

# ANNUAL REPORT 2015



## THE PARISH OF ST. MARK OCEAN PARK ANGLICAN CHURCH

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Please bring this Report to the Feb. 21 Vestry Meeting



*OUR MISSION*

*To be a community of God's Servants*

*Fed by the Word*

*Led by the Holy Spirit*

*Reaching out to all people with Good News*

*Of Christ's saving Grace and Love*

*By our words, thoughts and actions.*





## **IN MEMORIAM 2015**

### **Parish of St. Mark – Ocean Park**

Joan Pickering	Bertha Young
Betty Yue	Peter Hayfield
Margaret Kirkpatrick	Peggy Hutchings
Patricia Tuckey	Audrey Ker

### **Statistical Information 2015**

Membership	573
Baptism	5
Confirmation	0
Weddings	2
Funerals	14

### **Staff**

Rector:	Rev. Craig Tanksley
Assistant Priest:	Rev. Denise Doerksen
Music Director:	Annabelle Ip
Choir Director:	Janet Rendell
Office Administrator:	Sheila Johnston
Youth Coordinator:	Joshua Brown
Custodians	Heather Jacoby and Geoff Higginson

### **Parish Council 2015**

Rector:	Rev. Craig Tanksley
Assistant Priest:	Rev. Denise Doerksen
Rector's Warden:	Catherine Featherstone
People's Wardens:	Roger Hussen, Brian Switzer
Recording Secretary:	Trish Heron
Treasurer:	Barbara Carington Smith
Synod Delegates:	Dianne Clou, Tom Mackie, Anne Schreck, Linda Zeal
Alternate Synod Delegates:	Art Go, Brian Walks, Stewart Wallis, Kerry Zeal
Members at Large:	Peter Boorman, Lynne Brownridge, Gertrude Musherure, Bob Pedersen
Youth Synod Delegate:	Joshua Brown
Alternate Youth Synod Delegate:	Kate Herron

### **Trustees**

Rev. Craig Tanksley, Catherine Featherstone, Brian Switzer,  
Barbara Carington Smith, Rae Anderson, Michael Klaver,  
Brian Maxwell



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**ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING OF THE PARISH OF ST. MARK OCEAN PARK**  
**Sunday, February 15, 2015**

**PRESIDING CHAIRPERSON:** Brian Switzer

**PEOPLE IN ATTENDANCE:** 135

**OPENING PRAYER:** Lois Bell

**1. WELCOME**

Brian Switzer called the meeting to order at 11:35 a.m.

A couple of Sundays ago Ingrid and I arrived home after looking after the grandkids for two exhausting weeks. All we wanted to do was sit back, put our feet up and watch the Super Bowl. I turned on the TV, It wasn't working. We turned on our computers, they weren't working. I telephoned our service provider, but our land line wasn't working. I finally got through using my cell-phone. After about an hour-and-a-half a technician called me back. The first question he asked was ..."How was I enjoying the game?" I won't share with you my response!

We can communicate in so many different ways through a seemingly endless variety of social media sites. But you know that things can go wrong, and they do: connections break, systems fail, hacking occurs. They say more than 3,000 companies in the US alone were victims of a cyber attack last year.

But you know that today, here in our church, this morning, we have used the greatest means of communication known to mankind on at least a half dozen occasions. This means of communication has been around for over 2,000 years. It has never been hacked. We never receive the message – the server has stopped responding, or the server does not recognize the user. You know I'm talking about prayer. It is interesting that they say the only specific request the disciples made of Jesus was: "teach us to pray". (Luke 11:1). They noticed that when he prayed he got what he prayed for. He wanted radiance, power to live at his best, and the opportunity to serve people to the utmost. His prayers were answered. So his disciples said "teach us to pray."

Our Vestry Book is really a history book of prayer through the year at St. Mark's. As you read through the various Ministry reports, prayer was used to deliver the programs, raise the necessary funds, make the needed decisions, and to overcome the obstacles. We don't know all the challenges that lie ahead in the coming year, but we do know that we will again use the never failing means of communication, prayer, to request guidance and direction from our Lord. Welcome to our annual Vestry meeting.

**2. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS**

- a) Circulation of Register
- b) Appointment of Vestry Clerk: Kathy Tubbs
- c) Canon 1401 – Eligibility to vote
- d) Canon 1402 – Provision of Notice
- e) Memorial Recognition: Olive Pociwuschek (moment of silence)

f) Greetings to:

The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Reverend and Right Honorable Justin Welby the Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada: the Most Reverend Fredrick Hiltz, Metropolitan of the Province of British Columbia and Yukon: Archbishop of the Diocese of Kootenay, the Most Reverend John Privett. The Bishop of the Diocese of New Westminster, the Right Reverend Melissa Skelton.

g) Appreciations: Betty-Ann Bainbridge

We would like to thank a number of people for their involvement in preparing for this Vestry meeting. Our sincere appreciation goes out to the following: all Leaders for submitting their reports on time. A special thank you goes to our treasurer, Barbara for getting her financial statements in so quickly in spite of a very short turnaround time following the accountant's review. To Sheila Johnston for her preparation and assembly of the Annual Report and to Lynne Brownridge for her help in stitching it together. To Kathy Tubbs for once again acting as Vestry Clerk. Kathy willingly stepped back into this role last fall at a time when we really needed her. It really is the final time for her though and we thank you Kathy for 10 years, 3 months and one last Vestry meeting of service as St. Mark's Recording Secretary. To Roger for his preparation of Vestry documents and to Brian for chairing the meeting.

To the following for setting up the hall: Les Edmonds, Don Hamilton, Mari Anne Hussen, Roger Hussen, Brian Walks and Stewart Wallis. To Brian Maxwell and Ernie Thiessen for setting up the sound system. To Ernie Thiessen, Ed Prior and Bob Pedersen for acting as scrutineers, and to Karen Bengel for sharpening all the pencils and cutting the ballots.

And from all of us here today a heartfelt thank you to Janet Van Nes and her team who have provided a delicious lunch for all of us to enjoy. We sincerely appreciate your service in feeding us so well at Vestry year after year.

**3. APPROVAL OF VESTRY MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 16 2014**

**MOVED BY OLIVE POCIWAUSCHEK, SECONDED BY BRIAN WALKS THAT the Minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting of February 16 2014 be accepted. CARRIED**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES: None**

**5. APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS: Bob Pedersen, Ed Prior and Ernie Thiessen.**

**6. ELECTION OF PARISH COUNCIL FOR 2015**

**a) Recognition of out-going members: Betty-Ann Bainbridge, Greg Brown, Rebeca Brown, Drew Gauntley and Ian Reynolds: Brian Switzer**

We thank our outgoing members for their contribution as faithful servants bringing Christian principles into the decision making process of the church. They have given of their time, talents, and resources. They have studied the complex issues before them, made difficult decisions, and have accepted the responsibility for their actions.

It has been a wonderful experience for me personally to work with Betty-Ann over the past two years in her capacity as warden. She has taught me many things, among others, that there are opinions other than my own, that may be well worth considering. She always had a nice way of expressing it. One of her great strengths was her knowledge of the

various church groups and how they interact. She brought that knowledge to bear on the issues before us. She was always concerned about how a particular decision would impact on various groups or individuals. We will miss her enthusiasm, participation, insight, always positive disposition, high ethical standards, and her prayers.

**b) Appointment of Rector's Warden:** Catherine Featherstone

**c) Report from the Nominations Committee:** Betty-Ann Bainbridge

We are pleased and grateful that the following have agreed to allow their names to stand for Parish Council:

People's Wardens:	Roger Hussen and Brian Switzer
Synod Delegates:	Diane Clou, Tom Mackie, Anne Schreck, Linda Zeal
Alternate Synod Delegates:	Art Go, Brian Walks, Stewart Wallis, Kerry Zeal
Members at Large:	Lynne Brownridge, Gertrude Musherure, Bob Pedersen
Youth Synod Delegate:	Josh Brown
Alternate Youth Synod Delegate	Kate Herron

Trustees: Rea Anderson, Michael Klaver, Brian Maxwell.

**d) Call for further Nominations for all positions:**

Sue Indridson nominated **Peter Boorman** as member at large. **BRIAN WALKS MOVED, SECONDED BY REV. JOHN MASH**, that the number of Members at Large on Parish Council be expanded from three to four. No objections raised. All nominees elected by acclamation.

**e) Election of Parish Council:**

- i. Election of People's Wardens (2)
- ii. Election of Synod Delegates (4)
- iii. Election of Alternate Synod Delegates (4)
- iv. Election of Members at Large (4)
- v. Election of Youth Synod Delegates and Alternate Youth Synod Delegate ((2)
- vi. Election of Trustees (3)

**f) Re-Appointment of Treasurer:** Barbara Carington Smith

**g) Re-Appointment of Donations Secretary** Douglas Brown

**h) Appointment of Parish Council Recording Secretary** Trish Herron

**i) Appointment of Lay Administrators and Eucharistic Servers:** **MOVED BY ROGER HUSSEN, SECONDED BY Ingrid Switzer** that the following be licensed as Eucharistic Servers for the year 2015 upon approval of the Bishop.

**Betty Bear, Holly Bear Tanksley, Maria Buddingh, Barbara Carington Smith, Isabel Chernoff, Dianne Clou, Catherine Featherstone, Roger Hussen, Michael Klaver, Robin Klaver, Lauren MacPherson, Shannon Poulsen, Carel Schoch, Anne Schreck, Bernie Toews, Phil Tubbs, Brian Walks.**



- j) **Appointment of Home Eucharistic Servers: MOVED BY REV. CRAIG TANKSLEY, SECONDED BY HOLLY BEAR TANKSLEY that the following be appointed as Eucharistic servers taking communion into the home, to be licenced by the Bishop. CARRIED.**

Anne Schreck, Lynne Hurd, Janet Scott, Brian Walks.

## **7. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Barbara Carington Smith did a power point presentation first outlining the 2014 financial challenges which started in January 2014 with the rectory septic tank and upgrades, and the electrical power line problems from storm damage. A CRA audit in May, clergy study leave, staff changes (Les' retirement), an extraordinary bequest, anxiety related to a large deficit and how we recovered to end with a surplus.

She then reviewed the Statement of Financial Position on screen with a detailed explanation of the cash and investment balances, pointing out and explaining the restricted items and the structure.

She then moved to the Statement of Changes in Net Assets to review the balance of the various funds for capital as well as the ministry programs. It is important to know that the reserve for the operating is only \$16,942.31 at year end. To have a deficit more than that amount would require the use of other reserved funds. Cash flow management was discussed, and a reminder that contributions did not meet our budget commitment on a monthly basis and the biggest cause for the large deficits seen during the year.

Barbara assured all that there are management controls in place to ensure fiscal responsibility. She also made an appeal for contributions to be more consistent monthly.

In reviewing the Statement of Parish Operations with a surplus of \$881.65, it was noted that December brought in an amazing total revenue of \$68,000.00. Acknowledgement was given for this huge out-pouring of generosity from individuals as well as all the ministries and the time and talent given as well. Quoting Matthew 6:21 "Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also".

Besides the operating budget more than \$5,000 was received for capital and \$55,000 to Ministry Programs and Outreach Programs. As well a total of \$429,117.38 in bequests was received.

The CRA audit has brought it to our attention the importance of using our correct legal name – **PARISH OF ST. MARK – OCEAN PARK**. Barbara reminded everyone to ensure all cheques are made payable as required by the CRA.

Barbara asked for questions from the floor and these were answered.

**MOVED BY BARBARA CARINGTON SMITH, SECONDED BY ART GO THAT THAT TREASURER'S REPORT BE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.**

## 8. 2015 BUDGET

2014 Actual Compared to Budget was reviewed noting that all departments and areas of the 2014 Budget were on target with very little variance, this being an indication of the realistic forecast of our operating expenses. Barbara then presented the 2015 Budget noting the few areas of changes and the reasons for the changes. The Envelope – Maintenance Operating Budget remains the same as 2014 at \$380,706.00.

**Brian Switzer** was invited to comment on **Building and Maintenance** and noted that steps are being taken to compile a monthly maintenance schedule to routinely check areas such as the septic tank, roofing etc. A review of all systems, practices and procedures is also underway with **Don Hamilton and Ken Miles** volunteering their time and talents, and their considerable experience, to include review of all maintenance procedures, purchase agreements and energy consumption, and to co-ordinate custodial staff. The anticipated outcome is that considerable savings will be realized in the future. Finally, a contingency fund is to be established to provide for long range maintenance planning.

Hearing no questions from the floor, **MOVED BY BARBARA CARINGTON SMITH, SECONDED BY JANET SCOTT that the Budget for 2015 be accepted as presented. CARRIED.**

## 9. ACCEPTANCE OF 2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Rev. Craig Tanksley noted one correction to Page 29 of the Annual Report 2014, fourth paragraph, line 3: **emergency rector expenses** corrected to read **EMERGENCY RECTORY EXPENSES**.

## 10. NEW BUSINESS

**St. Mark Ocean Park Nominee for the Order of the Diocese of New Westminster in 2015:** Rev. Craig announced that nominations were requested and considered by Clergy and Wardens and brought to Parish Council. Craig is delighted that **Olive Pociwuschek** has accepted, although she was surprised and clearly wishes it to be known that her accomplishments are largely due to “team work.” Olive thanks all those who volunteer their time and talents in support of her initiatives.

## 11. RECTOR’S REPORT

We have so much to be thankful for today. We can celebrate another good year at St. Marks Church. Another year where we have worshipped God, preached and taught the Word, celebrated our faith, cared for one another pastorally and reached out to our community in gifts and works of compassion. Much of it is here in these written reports. Today I want you to know how very grateful I am personally and all of us are for the hard work and service of many people. For our gifted and hard-working staff, our wardens, our Parish Council and our ministry leaders. And we are grateful for every act of hidden service which is known only by God. Today we are grateful that there are leaders, elected and appointed, who are willing to serve us again this year. Who will give their life, their time and talent in service to all of us. This is a great gift.

Today we are also grateful for the generous and sacrificial giving on the part of many people. Today, against the odds of a large deficit toward the end of the year, we have a positive balance in our accounts. It was a bit harrowing but we came through. Someone said to me, in the midst of our struggle at the end of the year, “Don’t tell me that God will supply our needs because ultimately we are the ones who have to give the money.” That is true. But really, both of those things are true. We give the money, generously and faithfully

to God. But the very fact that we are able to give, that we have something available to give, that we are even interested and willing to give, those things come from God. And God has supplied every need. That doesn't mean that we move ahead without caution. I think that our deficit was a yellow flag saying be careful. Be careful about how you use these valuable resources because they are given through sacrifice. That is why we have put forward a budget with no frills. May every dollar in this budget be given and spent to the glory of God!

