



Church of St Peter – Hamilton, ON

Church building location: 705 Main Street East, Hamilton, Ontario

Church membership

- Members eligible to vote – 46
- Average Sunday attendance – about 52

Clergy

Rector – The Rev Canon Sandra Copland
Deacon - The Rev Susan Sanders-Tomlinson
Wardens – Mr Phil Harris, Mr Larry Howard

History

Church of St Peter began in 1890 as an outreach post of St Matthews (Hamilton), meeting in a renovated house. As the parish grew, the congregation moved to larger and larger facilities and eventually into the current church building which was completed in 1915. In 1955, a parish hall was added and a day care centre in 1976.

St Peter's has always had an orthodox membership, upholding the authority of the Bible and the uniqueness of Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour – God incarnate. From the beginning, there has been a focus on outreach and missions – including the Bible Society, distribution of goods and Sunday School materials overseas, support for the poor and marginalized in the community, parcels and letters of encouragement and appreciation to armed service personnel, and work among youth. By the 1930s through to the 1970s, the average weekly attendance was 600.

Ministries

The Church of St Peter formed St Peter's Hospital in Hamilton many years ago. According to the St Peter's Hospital website (<http://www.stpetes.ca/hospital/>), "St. Peter's [Hospital] was founded in 1890 by Reverend Thomas Geoghegan, pastor of St. Peter's Anglican Church, as St. Peter's Home for Incurables with accommodation for 14 people."

More recently, the congregation formed St. Peter's Daycare which uses part of the church building. About 60 children attend the daycare Monday to Friday.

Other present ministries at St Peter's include:

- Youth and children's programs.
- Adult home Bible studies designed to help parishioners grow in their faith?
- Men's community breakfast that meets monthly for fellowship, singing, Bible study and discussion. Funds raised by this group go to support the Leprosy Foundation.
- Alpha programs for spiritual inquirers.
- Monthly Soul Café which provide a relaxed atmosphere in which to enjoy fellowship and listen to local musicians.
- Support for St. Matthew house, providing food for the needy in Hamilton.
- Support for ministries in the Arctic.
- Christmas ministries include times of sharing food and friendship with group homes in the Hamilton area and preparing and sending Samaritan's Purse Christmas boxes to children in developing countries.