



Welcome to St. Clement's Anglican Church

Welcome to St. Clement's Anglican Church located in the neighbourhood of Lynn Valley in North Vancouver, British Columbia, a parish of the Diocese of New Westminster and the Anglican Church of Canada.

We acknowledge with respect that St. Clement's worships on the traditional territories of the Tsleil-Waututh, Musqueam, and Squamish First Nations.



ST. CLEMENT'S
ANGLICAN CHURCH

Anchored in Lynn Valley. Come journey with us!

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www.stclementschurch.ca

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The Rector We Seek



St. Clement's is seeking a new full-time Rector with the following qualities:



the ability and desire to work collegially with our Deacons, music director, administrator, and lay leadership;



the knowledge and ability to teach and lead our members toward spiritual growth;



an inspirational and positive attitude, energy, and a sense of humour and fun;



a heart for dedicated pastoral care and community outreach;



embraces variety in liturgy and worship, including creative online worship options, to enrich our understanding of the Gospel and to inspire us to enter more fully into the mystery of our sacramental life together;



is engaging and encouraging;



strong organizational, process and facilitation skills;



the ability to navigate possible building / community projects that may include neighbouring Lutheran and Anglican congregations;



the ability to work effectively and collegially with a diverse congregation; and



a spirit, desire and demonstrated ability to work with youth.



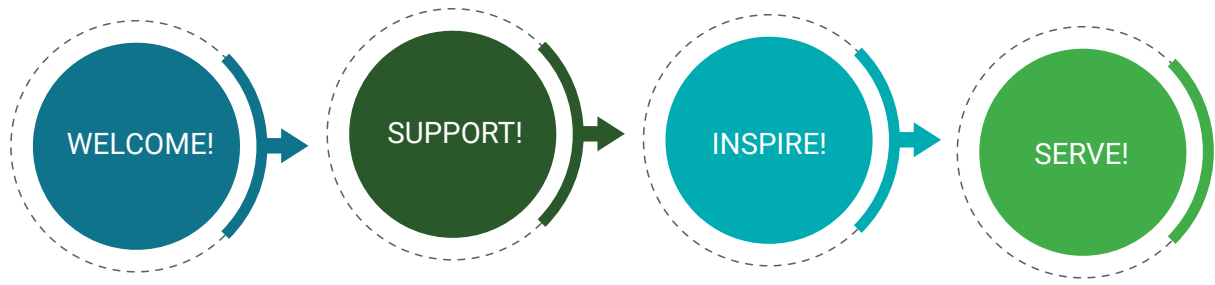


Who We Are

Our parish vision is

“ Our parish vision is “to be an inclusive, welcoming Christian community, faithful to Christ’s call to love God and serve the contemporary needs of a changing world” .

Our parish mission is to



These statements accurately reflect our faith community rooted in Lynn Valley, North Vancouver, British Columbia within the Diocese of New Westminster.

We are a diverse community including all ages from children to the elderly, singles, couples and families, members from diverse ethnic and faith backgrounds, and members from the LGBTQ community. St. Clement’s is a true “parish church” reflecting our Lynn Valley neighbourhood.

We are a welcoming parish who accepts our members and those we serve as they are in the contemporary world, and regardless of where they find us on their faith journey.

We are deeply committed to community, including our St. Clement’s family, our Lynn Valley neighbours and beyond. We support and defend each other and seek to give back and to serve.

We value reverent, scripture-based worship and preaching within the Anglican tradition, but with variety and a sense of fun and celebration.

We have a strong musical tradition, including support of local choirs and musical events throughout the year.

We are FUN, we like to laugh and have many social gatherings throughout the year.



Who We Are



We are active in service of St. Clement's and our broader community. We work well to achieve our goals as a team, even if not always according to a carefully developed committee plan.

We are financially sustainable with healthy pledged givings supplemented as necessary by investment income from the sale of the church rectory many years ago, and rental income from a day care, Korean Methodist congregation, and other community groups who use our building. We have also received income for the use of our parking lot. We are fortunate that our parish stewardship has resulted in growth in financial support despite a slight decline in membership. We are challenged at times, though, with our aging building.

We highly value our youth members, but have fewer young members now as our youth become high school seniors and university students. We would love to attract more families with young children.



Where We Are Going - Our Goals and Priorities



St. Clement's has identified the following goals/priorities:



We wish to maintain and grow our congregation, both in numbers and vitality through strategies that may include partnership with other Anglican or Lutheran faith communities.



Our members seek spiritual growth, transformation and learning, both individually and in community. St. Clement's looks to find meaning and mission through faith.



St. Clement's wishes to increase its active community outreach and connections within Lynn Valley and beyond. We wish to work together to serve the community.



St. Clement's has and wishes to continue to improve its building, especially improvements to accessibility, and is open to possible development of our property either alone or in partnership with other faith communities.



Current Parish Leadership



Clergy

St. Clement's is blessed with two ordained Deacons, one active and one retired but remaining involved with parish life and ministry. In the Diocese of New Westminster, deacons are non-stipendiary clergy licenced by the Archbishop who are in a mutual covenant agreement with a parish. The covenant is renewed annually. Deacons are expected to work under the direction of their Rector.

In addition to her role in the liturgical and educational life of the parish, our active Deacon coordinates parish communications (including our website, weekly e-newsletter and Facebook page), and leads us in a number of community outreach initiatives to build our presence in Lynn Valley. Our active Deacon also participates with other Anglican and Lutheran clergy in North Vancouver in regular regional meetings to plan regional services, regional educational offerings and other initiatives.

Our retired Deacon continues to engage in pastoral care in the local community (which was a significant focus of her work as Deacon prior to her retirement), and serves as Deacon when necessary on Sunday mornings. She also now holds a covenant with Salal and Cedar, a ministry within the Diocese of New Westminster that strives to reconnect Christians with a commitment to the preservation of our environment. Salal and Cedar recently completed a project to clean up the stream that runs behind St. Clement's church.

Our current full-time Rector was called only in mid-2020 but is leaving the country to be closer to family in Europe – an unexpected side-effect of the global pandemic. Our parish completed an interim period of discernment in 2019/20 following the departure of a long-serving Rector when she was elected Bishop of the Diocese of Kootenay.



Current Parish Leadership



Staff

Our contracted Music Director has been with us at St. Clement's since 2006. He is a talented musician and singer who pre-pandemic led our small, but enthusiastic, choir on Sunday mornings, during holiday services and during choir concerts hosted at St. Clement's during the year. During the pandemic he has served as our musician/cantor. He also oversees the operation and maintenance of our sound system, including a hearing loop for the hearing impaired. The sound system has been continuously improved during the pandemic.

