

**CHURCH OF ST MARK THE EVANGELIST
REPORTS TO THE ANNUAL VESTRY HELD ON 20 FEBRUARY, 2011**

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Parish Statistics, 2010

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Households	268	230	219	222	217
Average Sunday Attendance	148	126	120	119	111
Christmas	251	241	218	232	211
Easter	280	289	225	202	186
Baptized	3	3	2	3	1
Confirmed	0	4	0	8	0
Marriages	5	3	1	2	2
Deaths	18	19	9	14	14

Burials

Robert Gillespie Gillham
Roy William Murgich
John Henry Morgan
Frances Louise Burner
Margery Ross Milloy
Kathleen Jean Peever
Elizabeth Fern Danielson
Kathryn Glenna Winter Staniforth
Marion Joy Harrison
Berenice Adam
Brian Reginald James
Elliot Lloyd Sherman
Barbara (Bobbi) Jeanette Cain
Elizabeth Katherine Stants

Marriages

Vanessa Giroux & Olaolu Ogungbemile
Rachel Kennedy & Phillip Greer

Baptisms

Lizabeth Margaret Jean McCaul

Rector's Report

The Rector's report to Vestry is intended in the Canons, Bylaws and Regulations of the Diocese to be a "report upon [the] condition, progress and needs of the Parish" (R.5.05). At St Mark's, this has most recently (and most often, I'm told) been an address to the congregation given at the services of worship on the Sunday at which the Vestry meeting is held. In this report, I am departing from that pattern. My address last year to the congregation is attached to the minutes, as requested.

In my assessment, the condition of the parish continues to be strong, with excellent ministries and passionate dedication from staff, lay leaders and parishioners throughout the organization. I can't touch on this without expressing my deep gratitude for those who share God's work with me on a daily and weekly basis: Ariane Dind, Patti Robillard, Margaret Pirnat, and for a relatively short time this year, Jennie Lee. I am honoured to serve alongside the talents and gifts these women bring to Christ's church in

this parish. Also, I want to acknowledge how much we depend on those who give selflessly of their time and talents to lead committees, to sing in the choir and at funerals, to keep the altar clean and at the ready, to manage all the aspects of parish life. Along with the members of Parish Council, the Churchwarden and their deputies and the Treasurer, we all seek to serve. In freely offering our gifts in God's service, we are all blessed.

However, the trends we have observed over past years are evident in the parish statistics on the preceding page. They have not changed. Clearly, we are at a delicate stage of our story, but I do not believe this to be the final chapter. Far from it!

Progress at this stage of our parish life is best measured, I believe, not in terms of a numerical increase of households. In our younger days, when we were a suburban congregation, that was to be expected. But this is no longer the case. Our progress at this stage is about clearly hearing God's call, and faithfully following wherever that call may take us.

Last year I named three practices I see as important to navigating this time of transition, restoration and refocusing of energies at St Mark's: Hospitality, Stewardship, and Shared Vision. Every parish thinks they are good at hospitality, but I think we can lay claim to much more than "good." Hospitality in a church setting is like having the home on the block where everyone's kids hang out, where everyone knows they are welcome as soon as the door opens. That only happens in a community where we nurture ourselves, and at the same time open ourselves to those around us. The two are linked. I would point to the Best Start playgroup (run by the Nepean Rideau Osgoode Community Resource Centre) we host on Tuesdays and Thursdays as a good example of open community.

Stewardship is progressing as well. The St Mark's Cares campaign had a positive impact, along with other communications throughout the year. I look forward to even more this year, and from what I've heard, a lot of fun. What's that, Stewardship fun? That's right, you heard it here first.

The shared vision of a Christian community is one of the most elusive (and beautiful) things I've encountered in all my years of ordained ministry. When authentic, it emerges from a shared sense of being a people called by God. Intentional listening to one another and listening to God in prayer are keys to progress in this area. We are more ready than we were at this time last year and I trust we will continue to prepare ourselves, so that when the time is right, we can all look at each other and say, "Yeah, that's what it is."

Our needs are fairly straightforward. We need 'our daily bread,' enough money and volunteer time to keep our operations running smoothly. We need support from the Diocese and the wider church as we take stock of where God has brought us so far. We need the passion and generosity of each and every person at St Mark's, and we cannot afford to hold back from one another. We must continue to practice a generosity of spirit that mirrors the lives of the saints who have gone before us, and of Christ who offered himself most fully and completely on the cross. Clearly, we have what we need; we need to remember to bring it to bear and to offer it to God's service.

