**Appendix #3**

**Vote of Thanks Committee Report**

**Diocesan Synod 2019**

This Report was organized around the synod themes of Discipleship, Stewardship, Reconciliation and Community Building. (Some workshop themes did not fit neatly into only one category.)

We give thanks to Almighty God for all his many blessings through Christ.

*Discipleship*

We are thankful for the way God is growing the seed of Discipleship among us.

* For the metaphor of seeds as a symbol of the growth of Christ’s Church and kingdom
* For Archbishop Anne Germond’s leadership in worship, chairing synod, and her wide-ranging, wise charge to synod
* For the prayer team discipleship seed
* For the ministry of the Primate’s Fund, Tarime coffee initiative, and outreach to the world throughout the diocese
* For the new ministries’ seed in this diocese: For ministry by and with youth, and including the new canons and for Patti, serving as a priest of the Church
* For the willingness to engage in difficult conversations, including the subjects of marriage and finances
* For the Rev. Dr. Bill Steadman and the radical hospitality workshop
* For the Rev. Dr. Jay Koyle and the unstoppable churches workshop…

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*Community Building*

We are thankful for the way God is growing the seed of Community Building among us. We are thankful for the Rev. Dr. Patti Brace and the Youth Delegates who presented the breakout session on homelessness in the community and for Nancy and Sue’s eye-opening session on the realities of human trafficking in Canada. For the connecting and heartfelt worship that has moved us each day of synod and helped us to draw closer in our discernment of God’s will. We would also like to extend thanks to St. Andrew’s United Church, the Youth Delegates, and Bishophurst for their ever welcoming and fun receptions. For holy listening we especially give thanks, as it ensures that all of our voices have been heard and respected over the last few days...

Alleluia, Christ is risen!

**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*Stewardship*

We are thankful for the way God is growing the seed of Stewardship among us.

There were many people sharing their time and talents with us, showing *us* how to be better stewards as well. Some of this was highly visible, some of this was behind the scenes and we are grateful for *all*.

We are thankful for Annie Leong and Jane Mesich for their important insurance workshop seed.

For the behind-the-scenes planning team – for Logan Rayment who designed this year’s Synod logo, the technical support, the cooks and servers, our cantors and singers, the musicians and worship leaders, for Jay who planned all of the liturgies; for the awesome youth reception, and for Archbishop Anne, Colin, and Rosie who opened their home once again.

For Colin Germond and for Peter Simmons who memorialized us and this event in pictures.

For Carol Knox and the Prayer Vigil team who surrounded our comings and goings in prayer.

For the prayerful leadership of Archbishop Anne. For the diocesan Synod Office staff – Marjorie, Jane, Liz, Jay, and Harry – without whom this synod would have been a mess. And, on that note of smooth operation, we also thank the registration team.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

*Reconciliation*

We are thankful for the way God is growing the Seed of Reconciliation among us; teaching us to love and respect each other.

* For the Rev. Dr Chris Brittain and his informative and encouraging words;
* For the Rev. Beth and her team, leading us in a moving blanket exercise that had such an impact on us;
* For the gift of Holy Listening so we may respect each other and where they are in their spiritual journey;
* For Bishop Michael and guests of the Ontario diocese and their powerful story of reconciliation;
* And, For Archbishop Fred and his enduring witness, preaching and modeling of reconciliation in the Canadian Church and abroad.  You have been a gift to us all, Your Grace, and you will be greatly missed.

May God continue to grow these seeds in our home church communities.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**Amen.**

**Respectfully submitted by the Committee:**

The Rev. Heather Manuel

The Rev. Dr. Peter Armstrong

Mr. Quinn Clement

Ms. Susan Montague Koyle

Ms. Laurie Sandham