Today I am looking ahead to the future. And I am wondering what kind of future is in store for us? If we stand on the mountain with God and we look to the other side, what will we see? What would we hope to see? If it is true that it takes the partnership of both God and God's people to meet the financial needs and goals of our parish, does it not then also mean that it takes both God and God's people, working together, to make the future?

Here is one possible future for us. We maintain the status quo as we slowly grow older. We care for our seniors and run our programs as long as we can sustain it. When we run out of leaders and resources we close them down. Then we will surely follow the pathway of so many churches across North America that lose their energy, their people and die. When I stand upon the mountain, that is not the future I want to see. What do you want to see? What does God want for us? Maybe it is time to dream some new dreams. It is not my job as your Rector, to tell you what the future holds for us. This is something that we have to discover together with God's help and wisdom. If it is a future worth having it will take vision, courage, hard work and sacrifice.

I want to leave you with this challenge, let us walk forward this year in an attitude of listening to each other and seeking the will and purpose of God. Let us be ready and willing to let God show us new things on the mountain, a new vision, new directions, and to be transformed as a church into the future he wants for us.

**12. Volunteers requested to assist with clean-up.**

**13. Commissioning:** Rev. Craig Tanksley inducted and commissioned all elected and appointed positions.

**14. Closing Prayer:** Tim Herron

**15. The Grace**

**16. Motion to Adjourn (Roger Hussen) at 1:20 p.m.**

Brian Switzer, Chair

Kathy Tubbs, Recording Secretary

## RECTOR'S REPORT

Lamentations 3:22 & 23 says, "The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."

Truly we have known the faithfulness of God in 2015. It has been a full and blessed year for us. We have experienced God's blessing in all of our service and outreach ministries together. God has provided us with strong and faithful leaders. Through the faithful and generous giving of many people, God has sustained us financially.

As I look back over the year, I see a church planted in South Surrey, spreading its branches to do the work of God. We are baptizing (5), marrying (2) and burying (14) the saints of God. We are teaching children, training youth and encouraging adults to be disciples of Christ. We are worshipping, praying for one another and caring for the aged and infirm. We are reaching outward in loving acts and giving to the needy in our community. We are encouraging the saints to be saints in the world where they live; in their neighbourhoods, workplaces and families. All this and more is the work which God has given us to do and our "Raison D'être."

We see the faithfulness of God in signs of renewed life. There are new families among us this year. There are new leaders taking the helm of ministries like the Men's Club and Sunday School. There is the beginning of a brand new ministry to young adults in the form of a Bible study that has been meeting in the home of Heather Davies.

We see new Asian friends who have come to us through Holly's ESL Bible study. Recently we baptized four people from China who have decided to follow Christ. Praise the Lord! Rev. Roger Simpson spent a weekend with us in March to remind us that we must always be looking outward in mission. Of all the things that we do together, that is our first and primary task.

With all the new faces and families we must work at practising hospitality. These new people and families need relationships and connections within our parish. Please go meet them and talk to them when you see them standing alone in the coffee hour.

Our worship and preaching ministry has been strong this year. Our choir has raised the bar in its monthly offering of gorgeous anthems. We have seen an increased use of our praise team and our music has been lively and up-lifting.

Our worship has been further enriched through the launching of our newly renovated outdoor chapel in its forested setting surrounded by a cathedral of trees.

Our purpose within the diocese has perhaps never been stronger with several of our members who are active in Diocesan ministries. Did you know, for example, that Pauline Blachford is co-chairing a ministry called the "Bishop's Friends?" Rev. John and Dorothy Mash are the appointed chaplains to the retired clergy in the diocese. This year we hosted a diocesan led anti-racism conference at St. Mark's. I continue to serve the diocese as a Regional Dean offering pastoral care and support to the clergy within our newly named "Peace Arch Deanery."

We are currently piloting a brand new diocesan program, still in its infancy that we might call something like, "Retired Deacon In Residence." Retired Deacon Stephen Bailey, along with his wife Pamela, have made their home among us for a season in part to help us learn more about the Diaconal ministry.

We finished the year on a high note with nearly 500 people in attendance on Christmas Eve and a five-year high in visitors at the Journey of Christmas.

As we enter a new year, our church has entered a period of intense transition. We have lost two outstanding members of our leadership team. Rev. Denise Doerksen has decided to move on, seeking her own parish. She has already been placed by the bishop in an interim ministry where her considerable gifts will be put to good service. Remember that God is faithful. God is providing for us again through the ministry of a known and trusted friend. Rev. John Mash has accepted an offer to take on a quarter-time ministry to help us with worship, preaching and pastoral care. It will be good once again to have John's experienced and positive leadership on board.

We have also said farewell to an amazingly gifted choir director, whom God raised up from among us, Janet Rendell. She and Tim have taken their retirement on Vancouver Island. We will sorely miss the Rendells, but again the Lord is providing. As I write this report we are preparing to interview a highly qualified candidate whom we hope to be the one the Lord is providing for us.

Our Strategic Planning Team will be working with us this year to answer three important questions; Who are we? Who is our neighbour? and What does God want us to do?

Two wonderful new programs will be offered during the weeks of Lent. On Sunday evenings there will be a time for silent prayer and reflection led by one of our members, Rev. Scott Tolhurst. Also, Rev. Stephen Bailey will be teaching a six week series in Anglican formation called, "Living The Anglican Way; A Lenten Journey."

Finally, as we begin the new year we are preparing to reach out and offer support and hospitality to a Syrian refugee family.

God has been faithful to us. As we look ahead to a new year we know that the Lord will continue to show us His provision and mercies for they are new every morning. Great is God's faithfulness!

Prayerfully submitted,  
Rev. Craig Tanksley

### **Ministry Reflection Rev. Denise Doerksen - Assistant Priest**

Hello parishioners of St. Mark's Ocean Park, The events described below are but some highlights of the way in which I have passed each month with you in 2015. What I have chosen to reflect on is meant to help you consider the ways in which St. Mark's has grown because we have shared ministry together since I came in September 2013. The events and experiences that I don't note below were nonetheless vital, like praying, planning liturgies and officiating for them, and the numerous conversations of a pastoral and spiritual nature you sought me out to have.

**January** Children and adults dressed up like kings and queens and came to the first family dance of the year, in celebration of the Epiphany of the Lord. Some spiritually hungry souls wanted an Alpha course so with Linda Millar's help we ran this course. Several parents and guardians were keen to have their children grow in spiritual understanding of the Eucharist, so it was with joy and energy that I ran the Life in the Eucharist program. Two young boys began their baptismal journey with me. And I continued to be shaped by my spiritual direction training as I sought spiritual direction personally, offered it to other companions on the way and did my coursework.

**February** The Alpha course continued. The baptismal journey of two children culminated in their baptism in a dynamic intergenerational service. One of the participants of the Alpha course was also baptized on that day. During Lent I organized a day retreat with St. Matthews and taught an evening study on Spiritual direction. I kept up supportive conversations with Josh, our youth leader and the teachers of Sunday School. A young couple began their journey towards the sacrament of marriage by doing marriage preparation with me.

**March** Godly Play, a way of doing Sunday morning ministry as a worship experience for young children is a passion of mine (as well as the Bishop's). Due to my experience with this program, St. Matthew's and the Diocese asked me to participate in consultative sessions in order to assist parishes in starting it up in their church.

**April** Parish Council really embraced the idea of doing a parish discernment process. So, I helped them gain some understanding about what that would mean and together we decided upon people to nominate. I went to the Clergy Conference, met with a few people at the 'edge' of our parish, sang for a Holden Evening Prayer service during Holy Week, and did some music planning with Annabelle, Janet and Craig. We had another Intergenerational service on Easter!

**May** I was sent out by Parish Council to invite nominees to serve as members of the Strategic Planning Group (or Discernment Group). I really enjoyed hearing a variety of people share their passions for the parish. I participated in Diocesan Synod feeling more connected than ever. I went off to Niagara Falls for another study leave for Spiritual Direction Training. I looked forward to seeing my new friends again and was so enriched. Well this month brought about another Intergenerational service and this time it was for Pentecost.

**June** Of course with Pentecost came the need for another Family Dance. We had a whooping windy good time. I spent more time meeting with various persons related to youth and children ministry, like Josh, as well as Caitlin and others at the Synod office. More time was needed to gather up a group for the Parish Discernment Group. My most memorable moment of the year was the outdoor Intergenerational service in our Chapel-in-the-Woods. I will remember this fondly in years to come; the joyful stillness we felt within the circle of trees...the faces of the children and adults in the arms of the forest. Wow!!

**July** Did a wedding, a funeral, had a holiday and stayed in touch with Josh.

**August** This was the month to re-envision Children and Youth Ministry due to leadership changes and our desire to involve kids in service and participation on Sunday mornings. I was lent out to do a Godly Play sermon at St. Matthew's.

**September** Coordinated and participated in a wonderful retreat at Bethlehem Retreat Centre, Nanaimo. Ministered to folks at Westminster House. Visited a child in need of spiritual conversation. Co-lead a Youth Retreat with Josh in Hope, B.C. Carel and I did a training session just for a few youth wanting to learn the 'ropes'. Also, got 'Singing Prayers' off the ground. This was the first of three monthly services of Taize style contemplative prayer for all ages.

**October** Off again for another week of residency at Niagara Falls as a study leave. Went to the Diocesan Anti-racism training in Ladner. Started a Christian Life Group meeting in a home in Walnut Grove. A few of the people on the 'edge' of the parish, (those wanting to know more about the Christian life without regularly attending church) came together to talk about Rowan William's book "Being Christian". At the end of this month came the chance to do another Family dance, this time for the Feast of All Saints!

**November** Began to prepare a teen for baptism. Went to the Synod office for a meeting to brainstorm about Confirmation. Had another Christian Life Group meeting. Met with a couple on the 'edge' of the church wanting me to officiate for their wedding next year. The bishop has given me permission to do so in an effort to maintain relationship with the ever-changing spiritual ideas and needs of young adults in B.C. today. Bishop Melissa helped me in another way; she helped me discern that it was time for me to move on from St. Mark's and serve somewhere else in the Diocese. I resigned feeling

like I was leaping from one high tower to another one, yet unseen and unknown.

**December** Singing Prayers this month calmed my soul as it did for others. In some way I think that those who worshipped did so offering peace to the parish. The teen continued on his baptismal journey with me. Pat Zammit and me coordinated a new thing called Messy Christmas. With Roger and Mari-Anne's help the parents/guardians and kids met God this Christmas through the glitter and fun.

**Now** As you read this I am no longer with you. However I believe you will find me when you come to the next Family Dance, or when you hear Jordan Van Ness pray, or see Verena teach Sunday School, or sing in one service a contemporary song like 'Come Now is the Time to Worship' followed by a 'barn burner' (as Tim Rendell used to say) song from the Common Praise hymnal.

I hold you all in my heart with fondness and can't say enough how you have renewed my spirit and faith in God, the church and the kingdom of God. I hope that many of you will seek me out for Spiritual Direction in the future. We can stay connected in this the most meaningful of spiritual companionships we could ever hope for.

Thank you to Rev. Craig for taking a risk on me, and the search committee (Brian S., Betty-Ann, and Drew) who said 'yes' to calling me on board your ship. Thank you to Sheila for administrating so well and joyously that I could be freed up to do the ministry I did do. Thank you to all the ministry leaders and volunteers, parish council members, and staff who have kept the ship afloat and moving forward. I will miss you all and I look forward to seeing you at some Diocesan event or another.

God be with you, each and everyone!  
Love, Rev. Denise Doerksen

You can reach me at [dldoerksen.revd@gmail.com](mailto:dldoerksen.revd@gmail.com) or 604-217-5880

## Wardens' Report

As wardens we have tried to practice good stewardship in the administering of our church life in terms of God and his will, as best we understand it. As we entered into 2015, we recalled the passage in **Revelations 3:8, "Behold I have set before thee an open door and no man can shut it."** We prepared to cross that threshold of the new year with gratitude for what the Lord had done for us. The Bible is full of that spirit. Jesus is reported as giving thanks. He took the loaves and gave thanks. He took the cup and gave thanks. His whole life radiated with thankfulness.

We are very thankful for our Maintenance Coordinators, Don Hamilton and Ken Miles who were very active in administrating to the physical needs of our buildings. What follows is a brief highlighting from a prodigious list of accomplishments.

They replaced all church heating thermostats with more sophisticated programmable units that allow for greater savings through more efficient use of temperature control. Temperatures were set in accordance with recognized industry wide standards. The new thermostats could still be manually adjusted to suit the situation, but after a predetermined period the temperature would automatically revert back to the programmed setting, thereby saving energy costs.

They also replaced all incandescent lights in the sanctuary, narthex, family room, and many outside locations with LED lights. Ken explained to Parish Council, who approved the purchase, that while this was an initial investment cost, over time the church would save considerably in replacement costs. As it turned out, the initial cost was largely offset by two generous parishioner donations.

Don and Ken produce a monthly report to Parish Council on the current status of maintenance issues and an updating on anticipated large capital building projects. Ken is also a regular participant before Council providing advice and guidance on these projects and all manner of maintenance issues.

Our Custodial Team of Heather Higginson and Geoff Higginson has done an excellent job of cleaning our church and attending to our janitorial needs. They have also reorganized and reconfigured the Maintenance Room. This included the installation of new shelving and hangers designed for mops and brooms. The Kitchen Committee was very appreciative of their efforts, noting that more safe and usable storage space had been created.

Commencing in early 2015 we experienced a minor rat infestation in the kitchen, adjacent rooms, connecting passageway, and hall areas. Don and Ken made daily inspections of the infected areas and passed on their findings to our professional Pest Care technicians. All possible outside areas of access were sealed, as were all inside access points. Inside traps were set and the bait changed almost weekly. Don and Ken were particularly vigilant in discouraging any possible food substances being left on the kitchen counters. They encouraged and helped draft a new church policy with respect to the proper disposal of organic kitchen materials. Eventually efforts started to pay off and it was estimated that we were rat free by early April.

Also commencing in early January was a massive church-wide initiative to clean up the silverfish infestation. This was under the auspices of Anne Schreck and involved representatives from almost all Parish Ministries. Hours were spent in cleaning and restoring various areas in the church and in replacing cardboard box storage with lidded plastic containers.