We have also employed our current parish administrator since 2006. She prepares worship materials and oversees parish reporting, accounts payable, office deposits, and general administration. She also assists with managing relations with the community groups and individuals who rent our facilities.



Lay Ministry

St. Clement's enjoys an active and diverse Parish Council that meets ten times per year and is led by the Rector and two wardens. Our Parish Council members oversee outreach, user group relations, church finances (through our Treasurer), social events, regional relations and stewardship, and building maintenance and revitalization projects.



Our parishioners serve on the following committees (all but worship committee lay-led):

- stewardship (particularly active during the stewardship campaign each fall);
- altar guild; and
- worship (liturgy and order of service review and updates).

We also formed a Building Revitalization committee that studied options to redevelop and improve our building. The work of this committee was on hold during the interim period in 2019/20, but has recently resumed. Many members of that committee led a recent project to update one of our church meeting rooms, from a very fun initial fund-raising event to completion.

We also currently have informal groupings of volunteers focussed on outreach initiatives, building maintenance and social events. Our parish enjoyed frequent face-to-face social events prior to the pandemic but has had to settle for smaller, outdoor events (when permissible) or virtual gatherings during the pandemic. We hope to form more formal committees for that work in the coming months.



Groups of our parishioners also regularly volunteer for the following roles and duties (some suspended during the pandemic but expected to resume):

- lay Eucharistic administrators;
- readers;
- prayers of the people leaders;
- sides people;
- servers and crucifers (youth members);
- intercessors;
- coffee hour hosts;
- church library;
- monthly street clean-up;
- counters; and
- Sunday school teachers.

We are blessed with significant volunteer energy in our parish and have successfully engaged new members in committee or Parish Council work. We are constantly working to expand our volunteer network to avoid overburdening any particular person or group.



Parish Life

St. Clement's is a busy community that remains active beyond Sunday morning. Face-to-face activities are currently curtailed of course due to the pandemic but we expect activities to resume as before after the pandemic. The sections of our profile below concerning Outreach, Pastoral Care and Social Events and Gatherings, all reflect St. Clement's in "normal" times unless otherwise indicated. Some but not all of the activities described below have continued virtually and our parish also has regular post-church "Zoom coffee hours" during the pandemic.

St. Clement's is part of a regional group of North Vancouver parishes that work together in important ways, including group worship annually each June and on Ash Wednesday and Christmas morning, regional educational offerings and outreach initiatives. This regional approach grew out of a regional ministry assessment process that occurred about ten years ago, led by North Vancouver clergy and lay members. St. Clement's community has also shared worship, fellowship, and confirmation classes with Mt. Olivet Lutheran Church, currently also situated in Lynn Valley (the community recently sold its building and is discerning its future).

Outreach

St. Clement's is focussed on reaching out to our Lynn Valley neighbours through various initiatives, including:

- St. Clement's Christmas tree in the annual Christmas tree display in Lynn Valley village;
- presence during the annual "Lynn Valley Days" celebration that occurs in the public grounds across from our church, including the first St. Clement's "mocktail" mixing contest during the 2019 Lynn Valley Days event;
- Developing a strong connection between our congregation and the residents of Dovercourt House, an abstinence-based living residence for men operated by the Lookout Society and located near our church; and
- On-line fundraising initiative for Shelter Movers, an organization that assists victims of domestic violence with household moves.

St. Clement's members also participate in social justice-focussed initiatives and events related to climate action and the environment, truth and reconciliation with Indigenous peoples and Vancouver pride.

Members of our community are also active in refugee sponsorship activities. St. Clement's is currently co-sponsor of a young man recently arrived from Afghanistan via Iran and Turkey to join other family members connected to our community and a young Syrian woman and her child in the final stages of the application process.



Parish Life

Pastoral Care

St. Clement's members are blessed with prayerful pastoral care from our clergy and lay leaders. Clergy members visit congregation members who are ill or hospitalized, and aging parish members no longer able to attend services. Our clergy have also traditionally conducted services and provided pastoral care at the local hospital and care homes. Lay intercessors are available after Sunday service to pray with members of our congregation.



Social Events and Gatherings

Normally, the entire St. Clement's community enjoys monthly social gatherings on Fridays ("Social Fridays") throughout the year (moved on-line with less frequency during the pandemic), and we also host the following annual events:

- fundraising dinner/BBQ each summer;
- welcome Sunday lunch with games (culminating in the highly competitive egg toss) each September;
- potluck dinner (with fundraising silent and live auction every second year) each November for St. Clement's Day; and
- pancake lunch prepared by the men and boys of the parish in advance of our annual Vestry meeting each February (which ensures a healthy turnout for the meeting!).

A group of older parish members have formed a group called "Seniors Link" that meets monthly to socialize and discuss topics of interest.

Several men in the parish also meet weekly for breakfast (moved on-line during the pandemic) to discuss the lectionary and other topics of interest.

A group of families within our parish spend a weekend camping together each summer at nearby locations.

Our community enjoyed an active youth group that met periodically and included some members beyond the parish, but that activity was not as frequent during the interim period and as more of our youth have now graduated and are in university or working. We would love to attract more families with young children and work to build youth programs to develop their abilities and competencies based on a strong spiritual foundation. St. Clement's looks forward to some renewed focus on this activity at the appropriate time when our new Rector arrives.

Worship and Music

In “Normal Times”

Reverent, scripture-based worship and preaching within the Anglican tradition are at the core of our life in Christ at St. Clement’s. Our congregation also enjoys variety and a sense of fun and celebration in our weekly worship. Our services are typically based on the BAS and have also incorporated prayers and liturgy from the Lutheran tradition and the Shema from the Jewish tradition.

We enjoy a mix of contemporary and traditional music during our services which typically include an antiphonally sung Psalm, as well as sung Gloria and Sanctus, all led by our Music Director and choir.

We have a large group of lay volunteer readers, prayers of the people leaders, Eucharistic ministers, altar guild and sides people, along with members of our youth who act as servers and crucifers during St. Clement’s services.

St. Clement’s has one Sunday service each week commencing at 9:45 a.m. to which all ages are welcome, with average attendance of about 50. Our service begins with a territorial acknowledgement and moment of reflection and includes a children/youth talk before the children leave for Sunday school until communion.