It is my hope that at the worship services on Vestry Sunday, we can celebrate the good ministry we share. I also hope we can hear God's call to bring our whole being to bear on serving the world God loves, and dedicate the coming year to following that call.

In Christ, and in the fellowship of service,
The Reverend Brian Kauk

Wardens' Report

We bid farewell on January 17th to our Parish Secretary Claudette Gravelle at a reception in the parish hall. We welcomed Jennie Lee as our new administrator on January 12th.

We celebrated the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity at Madonna della Risurrezione Parish with a joint service and a reception after the service.

John McFarlane attended the January meeting of Parish Council and spoke about a proposal for use of the back 40 of the former Rectory to build a residence for independent living and palliative care living. He circulated a report on his finding. As a result of our meeting with John McFarlane, the Seniors Residence Exploratory Committee was formed. It consists of Allen Deering (Chair), Marilyn Benn, Lorne Bowerman, Phil Conquer, Jenny Morphew and Coralie Sheehan. They will explore the possibility of a senior residence for the back 40.

St. Mark's was invited to provide desserts in January for the Open Table, a ministry initiative of the diocese pioneered by Andrew Stephens-Rennie, Youth Ministries Development Coordinator. Janis and Michael Perkin headed up the parish team.

Parish Council attended a retreat at L'Arche Ottawa on February 6, 2010 for a half day with the leadership of Raphael Amato. We reflected on Rembrandt's painting of the prodigal son.

We hosted a successful newcomers' lunch on March 7th. Those who attended enjoyed themselves and were happy to be considered part of the Parish.

Two Navy Lady shrub roses given to the Church by Ruth Werbin were planted in the north Link flower bed. The AC™ Navy Lady rose has been named as a dedication to the thousands of Canadian women who served in the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service (WRCNS), known as Wrens, and the women who continue to serve today as members of the Canadian Navy.

The bell monument was delivered and installed in May. It is well built. Help was provided to R.P. Metal Manufacturing by Lorne Bowerman, Paul Greer, Vaughan Barnum, Michael Perkin and Les Cundell to install it. A dedication service took place in October

In May, a stewardship campaign called "St Mark's Cares" was launched to communicate about ministry focusing on and celebrating our caring ministries and establish a ministry Reserve Fund to allow us to plan for the future and make sure we have the depth to carry our commitments today. Presentations were made by Father Brian on Stewardship as caring. Barbara Carroll, Executive Director on Debra Dynes family House on Impact of Community Outreach. Brenda Zanin on Music and Worship. Patti Robillard. Parish nurse on Nursing and visiting ministries.

From August 2009 to June 2010, Patrick Stephens, Postulant of the Diocese of Ottawa and student at St. Paul's University served as Ministry intern to St. Mark's. We bid farewell to Patrick, Mallory and Esther Stephens as they make their way to Vancouver. Patrick will pursue his studies towards a Master of Divinity degree.

We welcomed Margaret Pirnat as our new Parish Administrator on June 15, 2010.

At the Electoral Vestry on June 20, the following were elected; Deputy People's Warden, Allan Deering., Membership Chair, Cynthia Greer, Members-at-Large, Stephen Coaker, and Wanda Bowman.

A memorial gift of a leather-bound book of readings for Sunday, as well as electronic copies so we can print handouts for parishioners, was made by Betty Gillham in memory of her late husband Bob. The

former Lectern Bible was a gift of the confirmation class of 1995, and in consultations with the donors, is now being used on the Children's Table to help remind us of "all our important Stories".

A Prayer Shawl Ministry was started this year by our Parish Nurse assisted by Gillian Morris. Knitters and crochet-ers join together to make Prayer Shawls for those who are ill. It has touched many in our church community.

The Best Start play group program started operating in the Bishop Reed Hall in November on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the morning. A full article by Cynthia Greer can be found in November's Mark This Word. As Cynthia writes, this program is a part of a provincial initiative "aimed at equalizing the differences in preparedness for children as they start Grade one... Much of our Outreach is done by giving money, food, gifts etc to specific agencies. This is a more personal way of outreach."

At the November meeting of Parish Council, it was recommended that we have one vestry meeting. Council passed a motion that all business including all elections be presented at the February vestry.

In order to clarify of the purpose of both the capital projects and ministry reserve funds, Parish Council adopted the following definitions:

Ministry Reserve Fund – Funds dedicated for the use of both new and ongoing ministry initiatives. They are designed to provide ongoing support of current programs during times of financial hardship and to allow funding of new ministry initiatives during the course of a budget year.