In March the Kitchen Committee was formed and 13 representatives of various user groups attended the first meeting. New kitchen policies were discussed plus many ideas for improvements. Roberta Braddock and Isabel Chernoff were elected co-chairpersons of the committee, succeeding Dianne Clou, who finished her three year term as chair. Roberta and Isabel reorganized many aspects of the kitchen layout, including the pantry and hall storage area.

Three metal storage cabinets were purchased by Don and Ken for the proper and secure storage of toxic chemicals, including paint, garden and cleaning supplies. This allowed for the removal of paint stored in the hall and moved to more secure storage in the downstairs furnace room. This also freed storage space in the hall for the Kitchen Committee. One of the metal cabinets was wall mounted in the Pantry for food storage by the Men's Club.

In an effort to reduce paper, photocopier use, and office involvement, we experimented with producing only a digital Parish Pulse which was emailed weekly. A few paper copies were available



Sundays for those without email access. This did not work out as anticipated and we went back to producing the paper copy insert in the Sunday bulletin.

We collected, compiled and corrected parishioners' email addresses and undertook compliance measures in accordance with the Anti-Spam Legislation in updating our parish lists.

Under Denise's guidance Parish Council reflected upon reading "Holly Conversations". The emphasis focused on the questions: "Who we are as a parish?"; "What are we here to do?"; and, "Who is our neighbour?" A Discernment Committee was selected from a list of parishioners approved by Parish Council and chaired by Peter Boorman. Meetings have commenced in an effort to answer these questions.

Rev. Canon Roger Simpson, an evangelist from Northern England was with us March 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>. He spoke on the topic of "Sharing the Love of Jesus Christ with the people of Ocean Park".

A new wedding brochure/flyer was produced. We developed a template for, and updated the Parish's Memorial Book. We developed a Brochure for the Outdoor Chapel. We posted our 2015 Parish Council's photos and bios in the hall.

We improved our telephone systems, including upgrading the bandwidth for our internet connections. Our church has secured a new internet provider.

In an effort to cut down on the number and length of announcements on Sunday mornings, new guide lines were developed to keep announcements short and interesting. Some church services by their very nature, children and family involvement, take longer, so it was considered important to respect parishioners' time. The new guidelines were passed by Parish Council and a memo sent to all church leaders. A number of groups and individuals expressed their concern over the restrictions. They were told that enforcement of the policy would be at the discretion of the Clergy and Wardens, but would only be exercised in extreme situations where it was clear that things were getting out of hand.

We held two successful concerts, one in February and one in May. The Concert Ministry finished as Debra, Chris and Tim retired from that ministry.

Phil Tubbs built a new lockable kitchen cabinet and a beautiful wood surround for our church altar railing.

Our Bishop, The Right Reverend Melissa M. Skelton, invested our nominee, Olive Pociwauschek, in the Order of the Diocese of New Westminster. The Bishop also invested in the Order of the Diocese, Dorothy Mash, as one of her own nominees. Both individuals are being recognized for their many outstanding years of service to our parish.

A Sexual Misconduct Workshop was conducted by Rich Phillips at the Mount Olive Lutheran Church April 25, under the Screening in Faith requirements.

The proposal by our Music Ministry to embrace the Common Praise Hymnal was enthusiastically supported. This is the official hymnal of the Canadian Anglican Church, and it contains the majority of hymns we sing. Adopting this hymnal will reduce the time and cost of producing our Sunday Bulletins as only the title and numbers need to be printed. In May Craig delivered a liturgy of blessings over the new hymnals. The majority of comments from parishioners were very supportive of the new hymnal.

We developed policies on: "garbage can placement" – in compliance with fire regulations, "food left in the fridge", "hall set up and take down", and "use of the Narthex".

Probably the most serious building issue we faced this past year was what we will categorize as our "rental (old rectory) water situation". On a couple of occasions our tenants reported a considerable decrease in their water pressure and volume. Fortunately the situation somehow rectified itself within a few hours or days. We did however feel it prudent to determine the source and location of the rental water in case the decrease happened again and the situation did not fortuitously self-correct. If we knew the location of the water line we could initiate the necessary repairs.

We had always assumed that the source of the rental water was the church itself. This proved not to be the case as demonstrated when our plumbers turned off the church's water, but that of the rental residence continued to flow. In an effort to resolve the issue we consulted what old building records we could find, all relevant city records, and held discussions with parishioners involved in our building

construction. We attempted to trace the water line through high technology solutions such as water ionization. We even dug a number of trenches in relevant areas. Nothing proved successful.

After exhausting all possibilities we solicited the City of Surrey for their help. They worked on the problem for approximately one month. In the end they could only locate one active water line in the area, and that connected the church to the 20<sup>th</sup> Ave. main water line. Their best guess was that our rental was on well water. In the end we felt the best solution would be to construct a dedicated water line between the church and our rental residence. Check-Point Plumbing completed the work under budget. Our tenants are very pleased with the results.

Our church was used as a Federal Polling Station for the October Federal election. We became a Block Watch contact.

We advertised, and interviewed a prospective candidate, for the Choir Director position. We continue to pray for God to send us the right person to replace Janet Rendell and the wonderful music she has blessed us with during the past 2 years.

We would like to close with a special acknowledgment and deep sense of appreciation for the tireless dedication to duty of our Office Administrator, Sheila Johnston.

It has been an honour and privilege to serve our Lord and fellow parishioners this past year.

Blessings,

Your Wardens – Catherine Featherstone – Roger Hussen – Brian Switzer

### **ADOPT-A-STREET-TEAM REPORT**

We completed our two year commitment in September 2015 and have moved onto our third year of keeping 120 Ave. clean from 129 St. East to 140 St. Six teams volunteer one day twice per year to walk the street picking up litter, construction materials and lots of cigarette butts. It generally takes a team one to three hours to walk end-to-end gathering sometimes over 20 pounds of trash. The bags are then left for the city to pick up or placed out with the church garbage. We had a few members step down this year causing us to combine two teams. The good news is the youth group came on board to fill in that space.

There is always room for more people to help if an afternoon walk is on your agenda.

God Bless and thank you all

Mari Anne Hussen

### **ALTAR GUILD REPORT**

Here we are again and another year has come and gone. The biggest problem that we have is getting enough people to fill in the groups. We are very thankful that Norma Marsh has joined our ranks, as we hope that a few more will also find the Lord leading them to serve on the Altar guild.

If you would like information on the Altar Guild, our duties and responsibilities, I would be more than happy to talk to you about it. If you feel that you would like to join the Altar Guild, please talk to Rev. Craig.

In brief the Altar Guild requires a commitment of one week every five weeks plus three meetings a year. Our most recent meeting was Wednesday, February 3 following the 10am Service. Meetings start with coffee and refreshments, followed by the meeting and we aim to finish by 12noon or no later than 12:30pm. At the February meeting we planned for the Lenten and Easter services. We also addressed feasts or special services over the summer. We will have another meeting in late September or early October to plan for Thanksgiving and Remembrance Day. Our third meeting is in late November, just prior to the start of Advent. At that meeting we plan for Advent, Christmas and the Sunday's up to Ash Wednesday.

Respectfully Submitted

Kathryn Smith

### **ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN (ACW) REPORT**

We meet on the second Tuesday of each month. Although we are small in numbers we are an industrious group. We are asked throughout the year to cater numerous events such as funerals and the Vestry Meeting. In November we catered a 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary after church for 250 people. In March we hosted the World Day of Prayer with 88 people attending. Hilary King "Embrace Rwanda" spoke to us in June and with the help of other parishioners and ACW members we have now knit 460 outfits for her to take to Rwanda. On the fifth Monday of a month we volunteer at ACW House assisting with the bales. Fetes include our Spring Tea and Holly Berry Fair.

Lynne Brownridge

Secretary

### **ST. MARK'S A.C.W. – FINANCIAL STATEMENT 2015**

Financial statement from January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015

<b>Balance forward December 31, 2014</b>	<b>\$ 3,454.55</b>
Funerals and Catering	2,857.00
Membership	230.00
Calendars	362.00
Tea Money, Bank Interest and miscellaneous	2,250.00
Crafts and Sales (Spring Luncheon and Hollyberry Fair)	4,861.98
Fellowship Least Coin (ACW - \$50.00, Evening Guild - \$8.72)	58.72
Compassion	<u>30.00</u>
<b>TOTAL CREDITS</b>	<b>\$ 10,650.00</b>

#### **Disbursements**

Funerals and Catering	\$ 2,046.43
Membership	300.00
Supplies	818.61
Miscellaneous expenses	1,873.60
Donations and gifts (charities, speakers, etc.)	<u>5,502.00</u>
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$ 10,540.64</b>

**BALANCE JANUARY 01, 2015** **\$ 3,613.91**

Financial review by

*Rea A. Anderson*

Respectfully submitted: Janet Van Nes

*Janet Van Nes*  
(Treasurer)

## **BIBLE STUDY REPORT**

We currently have 6 strong Bible Study groups going at St. Mark's with approximately 50 people attending. Two groups have slowed down a little, as members travel and have busy lives, but the intent is to strengthen those groups in 2016. There is a Young Moms groups that meets Monday afternoons, a group that meets at the church Tuesday morning, as well as an ESL study group in the evening. Study topics this year have included, Elijah, Imago Deo and First and Second Peter and Jude. These groups have not only been a place to enrich our understanding of the Bible but also a place for fellowship and to nourish each other spiritually.

Blessings,

Catherine Featherstone

## **CHILDRENS' MINISTRY REPORT**

2015 was a year of change for the Children's Ministry. We are using a lectionary-based program called "Roots". We opened the New Year by celebrating the Epiphany, the arrival of wise men from the East seeking the king of the Jews. We then moved into Mark's Gospel to hear of Jesus' baptism.

We read about the next revelation in John, when a disciple called Philip is recruited and goes off to tell his friend Nathaniel about Jesus. Having established that we are encountering the "king of the Jews", "my Son", "the son of God" we find out what this might mean. We learned that Jesus is a healer, ministering first to a demon-possessed man in a synagogue, then to Simon's mother-in-law. The time of Epiphany is drawn to a close with another revelation, as Jesus climbs a high mountain and the figures of Moses and Elijah appear, establishing his credentials as a prophet.

We then moved into Lent. Rev. Denise came downstairs to talk about baptism with us. Through song, skits and crafts, she taught us about Baptism and the Transfiguration. The following week was an Intergenerational Service. We joined together to celebrate the Baptism of a couple of our Sunday School children. The children, Sunday School teachers and helpers attended this Eucharist with a deeper understanding of the meaning and significance of the Transfiguration, especially as it relates to Baptism.

March 1 and 8 we were delighted to welcome Mari Anne Hussen to lead us in our singing accompanied with her guitar playing. Palm Sunday was a special service when the children carried palms around the church.

The children enjoyed being part of the Easter Sunday Service. They processed in with the clergy and choir with one of the children carrying the children's cross while all others carried carnations which they placed up at the altar. The following weeks we learned about how Jesus reveals himself as risen, yet still wounded and scarred. Thomas doubts what the others have seen and wants to experience Jesus' presence for himself. Jesus opens up to his disciples' minds to understand his words and how the scriptures have been fulfilled through his life, death and resurrection. Jesus bestows upon them the gift of being "witnesses" to his physical resurrection.

In May we made and distributed gifts to our church ladies in celebration of Mother's Day. May is our Missions Month so the children contributed food items which were then packed into lunch bags and sent off the Food Bank. We also had Youth come down and talk to the children about various Missions. We celebrated the Pentecost with an Intergenerational Service on May 24.

In June we made and distributed gifts to our church fathers in celebration of Father's Day. We also celebrated Eucharist in the outdoor chapel followed by the Sunday School picnic. We celebrated our last Sunday School Day until September on June 21.

There was no summer Sunday School Program for the children. For the few Sundays taught, they followed the Roots curriculum.

Vacation Bible School was held towards the end of August with a week-long program called SonSpark Labs. Was well attended and a great success.

We learned in September that Wendy Aiken had stepped down as Sunday School Coordinator and Margaret Appleton had stepped down as Sunday School teacher. We will miss them as they were such a gift to the children and other teachers.

Our Hot Dog Social was a successful start to the Fall term. In the lectionary September and October continued as Ordinary Time, and we read more passages from Mark's Gospel. Jesus continues his travels through the regions of Tyre, Caesarea Philippi, Galilee, Capernaum and on to Jericho. There is a clear sense of journey across the weeks. And as he speaks to, and is challenged by, the various groups he meets, we encounter some of Jesus' most challenging teaching.

September 20 was our first Preteen Ministry meeting which Linda Zeal and Kate Hoos held in the Youth Room upstairs. We are on a learning curve here so please pray for us that we can get this up and running and have a successful team of enthusiastic students going forward.

October 4 was bring your animals to church Sunday, and children were part of the service, and on October 18 we had an Intergenerational Service.

In November, Linda Zeal took over as Children's Ministry Coordinator. The last part of 2015 we learned about Advent and Christmas. We also practised for our Christmas Pageant. Janet Rendell came down every week from November 8 onward to help us practise the songs and also hold dress rehearsals. The children's performance was awesome.

It was another busy year with some challenges along the way. Our average attendance has been 20-25 and that swells on certain Sundays!

A very big THANK YOU to those who have been faithful about coming down to help us. We so appreciate all that you do.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Zeal,

Children's Ministry Coordinator

## **CHOIRS MINISTRY REPORT**

The choirs enjoyed a splendid year of raising their voices to the glory of God. Easter music was a highlight with anthems from the children's choir and the adult choir.

In November, the adult choir sang the anthem, "Who Will Teach the Children?", donated by the family of Joyce and Bill Ness to celebrate their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

We were thrilled to have Roger Hussen, Anne Schreck and Holly Tanksley join us for Easter and Christmas music.

The Christmas pageant featured the children of the Sunday school, singing, reading and playing handbells.

The Christmas Lessons and Carols Service featured music sung beautifully by the adult choir and included several guest musicians: Ashley and Cierra Van Nes, Nathan and Owen Locke and Bernard Blary. We are thankful for their gift of music.

This has been an extraordinary time for me as choir director. I give thanks to everyone for the amazing support I received and the inspiration which came from God. I will remember this experience all my life and thank God for the opportunity.

Blessings to all,

Janet Rendell

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH MINISTRY REPORT

The direction of your Community Outreach Ministry is guided by the Mission Statement taken from St. Matthew, Chapter 25, verses 35 to 40 as follows:

I was hungry and you gave me food; I was thirsty and you gave me water  
I was a stranger and you took me in;  
Naked and you clothed me; ill and you comforted me;  
In prison and you visited me.  
And the King said, "what you do to the least of these my people, you do unto me".

