



Lifelong Learning • Lifelong Growing • Lifelong Serving in the Body of Christ

April 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

With hearts full of gratitude and deep joy, we give thanks to God for a truly historic moment in the life of St. Peter's Anglican Church.

On April 11th, 2026, through faithful stewardship, prayer, and the generosity of many — both within our parish and across the wider community — we were able to fully retire the remaining \$1,000,000 Diocesan Loan. This marked the final major obligation from our \$4,000,000 restoration of this sacred and historic place. What once stood as a burden has now become a testimony.

Through reserves carefully stewarded, pledges faithfully fulfilled, and gifts and bequests entrusted to us, this milestone has been reached. In doing so, we have also prevented over \$850,000 in future interest costs — resources that can now be directed toward the ongoing life and mission of Christ in this place. This is not simply a financial achievement — it is a spiritual one.

As Scripture reminds us, *“Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain”* (Psalm 127:1). Together, we have laboured — and God has blessed the work of our hands. Like those who rebuilt in the days of Nehemiah, each person has played a part through prayer, generosity, encouragement, and quiet faithfulness. We give thanks for each and every one of you.

This season is first and foremost one of thanksgiving. It is important that, as a parish family and as a wider community, we take time to truly celebrate what has been done — to enjoy this moment, to reflect on God's faithfulness, and to recognize the shared effort that has brought us here.

As we celebrate, we continue faithfully repaying the remaining \$93,000 Anglican Foundation Loan (at \$584.59/month), a final step toward full financial freedom. If it is on your heart, we invite you to consider extending your pledge or making an additional gift to help bring this chapter to completion.

With our Diocesan Loan repayment now behind us, a new season begins — not one defined by immediate decisions, but by prayerful discernment and shared conversation.

In the months ahead, there will be opportunities to reflect together on the future of St. Peter's — its mission, its ministries, and its place within the life of Cobourg and Northumberland County. It is important that this journey be shaped not by a fixed plan already determined, but by the voices, hopes, and prayers of the whole parish community. We believe that the future is something we will build together, guided by faith, wisdom, and a shared sense of calling.

As part of this unfolding journey, we will begin — gently and thoughtfully — to introduce the idea of a Legacy Giving Program.

The experience of retiring our debt has shown us something meaningful: that gifts given in faith — especially those planned with long-term vision — can have a lasting and transformative impact.

In the months ahead, we will share more about what Legacy Giving might look like at St. Peter's, how it can be structured, and how it can reflect the values and priorities of this community. There will be time for conversation, collaboration, and discernment, so that any future direction reflects the shared hopes of the parish.

At its heart, Legacy Giving is not simply about financial support. It is about participating in a story that continues beyond our own lifetime — helping to ensure that this place remains one where faith is nurtured, community is strengthened, and lives are touched for generations to come. What has been accomplished here is a sign of what God can do through a faithful people.

Now, we move forward — not rushed, but rooted; not pre-determined, but prayerful; not alone, but together. We give thanks for all that has been, and look ahead with hope to all that may yet be.

May we continue to walk in faith, trusting that the same God who has brought us this far will lead us forward still.

With deep gratitude and every blessing,

Matthew †

The Reverend Matthew McMillan
Incumbent & Head Priest
St. Peter's Anglican Church, Cobourg

*“Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably
more than all we ask or imagine...
to Him be glory in the Church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations.”
(Ephesians 3:20–21)*