

New Song Church Anglican Network In Canada - Port Perry Ontario

Parish Profile

Introduction:

- Who We Are
New Song Church is a group of ordinary people who are figuring out what it means to love and follow Jesus. We are committed to loving and serving our community and sharing God's love with our neighbours. We are part of the Anglican Network in Canada.
- Our Vision
A caring community of passionate Christ followers equipped to love God's world.

Our Congregation:

- History
Our congregation was established in the fall of 2010, meeting first in a private home followed by a public school a few months later. The current building was purchased in 2012 and the congregation celebrated its' first service on Palm Sunday.
- Demographics
We have 160 members with an average attendance of 80.

Our Community:

- Port Perry in Scugog Township is a community on the shores of Lake Scugog, northeast of Toronto and just north of Oshawa. Due to its location in the Greater Toronto Area, many residents will commute to Toronto for work on a daily basis.
- Port Perry is known as a tourist destination in the area for its picturesque, Victorian-era downtown, with many clothing stores, restaurants, cafés, bookstores, galleries and antique shops.
- In the summer, the town features a number of festivals; seasonal fruit picking; bass tournaments and a wide variety of lakeside activities. In the winter months, Lake Scugog is dotted with ice-fishing huts and is a popular destination for both ice fishermen and snowmobilers.
- Population of Scugog Township is 22,000 and Durham Region 670,000.

Worship:

- The normal pattern of Sunday worship alternates between Morning Prayer (Morning Song) and Eucharistic services. Generally we follow more abbreviated and modern rites, which are in accord with the ANiC guidelines for modern liturgies.
- Our worship teams (including the choir) continuously and passionately pursue the habit of worship and musical excellence in all styles from historical/traditional to contemporary.

Worship: (continued)

- Special services Advent/Christmas, Lent/Easter, a Bach Cantata Sunday service, a healing service with officiant Dr. Russ Parker from England, participation in the David Festival inter-community service.
- Monthly family service where children remain in church and participate in worship followed with a pot luck lunch.

Children and Young People:

- Youth group currently led by two young adults from the parish.
- Small attendance at our well-planned Sunday School program which the children enthusiastically attend.

Our Values:

- The Bible
 - The Bible is the inspired word of God that reveals His purpose, person and will.
 - The Bible is authoritative, central to the ministry and teaching of the church.
 - The Bible guides our lives, “for reproof, correction, and for training in righteousness”.
- Worship
 - Worship of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is central to our life as an Anglican church.
 - Regular worship equips us to live as Christ-followers.
 - The worship of God transforms us into the body of Christ.
 - Our parish is a key contributor to the yearly David festival and Handel’s Messiah.
- Sharing Christ
 - Christ calls us to share the gospel with every one, in all we do, all the time
 - We are generous with the resources of our abilities, finances, skills and time.
- Prayer
 - Prayer is vital to the health of the Church.
 - The Church gives thanks to God, and intercedes for His Church and God’s word.
- Growing in Faith
 - Followers of Christ are called to mature, as they grow in the grace and power of the Spirit.
 - As Christians mature, they draw others to Christ.

Our Priorities:

- Envisioning Objectives
 - Guided by Bishop Charlie’s five priorities for ANiC churches.
 - To set clear, measurable and purposeful direction for the future.
 - Upon completion of the Envisioning process, four action teams were created to address the priorities identified as a result of that process.
- Spiritual Formation Team
 - Encourage members to develop a personal relationship with Christ.
 - Equip members to know and share God’s word.