During the past year, your Community Outreach Ministry supported various local organizations by supporting individuals in crisis, Single Mothers and their young children, Senior Women, Soup Lunches for Disabled Women, Young Mothers and their babies, and young men struggling with addiction.

\* \* \* \* \*

### History:

The late Pat Louis, a strong and vibrant parishioner of St. Mark's began this Ministry in early 1999. This Ministry was originally called "The Front Room" in recognition of what "The Front Room" -- a drop in shelter for homeless in the Whalley area -- did for so many people.

At the end of that first year, the 'Front Room Ministry' had \$2000.00 in operating funds. It began with teams making sandwiches in the church kitchen and serving them at the Front Room in Whalley.

The Community Outreach Ministry has grown and is now supporting the various organizations and programs outlined in this report.

As of 2015, the Community Outreach Ministry supports projects both here in the South Surrey area and at the Front Room in Whalley. The operating budget for 2015 was \$12,935.00.

### LEADERSHIP

The planning and administering of the programs are the responsibility of the Steering Committee which is comprised of members of the congregation: Barbara Grantham (Chair), Pat Aiken, Wendy Aiken, Betty-Ann Bainbridge, Roberta and John Braddock, Lynne Brownridge, Ann Colman, Lawrence Hurd, Alvin Myhre, Shannon Poulsen, and Darlene Wiegand.

### INCOME & EXPENDITURE

Funding for this past year's activities came from the following sources: the Parishioners of St. Mark's, Ladies Evening Guild, the Sunday School and the Men's Club. The following financial statement documents funds received and the distribution of these funds to each project. It should be noted that the Community Outreach Ministry operates on a receipts-based reimbursement for expenditures basis.



### **Financial Statement for 2015**

January 1, 2015		
	Opening Balance (2014 Fund Surplus)	12,435.41
	Plus Cash Advance (Float)	500.00
	Annual Contributions	12,329.50
	Total Funds for Distribution	25,264.91
Distribution of Funds		
	HIV/AIDS High Protein Food Bank	600.00
	Lunch Basket for Hungry Children	5,805.00
	Special Projects	1,800.00
	Food Hampers	500.00
	Protein Project	1,145.54
	Stepping Stones	954.14
	AMA House (Senior Women)	975.19
	Souper Sunday	862.83
	Food Bank	895.00
	Launching Pad	427.05
	Women's Place	300.00
	Total Funds Distributed	14,264.75
	Surplus as of December 31, 2015	11,000.16
	Less Cash Float	500.00
	Adjusted Closing Balance as of December 31, 2015	10,500.16
Blanche Biddle Trust		
	Financial Support Distributed	547.57
	Closing Balance	2,951.03

### **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS --- 2015**

Throughout 2015, the Community Outreach Ministry met with the organizations supported through the Ministry. Programs are reviewed to ensure that what is being provided to each organization is what is best suited for their needs. Representatives from these organizations are invited to attend Ministry meetings to discuss their organizations and challenges they face on a regular basis. As outlined in this report, some changes were made during the past year in this support.

### **Lunch Basket for Hungry Children**

The Lunch Basket for Hungry Children Program currently provides food for five Single Mothers whose children and youth would otherwise go to school hungry. This includes a grandmother who cares for her three grandchildren on a full time basis. This program supplies Safeway Gift Cards to Single Mothers to purchase food to provide their children with lunches. These families are identified to St. Mark's by Women's Place.

These five families are currently being supported on a weekly basis through contributions on the Donor Pledge Calendar posted in the Parish Hall. Thanksgiving or Memorial donations are recognized weekly in the Parish Pulse.

Thank you to Shannon Poulson, who delivers these Gift cards each month to Women's Place and to Darlene Wiegand who cares for the Donor Pledge Calendar.

### **The Protein Fund**

Stan Hodgson, originated this program to purchase high protein food to those who participate in the 'Lunch Basket' program. Beef, chicken and pork and other high protein foods are purchased with donations received from within the parish. These 'Protein' packets are made up and delivered to Women's Place. Any new 'Lunch Basket' families are added into the High Protein support.

Stan's vision continues and is funded by members of St. Mark's congregation. Thank you to Roberta Braddock for her dedicated time and organization of this program.

### **The Blanche Biddle Trust Fund.**

The Blanche Biddle Trust Fund assists Single Mothers with young children anywhere in our area that need a temporary financial 'hand up'. With the consent of the original donors, the focus of the Blanche Biddle Fund, has now shifted to identifying needy individual families with school age children who attend school anywhere in the district.

This program was pioneered by the Outreach Committee seven years ago with the original donor, Blanche Biddle. The breakfast program started in one school. As the program was so successful, the Surrey School District has now taken it over by obtaining special funding for qualified school communities.

With the help of child care workers at the school, families had been identified this past year and were offered financial support for groceries while the mothers were re-establishing themselves. After successfully moving forward with either work or school, young mothers move forward and again become the breadwinners of their families.

Thank you to Alvin Myhre who has coordinated and overseen this program.

### **Stepping Stones**

Stepping Stones welcomes all pregnant and parenting youth between the ages of 12 and 24. Most of these young parents come from unsupportive homes and have nowhere to turn for support and are faced with overwhelming odds and challenges. Young Mothers attend programs to improve their circumstances.

Monthly funding was provided to Stepping Stones for young mothers to purchase diapers, and for bus tickets for these young parents to attend workshops and support groups at this non-profit organization.

## **AMA Transition House**

AMA Transition House is the first transition house of its kind in Canada. Accessible to women 55+ who are experiencing abuse – AMA House serves a community where the number of seniors per capita is twice the national average although there are no geographical limitations for access. 'First Stage' residential care home provides immediate assistance to Senior Women in need.

Monthly funding provides bus tickets and personal items for women who are residents of AMA House.

Thank you to Wendy Aiken for coordinating, shopping and delivering these items.

## **Vegetable Deliveries**

The supply of vegetables to Women's Place, The Launching Pad and the South Surrey Food Bank was changed this year.

After meeting with each of the recipients of the vegetable delivery, they agreed unanimously that they would be best served by receiving a quarterly payment of \$100, a better choice for their needs. These donations are designated for vegetables only.

## **'Souper' Sunday 2015**

This initiative from the Community Outreach Ministry continues to be a wonderful success. During the cooler months of the year members of the Community Outreach Ministry prepare the soup of the month and it is sold on the Sunday morning. We are blessed to have skilled shoppers, choppers and sellers!

The Committee members meet on the Saturday prior to the soup sale to create a homemade soup for sale after both the 8am and 10am services the next day.

The 'Souper Sunday' project has been able to assist in purchasing and delivering items on 'wish lists' to the following organizations:

AMA House	Pajamas and slippers purchased for both current residents, and those newly arriving clients.
Launching Pad	Purchase of new cutting boards, two turkeys for Christmas dinner, gift cards from Superstore for groceries were purchased.
Stepping Stones	Funding was provided to purchase books about the true meaning of Christmas. This was to provide each child a gift who were attending the Annual Christmas Dinner for these young parents and their extended families. 200 people attended this dinner.
South Surrey White Rock	Again this year, all money from soup sales for January and February were donated to the Food Bank -- as these two months are the slower donation months of the year for the Food Bank.

## **ON-GOING PROJECTS ADMINISTERED DURING THE YEAR**

### **Projects Delivered at the Front Room Homeless Shelter**

- Milk at a cost of \$300.00/month for Positive Haven the HIV/AIDS Food Bank.
- Small toiletries are collected and delivered to the Front Room.  
A basket with a list of preferred items is located in the Narthex.

Thank you to Michael Klaver for delivering these small items to the Front Room.

**The following eight programs were delivered at South Fraser Women's Services Society (SFWSS) also known as Women's Place:**

- A Soup Lunch for Disabled Women is made and delivered weekly by the following members of the congregation: Betty-Ann Bainbridge, Isabel Chernoff, Ann Colman, Janet Cormode, Maggie Ferguson, Insa Fricker, Fran Friedel, Jamie Grantham, Jean Hornstein, Debbie Maxwell, Michelle Palmer, Shannon Poulsen, Toni Wallis and Linda Zeal.
- Safeway Gift Cards to the value of \$15.00/child per week are distributed monthly to young mothers to purchase food for their children/youth who would otherwise go to school hungry. A grandmother who is caring for her three grandchildren on a full time basis is also a recipient of these gift cards.
- Extra Gift cards for special holidays such as Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas are provided to the families who participate in the Lunch Basket Program for Hungry Children. These families can enjoy some extras at these holiday times as do others in the community.
- Christmas Gift Hamper Gift Cards were again provided by the Sunday School children, ACW, Evening Guild, Bible Study groups and the committee of the Community Outreach Ministry. The Gift Cards were delivered to the mothers and children who participate in our Lunch Basket for Hungry Children program.
- Christmas Dinner Gift Cards for Safeway were provided to these families in the Lunch Basket for Hungry Children Program this year. This change was due to special food and diet considerations for the families.
- The Protein Project - a continuing project initiated by Stan Hodgson is funded with a monthly donation to purchase meat for children and youth who do not have sufficient protein in their diet.
- \$100.00 is sent quarterly to the Food Bank and Women's Place and designated for vegetables.

**BASKETS IN THE NARTHEX**  
**WHITE ROCK/SOUTH SURREY FOOD BANK**

The Food Bank basket is where food and used, wearable clothing may be placed. A list of preferred food is attached to the basket.

Thank you to Michael Houston for delivering the items weekly to the Food Bank.

**FRONT ROOM**

This basket, also located in the Narthex, and labeled Front Room is for small toiletries, brushes, combs, socks, gloves and small items for those who are living on the street, is delivered to the Front Room regularly.

Thank you to Michael Klaver for delivering these items to the Front Room.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **THANK YOU**

In closing, your Community Outreach Ministry would like to thank St. Mark's parishioners for your continuing prayers, generosity, and time. We are also grateful to the Ladies Evening Guild, Men's Club and Sunday School for their support. This ongoing support enables St. Mark's Community Outreach Ministry to provide a 'hand up' to those in our community who are in need.

A Special thank you also to Sheila Johnston, Office Administrator for her support throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Grantham, Chair

## **CREATION CARE MINISTRY**

Although this ministry wasn't officially re-launched until January 24, 2016; urgent work began in May 2015 in two main areas:

1. to greatly limit the amount of refuse the parish puts into the landfill.

The kitchen coordinators, care-taking staff, Wardens, Mens' Club and maintenance crew were consulted to create and label new disposal bins in the old wooden cupboard outside the kitchen door. These new bins allow us to recycle the church's plastic bags, household plastics, styrofoam, small appliances, glass, mixed metal and other items that the City of Surrey will recycle at one of the local depots. In addition to this; we've paid greater attention to ensure that all garden refuse, organics (napkins, paper towels, soiled pizza boxes etc.) from all functions held at St. Mark's, are collected weekly in the City's Organic Bin. These strategies have been very effective in limiting our damage to the earth and water through the landfill.

2. to develop new standards of maintenance for the 'St. Mark's Forest'

For many years parishioners have enjoyed the wonderful green space that includes the Outdoor Chapel and the Journey of Christmas in the back forest. Urgent intervention was required in two areas this past 'drought-like' summer.

- A. to reduce the very high fire load and threat due to stockpiles of dry branches, needles etc. as well as to remove dead branches and to fell a dead tree
- B. to pneumatically remove debris that buried mature tree trunks and would have killed them

## **Fund Raising**

Ingenuity was the key to achieving these goals without cutting into revenue from existing programmes. In November, parishioners collected more than 470 lbs. of **Bits 'n Pieces** (Bits of Brass & pieces of Pipe etc. and recycling of metal) raising \$375.00 towards the cost of work done in the forest. Watch for another such event in the Spring.

## **Opportunities**

Creation Care is not a niche programme. It is everyday, every person of every age taking a little more care ... because God so loves the world.

Anne Schreck  
Creation Care Ministry

## DONATIONS SECRETARY REPORT

The decision to reissue the same envelope numbers to weekly and monthly donors has worked well and currently we order 140 weekly envelope sets and 80 monthly envelope sets. As in prior years for various reasons on average about 20 weekly and 12 monthly envelope numbers become available for re-allocation in the New Year.

In 2014 45 newcomers donated through pew envelopes and thirteen decided to become either weekly or monthly envelope donors and another fifteen have continued to donate using pew envelopes. In 2015 there were 80+ newcomers of which five decided to become either PAD or weekly envelope donors and eleven others continued to donate using pew envelopes.

As mentioned in the 2014 report when you look at the comparative figures there is just one item that requires explanation, note that in years 2011, 2012 and 2013 there were "Capital Renewal (WRF)" campaigns; in 2013 the campaign had been completed and so donations to Capital \$5,295 and (WRF) \$2,550 should not be compared with the prior years.

On behalf of Irene Snow, we thank all members of the "Counters Teams" for their dedication to duty. All donations are received in the strictest confidence and are receipted for income tax purposes at year-end. The following summarizes the financial donations by the parishioners of St. Mark, Ocean Park in 2015 with comparative figures for 2014, 2013, 2012 and 2011. Note that items marked with an \* are included in the total for that specific section.