Capital Projects Reserve Fund – Funds dedicated for the use of both emergency and planned capital expenditures. They are designed to cover emergency situations in the facilities which were not budgeted for and also to allow funds to be collected against large capital expenditures.

Our outreach programs include Debra Dynes Family House contributions to the Bales for the North, Lenten outreach to projects selected by Vestry; Mothers' Union and the projects that they undertake on our behalf, the Pause Table at Carleton University, lunch and Eucharist for seniors, healing prayer services, providing food to Cornerstone and the Prayer Shawl Ministry. Our thanks go to all who volunteer their services to these Ministries.

Our sincere thanks and gratitude go to those who serve on the following Ministries: the Choir for their support to our Liturgy and special events, the Altar Guild for care of our Liturgical items, the maintenance team for the care of the Church Building, Property and gardens, those who open and close the Church prior to and after the services, those who serve as sides persons, and the counters who deposit the weekly offerings.

Our thanks to Sarah Dee and Kat Pirnat for teaching the Sunday School class during the absence of Michael and Janis Perkin.

Our thanks to Don Marjerrison and David Huddleston for filling in during the absence of our Director of Music, Ariane Dind.

Our thanks to Ross Hammond, Canon Matthew Borden and Canon Robert Heard for taking the services during Brian's absence.

Respectfully submitted,
Les Cundell, People's Warden
Janis Perkin, Rector's Warden

Notices of Motion

1. It is moved by Les Cundell, People's Warden, and seconded by Janis Perkin, Rector's Warden, that a metal roof be installed on the Church for an amount not to exceed \$55,000.
2. It is moved by Les Cundell, People's Warden, and seconded by Janis Perkin, Rector's Warden, that conditional on receiving a 10K KWH 20 year Micro-FIT contract offer from the Ontario Power Authority, St. Mark's install a solar panel installation on the Church roof for an amount not to exceed \$90,000.
3. It is moved by Les Cundell, People's Warden, and seconded by Janis Perkin, Rector's Warden, that the Corporation of St. Mark's be authorized to pay for the solar installation and the roof by withdrawing funds from St. Mark's shares in the Consolidated Trust Fund of the Diocese, and that provision be made to accept donations from any who wish to contribute to these two projects.

Senior Residence Exploratory Committee

On February 21, 2010, a motion was moved and passed at Vestry that read "That Vestry in principle approve our involvement in the proposal to redevelop the property behind 1118 Normandy Crescent for a Senior Residence as presented to the congregation on December 15, 2009, and that Parish Council be directed to form a working group to consult with John McFarlane, the property owner and interested partner, and to bring a finished proposal back to Vestry with regular reports to go to Parish Council and to the Congregation. "

At the first meeting of the new committee, we discovered that no minutes existed of previous meetings so we did not know what had been covered earlier. Fortunately, we had one member from the previous committee who briefed us on what had taken place. Just when we appeared to be making some head way, and prior to our second meeting, three members resigned. This was most unfortunate as two of the three were a wealth of knowledge, having been long-time congregation members and involved in St. Mark's affairs for years/decades. However, we were able to recruit a new member for the committee.

At our first two meetings a number of concerns were raised, the main ones being loss of rights over our parking lot, access to and from the facility, and loss of greenery.

Loss of parking rights

We all feel that an allotment of seven spaces for the facility is not realistic. The parking lot is used quite frequently both during the day and evening for different activities. Snow removal was also discussed. Concerns were raised as to where on the property it would be dumped, or whether it would be removed. Leaving the snow behind would take up parking spots. As well, there would be greater wear and tear on the existing parking lot.

Facility access

Since Para Transpo uses the lot, this poses the problem of how much space is required, and how they would get in and out; this would also apply to emergency vehicles. There were questions as to the number of entrances and exits there would be. John said that looking at the different configurations would address these concerns.

Loss of Greenery

Greenery would be lost by the cutting down of trees, removal of flower beds, etc. John McFarlane's response was that all of these concerns can be dealt with in a satisfactory manner. John also said that the church would not lose a significant amount of space.

We also discussed financing and maintenance. John McFarlane stated that there was a good chance of getting a \$100,000 forgivable loan from Central Housing and Mortgage. Unitarian House has expressed a keen interest in operating the residence. While other professionals would have to be engaged, such as lawyers, architects, etc., St Mark's would provide both ministry and pastoral care to the facility's residents. John said that he would like to pursue this proposal further. A congregational meeting will be held after church (11:30 am) on March 6 to explore this project further.