Our services conclude with community announcements after the blessing and before the closing hymn and include a celebration of birthdays and anniversaries on the first Sunday of each month.



In addition to our weekly, Sunday morning services, St. Clement’s has the following festival worship traditions:

- **Sunday before Christmas:** Youth Christmas pageant
- **Christmas Eve:**
 - 4:00 – Carols and activities for families with young children
 - 7:00 – Holy Eucharist
 - 10:00 – Holy Eucharist
- **Christmas Morning:** participation in North Vancouver regional service that occurs at St. Clement’s in rotation with other parishes
- **Sunday after Christmas:** Lessons and Carols
- **Ash Wednesday:** participation in early, mid-day and evening Holy Eucharist with Imposition of the Ashes, at various locations within the region that occur at St. Clement’s in rotation with other parishes.
- **Maundy Thursday:** evening service for Liturgy of the Last Supper with washing of feet
- **Good Friday:** morning service with Liturgy of the Lord’s Passion
- **Easter Sunday:** 9:45 Holy Eucharist



During the Pandemic

St. Clement’s worship has of course been altered during the pandemic. At the commencement of the “lock down” phase of the pandemic we quickly pivoted to on-line worship. Our clergy and music director and eventually one lay reader recorded a service each Saturday available from our website through a YouTube link the following Sunday. Recordings were initially created on smart phones.

During the time from mid-June to October 2020 when in-person worship was permitted, we developed appropriate safety protocols and enjoyed physically distanced in-person worship with outdoor brief visits following each service. We all missed singing together of course but it was a great relief to be able to gather for Eucharist. These services were live-streamed, from a smart-phone through a Facebook live link available on our website.

Since the commencement of the most recent closure we have continued to provide live-streamed services but with much improved audio and video. We have graduated from a single smart-phone to three cameras and a much improved sound system. We also have the ability to enable readers to provide broadcast remotely, in the comfort of their home, if needed. While we of course look forward to a return to in-person worship, we expect that live-streaming is “here to stay” and only helps our reach into the broader community.

Education and Learning



St. Clement's has a long tradition of weekly Bible study attended regularly by a faithful group of parishioners. We also offer educational series on theology and liturgy, often centered around seasons like Advent or Lent. Some recent examples are: a series of workshops on the Sabbath during Lent; a series on angels; and a series on questions about Anglicanism and worship. These discussions are occurring via Zoom during the pandemic and continue to be very well attended with 20 or more participants.

Some of our parish education and learning occurs through regional programs (sometimes led or coordinated by St. Clement's clergy and sometime by other clergy in the North Vancouver region) available to members of all of the Anglican and Lutheran congregations in the region.

Education and learning are important elements of our parish life that our congregation hopes to continue and revitalize under the leadership of our new Rector.

Our Sunday school is equipped with Godly Play materials and our group of five (5) teachers followed the Godly Play method for the last several years. We are currently taking a break from the Godly Play method and are, instead, following a lectionary based set of lesson plans with use of Godly Play occasionally and we expect to return to Godly Play in the future. Sadly, this ministry has not been active during the pandemic but will continue when it is safe to do so.

Our Building and Property



Lynn Valley is a community within the District of North Vancouver with a population of about 10,000 people that is home to ski hills and world-class hiking and mountain bike trails. Lynn Valley is a family oriented and a largely middle-class community. Lynn Valley has experienced significant population growth that will further increase upon completion of significant condominium developments in the Lynn Valley town center area about two blocks from St. Clement's (see more about Lynn Valley in Appendix "C").

St. Clement's is situated across the street from a community field and centre and just down and across the street from Lynn Valley elementary school. We are about two blocks from Lynn Valley Mall and Lynn Valley Village (the latter centered around a public library) that constitutes Lynn Valley's town centre. We enjoy relative visibility and are known as the "log cabin church with the anchor" and consider our location within the Lynn Valley neighbourhood to be an asset.

Our church building abuts a salmon bearing stream that runs through our neighbourhood, and our parking lot is next to community tennis courts. The grounds in front of and beside the church are landscaped and we have community garden boxes at the front of our parking area that are available for use by parish members and our neighbours. Our memorial garden is located in the garden at the front of the church.

Our historic chapel dates back to the founding of our parish more than 100 years ago, while the main sanctuary (with a capacity of 150 people) and hall, and current meeting and office areas were added about 60 years ago.

Our main church building is a charming, log pan-abode structure that complements the beautiful, natural Lynn Valley setting. Our sanctuary is a beautiful and warm room with the feel of a log cabin, fronted by a raised altar with a beautifully carved wooden altar table and reredos. One of our parishioners is a talented textile artist whose work graces our altar and sanctuary throughout the seasons of the church calendar.

We have a children's room with audio speakers at the back of the church for use by young children and their parents, and a room for Sunday school at the back of our hall on the lower level below our sanctuary.

Our Building and Property

We committed to revitalizing our building several years ago and have funded and completed a number of projects since then:

- updated sanctuary flooring and made changes to allow for the pews to be moved for more flexible use;
- replaced the furnaces in the main sanctuary area; and
- renovated our main meeting room located between the vestry and chapel.

We are also in the process of improving and replacing signage around our building.



Our Building Revitalization committee worked with a professional architect on a proposal to improve the church entrance and building flow and to add a lift and provide for other improvements to accessibility. Those projects will require significant fund-raising and are on hold. but The highest remaining priority for the parish is to improve wheelchair accessibility to our sanctuary and between our sanctuary and hall levels through a lift or elevator.

We are fortunate to share our building with other groups, some of whom provide rental income. These groups include the following (although only the day care is actively attending during the pandemic):

- Korean Methodist church that uses our sanctuary and hall on Sunday afternoons;
- day care that uses the hall and kitchen for after-school care on weekdays;
- two choirs that use our sanctuary space for weekly practice and bi-annual concerts;
- weekly community group users (e.g. Brownie troops and Narcotics Anonymous).

We have also rented parking spaces to business groups and the municipality.

