspen parkland,” how do we honor this reality, use native plants in design, while creating a space that the community wants to enjoy? Back in 2014 we talked about St. A's being a “community hub” – how might we design our land to be this for years to come?

There is a web post that includes all the ideas of how we do these things, there is also a 'base map' of the space available in the Narthex.

The rewilding process does not need to be fast. Currently the steering committee is looking for ideas and connections to answer these questions and achieve these goals. Got any?

Current committee membership is Sherry Prokopuk (Church), Amy Tessier (Community), Michael Hamilton (Community), Megan Crane (Church), Julianna Weber (Grace United/Garden), Theo Harasymiw (Community - mural artist), Rev. Jonathan

Memorial Garden

As St. Augustine's parish has explored it's land use, the idea of a memorial garden has arisen several times. Now that we have let go of the idea of commercial development of our land, we have many possibilities before us, and a memorial garden has come back into view as well. Barb Ash asked in particular thinking of where it would fit for the ashes of Fr. Dan to be laid. Others may be interested as well.

Legal

We are blessed by some extensive work by Vicky Archer on vestry a few years back who determined that we do not in fact need governmental licensing to create a memorial garden. If we are only interring bare ashes, it is considered "spreading ashes on private property" for which we only need the land owner's permission (us! In conjunction diocesan council).

Practical Questions

1. **How?** When ashes are interred like this, a 2 foot hole is dug, as part of appropriate ceremony, the ashes are poured in and the soil replaced. A map showing where holes have been dug will help to ensure the soil is untouched for two years. After that point, the soil may be used again. Note, no urns can be used in this process.
2. **Where?** The rewilding group was invited to suggest placement for the memorial garden since they are actively thinking of our land design. We are suggesting we use the small garden space to the left of the front doors when you are facing the church from outside (just by the wheelchair ramp). This area is close to the church and not easily walked on. It is an area that is also in need of beautification and could be easily designed for memorial purpose.
3. **Communication?** We will need some beautiful signage making it clear that the area is designated for memorial purposes. We will also need some way of marking whose ashes have been buried there. This might best be inside the church.
4. **Cost?** The cost of spreading ashes is minimal. The cost would be determined by the kind of plaque we create for the name. Christ Church has a similar garden and they

charge around \$200. A simple application would be needed to gather and keep information.

5. **In the future?** After some stories of other's experiences, it might be prudent to make clear that this land may not be held by the church in perpetuity. Should things change down the road and this land no longer be church-owned, St. Augustine's will move the soil to an appropriate cemetery. We have not contacted them yet, but there are several Anglican cemeteries in the area that it would be worth approaching to confirm their ability to do this.

MOTION: That St. Augustine's Anglican Church establish a memorial garden on its land to inter the ashes of parishioners and others as determined by vestry.

Rector's Sabbatical

You may remember a just-pre-covid AGM report about your rector going on Sabbatical in 2020. Appropriately that was postponed while we negotiated restrictions and waves and all the rest of it these last two years. However, as we are in another new beginning with covid, it seems reasonable for sabbatical to happen in 2022. While the final approvals are still coming through on the diocesan end, I would ask for your recommendation and blessing that I go on sabbatical three months (plus family vacation) following Easter (dates to be confirmed). Just as we each take a day a week of Sabbath, I feel a sabbatical every 7-10 years allows us to step back, pray, reflect, integrate, and continue to be effective in our vocation and calling. I encourage each of you to plan the same in your own lives.

Jonathan+

Parish Officers 2022

Vision Group

The parish Vision Group fulfills our canonical vestry requirements but chooses to act in a format more fitting with our family-sized parish. Decisions are made via consensus, we keep things as casual as possible (usually wine and goodies) and meet only four times per year. We ask the questions like – Where are we going as a parish? What is God doing here? What is challenging us? If you are drawn to share in church leadership in this way, you are more than welcome! All members are elected at the AGM or appointed by virtue of their role in the church.

Here are the folks that are currently part of the Vision Group:

Jonathan+ (Rector)	June Miller
Anne Wightman (honorary clergy)	Joe Sparling
Other honorary clergy	Pat Jameson

Paul Fuellbrandt
Mikaela Hanley
Megan Crane
Sherry Prokopuk

Val McCormack (Signing)
Barb Ash (Signing)
Peter Wightman

/END

Diocesan Synod Delegates

There will be a diocesan synod gathering in the fall, we have space for three folks to go. Please consider letting your name stand! It is usually a Friday and a Saturday.

Rector, #1 _____ ; #2 _____, Alternate: _____