

St. Andrew's Woodhaven Anglican Church  
2700 Portage Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada  
Diocese of Rupert's Land, Anglican Church of Canada

# Parish Profile



January 2020

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

## Executive Summary

The parishioners of St. Andrew's Woodhaven Anglican Church in Winnipeg Manitoba Canada, are a committed, enthusiastic group of worshippers. We love our church family! We care about each other and are active in each other's lives. We enjoy getting together to share food and fellowship, to sing and to engage in meaningful liturgy.

We recently participated in an in-depth reflective process and it became clear that we desire a deeper relationship with God and a more vibrant worship experience and this will require change. We desire an incumbent who will help us to become a more Christ-centered parish that is visibly active in mission and ministry in the wider community. Our new incumbent will help lead us into a new vision for our parish and gently support us as we embrace the necessary changes, despite our very real love of the way we have always done things. We need a priest who is an inspirational preacher who brings scripture to life and who relates it to our daily lives.

The successful candidate will have received a comprehensive theological and ecclesiological education – M.Div. or equivalent.

We are located in a lovely residential area of Winnipeg commonly known as “Sunny St. James.” Winnipeg is a medium-sized city with world class entertainment and amenities, yet has the atmosphere of a small town. Our church is approximately seven minutes from an international airport and fifteen minutes from downtown. It is close to numerous parks, shopping malls, nature walks, a rippling creek and thriving schools.

# LOOKING INWARD

## Meet the parish of St. Andrew's Woodhaven

The parishioners of St. Andrew's Woodhaven Anglican Church are a committed, enthusiastic group of worshippers. We love our church! Many of the families have attended for multi generations. Our congregation is active with clubs that reflect our mainly senior population. We care about each other and are active in each other's lives. We have pulled together through our recent challenges and desire a united, joyful future doing the work of God in our community.



## History

Our parish was started as a mission of St. James Church, with the first service held November 1907. The official Deed of Formation was issued March 1911. We moved a few times, searching for just the right location and settled in our current spot in 1945. Throughout the construction of our final building many of our parishioners were key members of the crew – from electricians to woodworkers.

Our Parish Hall was constructed in 1962, and is used regularly for our Sunday School classes and after-service Coffee Hour. The hall is used for both parish and community events.

In 1985, the back of the church was expanded to ease the congestion between services. The extension included a larger entrance, a lift to the main floor of the church, additional pews, as well as an enlarged office space for the Rector in the lower level.



In 1996 a Prayer Garden was added southwest of the church building.

The Parish Hall kitchen was renovated in 1999 and is used for many events.

It is a positive determining factor with many of the rentals.

Our most recent addition is a modern LED programmable sign on Portage Ave.

We have become known as the "Little White Church on the Hill, or "The One by the Plane." When either one of these two phrases are used, local people know exactly where we are located.

From 1910 to 2011 there have been eight Rectors at St. Andrew's Woodhaven. The last two Rectors during this time led us for 23 and 17 years respectively and became integral members of our community. Since then we have had one assigned interim priest, followed by two short term incumbencies.



## Worship & Liturgy

Members of St. Andrew's Woodhaven currently worship God using the traditional Book of Common Prayer along with the old blue hymn book and the Book of Common Praise. The Book of Alternative Services is incorporated into many of our special services such as baptisms, weddings and funerals. While we love our traditions, we also desire to enrich our worship to be more joyful and welcoming to newcomers.

The priest and congregation celebrate an east-facing Eucharist.



### **SUNDAY SERVICES**

The 8:30 a.m. worship is a said Holy Communion Service with a typical attendance of 15 parishioners. The 10:00 a.m. worship is a sung service enhanced by our choir and organist. This service alternates between Holy Communion and Morning Prayer with a typical attendance of 60 parishioners. The Sunday School children attend the initial part of the 10:00 a.m. service and then leave for their classes in the Parish Hall. Following this service a Coffee Hour is held in the Parish Hall - this is a time of fellowship and food hosted by the parishioners.



### **SPECIAL AND SEASONAL SERVICES**

Throughout the year there are several special services that the congregation looks forward to and are a part of our Church traditions.