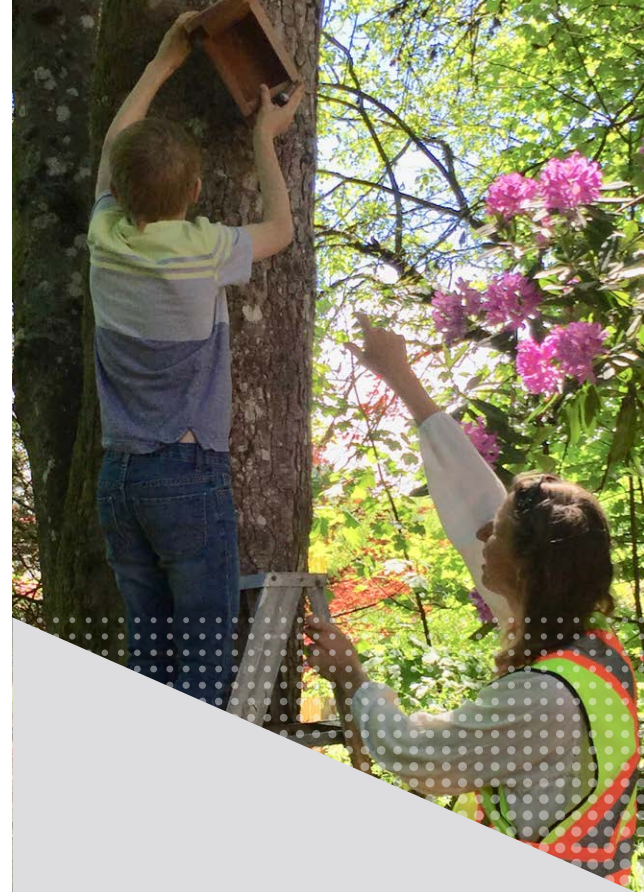
Our Challenges and the *Way Forward*

St. Clement's primary challenges concern maintaining and growing our congregation (particularly with younger members), and dealing with our aging building. These are not current crises, but rather areas of focus to ensure that St. Clement's remains a vital and relevant faith community in Lynn Valley. We believe that our continued focus on community outreach and transformative spiritual growth, combined with possible opportunities to partner with other faith communities will equip us to meet those challenges under the leadership of our new Rector.



Lynn Valley has undergone some dramatic change in the last few years with several hundred new apartment and condo units being built within walking distance of St Clement's. We look forward to the opportunity to explore how we can connect with and serve our new neighbours.

We also look forward to continuing and expanding upon the community outreach initiatives that we can have taken and we hope to reform a youth program with a new cohort at the appropriate time.





CONTACT US



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ST. CLEMENT'S
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Appendix A – Parish Statistics

- Charts of identifiable regular givers, Sunday attendance, and parish membership (total and households) from 2011-2020

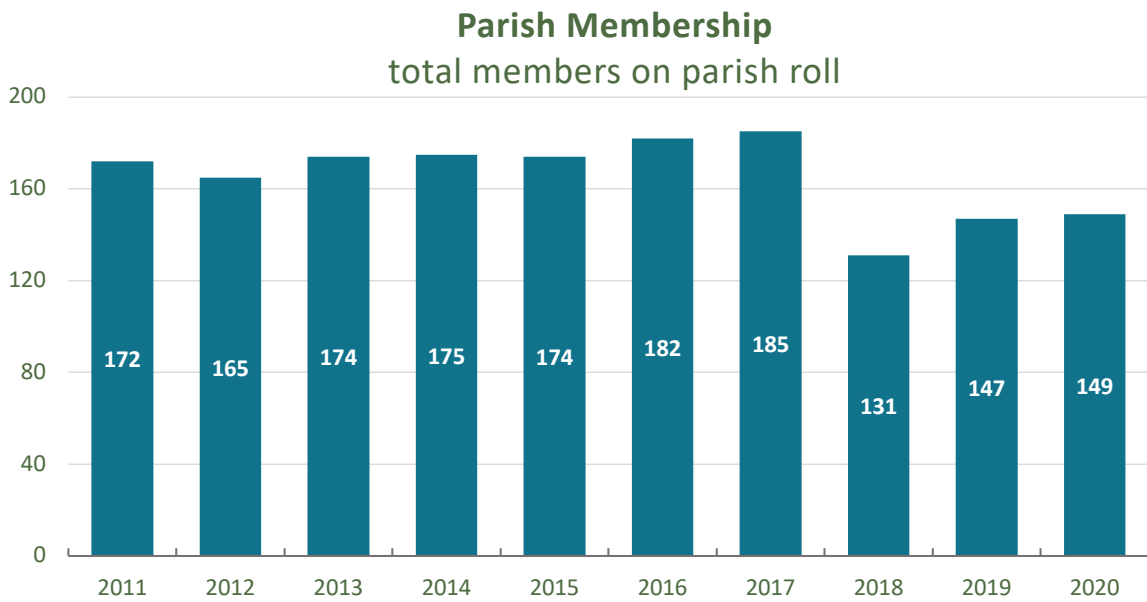
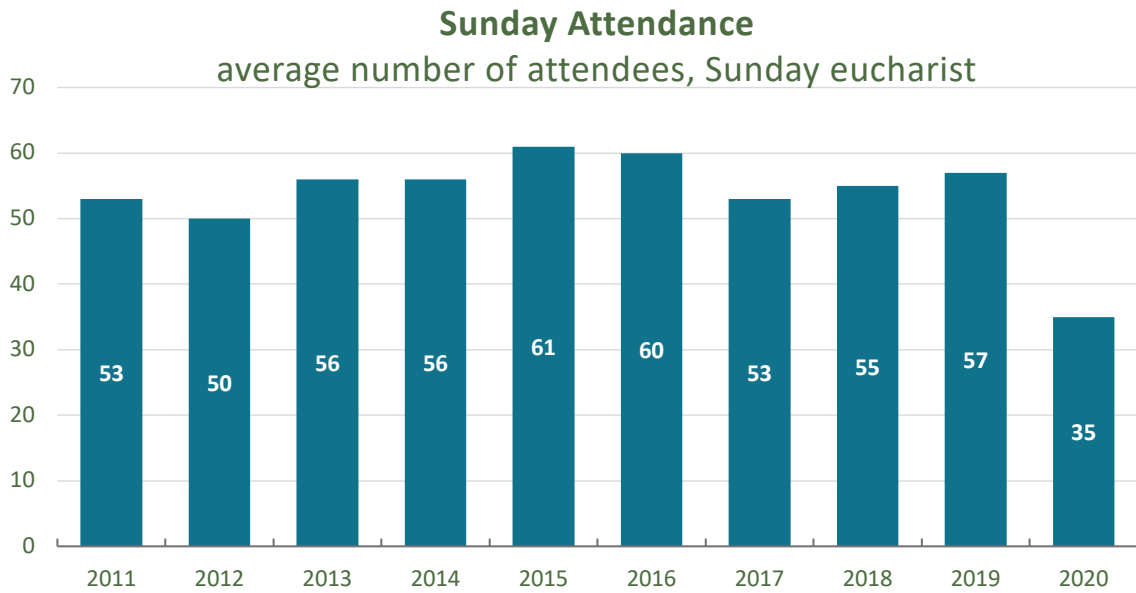
Appendix B – Financial Summary and 2021 Financial Forecast

