



Parish Profile

Vision Statement

(BHCC will be) A growing family of joyful disciples of Jesus Christ, known by their love.

Mission Statement

To be a church, guided by the Holy Spirit, that nurtures loving relationships with Jesus and with each other as we worship, study God's word, pray and serve the community together.

Values

Being faithful to the doctrine, beliefs & teaching of ANiC, emphasizing God's word, ministry of the Holy Spirit and the sacraments.

Worship in the Anglican liturgical tradition, Holy Spirit inspired, God glorifying, Jesus honouring including a blend of contemporary and traditional Christian music, with a regular music leader.

Evangelism being central to all we do in order to reach those who do not know Jesus with the gospel (message of salvation)

Being active and known by our love in the community.

Meeting the needs of the wider community in God's name through practical service, social media and financial support.

Regular, faithful prayer as a foundation for all we do, corporately and individually.

Encouraging and helping all parishioners to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ (2 Peter 3:18).

Nurturing loving and caring relationships for each other.

Church growth as more people are invited into the fellowship of God's love made known in Jesus.

To God be the glory!

History

Blackburn Hamlet is a suburb in Ottawa's east end, with a population of approximately 8,200.

Blackburn Hamlet Community Church began as a church plant of the Anglican Network in Canada (ANIC) in the fall of 2008, meeting in a home in Blackburn Hamlet. The following year we rented commercial space 'between the Pub and the TD Bank' where we gather to worship, pray and learn how to love the way Jesus loves. We were incorporated in 2011 and we were made a full parish of ANIC in the fall of 2013.

Ministries

Worship: Blackburn Hamlet Community Church (BHCC), loves to gather to worship the Lord in spirit and in truth. We trust in the power of the Holy Spirit to help us keep Jesus at the centre of our worship as we stand on the firm foundation of God's word. Our Sunday worship service consists of a blend of traditional and contemporary music within a Eucharistic liturgical setting. Our weekly Thursday Eucharist uses the traditional BCP liturgy. On the last Sunday of each month, with the exception of the summer months, we hold an afternoon service at a local seniors' residence. Our Easter and Christmas Eve services are held at the community centre to allow more people to attend comfortably and to encourage people from the community to attend.

Prayer: We acknowledge prayer to be the essential factor in our lives on which we lean for strength, guidance, and encouragement. In line with ANiC's teaching on prayer, we desire that BHCC would be surrounded by a culture of prayer, both as individual parishioners and as a community of believers. We desire that all activities of the parish be undergirded by prayer. In the past, we spent three months prayer-walking in the community on a weekly basis. We have a weekly prayer meeting and offer prayer ministry each Sunday as well as monthly anointing for strengthening by the Holy Spirit.

Scripture: At BHCC Scripture is seen and believed to hold all things necessary for salvation. Parishioners are continually being reminded to search God's word outside the confines of the Sunday service and to apply His word to their lives on a daily basis.

Sunday School: We offer a weekly Sunday School class with an experienced teacher who loves the Lord. There are currently 8 children under the age of 11 attending BHCC with their parents/grandparents (we have no youth yet). There is one room for Sunday School. The teaching is always Christ centred and often the children are encouraged to learn Bible verses. We have a roster of assistants to help the teacher, especially with the younger children. We have a family worship service approximately every 7th Sunday in which the children take part in the service as much as possible.

Spiritual Growth: We believe that we are always to be seeking growth in the Lord and that there will never come a time when we will know it all. Over the years we have offered ALPHA, Life Explored, healing workshops, half day or day long Lenten or Advent retreats, Lenten Sunday luncheon programs, and various Bible Studies, which have not always been well attended. The best time for programs seems to be directly following the Sunday service, usually over lunch. We have also used the Sunday morning preaching time to present preaching series on a number of themes and Books of the Bible. As a parish we have spent one year memorizing Bible verses (one verse/week), a year on the ACNA catechism (presenting its contents at the end of the service) and several months learning the Books of the Bible. We also believe and teach that a life in Christ is a life spent in service to others in his name.

Parish Life: Being a small parish, people get to know each other well and as such feel that it is a safe place to share concerns and hopes. We have occasional lunches, games days, etc. which provide further opportunity to get to know each other over.