#### **Advent**

We begin our celebration of this season on Advent Eve with the lighting of the Advent Wreath, a potluck dinner, carol singing and the traditional tree lighting of the large outdoor spruce tree. The first Sunday in Advent is the service of Advent Lessons and Carols. In previous years a Blue Christmas service was held on a Sunday afternoon in Advent. White Gift Sunday follows soon after and gifts are brought to the church for the Christmas hampers. The Sunday School Pageant involves a Christmas Carol Sing-Along with the



children and congregation. A service of Nine Lessons and Carols is held on the Sunday before Christmas. For a number of years the Royal Winnipeg Rifles Brass Quintet has joined us on this night of celebration. The highlight of this night occurs when the congregation is invited to join the choir in a performance of the Hallelujah Chorus. Christmas Eve is celebrated with three services, the first being a 4:00 p.m. service with a special focus on families and the children. It is very well attended with many out of town visitors. This service is followed by two candle-lit services at 7:30 p.m. and 10 p.m. Christmas Day is a said contemplative service.





## **Lent**

Lent is the next busy time in our church. The season begins with an evening Service of Ashes on Ash Wednesday. This service involves prayerful liturgy and the Imposition of Ashes. During the weeks of Lent, Wednesday noon hour services are held, highlighted with a Communion service and followed by fellowship over coffee and cinnamon buns. Guest organists from the Royal Canadian College of Organists visit each week for this short service.

During Lent, the solemnity of the season is observed at the 10:00 a.m. services with the choir processing into worship in silence. On Palm Sunday we celebrate the Blessing of the Palms in the Parish Hall followed by an outdoor procession to the church. The service includes a dramatic reading of the Passion of our Lord. Maundy Thursday begins with a potluck supper and our version of a Seder in the Parish Hall. We move directly from the hall into the church for the Eucharist service, including the Stripping of the Altar. We are together on Good Friday for the Stations of the Cross service. This is a contemplative service with music by the choir and a dramatic reading of the Passion. Easter Sunday morning begins with a Sunrise Service, where our Baptismal vows are renewed. At the 10:00 a.m. service the congregation gathers for the great celebration and the return of the Alleluias are celebrated with the ringing of bells.

## **Family Service**

Completion of the Sunday School year is celebrated with a family church service at the end of May. The children are involved in several parts of this service. Following this service the congregation is treated to the Parish Barbeque which is always a hit.

## **Other Services**

The fall season commences with our Harvest Festival service when the church is decorated with produce donated by the parishioners. At the beginning of November the All Souls Day service is held to remember those who are no longer with us. This service involves candle lighting and the reading of the names of loved ones. A Remembrance Day service is held on the Sunday before Remembrance Day, and includes the reading of the names of members of the congregation who died in service to their country during the world wars.

## **Mothering Sunday**

Mothering Sunday includes the distribution of carnations to all the women in the congregation and a Simnel Cake is shared at the Coffee Hour after the 10:00 a.m. service.

## **Worship Ministries**

### **LAYREADERS / LAY ADMINISTRANTS**

The Lay Readers meet once a month to review, schedule and prepare for all upcoming services. They assist at all Sunday services and special services as well as funerals. They perform dramatic readings of the Gospel at our Palm Sunday and Good Friday services, plus host our annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. Each summer they assist at two services held at St. Michael's Anglican Church in Grosse Isle, Manitoba. At present, we have five Lay Readers and five Lectern Readers.



## **SERVERS**

Our Servers assist at the 10:00 a.m. Sunday services plus all special services. They participate in both dramatic and scripture readings throughout the year and help at our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper. At the present time we have three awesome Servers.

## **ALTAR GUILD**

Our Altar Guild is a group of very dedicated women who attend all Sunday services, funeral/memorial services, baptisms, weddings as well as the special services. For each service they look after and care for the linens and Communion vessels, the altar flowers, the hymn boards and the decorations for special services. Following the services these women deliver the altar flowers to the sick and shut-ins or to other special parish members. The Altar Guild members make Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday, knit lovely stoles and bookmarks for baptisms, and run a poinsettia program at Christmas in memory of loved ones. There are four Altar Guild teams that rotate weekly.

## **ORGANIST / CHOIR DIRECTOR / CHOIR**

We are very blessed to have a talented Organist/Choirmaster who has been with us for twenty-six years. Traditional hymns and anthems play an important role in our Sunday worship. However the challenge of something new is also enjoyed by both the choir and the parishioners. Our choir enhances the 10:00 a.m. services with an anthem most Sundays. The choir shines at all special services but especially at Christmas! We are very proud of our Phoenix organ that was purchased in 2006 - it has enriched the life of our parish.