- Income and expense summaries 2016-2020
- 2020 year end balance sheet and income statement
- Forecast approved at 2021 Vestry

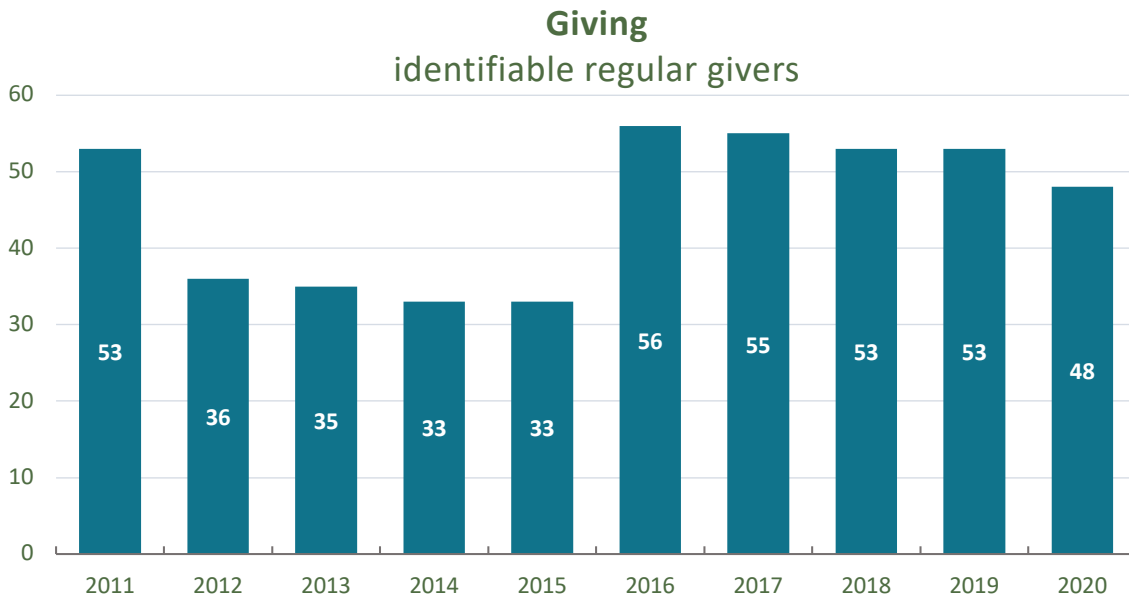
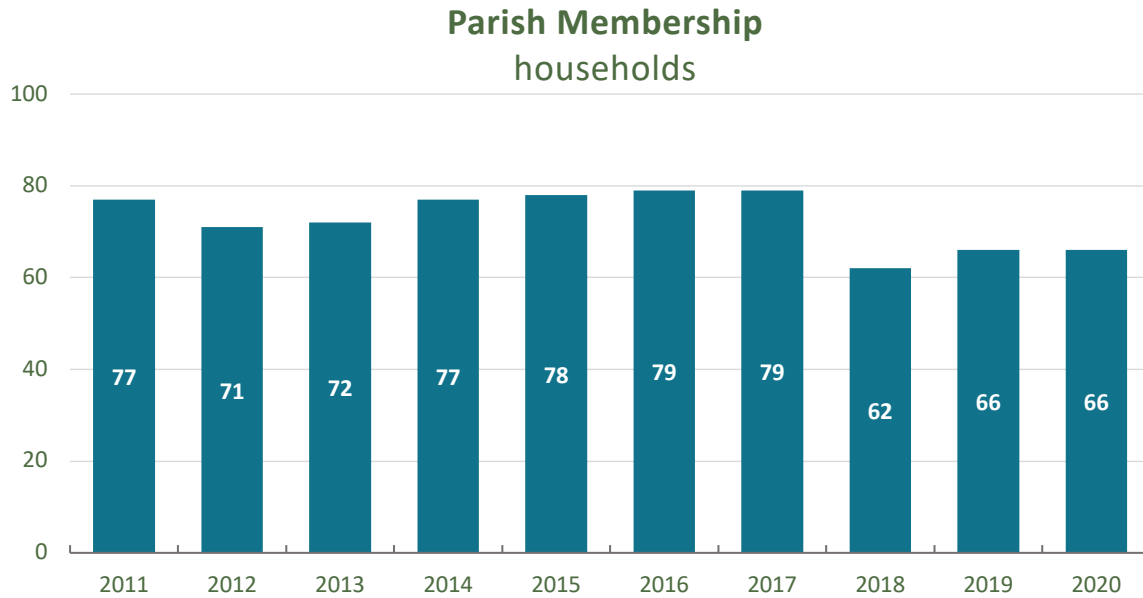
Appendix C - Our Context – Lynn Valley, North Vancouver