Envelope Receipts	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Ministry/Maintenance	\$351,669.00	376354	351146	353338	364954
Open	\$8,291.00	8131	9022	\$8,664.00	7317
Sub Total	\$359,960.00	384,485	360,168	362,002	372,272

### Designated Funds

ACW	1000		555	100	129
Altar Guild & Flowers	1050	1,995	1,890	4,420	875
Capital	4915	4,815	5,925		330
Capital Renewal (WRF)	395	10	2,550	33,903	41,275
Sunday School	1400	150	575	350	704
Designated - Other	90	1,472	2,380	1,405	130
Discretionary	350	270			500
Evening Guild	1000		605		100
First Fruits			400		
Garden Maintenance	1896	745	870	1,190	825
Grounds Maintenance			430	1,650	1,980
Library	50		80	265	
Memorials					1,150
Memorial Garden	1110	1,783	580	1,055	1,855
Men's Club	1025	100			50
Music/Piano	1445	285	240	140	160
Concert Ministry	900	3,508			
Prayer Shawl	480	90	210	160	
Vacation Bible School	1220	360	190	275	320

Youth	2020	595	1,170	1,210	1,185
Bishops Visit		775			
Sub Total	17547	16953	18,650	46,123	51,568
Outreach Programs	7440	8810	10450	10108	
African Enterprise					650
A Rocha	240	240	240	225	240
Missions	240				
Food Bank	3875	4,710	3,550	3,362	3,959
Community Outreach – Total *	11795	11,535	13,410	13,253	12,572
Lunch Basket *	2120	1,985	2,410	2,155	2,650
Protein Project *	550	740	550	990	1,195
Going Extra Mile					30
Journey of Christmas	20	150		150	
Missions - Other			200	300	35
PWRDF - Total *	6215	5,380	8,237	8,921	15,489
Philippines *			360		
Haiti *					
Gaza *					
Pakistan *					
Japan *					1,100
Horne of Africa *					7,199
Samaritan's Purse					120
TEC				100	
Yukon Diocese					
YWAM	3400	1,400	2,012	1,250	610
Sub Total		23,415	27,649	27,561	33,705
Total		424,857	406,467	\$ 435,686	\$ 457,545
* Does not include donations sent directly to PWRDF					
Identifiable Donors	2014	2013	2012	2011	
Envelopes					
Weekly	91	95	105	117	124
Monthly	64	71	66	59	59
Pre-Authorized (PAD)	57	51	52	47	39
Donated (No Envelopes)	7	7	9	16	21



<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>243</b>
<b>Visitors Donated</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>300</b>
<b>Deaths</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Respectfully submitted by,</b>					
<b>Douglas Brown</b>					
<b>Donations Secretary</b>					

## **EUCCHARISTIC SERVER, LAY ADMINISTRATOR & ACOLYTE COORDINATOR REPORT**

The key element for 2015 was a solid team of committed individuals who met the needs as they arose throughout the year. Whenever someone was looking to find a replacement or when Easter and Christmas services needed to be specially filled, there were always those who came forward in support. Lauren MacPherson stepped back from serving in June 2015 with the imminent birth of her child and will rejoin the roster in July 2016.

Betty Bear because of chronic hip issues, had to step back from the team, but we were thankful for the role she played through most of 2015. The plan to have teenagers working as acolytes developed further through 2015 with training for Vivian Wu, Vanessa Musherure and Verina Musherure. They are now on the roster for the first six months of 2016. It is great to have them on the team.

To conclude, it is a privilege for us to support Craig and Denise during service time, especially during communion, and we continue to welcome others to fill the important roles of Eucharistic server, Lay Administrator and Acolyte.

Carel Schoch

Server Coordinator

### **Eucharistic Servers, Lay Administrators & Acolytes:**

Bear Tanksley, Holly (Lay Administrator/Eucharistic Server)  
 Buddingh, Maria (Lay Administrator/Eucharistic Server)  
 Carington Smith, Barbara (Lay Administrator/Eucharistic Server)  
 Chernoff, Isabel (Lay Administrator/Eucharistic Server)  
 Clou, Dianne (Lay Administrator/Eucharistic Server)  
 Hussen, Roger (Lay Administrator/Eucharistic Server)  
 Klaver, Michael (Lay Administrator/Eucharistic Server)  
 Klaver Robin (Lay Administrator)  
 MacPherson, Lauren (Lay Administrator/Eucharistic Server – on maternity leave until July 2016)  
 Musherure, Vanessa (Acolyte)  
 Musherure, Verina (Acolyte)  
 Poulsen, Shannon (Lay Administrator/Eucharistic Server)  
 Schoch, Carel (Lay Administrator/Eucharistic Server)  
 Schreck, Anne (Lay Administrator/Eucharistic Server)  
 Tubbs, Phil (Lay Administrator/Eucharistic Server)  
 Walks, Brian (Lay Administrator/Eucharistic Server)  
 Wu, Vivian (Acolyte)

## TREASURER'S REPORT

The year 2015 was a very challenging one financially. However, God is always among us and we remain strong and healthy.

The Operating Fund Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2015, reflects our steadfastness.

♦	Total Contributions and Revenues -	\$418,734.48
♦	Total Expenses -	<u>\$431,780.52</u>
♦	<u>Net Deficit</u> -	<u>\$ (13,046.04)</u>

I appreciate and thank every ministry and their leaders for their good financial stewardship. In addition to operating contributions and revenue of \$418,734.48 we also received \$4,425.89 in Capital Funds, \$29,462.92 in contributions to Community Outreach, PWRDF and other ministries. Bequests received during the year were \$10,000.00 from Margaret Keen Estate, \$25,000.00 from William Copeland Estate, \$1,000.00 in celebration of Bill and Joyce Ness' anniversary.

This is not including funds raised by ACW, Evening Guild and Men's Club – as always, well done good and faithful servants! The Parish of St. Mark - Ocean Park is richly blessed by your love and faithfulness of the countless hours of "Time and Talent" to which many, many volunteer so willingly and faithfully contribute. For this, we give God all the praise and glory!

Total GIC Investments at year end is \$486,044.86. It was necessary to redeem GICs in the amount of \$29,060.50 to provide the cash flow for the capital expenses and operating deficit during the year. Another GIC will be purchased for \$10,000.00 until cash flow is needed.

Thank you to those that have their contributions processed by P.A.D. (pre-authorized donations). This is especially helpful with cash flow management in the summer months. Please consider signing up if you have not already done so.

Nancy Rickett of McDonald Rickett, Chartered Accountants has performed a "Review Engagement" for the year ended December 31, 2015 as required by the Charities Act. Her Review Engagement Report is included in the Annual Report with the Financial Reports.

A very heartfelt thank you to Sheila Johnston for her help and support with data entry, to the Donation Secretary, Douglas Brown, and the Clergy, Wardens and Trustees for your input and encouragement.

A special thank you to the Prayer Shield Team who covers us in prayer as we meet and seek God's will for the Parish. The Lord's guidance and presence is very much felt in these meetings.

The budget for 2016 reflects a realistic assessment of the expected operating costs of the Parish for the ensuing year. The decrease in the budget is due to the resignation of our Assistant Priest. It is our goal to reflect budget and ministry costs as accurately and transparent as possible while providing for the well being of the growth and development of the parish.

Blessings to all, for your faith, commitment and support - God blesses us, when we Honour Him!

Thank you for the honour and privilege of serving you and Him.

Barbara Carington Smith

Treasurer

**MCDONALD RICKETT**  
CHARTERED PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTANTS  
A PARTNERSHIP OF INCORPORATED PROFESSIONALS

203 - 4695 HASTINGS STREET  
BURNABY, BRITISH COLUMBIA, V5C 2K6  
TEL: (604) 439-1051  
FAX: (604) 439-1264

## REVIEW ENGAGEMENT REPORT

To the Members of Parish of St Mark, Ocean Park

We have reviewed the statement of financial position of Parish of St Mark, Ocean Park as at December 31, 2015 and the statements of revenues and expenditures, changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. Our review was made in accordance with Canadian generally accepted standards for review engagements and, accordingly, consisted primarily of inquiry, analytical procedures and discussion related to information supplied to us by the church.

A review does not constitute an audit and, consequently, we do not express an audit opinion on these financial statements.

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that these financial statements are not, in all material respects, in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Burnaby, British Columbia  
January 28, 2016

  
McDonald Rickett  
Chartered Professional Accountants

**PARISH OF ST MARK - OCEAN PARK**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**December 31, 2015**

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
<b>ASSETS:</b>		
Current Assets:		
<b>CASH</b>		
Coast Capital Chequing	\$ 51,837.82	\$ 58,564.77
Petty Cash	200.00	
<b>INVESTMENTS</b>		
Anglican Youth	5,866.60	5,866.60
Youth Missions	3,440.80	3,440.80
Youth Endowment	11,312.73	11,312.73
Hungry Children	-	2,833.60
Capital (Temporarily Restricted) Designated	192,068.29	215,298.30
Bequest (Temporarily Restricted) Designated	204,558.69	204,558.69
Ministry/Operating Reserves	68,797.75	46,006.84
<b>Total Investments</b>	<u>486,044.86</u>	<u>489,317.56</u>
<b>RECEIVABLES</b>		
P.A.D. Receivable	10,452.00	10,042.00
GST Receivable	1,221.03	708.46
Accrued Interest	2,438.52	1,845.82
<b>Total Receivables</b>	<u>14,111.55</u>	<u>12,596.28</u>
<b>PREPAID EXPENSES</b>	5,600.00	5,658.00
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<u>557,794.23</u>	<u>566,136.61</u>
Fixed Assets:		
Church Buildings	1,100,930.56	1,148,679.22
Church Land	148,350.00	148,350.00
Church Rectory	90,625.00	90,625.00
Improvements	49,438.38	36,225.89
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<u>1,389,343.94</u>	<u>1,423,880.11</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><u>\$ 1,947,138.17</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,990,016.72</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>		
Current Liabilities:		
Accrued Accounting Payable	\$ 3,075.00	\$ 3,075.00
Damage Deposits	2,100.00	2,100.00
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<u>5,175.00</u>	<u>5,175.00</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		
Total Fund Balances	1,941,963.17	1,984,841.72
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<u><u>\$ 1,947,138.17</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,990,016.72</u></u>

**PARISH OF ST MARK - OCEAN PARK**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS**  
**AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2015**

	<u>Opening Balance</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Closing Balance</u>
<b>PARISH OPERATING FUND</b>				
Surplus from prior years	\$ 16,942.31	418,734.48	431,780.52	\$ 3,896.27
<b>CAPITAL ASSETS</b>				
Land, Buildings, etc	1,423,880.11	20,985.50	55,521.67	1,389,343.94
Capital Funds	215,298.30	4,425.89	27,655.90	192,068.29
<b>Total Capital Funds</b>	<u>1,639,178.41</u>			<u>1,581,412.23</u>
<b>BEQUESTED &amp; MEMORIAL FUNDS</b>				
Bequests	259,622.63	36,000.00	3,812.44	291,810.19
Memorial Funds	5,348.02	-	-	5,348.02
Parish Life & Ministry	6,543.10	3,500.00	4,122.06	5,921.04
<b>Total Bequested &amp; Memorial Funds</b>	<u>271,513.75</u>			<u>303,079.25</u>
<b>YOUTH &amp; CHILDRENS MINISTRIES</b>				
Sunday School Missions	1,246.45	949.69	522.76	1,673.38
Youth Programs	608.83	521.00	840.53	289.30
Youth Missions	3,404.83	53.85		3,458.68
Anglican Youth	5,826.81	189.21		6,016.02
Youth Endowment	11,236.01	97.54		11,333.55
<b>Total Youth &amp; Childrens Ministries Funds</b>	<u>22,322.93</u>			<u>22,770.93</u>
<b>MINISTRY PROGRAMS</b>				
Christian Education/Alpha	1,990.68	-	-	1,990.68
Altar Flowers	568.77	1,670.00	2,707.21	(468.44)
Concert Fund	4,091.90	4,705.00	6,216.63	2,580.27
Journey of Christmas	3,619.31	20.00	686.80	2,952.51
Garden Funds	8,005.55	3,685.96	2,701.38	8,990.13
Prayer Shawl	222.56	480.00	39.41	663.15
PWRDF/Missions	480.00	6,545.00	6,380.00	645.00
<b>Total Ministry Program Funds</b>	<u>18,978.77</u>			<u>17,353.30</u>
<b>OUTREACH PROGRAMS</b>				
St Mark's Community Outreach	12,435.41	12,329.50	14,264.75	10,500.16
Hungry Children Bequest	3,470.14	28.46	547.57	2,951.03
	<u>15,905.55</u>			<u>13,451.19</u>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<u>\$ 1,984,841.72</u>			<u>\$ 1,941,963.17</u>

**PARISH OF ST MARK - OCEAN PARK**  
**STATEMENT OF PARISH OPERATIONS**  
**December 31, 2015**

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Contributions:		
Envelope Maintenance	\$ 353,734.29	\$ 375,795.69
Open Collection	8,446.15	13,511.60
Other	9,420.00	4,026.00
Total Contributions	<u>371,600.44</u>	<u>393,333.29</u>
Revenue:		
Hall Donations	10,137.73	8,744.00
Interest Income	6,012.24	2,876.83
Miscellaneous Income	6,984.07	7,147.83
Rectory Rental	24,000.00	18,000.00
Total Revenue	<u>47,134.04</u>	<u>36,768.66</u>
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS AND REVENUE</b>	<u><u>\$ 418,734.48</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 430,101.95</u></u>
<b>DIOCESE ASSESSMENT</b>	<u>\$ 74,040.00</u>	<u>\$ 69,816.00</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Operating Expenses:		
Accounting - Review	3,075.00	3,150.00
Insurance	9,801.00	8,751.00
Maintenance	24,898.71	25,645.05
Office	15,238.24	16,579.05
Property Taxes/Utilities	13,066.91	12,991.67
Telephone & Utilities	15,131.87	15,883.73
Miscellaneous	692.85	1,316.18
Total Operating Expenses	<u>81,904.58</u>	<u>84,316.68</u>
Worship & Ministry		
Advertising & Promotion	2,931.81	4,017.65
Altar Guild	1,021.01	884.97
Music	1,513.41	1,712.20
Sunday School & VBS	3,724.42	2,676.65
Worship	2,863.12	2,191.56
Youth	888.77	971.12
Other	3,328.17	4,485.94
Total Worship & Ministry Expenses	<u>16,270.71</u>	<u>16,940.09</u>
Salaries and Benefits:		
Administration	39,999.96	39,609.64
Allowances	60,697.92	60,697.92
Benefits	43,107.35	41,587.97
Clergy	84,460.04	84,993.04
Ministry	31,299.96	31,258.96
Total Salaries & Benefits	<u>259,565.23</u>	<u>258,147.53</u>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<u><u>\$ 431,780.52</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 429,220.30</u></u>
<b>(DEFICIT)SURPLUS</b>	<u><u>\$ (13,046.04)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 881.65</u></u>

## **Notes to the Financial Statement and Budget**

### **Cash:**

Our ending cash balance is \$52,037.82. The larger than usual balance is due to a \$25,000.00 bequest received at year end.

### **Investments:**

In 2015 it was necessary to redeemed \$29,060.50 of our investments to maintain sufficient cash flow for Parish operations and Capital Expenses. The yearend balance is \$486,044.86 Investments represent "Trust Funds" for Ministry Programs, Youth and Children's Ministries, Bequests and Capital Funds and Operating Surplus. It is important to note the 2015 deficit has reduced our surplus operating funds to \$3,896.27.

### **Receivables:**

P.A.D. (Pre Authorized Deposit) Receivable of \$10,452.00 is applied to our monthly remittance to the Diocese for payroll and the Diocesan Assessment, reducing our monthly payment.

GST Receivable of \$1,221.03 is the expected refund for the second half of 2015.

Accrued Interest – interest earned to December 31, 2015 on the GICs.