## **Christian Education**

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday School operates from October to May inclusive. There are usually five or six children in attendance and the Lectionary is followed for lesson topics. Each lesson stands alone which allows the children to participate regardless of how often they can attend. The Christmas Celebration consists of a sing-a-long with the congregation followed by cookie decorating. These cookies are served at Coffee Hour which is hosted by the Sunday School. Yum!

## **Staff Positions**

In addition to the incumbent there are the following paid positions:

- Part time office administrator
- Part time organist / choir director

## **Leadership**

St. Andrew's has the standard governance structure of Corporation, Vestry and sub-committees.

### **VESTRY**

Our Vestry is comprised of the Priest, eleven elected parishioners (including the People's Warden) and four appointed positions – the Rector's Warden, the Treasurer, the Vestry Clerk and the Property Maintenance Manager. Synod Delegates are also members of Vestry along with one Honorary Warden. Each Vestry member has a responsibility regarding some aspect of the Church operation.

Vestry meets monthly at which time reports are submitted from the various committees. The Vestry members monitor, review, discuss, and make decisions regarding the functioning of the Church.



## **WORSHIP COMMITTEE**

Our Worship Committee is comprised of the Priest, Wardens, and a member from each Parish Group having some responsibility for worship. Our goal is to also have a representative from the two Services. Meetings are held four times a year at which time special and planned services are reviewed. Any suggested changes are presented to Vestry.

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The Finance Committee's mandate is to:

- Provide proactive communication to the Vestry and the Congregation regarding the financial health of the Church.
- Monitor the cash flow of the Church and understand the root causes of any differences.
- Ensure the Church is utilizing the most suitable and up-to-date information technology.
- Recommend financial investments and uses of Parish Funds.
- Present to the Vestry and the Congregation the Operating and Capital Budgets for approval at the Annual General Meeting in February of each year.

## **Parish Groups**

### **FRIENDS IN ST. ANDREW'S (FISA)**

This group was formed in the year 2000 and provides food and refreshments for funeral receptions held in our Parish Hall. There are three teams of approximately fifteen members each who serve on a rotating basis. To date this group has served 206 receptions. This is a wonderful ministry!

### **ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN**

Our A.C.W. meets once a month with approximately twenty women in attendance. A rummage sale is held on the last Saturday of each month (September through June). Members of the A.C.W. co-ordinate the Parish Bazaar that takes place each year on the first Saturday in November. Many outreach programs are supported through the proceeds from these two events. The A.C.W. is indeed a busy group of caring women!