- Summary document regarding Lynn Valley

Appendix A Parish Statistics

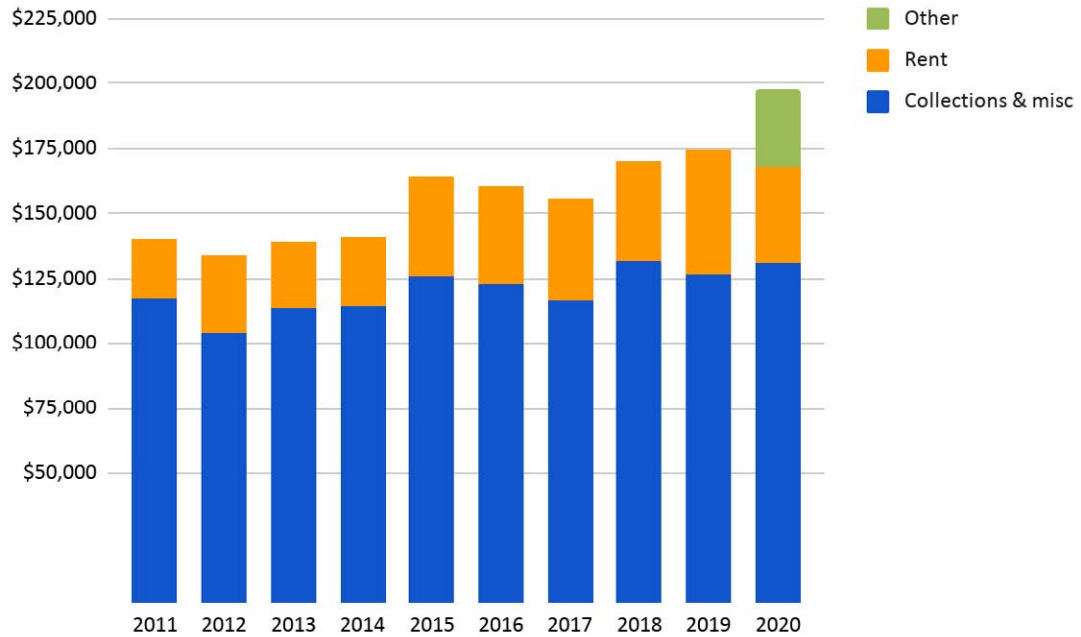


Appendix A Parish Statistics

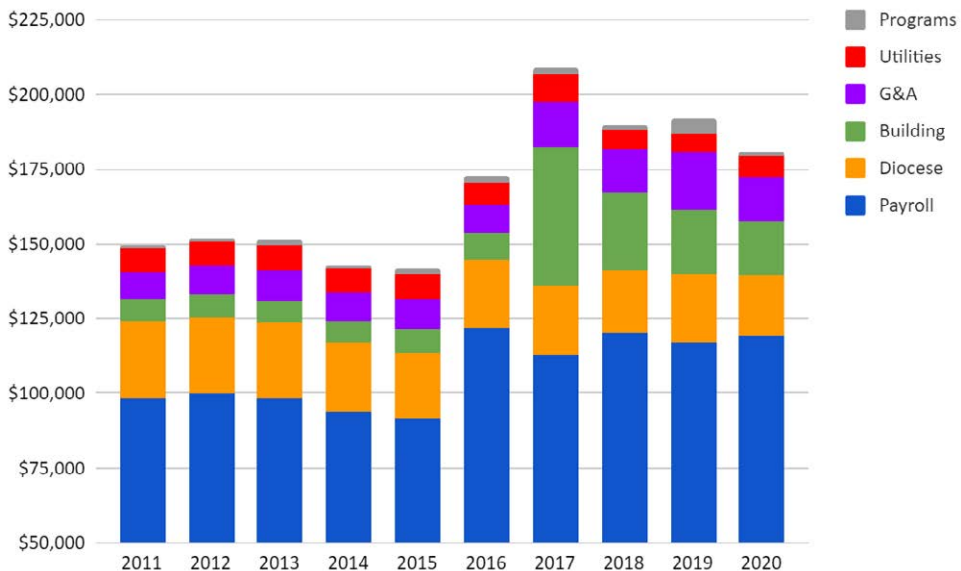


Appendix B Financial Summary and 2021 Financial Forecast

10 YEARS: INCOME SUMMARY



10 YEARS: EXPENSE SUMMARY



Appendix B Financial Summary and 2021 Financial Forecast

Simplified Balance Sheet		
As at Dec 31, 2020 & 2019		
	Dec 31, 2020	Dec 31, 2019
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash	\$ 37,840	\$ 17,007
Accounts receivable	56	4,899
CTF - available funds	125,935	82,045
Prepaid expenses	2,294	261
Recoverable GST	803	287
Total current assets	\$ 166,927	\$ 104,499
Long term assets		
CTF restricted	249,080	249,080
Total assets	\$ 416,007	\$ 353,579
Liabilities & equity		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	391	561
Accrued liabilities		392
Special funds	15,276	16,898
Total liabilities	\$ 15,666	\$ 17,851
Equity		
CTF	375,015	331,125
Retained earnings	20,710	(1,208)
Income for the year	4,616	5,811
Total equity	\$ 400,341	\$ 335,728
Total liabilities & equity	\$ 416,007	\$ 353,579

Designated funds Balance at Dec. 31, 2020	2020
Altar Guild	\$ 941
Care Share	\$ 5
Community Garden	\$ 861
Diaconal Outreach	\$ 4,276
Godly Play/Sunday School	\$ 1,004
Memorial Garden	\$ -
Outreach (deleted)	\$ -
PWRDF	\$ 1,040
Rector's Disc	\$ 2,196
Refugee program	\$ 3,236
Stained Glass	\$ 440
Youth	\$ 917
Zamani Family Support	\$ 360
Total	\$ 15,276

Appendix B Financial Summary and 2021 Financial Forecast

Simplified Statement of Income, 2016-2020					
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Revenue					
Collections	\$ 107,639	\$ 108,939	\$ 114,779	\$ 119,018	\$ 118,386
Rental income	\$ 39,313	\$ 36,275	\$ 37,521	\$ 44,987	\$ 37,104
Other revenue	\$ 17,682	\$ 4,231	\$ 12,725	\$ 3,965	\$ 12,633
Total revenue	\$ 164,635	\$ 149,446	\$ 165,024	\$ 167,970	\$ 168,123
Expenses					
Salaries	\$ 121,205	\$ 113,506	\$ 118,916	\$ 117,729	\$ 119,332
Diocese	\$ 22,488	\$ 22,980	\$ 20,893	\$ 23,280	\$ 20,340
Building maintenance	\$ 5,936	\$ 5,161	\$ 2,597	\$ 760	\$ 11,775
Utilities	\$ 11,195	\$ 15,042	\$ 11,864	\$ 12,255	\$ 7,003
Other	\$ 10,754	\$ 10,364	\$ 18,777	\$ 25,194	\$ 17,446
Total expenses	\$ 171,578	\$ 167,053	\$ 173,046	\$ 179,219	\$ 175,896
Operating income (loss)	\$ (6,943)	\$ (17,608)	\$ (8,021)	\$ (11,248)	\$ (19,022)
Other items					
CTF income	\$ -	\$ 30,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 30,000	
Curacy Grant					\$ 4,000
Diocese Virus Subsidy					\$ 25,636
Capital spending/ amortisation	\$ 803	\$ 36,360	\$ 13,362	\$ 12,940	\$ 5,998
Net income (loss)	\$ (7,746)	\$ (23,968)	\$ (11,383)	\$ 5,811	\$ 4,616