### **Fixed Assets:**

Changes in Church Buildings and Improvements are the additions of Capital Expenses less depreciation for the year. As a note of interest, on the 2016 Property Assessment Notice, the Assessed Value is \$5,807,600.

### **Liabilities:**

Accrued Accounts Payables are the Year End Accounting fees of \$3,075.00, Damage Deposits of \$100.00 for Hall Rental, and \$2,000.00 for the Rectory.

### **Fund Balances:**

By reviewing the Report of Fund Balances, one can clearly see the Balances brought forward from prior year (Opening Balance), Total Income and Total Expenses for the year giving the Closing Balance of each Fund and Ministry at year end.

### **Income:**

Contributions for 2015 decreased by \$21,732.85, while the Revenue increased by \$10,365.38 with a net income reduction of \$11,367.47. The total income for the year was under budget by \$19,571.52.

### **Expenses:**

While Operating and Ministry expenses were under budget by \$6,525.48, Total expenses exceeded our income for the year leaving a Deficit of \$13,046.04.

### **Budget 2016**

The proposed 2016 budget for Envelope Contributions has been reduced as a result of the resignation of our Assistant Priest with provisions for only quarter time assistance and clergy relief. Expenses have been analyzed to reflect the realistic cost of operations and forecast of expected revenue. The difference is the amount of Contributions required by parishioners for the operation of the parish.

This Budget was approved by Finance Committee and Parish Council for presentation for approval at Vestry.

**PARISH OF ST MARK - OCEAN PARK**  
**Comparative Budget Statement**

	<u>2015 Actual</u>	<u>2015 Budget</u>	<u>2016 Budget</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>Diocese Assessment</b>	74,040	74,037	76,368
<b>Ministry Expenses</b>			
Advertising	2,932	4,000	3,000
Altar Guild	1,021	900	1,000
Sunday School	2,096	1,200	1,200
VBS	1,628	1,400	1,500
Youth	889	1,000	1,000
Library	902	1,000	1,000
Music/Choir	1,041	1,200	1,200
Piano Tuning	472	320	500
Parish Life/Ministry	998	1,000	1,000
Parish Council Retreat	-	500	500
Meetings & Seminars	1,723	1,500	1,000
Sound System	967	750	1,000
Worship Supplies	1,896	1,500	2,000
Guest Speakers	-	250	250
<b>Total Ministry Expenses</b>	<u>16,566</u>	<u>16,520</u>	<u>16,150</u>
<b>Administration</b>			
Accountant's Review	3,075	3,150	3,100
Computer Maintenance	701	1,000	1,000
Interest & Bank Charges	1,978	2,000	2,000
Office Supplies	2,441	3,600	3,000
Photocopier	8,968	9,400	9,000
Postage	1,151	1,000	1,000
Telephone/Internet	3,693	3,500	3,800
<b>Total Church &amp; Office</b>	<u>22,006</u>	<u>23,650</u>	<u>22,900</u>
<b>Property</b>			
Insurance (including Rectory)	9,801	9,801	10,294
Janitorial & Cleaning	2,051	2,500	2,000
Janitorial Services	10,400	9,840	10,832
Kitchen Supplies	716		700
Light & Heat	11,439	12,500	12,000
Miscellaneous	693	1,200	1,000
Repairs & Maintenance	7,267	10,000	10,000
Rectory Maintenance	2,065	1,000	1,500
Security Officer Honoraria	2,400	2,400	2,400
Property Tax/Water	13,067	15,000	15,000
<b>Total General</b>	<u>59,899</u>	<u>64,241</u>	<u>65,726</u>
<b>Staff Expenses</b>			
Choir Director	5,200	5,000	4,500



**PARISH OF ST MARK - OCEAN PARK**  
**Comparative Budget Statement**

	<u>2015 Actual</u>	<u>2015 Budget</u>	<u>2016 Budget</u>
Music Director	15,300	15,300	15,480
Relief Organist	800	800	800
Office Administrator	40,000	40,600	41,100
Youth Leader	10,000	10,000	10,000
Staff Benefits	10,599	10,000	10,600
<b>Total Staff Expenses</b>	<b>81,899</b>	<b>81,700</b>	<b>82,480</b>
<b>Clergy Expenses</b>			
Clergy Relief	500	1,000	2,000
Clergy Utilities	5,148	5,148	3,380
Clergy Car Allowance	16,700	16,700	11,130
Clergy Benefits	32,509	32,500	24,835
Assistant Priest Stipend	36,500	36,500	13,460
Assistant Priest Housing	17,250	17,250	5,791
Rector's Housing	21,600	21,600	21,600
Rector's Stipend	47,460	47,460	48,030
<b>Total Clergy Expenses</b>	<b>177,667</b>	<b>178,158</b>	<b>130,326</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>432,076</b>	<b>438,306</b>	<b>393,950</b>
<b>Income</b>			
<b>Revenue</b>			
Hall Rentals	10,138	9,000	10,000
Interest Income	6,012	2,000	4,000
Miscellaneous	7,279	6,000	7,000
Rectory Rental	24,000	24,000	24,000
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>47,429</b>	<b>41,000</b>	<b>45,000</b>
<b>Contributions Required</b>	<b>\$384,646</b>	<b>\$397,306</b>	<b>\$348,950</b>
<b>Contributions</b>			
Open Collection	8,446	12,500	9,000
Sunday School	1,400	200	500
Altar Guild	1,170	1,000	500
Music	1,445	300	500
Parish Life & Ministry	515	300	200
VBS	2,670	1,500	1,500
Youth	2,220	800	1,000
<b>Total Ministry/Open Revenue</b>	<b>17,866</b>	<b>16,600</b>	<b>13,200</b>
<b>Envelope - Maintenance</b>	<b>353,734</b>	<b>380,706</b>	<b>335,750</b>
<b>Total Contributions Required</b>	<b>\$366,780</b>	<b>\$380,706</b>	<b>\$335,750</b>
<b>Deficit</b>	<b>(13,046)</b>		

## **Building & Maintenance Capital Expenditures**

At last year's Vestry meeting I noted a number of initiatives that would be undertaken during the year (see Annual Report 2015). These were as follows:

1. Compile a monthly maintenance schedule for the year to ensure an annual inspection of all major building and maintenance systems; such as, furnaces and the rental septic system. This has been done.
2. A review of our systems, practices, and procedures, with the objective of conserving energy and reducing expenses. Ken Miles and Don Hamilton have undertaken this with respect to our heating and lighting systems (please refer to Warden's Report).
3. **Develop a long range building & maintenance capital expenditure report. This is under way and is expected to be completed by our next Vestry, Feb. 2017.**

Between now and the 2017 Vestry we do however anticipate the need to expend funds on certain capital projects, therefore the requirement to come before Vestry at this time to request authorization for that expenditure.

There was universal acceptance on the merit of developing a long range building plan to give us a time table of when we can reasonably expect replacement costs of our various building and maintenance components.

There was however considerable debate at both Clergy and Wardens, and Parish Council, over the approach that should be taken. One idea was to hire an outside consulting firm to produce something similar to a depreciation report common to strata plans.

In the end we solicited guidance from Rob Dickson, Business Administrator for our Diocese. It was his opinion that professional reports were prohibitively expensive. It would be much more prudent and in keeping with general church practice, if we utilized the expertise within our own parish. This was ultimately the course of action recommended by the Clergy & Wardens, and adopted by Parish Council.

Our Maintenance Coordinators, Ken and Don, volunteered to prepare a long range capital expenditure plan for our church and rectory. They will have available for consultation many extremely talented and knowledgeable fellow parishioners, including: John Reader, Cliff Neyedli, and Jack Blachford. This plan was approved by Parish Council.

Ken and Don have started on the plan. They have identified four major areas that will likely need attention within the next year.

### **1. New roof for the hall – Estimated replacement cost \$35,000 - \$55,000**

Our original church sanctuary, which is now our church hall, was built approximately 50 years ago. It has a tar and gravel roof which has a number of easily observable rips in it, although it is not leaking at present. It is highly recommended that the roof be replaced at a time most convenient to the church. We have received two replacement cost bids, noted above, and will require a third.

2. **New 40 ft. container to replace 3 outdoor sheds - rotting at the base - \$13,000**
3. **Repair/replace flashings and gutters on sanctuary roof – source of leaks - \$5,000**
4. **Repair East retaining wall – coming apart in places - \$15,000**

It is anticipated that total expenditures, not including taxes, will be approximately \$88,000.

**Please come to the Vestry Meeting prepared to discuss the authorization of the anticipated expenses.**

## FIRST FRUITS GARDEN PROJECT

Honour the Lord with your wealth, and with the first fruits of all your crops.....  
Proverbs 3:8

In 1992 the First Fruits Garden Project began as an innovative way of sharing the fruits of God's bounty while raising funds for refugees of war-torn Bosnia/Herzegovina. Through many of the intervening years St. Mark's avid and amateur gardeners have graciously and generously shared the fruits of their labour. We've all enjoyed wonderfully fresh fruit, vegetables and herbs and shared the magnificent glory of a wide variety of flowers with both awe and delight.

Many in the parish have enjoyed mixing and mingling over the First Fruits Garden tables in the hall following each Sunday Service from June through October. We've shared amazing gardening wisdom, new foods, recipes etc. while coming to know and to appreciate each other in different ways. From the first of Bill Ness's amazing sweet peas, Isabel Powell's wondrous variety and bounty of flowers, Nick Timm's stunning dahlias ...to each tomato, spear of kale, purple bean, seedling & herb...all have been offered with love so that God's love can be shared.

Our gifts have offered food, medicine, shelter and medical aid to our brothers and sisters at home and across God's world. In the '90s we stretched out our hands to hurting people in Bosnia/Herzegovina and Rwanda as well as Haiti and parts of Africa. In the past few years funds raised from this project have also been used to refurbish St. Mark's Memorial Garden, augment Ministry funds in the parish and to support two of our youth as they assisted communities in Africa. God has blessed us and given us the privilege of sending His love and aid to our brothers and sisters in the drought stricken region of Sahel, Africa; the people of Japan following the earthquake and tidal wave; our brothers and sisters in Nepal following the earthquake; and most recently in assisting the victims and refugees fleeing Syria.

Most of the monies have been offered through the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund, Doctors Without Borders and the United Nations High Commission on Refugees. Where possible, we received matching grants to augment this work.

My heartfelt thanks to all who have so graciously and generously shared their "first fruits" and to all who have donated to enjoy them. Thank you also to Michael & Les for setting up the tables, and to Mary Brown, Joyce McQuarrie and to each one who helped with the table.

May God continue to bless us as we reach out in His love.

In Christ's Love;  
Anne Schreck

## FLOWER MINISTRY REPORT

After the 10am Service each Sunday (except during Lent), a couple of people make bouquets from the flowers provided for the sanctuary and distribute them to a variety of parishioners. Many are shut-in, sick, in hospital or are anticipating surgery. Others may be celebrating an anniversary or birthday of significance, or may have provided a much needed service for the church. In all cases it is such a delight to them to receive the flowers and they respond with a surprised smile and a gracious thank you or send a card of appreciation.

This is a rewarding ministry for, at present, six teams of two, who undertake this service during the coffee hour. We thank them for their dedication. There is, however a need for more volunteers, as there is often a gap due to absences for a number of reasons. If you are seeking a way to serve St. Mark's, this could be it!

Michael Weller, Coordinator

## **GREETERS TEAMS REPORT – 10am Service**

The duties of Greeting Parishioners and Ushering at the 10am Service are handled capably by one team of loyal, dedicated members each Sunday. We have a roster of 8 teams, with each team consisting of about 7 members including one or two captains.

Each team has at least one "Family" member thus ensuring that we have at least one young person welcoming at the door each Sunday. The teams handle the duties at the 10am Service on a rotational basis thereby doing their turn about 7 times each year. Team members report to their Captain each Sunday for assignment of duties.

The regular duties include:

- Greeting Parishioners at the door
- Distribution of printed material
- Identifying newcomers
- Collection of offertory
- Ushering during communion
- General tidying after the service

We are blessed at St. Mark's to have a large number of willing and dedicated people to complete these duties. Together these teams take a large part in making St. Mark's the welcoming place it is known to be, and in completing other duties as required.

We have had a very small number of people remove themselves from these duties this year for various reasons, and we thank them for their dedicated service over the years.

I am happy to report that we have 3 new individual or family groups agreeing to take on these duties going forward, and I thank them. We always have room for more so if you feel like this is somewhere you might like to serve, please feel free to talk to me.

I welcome any questions or concerns at any time.

Respectfully submitted,  
Isabel Chernoff  
isabelchernoff@telus.net

## **JOURNEY OF CHRISTMAS**

Thank you to all of you who volunteered in December to stage the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Journey of Christmas. We had our evenings covered. There were 933 visitors that came through our display this year, a 5 year high. Christmas Eve was our busiest evening with 133 visitors. Our entertainment lineup was a strong one with some new names on the marquee including the St. Cuthbert's Anglican Church choirs. They brought many of their congregation with them. They along with 2 other performers have already booked their evening for 2016. This is the first time that we have received confirmations this early. Another first was the sudden appearance of 2 party buses. Although we love the opportunity to spread the word about the meaning of Christmas to large groups, the buses don't stop long enough to have the full impact on the passengers.

So what is coming up for 2016? There will be at least 2, maybe as many as 5, work parties between mid-April and the end of October. This will depend on the scope of the work. If you are called upon to help us, please do. The term "work party" may imply lifting and specific trade skills but not always. We can find something for you to do.

With the permission of the St. Mark's marketing committee, I would like to change the name of the Journey of Christmas entertainment lineup to the "Arts Showcase." This gives it less of a generic name and highlights the variety of the arts that is being showcased. There are more changes coming in 2016. Please pay attention to the Sunday announcements when they are made, and the Parish Pulse.

Would the organizers of the Holly Berry Fair, the Men's Club Christmas Dinner and the Senior's Lunch please notify Sheila in the office when you are holding your events in December, 2016. Once those dates are confirmed then the set-up and decorating committee can plan to do its work.

Once again thank you for your support. It is a lot of work and very worthwhile.

Happy New Year and God bless.

Brian Walks

Chairman, Journey of Christmas Committee

## **LADIES EVENING GUILD REPORT**

The Evening Guild ladies met monthly during 2015 with the exception of July and August. In January we reviewed our 2014 activities. Our guest speakers in January were Holly and Craig Tanksley who spoke to us and showed slides of their Sabbatical to Israel. We opened the meeting to the congregation and 50 members joined us to hear Craig and Holly.