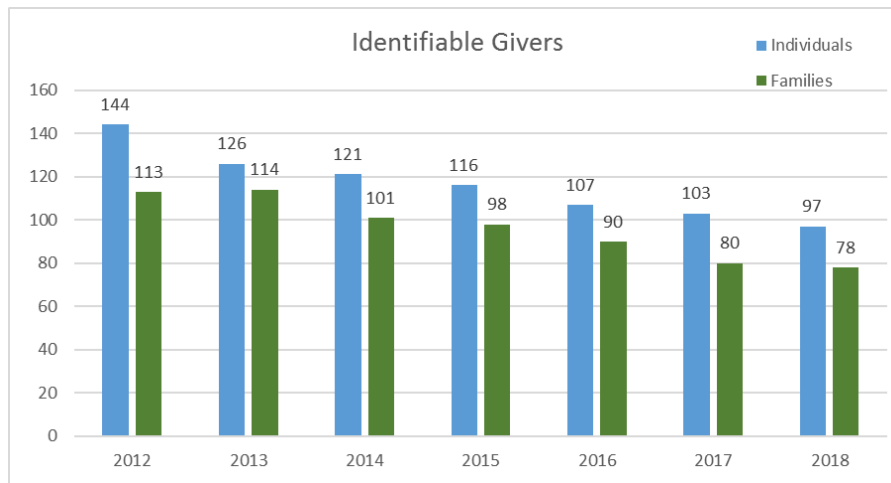


### **MEN'S CLUB**

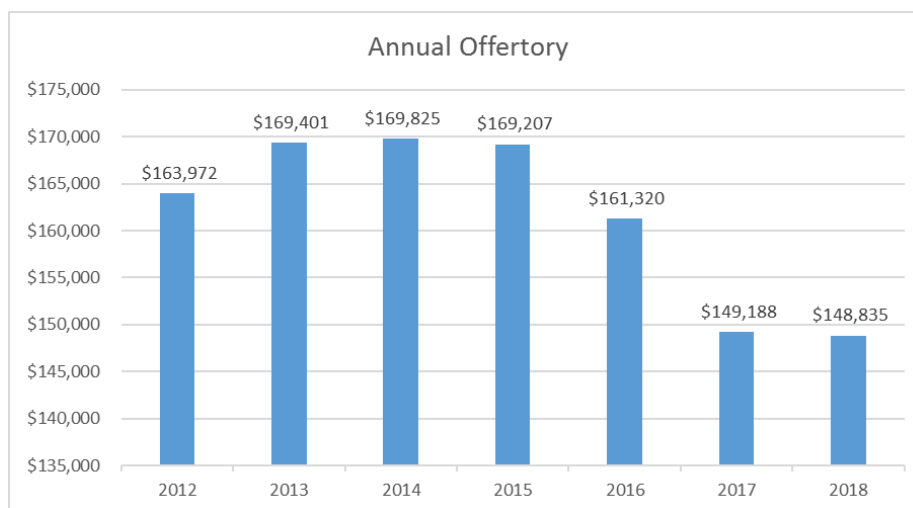
The Men's Club meets on the third Saturday morning of each month. Their mandate is to foster fellowship between the men of the parish and to be of assistance wherever needed in the life of the Church.

**OTHER PARISH GROUPS:** Creekside Quilters and Over Sixty Club

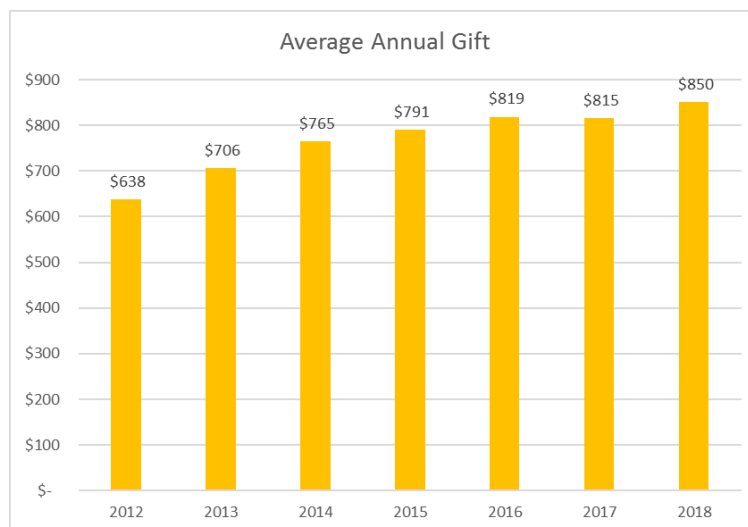
# Financial Management



In 2018 the number of identified households was 175.



Between 2015 and 2017 we experienced pastoral instability.



The average annual gift by identifiable giver has continued to grow.



# Facility

## Location

The church property is located at 2700 Portage Avenue at the intersection of Portage Avenue and Woodhaven Boulevard. The property sits atop a hill overlooking the tranquil beauty of Sturgeon Creek to the south and busy Portage Avenue to the north. The property consists of the church, the adjoining Parish Hall, a prayer garden and the parking lot. The location of St. Andrew's Woodhaven reflects the nature of the people who attend - parishioners enjoy the quiet beauty and serenity of the services conducted, but at the same time, the building is truly a hive of activity with so many groups working, learning and playing together.

## The Church (circa 1950)

### Main Floor

- Entrance via stairs or lift from the vestibule which is accessed from the parking lot on the south side of the building
- Nave seating for two hundred
- Choir seating for 24 in the chancel
- Sacristy off the chancel
- Phoenix organ (circa 2006)
- Air conditioned
- There is currently a plan to replace the lift that operates between the vestibule and the narthex. This is being done with a fund-raising campaign and grant applications.