Respectfully Submitted
Allen Deering
Chair, Senior Residence Exploratory Committee

Synod 2010

“Let the Peoples Praise You O God. (Psalm 67:5.)”

The 129th session of the Synod of the Diocese of Ottawa took place from October 14th to October 16th, at St Elias church in Ottawa, and certainly there was plenty of joyful praise.

The opening Eucharist took place at Christ Church Cathedral, when Bishop John Chapman delivered his Charge.

Bishop John stated that the primary issue for us this Synod is that we encourage each other in a spirit of Godly Hope. Not the hope of wishful thinking, but a hope, a sure and certain anchor of the soul, a hope that is grounded in Faith.

The ministries we are called to embrace can be found in the 5 Marks of Mission that were placed before the Anglican Communion in 1990, and are still as relevant today as then. Interestingly for us, those 5 Marks were brought to us by Father Brian, as the first Lenten study he undertook at St. Mark’s. We were at that time not found lacking. Let us continue to strive for those marks.

These Marks of Mission are:

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom.
2. To teach, baptize and nurture new believers.
3. To respond to human need by loving service.
4. To seek to transform unjust structures of society.
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of Creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

We are reminded that we in the Canadian Anglican Church are very much alike in our culture. We need to welcome a more diverse culture into our congregations. The Bishop also asked for us to include in our parish prayers, a prayer that those called by God to the priesthood will hear that calling, and follow where it is leading them.

For more information on the Bishop’s charge, please ask one of your members of Synod for a copy, or look on the diocesan web site.

Great Chapter meetings are held prior to Synod. There is much discussion and explanation of motions which will be presented at Synod, and other subjects to be discussed. Attending this meeting greatly helps one’s understanding of Synod.

Synod Guest Speaker

The Synod guest speaker this year was Bishop Sean Rowe of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern Pennsylvania. His youthfulness came as a surprise, but we discovered that when he was ordained 11 years ago, he became the youngest Episcopal priest in the United, States, and then three years ago when consecrated Bishop, became not surprisingly the youngest member of the House of Bishops.

Bishop Rowe commented that in this new technological age we have to look at everything very differently. We need to get away from diagnosis and problem-solving through resolutions and legislation, because we are faced with such a huge shift in culture that will not just go away, and we cannot solve the problems so simply.

Our best path is to see our problems as dilemmas, and flip them so that they become advantages, challenges, and opportunities to learn. If there was a simple way to ‘fix’ the church, we would already be doing it.

Our churches are smaller, our congregations older. These are facts. However we have to have faith in the end-game. We have to see the larger picture, and look to the future, not getting blinded by the short-term visions which can make people give up hope.

Our way of life has now changed dramatically, especially for the younger people. They spend hour upon hour on the computer, internet, face book, texting and many other media that we knew nothing about.

That is how we need to go into the future to meet people where they are. We need to use websites much more, and learn how the young think.

We need to work much more collaboratively with the young rather than trying to control them, or trying to make them do things our way, because our way is not working for them. At the same time we must not be selling out to secularism.

Jesus is calling the church to work together and converse with a different culture from that of our past. Come into a relationship with Christ fresh and anew, willing to be transformed.

Bishop Rowe was a very dynamic speaker, and we were looking forward to hearing him later in the day. However he was called away suddenly. As the day progressed Bishop John asked our new Diocesan Executive Archdeacon David Selzer to fill in for him after dinner.

He gave a wonderful, humorous talk, with many funny anecdotes. Talk about speaking off the cuff. He was certainly very impressive. If he is typical of priests coming into our diocese, we are in good hands.

New Governance Structure

The new governance structure was passed at the 2009 Synod, with some members serving one year only. The new Council is smaller and more compact.

The main concerns were that the new structure lacked transparency, and that too few candidates had been put forward to allow a suitably competitive process in the elections.

One of the current Council members suggested that the extensive implementation process had decreased the amount of time remaining to allow individuals to apply for the positions, and that the timing of the announcement of open positions took place just as people were leaving on summer vacation.

Also as a result of the complicated and time-consuming process it became impossible to prepare any reasonable report on the new governance structure, in time for Synod 2010, as had been requested by Synod 2009. Time will rectify these concerns.