Appendix B Financial Summary and 2021 Financial Forecast

Simplified Forecast 2021			
	2019	2020	2021 Forecast
Revenue			
Collections	\$ 119,018	\$ 118,386	\$ 117,000
Rental income	\$ 44,987	\$ 37,104	\$ 38,300
Other revenue	\$ 3,965	\$ 12,633	\$ 120
Total revenue	\$ 167,970	\$ 168,123	\$ 155,420
Expenses			
Salaries	\$ 117,729	\$ 119,332	\$ 118,000
Diocese	\$ 23,280	\$ 20,340	21,000
Building maintenance	\$ 760	\$ 11,775	\$ 8,200
Utilities	\$ 12,255	\$ 7,003	\$ 7,000
Other	\$ 25,194	\$ 17,446	18,991
Total expenses	\$ 179,219	\$ 175,896	\$ 173,191
Operating income (loss)	\$ (11,248)	\$ (19,022)	(17,771)
Other items			
CTF income	\$ 30,000		\$ 20,000
Curacy Grant		\$ 4,000	\$ 6,000
Diocese Virus Subsidy		\$ 25,636	
Capital spending/ amortisation	\$ 12,940	\$ 5,998	\$ 9,000
Net income (loss)	\$ 5,811	\$ 4,616	(\$ 771)

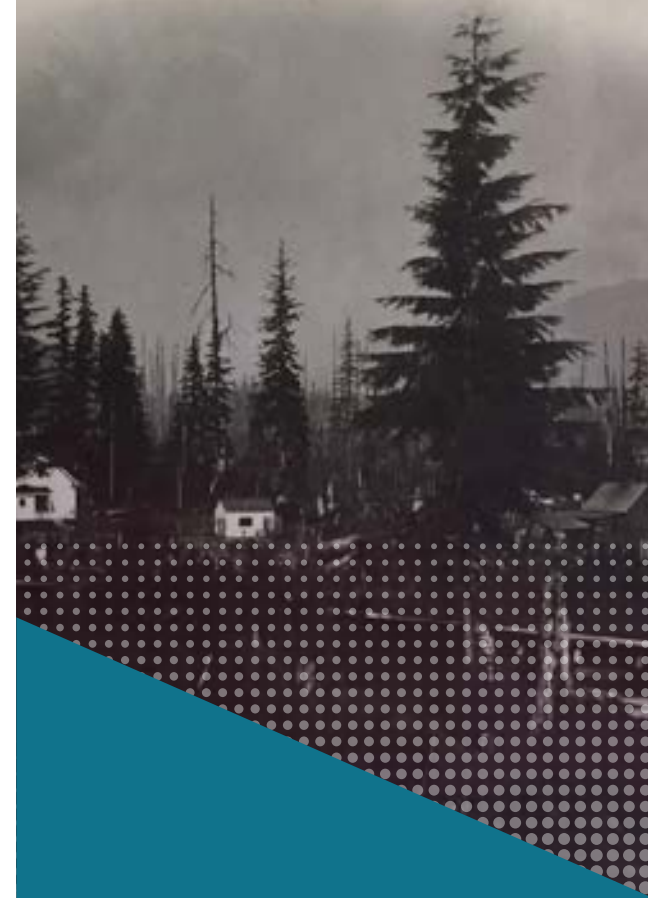
Appendix C Our Context Lynn Valley, North Vancouver

The original St. Clement's was built in Lynn Valley in 1909. It was a small country church with a capacity of 20 in what was then a pioneer settlement quite separate from the town of North Vancouver (then called Moodyville). A long skid road through the forest connected the people of Lynn Valley to Moodyville, which was situated on the banks of Burrard Inlet. Logs cut from the forests around Lynn Valley were sent via log "flumes" – troughs of rushing water – some miles down to Moodyville. There they were boomed up and towed across the inlet to Vancouver, and then shipped elsewhere by boat or rail. To the right is a photo of the original St. Clement's church with a log flume crossing in front of it.



Transport between Lynn Valley and Moodyville consisted of walking the muddy road for an hour or two, or hitching a ride with Mrs. Sugden, who collected Lynn Valley's mail from Moodyville daily and was the only resident in possession of a horse and buggy. In 1910, a new streetcar line connected Lynn Valley with the "outside world" for the first time.

Over the decades, ongoing development ate away the forest between the two settlements and Lynn Valley became subsumed by the sprawling municipality of North Vancouver. That being said, it has maintained a character and community feel of its own. This is partly due to the geographical context; on the north, we are bounded by forest and mountain, on the east by the forests surrounding Lynn Creek, and on the west by a hill that, despite being criss-crossed with streets, still serves to define the entry to and from Lynn Valley. To the south, we are bounded by Burrard Inlet. Driving the bridge over Burrard Inlet takes one into the city of Vancouver, home to the poverty and addictions of the "Downtown Eastside" and the locus of many social ministries. You can't go through Lynn Valley to get anywhere; we are in that sense a "dead end," or, more attractively put a "destination point."

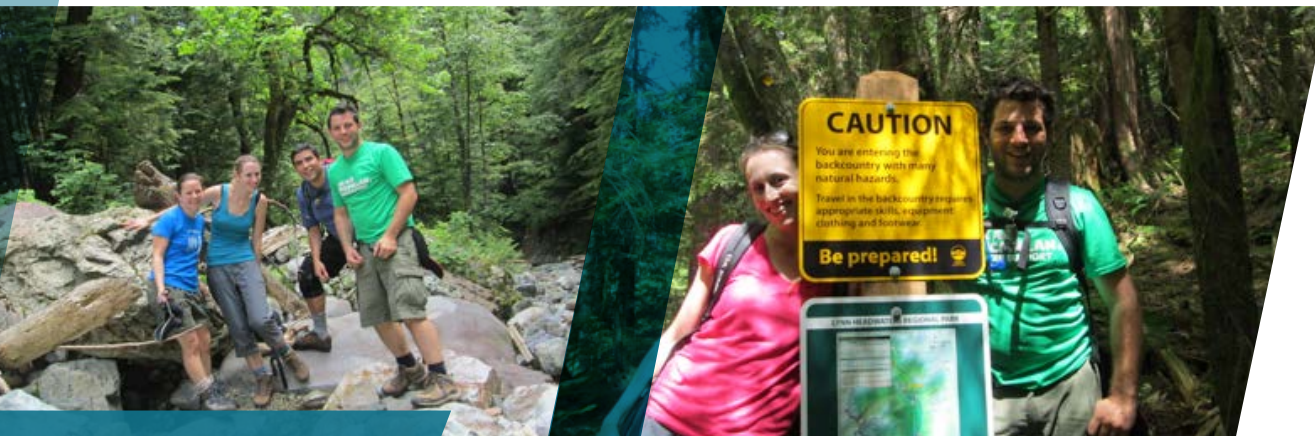


The community has also retained a "blue collar" feel to it, although that is fast fading. People who built homes here in the 1950s and 60s still lived amongst families from the early logging days; prices were cheap enough that young, one-income couples could readily get a foot in the real estate market. Hiking, skiing and fishing were popular leisure time pursuits; other neighbourhoods, not this one, were considered the "posh" area on Vancouver's North Shore. During this era, a pan abode-style church was built adjacent to the original church, now a chapel. This is our current church building, with a capacity of 150.