The Wider Community: BHCC has a weekly drop-in for local caregivers and their children, a weekly group of knitters, a monthly invitation to the wider community to come join us for a soup supper and hymn, a monthly invitation to the wider community to attend an excellent café style talk and discussion given by experts in their field. BHCC also supports various local, national and international organizations. For example, we support the local food bank at a neighbouring church, a local non-profit housing corporation, a ministry to needy new mothers and babies, ARDFC, other ANiC churches, and para-church organizations, to name just a few. We also support several ANiC missionaries abroad.

Statistics

BHCC began with seven faithful people and today we have a membership of 38 people with a weekly average of 31 attending our services. Our attendance plateaued a couple of years ago, and has begun to decline slightly.

Average weekly attendance:

2012 - 24

2013 - 26

2014 - 31

2015 - 32

2016 - 33

2017 - 31

Finances

Yearly	Budget		Actual	
	Income	Expenses	Income	Expenses
2012	\$55,600.00	\$ 69,405.00	\$63,283.81	\$67,503.66
2013	\$64,209.00	\$67,807.00	\$73,979.00	\$65,407.66
2014	\$64,604.00	\$91,055.62	\$72,883.92	\$88,959.53
2015	\$74,455.00	\$75,455.00	\$81,619.77	\$76,649.67
2016	\$74,559.00	\$79,783.40	\$81,814.46	\$79,178.73
2017	\$75,809.00	\$82,143.50	\$84,468.73	\$81,339.41

The rector's position is a half-time position with the hope that it will become a fulltime position subject to the growth of the parish. We are able to offer a salary of \$25,000 with the possibility of an end-of-year bonus if finances allow. This includes four weeks vacation but no other benefits.

Strengths:

- A caring and sharing community.
- A love for Anglican liturgy and worship.
- Strong biblical preaching.
- A willingness to serve as able.
- A desire to share the gospel in word and deed.
- A set goal of growing the parish to be able to offer a full-time leadership position.
- A committed board of directors.
- A number of honorary associate clergy who are more than willing to help in any way possible.
- Some social media interest.
- Centre of town location, offering easy access and parking.

Challenges:

- The number of people, due to age, health or other situations, who are actually able to do much of the required work.
- Finding innovative ways to engage the wider community.
- Limited by our finances, mostly due to the cost of our commercial space, as to what ministry we can offer.
- Lack of church numerical growth in recent years.
- Space issues.
- Engaging parishioners in participating in spiritual growth programs.

Looking Forward:

- To a day when all parishioners will “hear, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest” the word of God.
- To a day when all parishioners will turn to the Lord in love and prayer in all aspects of their lives, serving him as they serve others.
- To a day when all members eagerly “invite their neighbours into the fellowship of God’s love made known in Jesus”.
- To attracting and welcoming people from the wider community to “come and see” and in so doing to meet and become faithful disciples of our Lord Jesus.
- To a day when we will have the godly leadership of a fulltime clergy.

The Rector

The people of BHCC are looking for a rector who shares their hope of growing God’s church and to being a strong Anglican Network presence in the east end of Ottawa. The rector will be a man or woman who loves the Lord dearly and who stands on the supremacy of God’s word and the uniqueness, work and presence of Jesus. This person will have a passion for preaching and for sharing God’s love with those in the parish and beyond.

Where we are as a church today has been brought about by hard work and commitment of time, energy, finances, and a willingness to step outside one’s comfort zone for the sake of the gospel and for the building up of God’s church. Our prayer is that the new rector would share in this commitment, in the strength and power of the Holy Spirit.

- The rector will be a man or woman of prayer and as such will encourage a culture of prayer in the parish.
- The rector will continue to support spiritual growth and discipleship training through programs such as ALPHA and Bible Studies.
- The rector will help people identify their gifts so as to best serve the Lord in their church and their neighbourhood.
- The rector will discern and act accordingly in asking for help and support and will not be a “do it alone” person.
- The rector will be accepting of, and comfortable with, sharing ministry in word and sacrament with women ordained to the priesthood.
- The rector will endeavour to be known and visible in the local community as a means to helping the church grow numerically.
- The rector will exemplify in word and deed the purpose and values of BHCC.

The parishioners of Blackburn Hamlet Community Church look forward to welcoming a new rector, to forming a loving and godly relationship with said person and to offering our godly support.

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