- Two choir change rooms
- Altar Guild room
- Men's and women's washrooms
- Furnace room/workshop
- Passage way to parish hall
- Air conditioned

### Lower Level

- Entrance via stairs from the vestibule
- Large common area for meetings, library and storage
- Offices for the priest and church secretary



## **The Parish Hall (circa 1962)**

### *Main Floor*

- The building is adjacent to the church and accessed from the parking lot
- Vestibule with stairwell to basement, unisex washroom and coat rack
- Main hall (capacity 218) with stage, audio/video equipment; storage for tables and chairs
- Full kitchen overlooking the main hall
- Air conditioned



- Accessible

### *Lower Level*

- Large common area for quilting
- Rummage sale room and other storage areas
- Nursery room
- Men's and women's washrooms
- Furnace room
- Passage way to church



## **Prayer Garden**

In 1999 a memorial garden was installed for the interment of ashes. This place of serenity and beauty offers families a place to quietly remember and reflect. A cross in the ground is planted with beautiful red geraniums lovingly tended by parishioners. A surrounding rose garden offers families the option of planting a rose bush in honour of their loved one. A wooden cross in the church holds a brass plaque for each person interred in the garden and currently holds 92 names.



## **Parking Lot**

Spaces for forty-four vehicles



# LOOKING OUTWARD

## Our Neighbourhood

### **St. James and Woodhaven Area**

Located along Portage Avenue the greater St. James area was one of Winnipeg's original districts. "Sunny St. James" is a cluster of boutiques, restaurants, cafés and specialty stores. It is also home to the city's largest shopping mall as well as numerous other big box retailers.

Assiniboine Park is accessible from St. James by a pedestrian bridge over the Assiniboine River. This beautiful green space features the Assiniboine Zoo, a duck pond, restaurants, a children's nature playground, trails, sports fields, English gardens, a pavilion with art galleries, the Lyric Stage Theatre, and the soon-to-be-completed Diversity Gardens.



St. James is a family oriented area with excellent education opportunities including French immersion programs (Kindergarten through Grade 12), numerous community centres including two indoor ice arenas, two city operated libraries, a skateboard park, nature trails, as well as amateur and professional sport opportunities.

- The population of the area is approximately 15% under the age of 15 years, 65% between 15 and 64 years of age and the remaining 20% over the age of 65 years. Immigration accounts for approximately 13% of this population with the remaining being second or third generation Canadians
- The population growth is expected to average 1.2% per year from 2015 to 2040.
- Immigration will be an increasingly important source of population growth and Winnipeg's ability to attract new immigrants will become an important determinant of its future economic potential.
- Winnipeg is expected to attract an average of almost 8,500 international immigrants each year from 2015 to 2040.
- Although the population will age as baby boomers retire, increased levels of immigration will help support growth in Winnipeg's labour force.
- The average annual job growth will come in at 1.2% over the outlook.
- Winnipeg's housing market has begun a transformation as aging boomers and reduced housing affordability of single-family dwellings increase the demand for multi-family homes.



For more information about The City of Winnipeg, please check out [www.tourismwinnipeg.com](http://www.tourismwinnipeg.com) and [www.economicdevelopmentwinnipeg.com/](http://www.economicdevelopmentwinnipeg.com/)



## Province of Manitoba

Friendly Manitoba is a province of inland seas and waves of grain, advanced research and enchanting historic sites as well as home to innovators in business, science and the arts. Whether by fibre-optic cable, air, rail, road or sea, Manitoba is connected to markets around the world and yet a lakeside retreat is never more than an hour's drive away.

Manitoba is a place that offers the advantages of big-city life without the disadvantages. With low costs for land and power and some of the most affordable housing in Canada, Manitoba is a place where your dollar goes far

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Hoedown

After a quiet summer at St. Andrew's, a western Hoedown is held in mid-September for parishioners and friends. It includes a delicious buffet, followed by line dancing and a special band. It is a very happy, successful fund raising event where we visit with parishioners and make new friends. Family and friends look forward to this event.



### Parish Bazaar

This annual fundraiser is organized by the A.C.W. in early November. The women of the parish work tirelessly throughout the year to prepare crafts and baking for sale. Of course the men are always ready to help out and set up the tables etc. The major raffle is for a wonderful quilt made by the Creekside Quilters. This event is well attended by friends, relatives, and the community



### Souper Sunday

On the second Sunday of Advent, Vestry members host a soup luncheon where the proceeds are donated to Agape Table (a soup kitchen in Winnipeg).

### Christmas Craft Sale

This is a fun and profitable December event where vendors from across the city rent tables in the Parish Hall. This sale attracts a good crowd some of whom we hope will become new parishioners. Our income is generated from the table rentals, sale of hot dogs and raffle tickets.