In February we had our elections and Linda O'Donovan agreed to stay on as President, Ann Colman as Vice-President, Toni Wallis as Treasurer and Pam Hamilton became our new Secretary. We were happy to co-host the Pancake Supper with the Men's Club. We also dispersed funds to a variety of causes as itemized in our financial statement.

March saw us hosting one of the Lenten Lunches at Mount Olive Lutheran Church. In April Craig and Holly returned to do Part 2 of their Sabbatical to Israel.

During May a kitchen committee was formed and two of our members were very involved in the meetings and discussions on the needs for updating and safety. Isabel Chernoff continues to co-chair on this committee.

In June we were pleased to announce the Isabel Hutchison Memorial Bursary of \$1,000 was awarded to Caitlyn Jones, who is studying at UBC and plans to become a teacher. Linda made the presentation in August. Toni Wallis opened her home for a lovely Pot Luck Dinner for our June wind up.

In September our guest speaker was Denise Doerksen who spoke to us on multiculturalism in our church and community. In October we welcomed Margaret Appleton to our meeting to teach us how to make Christmas cards and tags for our parcels.

During the year a small group of members helped clean the kitchen once a month. We held "craft" mornings twice a month on Thursday mornings to sort, plan, and prepare items for the Holly Berry Fair.

November saw us working diligently for the Holly Berry Fair. Craft mornings were every week and volunteers were recruited to take on the many tasks of the day. Our profit was up from last year, we added green and red pepper jelly, Antipasto, apple butter and various preserves and jellies that were all very well received. Everyone had a good time and the lunch tables were always full.

During the year we assisted the ACW with funeral receptions and their Spring Tea. We contributed to and helped cater to the Senior's Christmas Lunch. We donated to the Garden Fund and were able to fund the Vacation Bible School supplies. We also did a Christmas Hamper in support of St. Mark's Community Outreach. Our outreach donations included, a Home of New Beginnings, Calcutta Cathedral Relief Service and Operation Eyesight.

In December we had a lovely but noisy Christmas wind up party at The Ocean Park Pub! We would like to invite any ladies to join us in service and fellowship on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 pm in the library.

**St. Mark's Evening Guild Annual Financial Statements**  
**Financial Statement 2015**

**Balance at December 31, 2014** **\$5,950.00**

**Revenue**

Holly Berry Fair	\$5,438.35
Lenten Lunch	\$425.42
St. Mark's Pancake Supper (with Men's Club)	\$412.50
Dues	\$55.00
Bank Interest	\$0.89
Least Coin Donations	\$8.72
Coffee Donations	\$22.20
Donations (Funerals)	\$85.00
Donation V. Reimer	\$1,000.00
	<b>\$7,448.08</b>

**Disbursements**

Hollyberry Fair	\$1,630.45
Missions/Outreach - Other	\$700.00
Calcutta Cathedral Relief Service	\$100.00
Home of New Beginnings - Thailand	\$100.00
Christchurch Jerusalem	\$400.00
St. Mark's Vacation Bible School	\$1,000.00
St. Mark's YWAM Mission	\$100.00
St. Mark's Garden Fund	\$300.00
St. Mark's Coffee Hour	\$1,032.86
St. Mark's Community Outreach	\$400.00
Bursary - C. Jones	\$1,000.00
ACW - Least Coin	\$8.72
PWRDF - Lenten Lunch proceeds	\$425.42
PWRDF - Nepal Relief	\$300.00
PWRDF - Syrian Refugees	\$100.00
Seniors Lunch	\$250.00
Expenses (Funerals, Supplies)	\$420.20
	<b>\$8,267.65</b>

(Deficit) Surplus at Year End	-\$819.57
Balance and Bank Balance	\$5,130.43

Submitted by  
Toni Wallis, Treasurer

## **LIBRARY REPORT**

The generosity of the congregation has continued in 2015 with many wonderful donations to the Library. Thank you for thinking of us. Many new books have been purchased, adding to popular authors as well as introducing some new ones.

The number of people using the library has continued to increase. Our DVD collection is very popular and has many new titles. We are continuing to update the online catalogue that can be accessed from the St Mark web site. There were fewer overdue books this year although we are still having books taken out without being signed out. Thankfully they usually return but the only way we know if a book is popular or being used is if the card shows it has been signed out.

Books whose cards have no or few names showing use are the first to be discarded when space for new books is needed, so if you want it to stay on the shelf please take a few moments to sign it out.

Respectfully submitted

Charlie Bookworm and the Librarians

Catherine, Morny, & Stephanie

## **MEN'S CLUB REPORT**

The men's club had a very successful year, thanks to the large number of volunteers. Mid-year Jock Ferguson made a decision to reduce his work load and Stewart Wallis took over the main duties as President.

Our thanks go out to Michael Houston, Les Edmunds, Art Cormode, Bill Ness, Brian Walks, and Brian Maxwell among others, who prepare the dinners for our monthly meetings. Over the past year our speakers included Bob Pederson speaking on what happens at the Canada Border Security Agency; Brian and Barbara Walks on their recent trip to the Galapagos Islands; Rev. Steve Bailey talking about what a Deacon does; Rev. Denise talking about her time in Moose Jaw; David Young, Director at Sources, the operator of the White Rock Food Bank and Bill Holmes talking about his grandfather's ministry as an Arctic missionary.

In July, the members and spouses enjoyed an outdoor BBQ and in December, 127 attended our annual Christmas dinner with entertainment provided by Tim and Janet Rendell leading us all in Christmas Carols.

Don Hamilton and Ken Miles continue to take care of the lawn cutting and general maintenance of the church and hall. This year we have begun to upgrade the lighting in the church and hall with LED bulbs which will lower our monthly costs. Nick Timms continues to plant and nurture a fantastic display of dahlias in the front garden. I would also like to thank our set-up crew who continue to set up for various Church and outside functions.

Attendance at the three Church events; the Pancake Supper, Chicken BBQ, and Salmon BBQ continue their success with a total attendance in excess of 500 adults and children. The men's club would like to thank Linda Zeal for emceeing the two BBQs and the cooks who include Ken Miles, Don Hamilton, Michael Klaver, Cam Macpherson and Chris Fetterly, among others.

The success of these events, combined with the Holly Berry Fair holly sales and Brian the Pie Guy's sale of pastries have raised over \$9,000 which has allowed us to give to date over \$6,000 to the Church and neighbourhood outreach charities. The Men's Club would like to thank Violet Reimer for her generous donation.

The success of the men's club depends on the time, talent and dedication of many individuals who although they are not mentioned by name, I would be remiss in not extending our thanks to all of them.

Submitted by

Stewart Wallis

President, St. Mark's Men Club

**St. Mark's Men's Club  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Item	Amount \$	Balance \$
Bank Balance Dec 31, 2014		2900
<b>Revenue</b>		
Monthly meals	1499	
Pie Guy	1217	
Chicken BBQ	2294	
Salmon BBQ	1723	
Pancake Supper (with Evening Guild)	825	
Set-up hall	265	
Donation	1100	
Holly Berry Fair	179	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9102</b>	<b>12,002</b>
<b>Outreach / Donations</b>		
Surrey Food Bank	500	
Stan's Outreach-Protein Breakfasts for schools	200	
Salvation Army summer camp	250	
Union Gospel summer camp	250	
Compassion Canada	200	
White Rock Children's choir	300	
Elks summer camp	250	
White Rock Hospice	300	
Help On Wheels	250	
Mercy Ministries	300	
The Launching Pad	250	
PWRDF Syrian Refugees	750	
PWRDF Nepal	300	
Vacation Bible School	200	
Seniors Lunch	135	
Evening Guild (50% of Pancake supper receipts)	413	
Sunday cookies	600	
Thanksgiving cake	94	
Children's church bags refurbishing	33	
Garden fund	300	
Flowers-Mother's Day	110	
Hot water kettle	80	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6065</b>	<b>5937</b>
<b>BANK BALANCE DEC 31, 2015</b>		<b>5937</b>



## MISSIONS MINISTRY REPORT

***St. Mark's Mission Statement: To be a community of God's servants, fed by the Word, led by the Holy Spirit, reaching out to all people with the Good News of Christ's saving Grace and Love, by our words, thoughts and actions.***

*Missions Ministry Team: Toni Wallis, Brian and Barbara Walks.*

During 2015, the Missions Ministry of St. Mark's has continued to support the less fortunate in our local community through St. Mark's Community Outreach Ministry providing lunch baskets for hungry children, Christmas Gifts and food hampers, emergency supplies for Women in Crisis, soup for the Women's Centre and many other programs. The Mission's Ministry also continues to support YWAM and the mission work of Staci and Daniel Silva in Brazil.

During 2015 we only published one issue of the Mission Missive. This was due to the lack of articles received. However we plan to publish in 2016 if we receive any articles. In the Summer 2015 Issue, we received a wonderful article from Morny White on the global Christian Blind Mission which was started over 100 years ago by a German missionary in Turkey. Morny and her husband Alan have supported CBM for 14 years. We also had an article from Kathryn Smith about the ongoing knitting project for babies in poverty known as "Embrace Rwanda Society". We introduced parishioners to our 2015 Vacation Bible School "SonSpark Labs" which was again co-ordinated by Linda Zeal.

We would like to thank Sheila Johnston for the production of the 2015 Mission Missive and Rev. Craig for reviewing the content. We will continue to seek articles for the newsletter, and will publish when we have articles.

Respectfully submitted,

Toni Wallis

Co-ordinator, Mission Missive

## MUSIC DIRECTOR REPORT

This year has been a very dynamic and special year at St. Mark's. It was full of highlights and unforgettable moments. At the start of the year, about 200 brand new Common Praise hymnals equipped the pews. These hymnals are well used each Sunday, and it helped encourage and accommodate learning of new hymns. Also, now the music is more accessible to newcomers as well. Thank you to all the various ministries at St. Mark's that helped and supported this vision of mine, and a special thanks to Assistant Priest Denise Doerksen for spearheading this and making it possible. I am also very grateful for all who supported in funding and preparing the hymnals.

This year the Chickering piano in the sanctuary didn't undergo any major tuning. Last year it was tuned by George Klassen a couple of times, but this year we didn't have much budget due to the deficit and it is now due for a tuning.

The Praise Team has made a significant impact and presence in our music worship this year. They have appeared more regularly at our 10am service, and our official Praise Team members of 2015 include the following: Janet Rendell (piano), Tim Rendell (percussion), Mari Anne Hussen (guitar), Holly Tanksley (vocal/percussion), Charlotte Fetterly (vocal), Maggie Huang (vocal), and myself on the organ with auxiliary percussion. The Praise Team's effort was warmly received and I want to continue in this mixed/blended music approach to suit a diverse musical preference across the parish, and perhaps more Praise Team appearances in the worship services if possible. All members of the Praise Team have been very dedicated and I look forward to expanding the Praise Team in the future. Thank you Praise Team for all your efforts and dedication this year. If you are interested in being a part of Praise Team and share your talent in Praising the Lord, please let me know!

As for music selection, in 2015 we incorporated more Sunday School music requests especially on the second Sunday Family/Intergenerational Services – more children/family friendly selections, and also during the 5pm Christmas Eve family service – more familiar Christmas carols for sing-along. I would love to have the children involved during our church services and I continue to look forward to working with the Sunday School to coordinate music selections in the future.

The music selection process continues to remain on a team work selection basis. I will come up with the core selection based on the McCausland's Book of Divine Services as a reference guide, the Royal School of Church Music selection guide, as well as the Lectionary Calendar to ensure the selected music fits the liturgy as

much as possible, while keeping in mind the service's structure. Craig, Janet, Denise got together about every two months, with God's guidance, in selecting music. We welcome any suggestions.

Pauline Turnham has been continually gracing us with her talent every Sunday providing Sunday piano prelude. Occasionally Michael Houston will also contribute. Thank you both for your time and contribution to uplifting parishioners and preparing their hearts and minds to receive the Lord's word.

On the Remembrance Day service, we had a special guest – Bagpiper Grant Laporte highlighted that day with solemn reflection, and I'm most grateful for his presence as well as for Brenda Henze for bringing him to us. It was a very beautiful and powerful service to remind us of our lost loved ones.

On a couple of special occasions, flautist Bernard Blary was very gracious with his time and talent, and has dedicated a few services to St. Mark's providing beautiful music together with the choir and highlighting anthems. His music was well received and we are grateful for his contribution. Thank you Bernard, and Janet Rendell for bringing him to our church.

The bulk of the music that was provided endlessly and tirelessly every week is the St. Mark's choir. They rehearsed every Wednesday night with Janet, and prepared every Sunday morning to ensure the 10am service ran smoothly. The choir at St. Mark's has been fundamental in helping to lead worship and they have worked hard and tirelessly to prepare for monthly anthems. They especially have done a spectacular job in praising the Lord with their beautiful voice and talent during the Advent Christmas season.

During Christmas services, we were graced with the talents of the Van Ness girls, Isaac MacPhail, professional trombonist Ken Surges just to name a few. I'm very grateful for all of their talent and dedication in praising the Lord.

It is with bittersweet feeling to wrap up this year – as it would have been a full 4 years that I had the privilege of working with Janet Rendell, our fabulous choir director who sadly has to relocate to Victoria along with her husband Tim, who was also a choir member as well as the Praise Team drummer. It is a great loss to the St. Mark's community, but I'm also excited that they will have another adventure ahead of them, starting another new chapter in life.

As we embrace all the fond memories that we have had in 2015, I am looking forward to 2016 here at St. Mark's. At the present, we are still looking for a suitable Choir Director, but with God's guidance I am sure He will lead us to where He wants us to be.

With any other inquiries, please do not hesitate to talk to me as I would love to hear of your ideas.

My prayers of gratitude continues as I serve as your Music Director.

Blessings,

Annabelle Ip

## **NEWCOMERS TEAM REPORT**

The purpose of the NewComers Team is to identify and warmly welcome visitors to our faith community each Sunday morning. We also try to help new folk find their way around the church (children to Sunday School, etc.). 2015 has again been a good year, where we have welcomed many visitors and newcomers.

Another component of the ministry is to host a luncheon where folks have the opportunity to introduce themselves and to meet and fellowship with some of the leaders of St. Mark's. Two NewComers Fellowships have been held this year, one each in March and October, where 30 adults and 1 child had an opportunity to learn more about St. Mark's.