Fast forward

Today, Lynn Valley has grown to approximately 10,000 people. It is now a neighbourhood within the District of North Vancouver. (There are two municipalities called North Vancouver: the City and the District. Combined they have a population of 138,000.) There is a higher concentration of schools here than in other North Vancouver neighbourhoods, and Lynn Valley has long been known as being a good place to raise a family. There is a strong Lions Club, Community Association, and Legion, as well as community programming offered through the municipal recreation commission. As with many organizations today, a minority of people do the vast majority of volunteering. It can be difficult to get people to commit to membership in community organizations. Given the price of homes, most families need (at least) two incomes to pay the bills and it is harder to find time to volunteer outside of the home.

Immigration is apparent here as in elsewhere in Vancouver; our largest source of newcomers is Iran, followed by China and the Philippines. The immigrants settling in our neighbourhood have tended to be well-educated and speak English at work, more so than in other areas of Vancouver. Although we are clearly a neighbourhood composed of people of varied ethnicities, there is still a Caucasian majority representing the earlier tide of immigrants from the United Kingdom. Largely middle-class and stolidly professional, it is not a neighbourhood particularly known for its arts and culture, "life of the mind," or quirky boutique scene; people work hard and play hard at a variety of sports and outdoor activities. In general, the population enjoys good health and overall fitness; dog walking, cycling and jogging are common on our streets.



(Photo: Typical days out in the woods. Lynn Valley is adjacent to wilderness terrain that has claimed a number of lives in one way or another; the local volunteer rescue team has become one of the most experienced in the world and are considered local "heroes" of the neighbourhood.)

There is an unusually high concentration of churches in the community. In addition to St Clement's, there are United, Full Gospel, Baptist (x2), Mormon, Jehovah's Witness, and Roman Catholic churches, as well as smaller congregations who rent space in local facilities (such as the Korean Methodists who rent St. Clement's on Sunday afternoons). The largest church in terms of number is the evangelical Full Gospel church, which believes the bible to be "the inerrant word of God." There is an untalied but significant number of people in the neighbourhood who would consider themselves "spiritual, but not religious." They might express their spiritual practices in terms of nature walks, yoga or meditation.

Recent population growth has stressed the community. Lynn Valley's mountain biking trails have become known worldwide so that once-quiet hiking and biking spots have become somewhat overrun with "others" (as Lynn Valleyites might see them). Parking has become an issue, as does finding the peace and quiet certain parks and trails were once known for.

THE NEW LYNN VALLEY

Nature and culture weave a unique tapestry that makes this community extraordinary. Everything you need—and much of what your heart desires—is at your front door.

20
□

MIN DRIVE
DOWNTOWN
VANCOUVER

25 □

MIN WALK
LYNN CANYON &
LYNN VALLEY
SUSPENSION
BRIDGE

□ 25

MIN TRANSIT
LONSDALE
QUAY
SEABUS
TERMINAL

15
□

MIN DRIVE
GROUSE
MOUNTAIN

(Photo: The new high rises, which are currently about half constructed and partially occupied. They are adjacent to the shopping centre, village plaza and library; St. Clement's is two blocks out of the town centre, across from the green playing field you can see above the new development.)

Much more significant has been a boom in real estate development. Five residential high rises are nearing completion in Lynn Valley's core. This is dramatically changing the character of the neighbourhood. There was vocal opposition to this plan, and years of consultation and public meetings took place before the municipal council finally approved the plan a few years ago. It was clear that there was significant anxiety about the potential loss of Lynn Valley's community character and its "way of life." Traffic had already swollen in an unprecedented manner, and people were unhappy to think of commutes to work and shopping being further extended. While people understood the argument that building more densely in the town centre was more ecologically sound and would

provide more affordable options for young people and older "downsizers," they doubted whether the condo suites would in fact be truly within the reach of the next generation.

The median price for single-family homes in Lynn Valley Traffic had already swollen in an unprecedented The new high-rise condominiums are also expensive. with an apartment costing an average of \$685,000. Many people in the neighbourhood purchased their homes in much more affordable times. Those who bought before the dramatic upswing in prices are watching with dismay as their children contemplate the possibility of never being able to purchase a home in the neighbourhood they grew up in.

The new buildings are designed for a pleasing appearance, but, sadly, they have not been designed for neighbourliness. The security measures are such that the residents cannot easily mix and mingle; a suite owner's key fob will only grant them access to their own floor. A common room is available, but the rental price is so high as to discourage regular use by residents. This trend is in stark contrast to a certain "leave your doors unlocked" mentality that many Lynn Valley residents have been used to. People moving into these residences will likely be seeking out a sense of community and connection. Our plan is to invite them to St Clement's!

Lynn Valley has a well-defined community core. The shopping centre, library, village plaza and coffee shops are very central, and the municipality is doing a good job of ensuring pedestrian walkways and bike lanes are in place to encourage ease of use and added foot traffic. mentality that many Lynn Valley residents have been used to, restaurants and other shops and services are located at the intersection of our two major roads.



(Photo: Municipal councillor, St. Clement's interim priest and local pub bar manager judging at the St. Clement's Mocktail Competition at Lynn Valley Day, held in the park across from the church.)

St. Clement's Church is on the quiet side of a playing field; not too far from the "hub" of Lynn Valley. People passing by – usually due to sports games on the field or to drop off their children at the elementary school down the block – know St. Clement's as the church with the anchor in the front yard. People who enter the church – often because of a concert given by the choir that rents our building – are pleasantly surprised by the bright but cozy/rustic log-cabin-style interior.

Recently, we have made a concerted effort to raise our profile in the community, with a renewed web page (www.stclementschurch.ca), a new logo, information brochures, enhanced participation in the community day, and a social media presence that proactively engages with other neighbourhood groups and organizations.