### Christmas Hampers

Each year the Christmas Cheer Board provides us with the names of families who need a Christmas Hamper. It is a wonderful undertaking as it gives our parishioners the opportunity to shop for the required items for both adults and children. Hamper week is a tradition that has been ongoing for 50 years. Our volunteers enjoy a fun week of sorting, wrapping and delivering the gifts.



# LOOKING FORWARD

The past eight years have been a period of transition, conflict and challenge at St. Andrew's Woodhaven. We welcomed and said goodbye to one interim priest and two appointed priests. We recognized the need to evaluate our situation and have worked closely with the Diocese in an in-depth process of reflection. This one-year process included individual interviews, a congregational survey, and a series of round table discussions and workshops. The process was led by an appointed group of parishioners calling itself the Way Forward Group and was facilitated by Diocesan advisors. The result of this process is a better understanding of our parish strengths and growth areas and a renewed passion to see St. Andrew's Woodhaven grow and succeed.

## **SURVEY RESULTS**

The congregational survey was modeled after the Natural Church Development Survey. Representing about 49% of our active congregation, 81 people responded to the survey, 21 of whom self-identified as leadership. Our demographic was accurately reflected with 75% being female respondents and 66% were 70 years of age or older.

We learned that the leadership generally felt more hopeful about the church than the broader parish. An interesting irony emerged from the data: the leadership find it difficult to find new volunteers or start new initiatives while the congregation perceive the leadership as non-collaborative and non-supportive of ministry development. In responding to this dichotomy we have increased our intentional communication and transparency, changed the formation of the Nominating Committee and started a process to streamline Vestry. We continue to be open to new ways of addressing this disparity.

The survey taught us more about ourselves:

### **Strengths**

- Volunteerism – Our volunteers feel valued for the talents they have to offer. They enjoy their volunteer work and feel they receive adequate training for volunteer positions.
- Sense of Church Community - There is enthusiasm for the church community.
- Spirituality – Parishioners enjoy Bible reading and prayer opportunities.
- Organization – Our church activities are very well planned (one of our greatest strengths in all areas).
- Reaching Out – Great concern exists for those who have no connection to a church. Support is encouraged to those in the parish who evangelize.

### **Growth Opportunities**

- Spirituality – There is a need to understand and use the Bible in everyday life; to deepen our faith; to engage in small groups and to offer prayer support for each other
- Structure –There is a lack of understanding of the church organization and the roles various members play
- Worship Services –Dissatisfaction is evident across all categories. Please take into consideration the survey happened at a very stressful time in our church life. However the round table discussions reveal the dissatisfaction is not JUST about timing.
- Reaching Out – There is a general low satisfaction level for how we reach out and welcome visitors

## WHAT WE LEARNED

The process of reflection over the past year revealed specific growth areas for the Parish of St. Andrews Woodhaven.

- To move from a sense of being an inward-facing religious community towards being a Christ-centred worshipping community and centre of Christian ministry.
- To change the governance structures of the Vestry and the Finance Committee from one of control to enabling ministries.
- It was inferred from parishioner comments that there is a need to move from a sense of dutiful worship to a welcoming joyful worship. Rather than “I have to go to Church on Sunday” to “I am looking forward to going to church on Sunday”
- To change attitudes from “welcoming and greeting newcomers to the church is someone’s job” to “welcoming and greeting visitors to the parish family is my responsibility”.

## WHAT WE ARE DOING ABOUT IT

- We are an enthusiastic, dedicated group who are passionate about the future of St. Andrew’s Woodhaven. This has been evident in the participation in round table discussion and seminars, even in the middle of summer when Winnipeggers are known for flocking to the beautiful nearby lakes.
- We desire a deeper relationship with God and knowledge of the Bible. We started a prayer group specifically to pray for and support the change process. We are discussing reforming the Bible study groups.
- We have a gap in our knowledge of church and denominational structures. The Diocese held two presentations to help us refine our understanding and we plan to have a workshop on Anglicanism.
- We love our traditional services. However long-timers and newcomers alike find it challenging to follow the service at times and would benefit from a more joyful atmosphere. We have begun discussions on how to make services easier to follow, perhaps with a standard bulletin insert to eliminate juggling prayer books and hymnals. Other ideas are being generated to make our service more welcoming to newcomers. A group is forming who will visit other churches to observe different approaches to worship.
- We have a desire to be more aware of and to reach out to those around us who need the Good News. A delegation has scoped out the Messy Church concept at a sister parish, and are now bringing this outreach opportunity to St. Andrew’s. We recognize the need for an attitudinal change in this area.
- We are striving to focus on topics of concern through the sermon time.
- We have a renewed collaborative relationship with the Bishop and Diocese. We accept support to mutually and proactively deal with challenges and seize opportunities for growth.