Our Priorities: *(continued)*

- Accomplishments:
 - o Post service discussion group on a Ravi Zacharius DVD
 - o Sermon series on Discipleship Essentials with follow-up discussions
- Leadership Team
 - Identify the gifts of potential in our congregation.
 - Introduce training opportunities for all leaders.
 - Accomplishments
 - o Parish-wide spiritual gift survey to identify people with various gifts with the intention of drawing them into parish action teams or programs.
- Children and Youth Team
 - Expand our youth programs and invite new families to our church events and programs.
 - Accomplishments
 - o Conduct several Parent Café evenings to reach out to the community in order to attract new families.
 - o Conduct several Random Youth Events (evenings of fun) to attract youth from outside the parish.
- Community Care/Outreach and Evangelism Team
 - Introduce growth opportunities for evangelism and outreach in our Community.
- Small Groups
 - Multiple small groups meeting in people's homes and in the church on various days and evenings. All members are strongly encouraged to participate and approximately 50% are involved in a small group.
- Local Outreach
 - Christmas Dinner – host a Christmas day dinner for parishioners and local residents who otherwise would be alone at Christmas.
 - Young Life Port Perry – monthly support this local teen outreach program building relationships between volunteer leaders and local teens.
 - Christ the King Toronto – financially supported the ANiC church plant in Toronto.
 - Port Perry Foodbank – monthly support food bank through donations of non-perishable items and provide Christmas hampers to local families in need.
 - Meals on Wheels – church members participate in the local outreach providing meals to local residents.
 - Gift Cards Giving – encourage members to support pastoral discretionary fund through donating gift cards for dispersal to needy individuals.
 - Port Perry Refugee Support – lead the effort to sponsor four families from Syria. Two have arrived.
 - Art Show – where local artists can show their work.
 - Choir occasionally collaborates with music groups in the community such as the North Durham Winds and the High School Choirs.
 - Choir has also occasionally ministered musically to long-term patients at Port Perry Hospital.

Our Priorities: *(continued)*

- Parent Café – presents an information night for parents on topics like helping children deal with stress or protecting children from internet predation.
- Distant Outreach
 - In the past year, individuals from our church have served in Kenya (Organics 4 Orphans), Ghana (performing hernia operations) and a team of youth and adults assisted building a church in Roatan.
 - International Needs – monthly help support a small inner-city church in Kampala and two schools serving more than 2,000 students.
 - Organics 4 Orphans – monthly support to promote self-sufficiency and food independence in western Kenya.
 - Speroway – monthly support providing access to food, healthcare, and education for children and their families in Canada and around the world.
 - SAMS Canada – monthly supporting a couple planting a church in Rotan Honduras. In 2016 a team of youth and adults visited the mission - assisting in the construction of their church and providing leadership training.
 - Benefit for Nepal –sponsored a fund raising event featuring our choir and a Christian recording artist for Nepal Earthquake Relief (AANADNDIT Charity Center).
 - Teddies for Tragedies – bears are knitted by church volunteers and shipped overseas for children in need.
 - Annual Samaritans Purse Christmas Shoe Box drive.

Our Church:

- A 3600 square foot building with a full church hall in the basement containing 2 kitchens. Offices are located on the main floor next to the sanctuary. The church is located on a main street in the town and easily accessible and visible with plenty of parking.
- Equipment is new and includes a sounds system, televisions for projecting the service, a grand piano, keyboard and drum kit.
- Budget
 - Annual Budget – \$270,000 which is consistent over the past five years.
 - Operating Fund - \$21,000
 - Capital Asset Fund - \$440,000
- Staff
 - Full time Office Administrator
 - Part time Associate Pastor
 - Budgeted part time Youth Worker

Opportunities:

- A great community in which to raise a family.
- Port Perry infrastructure development completed, population expected to grow by 20%.
- A home for Christian Artists to grow and flourish.

Opportunities: *(continued)*

- Private daycare rents space during the week in our church hall which brings community into our building.
- Ran a successful 3 year capital campaign allowing us to pay down 50% of the building.
- A significant number of people are involved in one or more volunteer situations (over 65%).

Challenges:

- Growth in all demographics with a focus on younger families, all seeking Jesus Christ, following the great commission, continuing to respect the needs of all.
- Need to determine phase 2 of capital campaign to pay down debt.
- Encourage regular attendance.
- Need to increase number of people volunteering for all lay leadership.
- Cyclical attendance – winter snow birds; summer cottagers.
- Increase number of people volunteering for Sunday service and other ministries.
- Youth programming in Port Perry, especially Christian programming, seems to be lacking and what does exist is fragmented.
- Making our mark in an increasingly secular world.
- Equipping all members to confidently follow Jesus in a world that increasingly does not understand or value a Christian heritage.