Thank you to those who have worked hard on our team this year! If you would like to be a part of this interesting and important ministry, please contact Holly.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Bear Tanksley

### **PARISH VISITING PROGRAMME REPORT**

This group has been active throughout the year, with nineteen visitors going to see forty-three parishioners, but a number of people receive visits from more than one person. This really helps to make them feel included and a valued part of the parish. We also have four eucharistic administrators who take communion to twenty-three parishioners. Visiting is completely dependent on whatever the visitor is able to do, from phone calls, visits, and taking people to appointments. There are also several people who do hospital visits.

Once again, the Seniors' Christmas Lunch was held two weeks before Christmas, with eighty guests and twenty-three parish members doing the work and really enjoying working together. Once again, we were entertained by the White Rock Children's Choir, which we all enjoyed - particularly the small children. The expenses were covered by donations from ACW, Ladies Evening Guild, and the Men's Club, for which we are very grateful.

Respectfully submitted  
Olive Pociwuschek

### **PRAYER CHAIN/SHIELD MINISTRY REPORT**

The ministry of the St. Mark's Prayer Chain continues to be a blessing to each participating member of the chain, and to the congregation of the church. We see many answers to prayers and lives changed as a result. Faith is deepened as we experience God in action!

We currently have 25 men and women on the chain who have covenanted to pray daily for the concerns brought to us by you. We have four coordinators who each serve a three month term on a rotational basis. The name of the current coordinator can be found weekly in the Pulse. Thank you for the way you have adapted to this.

When a prayer is placed on the chain, the members have agreed to pray for that petition daily for a two week period of time. If there are changes or updates, we appreciate you letting the co-ordinator know so we can extend the period of time we pray to meet the needs of the individual. Likewise, when the issue has been resolved please also let us know. The requests are held in confidence by the members of the prayer chain.

Please be aware that when requests are placed on the Sunday Intercessor lists at the back of the church, they do not automatically go out to the members of the Prayer Chain. Those requests must also be given to the co-ordinator who then passes them along to Prayer Chain members.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lynne Hurd

## PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY REPORT

In 2015 the prayer shawl team gave 56 hand-crafted shawls or scarves to those needing the comfort a prayer shawl or scarf brings. Shawls are available for "anyone for whom we would pray" and may be requested from any member of the team.

We thank the Men's Club & the Kitchen Committee for their assistance during 2015 & all who have made kind donations of funds for supplies.

We have been encouraged by the receipt of messages of thanks & are pleased when children use their shawls to complement their personal prayer lives.

New members are welcome at monthly meetings or may knit/crochet from home with delivered supplies. For further information please contact those listed below or the office at St. Mark's.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie Mackie, Mary Brown

**Parish of St. Mark - Ocean Park  
Prayer Shawl Ministry  
December 31, 2015**

<b>Balance Forward</b>		<b>\$507.75</b>
Total Income received 2015 – Cash & Contributions	570.00	
Total Expenses paid 2015 – Cash & Receipts	<u>(360.37)</u>	
<b>Net Income for the year</b>		<b><u>209.63</u></b>
<b>Closing Balance at year end</b>		<b><u>\$717.38</u></b>
Petty Cash on Hand – Dec 31, 2015	\$ 54.23	
Prayer Shawl Ministry Fund Balance	<u>\$663.15</u>	
<b>Total Prayer Shawl Ministry Funds</b>	<b><u>\$717.38</u></b>	

Respectfully submitted

Joyce Ness, Treasurer

## **PRIMATE'S WORLD RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT FUND (PWRDF) REPORT**

Founded in 1958, the current Primate's World Relief and Development Fund aims to connect Canadian Anglicans to communities around the world – to advance development, respond to emergencies, assist refugees, and to act for positive change.

St. Mark's again rose to the call to support communities on the other side of our world – this time, in 2015, the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund's assistance to Nepal, faced with its two horrific earthquake disasters; and the worsening conditions in the Middle East.

We at St. Mark's donated over \$2,000 from our "*Guess Who Is Coming To Dinner?*" fundraiser held in private homes (with unannounced guests and hosts!) on May 16. The total contribution from individuals' envelopes to PWRDF in 2015 came to \$6,215.00.

Appreciation is extended to groups within St. Mark's for further contributions to PWRDF –St. Mark's Men's Club \$750.00; Evening Guild \$825.42; Anglican Church Women (ACW) \$100.00.

All our contributions were matched by the federal government, thus doubling the above amounts from St. Mark's. PWRDF programs are focused on food security, health care, humanitarian relief, refugee support, poverty reduction, human rights and peace work. It also has active interests in Canada's indigenous peoples and communities.

*(For more PWRDF information, please visit its website: [pwrdf.org>stories>all-stories](http://pwrdf.org/stories/all-stories))*

John and Roberta Braddock  
Parish Representatives.  
[braddock@telus.net](mailto:braddock@telus.net)

## **READERS' MINISTRY 10 A.M. SERVICE**

Pulpit reading of the NIV Bible was again well supported throughout 2015. A schedule of readers and lectionary readings is prepared for the calendar year. This assists all readers to look ahead and trade if their reading day conflicts with other commitments.

The Readers Ministry included 6 youths and 52 adults, a total of 58 readers. Our thanks and appreciation is extended to all our readers, their dedication and support is invaluable.

Roberta and John Braddock  
Coordinators

## **SENIORS MINISTRY REPORT aka LET'S GET TOGETHER**

Another wonderful and busy year has passed for our group of seniors. Thanks to our many volunteers who set up, clean up, and make all our activities grow and operate smoothly:

Denny O'Donovan and his magical bus which takes us to places and events, Arthur Cormode who faithfully sets up the Hall and Family Room for our Wednesday gatherings, and drives seniors whenever he is needed, Isabel Powell who began our chatting group and continues to come with Bracken, Ann Colman who has taken over facilitating the Chatting Group with Mary Brown, Pat Zammit, and Pam Hall, and Cathy Teskey, who brings treats and helps with our tea time, and Janet Cormode who organizes the Wednesday Get Togethers and drives for everything, and Sue Indridson who organizes the outside events, and all members of the group who contribute their enthusiasm every other Wednesday!

We have 15-25 faithful chatters and game players on alternate Wednesdays for most of the year – a break is taken in August and around Christmas.

Our events this year included: a 2-day trip to Victoria, an overnight trip to Chemainus to see the theatre's fall production; Krause Berry Farm for shopping and lunch during berry season; Theatre Under the Stars for "Oliver" – there were over 35 St. Mark's folk there – Kerry O'Donovan was Music Director; two plays at Bard On The Beach; many beautiful music concerts – Orpheus, Welsh Men's Choir, VSO Christmas, and season concerts; Denny's Barbershop Choir; and a few plays in the Surrey area.

In the chatting group many topics were covered with great enthusiasm! We had two guest speakers this year: the butterflies were beautiful and very interesting; and the End of Life Planning with Heather Blachford who covered those topics that many of us have ignored.

We lost several members this year and we remember them fondly: Joan Pickering and Margaret Kirkpatrick passed into God's presence, Noreen Arney moved to Kelowna, and Phyllis Ogis moved to Salt Spring Island.

Thank you to Denise and Craig who frequently came to join us for tea, and to Sheila who is always ready to help us in the Office.

Happily we are completely self-supporting and were able to supply \$100 Christmas Gift Cards for a single mother and her daughter again this year, through the St. Mark's Outreach Committee.

With God's help we shall continue to reach out to the seniors of the Peninsula with friendship and love in the year ahead.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sue Indridson and Janet Cormode

## **SOUND MINISTRY REPORT**

What a wonderful year we have had in the sound ministry. The "Lord" WAS among us in 2015 and although we have had floods, drips, torrents, and gremlins throughout the year I am glad to report that the Church is well and so is your St. Mark Sound Technicians Team.

The sound ministry is composed of five volunteer members of the parish. Each has shared the tremendously rewarding activities in 2015 and should be acknowledged for their contributions. Ernie Thiessen, Nick Timms, Nancy Tucker, and Tom Mackie. Honorable mention goes to Don Hamilton who is our "go to guy" and "pinch hitter". Thanks to everyone.

The Parish Hall sound system was last updated in 2013 and at the moment it has repurposed used equipment whenever a need has arisen.

The sound system was tuned up in November and many microphones have been repositioned to take advantage of our ever changing congregational needs. Chuck Vanderbilt of Pro-Sound spent December balancing our Sanctuary sound board so that all the Sanctuary speakers are now performing as they were designed and balanced as they should be.

Please free to speak to any member of the Sound Technicians Team, or myself, if you have concerns or questions about the sound quality or limited coverage areas in the Church.

Questions from the congregation have already made an improvement in 2016, that will see another microphone installed in the pulpit for better volume/sound and three additional microphones will be permanently installed for the Praise Team to the left side of the pulpit.

With the departure of our "wonderful" choir and children's choir director ('bye Janet) we shall again be challenged to provide excellent coverage.

Hearing "loops" are available to parishioners with hearing aids that can be programmed to work in "Telephone Mode" by your hearing aid dispenser. The cost to the parishioner is \$80 and you can talk to Brian "the pie guy" if you would like to have one. We may be able to equip you for a trial run during a 10am Service. Several parishioners have tested and approved our new hearing assist system already and are enjoying the ability to listen without having to install an ear bud in their ears.

The sound ministry has an ongoing commitment to provide quality sound performance to all parishioners. A constant flow of volunteers is required to maintain St. Mark's sound system. Please see a sound team technician if you should be so inclined to want to join us.

Brian Maxwell

### **ST. MARK'S SPONSOR CHILD REPORT**

Parishioners at St. Mark Ocean Park are a generous lot. At this time they sponsor over 45 children throughout the world through their donations. Some parishioners prefer to remain anonymous, but many are willing to talk to you about their experiences sponsoring children and the organizations that facilitate this. Organizations our parishioners use include World Vision, CHES - Canadian Harambee Education Society, Compassion, Plan Canada, FACE - Foundation for African Children's Education, Christian Children's Fund of Canada, and World Mission Evangelism.

Mari Anne Hussen

### **SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR REPORT**

This has been a busy year for both Coffee Hours. There were a number of changes – twenty leaving and eighteen new people recruited. In all 92 people took part in working on the coffee hour once a quarter. This still proves to be a good way to get to know other parishioners and really feel a part of the Church.

The Coffee Hour was well attended throughout the year and people were able to find interest, support and build real friendships, which is so important, particularly for those living alone, and with few social contacts.

I should like to thank the Ladies Evening Guild, who pay for the supplies, \$1032.86 this year, and the Men's Club, who provide the goodies, \$600.00 this year. The cost increase is due in part to food prices, but also to a greater number of people at both Coffee Hours.

Respectfully submitted

Olive Pociwuschek

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) REPORT**

The St. Mark's 2015 Vacation Bible School outreach, "SonSparks Lab, held August 24-28, 2015 was a resounding success.

The vibrant personalities of all, including junior, youth and adult leaders and all the children added up to a total of 105 persons involved in this year's VBS. The "Son Sparks Lab" theme days were embraced with great enthusiasm and the connection of the story, Bible verse game, recreation game, crafts and yes, even the snacks, were all well received. Everyone, including parents, thoroughly enjoyed the hands on experiment stations where they learned all about gravity, cause and effect, motion, transformation and chain reaction.

Overall, the combination of vibrant and energetic volunteer leaders, children connecting with each other and the program was the amazing work of our Lord working in each and every one of us.

A very big thank you goes out to all involved for your commitment to a very worthwhile outreach program.

See you next year for another exciting program – "**Cave Quest**".

Linda Zeal

VBS Director

## YOUTH MINISTRY REPORT

*"Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! Amen and Amen." Psalm 41:13*

C.S. Lewis very wisely stated that "the Present is the point at which time touches eternity." This is a thought that really resonated with me this year as I think back on another year of ministry. Each moment is like a flash of light—here and then gone—while life is just a sequence of these quickly passing moments. Each moment in our year, and each minute within our day, is an opportunity for us to acknowledge the Holy and awesome presence of the Lord who is with us in the here and now. And that's what youth ministry at St. Mark's is all about—helping our youth come to realize and take hold of the great treasure that is the Christian faith and know that eternity is at their fingertips.

Our *ReThink Sunday* classes on Sunday mornings are always a beautiful time for our group to connect with one another and dive deeper into our faith. We began the year working through the Burning Questions DVD series which helped us ask questions—and find answers—to some of the big questions of faith. We also transitioned to a more lectionary-based approach which allowed us to explore the Scripture together. Some of our youth continued to be involved in the readers' ministry, and Rev. Denise also mentored the youth into various serving roles on a Sunday morning, including serving at the altar and with the children's ministry.

Our *Thrive Tuesdays* are our less formal weekly gatherings. If you were to find yourself with us on a Tuesday night, you would likely find yourself having played some games—like our weekly Powerpoint quiz (with great prizes!) or Cranium—watched some funny videos, sang along in worship, spent time in prayer, and shared your thoughts on topics of faith. We learned about several New Testament characters in the *Re:Form Ancestors* series, such as St. Paul, and began to consider the relationship between science and faith using the TrueU series of talks by Focus on the Family. Who knew that DNA and cosmology could be so interesting when considered in light of God's existence?

One of this year's highlights was our youth retreat which kicked off our Fall ministry in September. Our theme was "Seek & Find: Communing with God, Self and Others." Rev. Denise, Rebeca and myself took a group of youth to Kawkawa Camp near Hope for a weekend filled with times of teaching by Rev. Denise on prayer and contemplation, an evening around a campfire singing worship songs and watching *The Simpsons* (with a spiritual message, of course!), fun times swimming at the waterfront, kayaking, playing dodgeball, and testing our skills at riflery. It was a great success with many laughs, and most importantly a chance for each of us to find new ways of relating with God, ourselves, and each other.

Outside our regular programming, our *Breakout Events* throughout the year provide opportunities for youth to bring their friends and have some fun. A group of us went to Richmond to try to crack the riddles at an Escape Room in the Spring, and this Christmas we had our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual bowling and gift exchange party, again kindly hosted by the Featherstone's. Bowling, Christmas carols, gifts, pizza and games—what could be a better way to celebrate our Saviour's birth with friends?

There were opportunities again for our youth to serve in parish life, such as the Parish Picnic, VBS, the Holly Berry Fair, and by helping keep the streets clean and tidy through the Adopt-a-Street program.

Once again, thank you for partnering with us in ministry in prayer and support in other ways. Let us always seek to love and serve the Lord with all our heart in each moment in the year to come.

In Christ,

Joshua Brown  
Youth Director



**"GIVE THANKS  
TO THE LORD ALMIGHTY,  
FOR THE LORD IS GOOD;  
HIS LOVE ENDURES FOREVER."**

- Jeremiah 33:11