## OUR NEW PRIEST

In reflecting on our parish “personality,” and recognising our recent history of unclear expectations, we have identified our expectations of a new priest as well as what the new priest can expect of us.

Expectations of our new priest	What the priest can expect from St. Andrew's Parish
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Despite our aging demographic, St. Andrew's Woodhaven is an active social community centre with very committed members. We need a priest who will help transform us into a Christ-centred parish, visibly active in mission and ministry in the wider community.</li><li>2. We need a priest who will help lead us into a new vision for our parish and help us embrace the necessary changes, despite our very real love of the way we have always done things. These changes can be accomplished through:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Delivery of inspiring and welcoming worship services</li><li>• Leading us in moving towards a more missional focus in the wider local community</li></ul></li><li>3. We need a priest who will have experience in successfully managing change within a parish setting.</li><li>4. We need a priest who is an inspirational preacher who brings scripture to life and relates it to our daily lives; a preacher who incorporates teaching into sermon time; one who will instill a desire to learn more about our spiritual development, faith, scripture, baptismal covenant and Anglicanism.</li><li>5. In terms of accountability, we need a priest who understands the need for accountability to the parish in terms of the use of his/her time, availability on site, communication with other leaders, accessibility to staff and church leaders (e.g. cellphone, notice of absence from the site, how to get in touch when offsite, etc.).</li><li>6. We need a priest who is a strong communicator.</li></ol>	<p><i>Our aim is to be open to new ideas and to commit to listening to and attending educational sessions. We understand that together with the priest we share the ministry in this parish.</i></p> <p><i>We will be open to carefully thought-out changes to liturgy that have been prepared with adequate teaching and consultation. We recognize our need to be less inward-facing and more involved in our community. This may be difficult for us but we commit to being open to listening and to careful experimentation.</i></p> <p><i>We have identified a hunger within the parish and are open to teaching from the pulpit.</i></p> <p><i>We commit to respecting the priest's need for privacy and for personal preparation time (sermon preparation, personal development). Our leaders understand the difference between supervising and collaborating.</i></p> <p><i>We commit to being open and receptive and to being active listeners.</i></p>



<p>7. We need a priest who has effective interpersonal skills for forming and maintaining relationships.</p> <p>8. We need a priest who is an effective teacher who will support the lay-readers/intercessors and others in ministry roles.</p> <p>9. We need a priest who is able to establish comfortable relationships with the parishioners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Pastoral visiting is a priority of the parish.</li> <li>b) Parishioners want to feel welcome to contact the priest in person, onsite and by phone/email.</li> <li>c) Spiritual counseling to be offered to parishioners when requested.</li> </ul> <p>10. We desire a priest who will become emotionally invested in the community and care of St. Andrew's Woodhaven.</p> <p>11. The candidate should have received a comprehensive theological and ecclesiological education-M.Div. or equivalent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The candidate should have a passion for continuing education and professional development.</li> <li>b) The successful candidate should have a passion for sharing what they have learned with the parish.</li> </ul> <p>12. We need a priest who will lead us in a careful and respectful manner through the exploration of contentious church issues.</p> <p>13. We need a priest who will help us to broaden our understanding of responsible Christian stewardship of all our resources, recognizing all have been entrusted by God.</p> <p>14.</p>	<p><i>We desire an authentic relationship with the priest and with each other.</i></p> <p><i>We will commit to attend training sessions and to fulfill our roles to the best of our ability.</i></p> <p><i>We are open to establishing pastoral teams to assist the priest.</i></p> <p><i>We will respect the priest's time</i></p> <p><i>We are a welcoming community, excited to have a new priest, and will do all we can to help him/her become established in our community.</i></p> <p><i>We will support and encourage the priest to make use of the continuing education leave and financial support provided by the Diocese and National Church.</i></p> <p><i>We are open to listening to what our priest has learned.</i></p> <p><i>We would be open to supporting an educational process that will provide a safe and respectful opportunity to discuss contentious issues and allow the parish to come to an informed consensus.</i></p> <p><i>We will be open to learning about Christian stewardship.</i></p> <p><i>In addition, the new priest can trust that we want this to be a successful incumbency</i></p>
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