Risk Management Committee

There are many new challenges with church amalgamations and closings

Part of the mandate of the committee is to develop appropriate risk mitigating strategies for community ministries, both for the volunteers and for those being helped. Screening in Faith and training is part of this.

They would like to develop a 'clergy wellness' program, because priests unlike parishioners, can't simply go to their priest for pastoral help, and can't be expected to be on duty 24 / 7.

It is up to each of us, as well as the committee to be pro-active, making continuous improvements to the system, .and to use due diligence.

U.N. Conference on the Status of Women

Catherine Chapman and Sue Garvey reported on their attendance at the U.N. conference in New York. They told us of the horrors facing women in many parts of the world, and of the number of aboriginal

women missing. They gave a list of ideas for educating parishioners about the many dangers facing women. Two of the later motions which passed easily related to human trafficking and slavery. Again, your members of synod can provide that list.

Homelessness

It was reported that 10,000 households in Ottawa are waiting for affordable housing, resulting in a 5 to 7 year wait, longer than most families can hold together. Community ministries have joined with a number of coalitions dealing with this problem.

A task force will also be set up to look into child poverty.

Youth Faith Development

Judy Steers, General Synod Coordinator of Youth Initiatives spoke on this topic, and showed video clips of youth at various Canada wide camps.

She also said how discouraging it is for those who would like to make a career of youth ministry.

There are only 2 dioceses in Canada who have a fulltime youth worker, Ottawa being one.

Engaging with youth needs a total willingness to make contact and try new things.

Youth ministry is a very sporadic thing. Some times it is in vogue, sometimes not, and it is always liable to being lost as a cost cutting measure. Churches will employ a worker because they have no youth, and then release them because they have been unable to conjure up a group. Or they will hire them upon need, but a couple of year's later will release them because the youth have passed through and moved on.

Youth are looking for a great experience of a soul-saving God. If they don't find it with us, they may try other religions, or other means of achieving the spiritual high they crave. It is therefore incumbent upon us all, to build relationships with young people we have in our church, and help them find the life transforming experience of Jesus that they are seeking...

Motions are part of parish life whether at Parish Council, diocesan meetings or Synod.

There were 2 which stand out probably because they both involve changes to our finances within the church and personally.

Motion # 1

That Synod approve the recommendations of the Planning Feasibility Study report. The original intention was to raise 30 million dollars through a financial campaign, but the motion brought to Synod was to raise 12 million dollars of which 50 percent would be returned to the parish. This would take place over 5 years.

There was a certain amount of concern about this item and the lack of information available. Questions asked were;

1. Will parishes be permitted to use the funds they raise in the way they choose, without diocesan involvement?
2. Will each parish be expected to raise its 'fair-share' percentage of the 12 million, or will they be allowed to set their own fundraising target.
3. Will each parish be free to choose to participate or not according to its Vestry's decision, or are all parishes required to take part?

There was a lot of discussion on this motion. The motion passed but there were a sizeable number of members who voted against the motion.

Motion # 2

That Synod approve the Equalized Cost of Priestly Services recommendations (known as ECOPS). There was a presentation of this and much discussion at Great Chapter, but many questions still remained about this new proposed fair-share method. One of the main questions was whether the projected total pool of assessable income from the parishes would keep pace with the projected total cost of priestly services over the next five years. A scenario in which the total cost of priestly services grows at a more rapid rate than the total pool of assessable income, would mean that parishes would pay proportionally more and more of their assessable income for clergy costs, and therefore have less for other expenses. (The fair share paid to the diocese is calculated on the basis of a parish's assessable income) Robert Sears stated that the size of these pools was expected to be 'flat' over the next five years. Another member suggested that it had never really been flat, and yet another that in fact the diocese had had to transfer some \$400,000 in order to balance its last annual budget. For most people it seemed that they were getting no increase in their payments but that somehow the money would be divided better. The motion passed easily.

Several workshops were available, although we attended only one. Riva Lieflander and Wanda Bowman chose the Parish Growth and Renewal Workshop.

This was an interesting workshop, presented by the Parish Growth and Renewal Committee, looking at how to do "the best ministry possible" in actual circumstances. Participants were given two scenarios to consider, one for an urban parish and one for a rural parish, both struggling with particular challenges. Our roundtable discussion revealed a great deal of creativity, and many good ideas. It was easy to see that the difficulties faced by each parish were, in fact, wonderful opportunities, and some were even potentially blessings in disguise. This perspective very much echoed the comments made by Bishop Sean Rowe, who suggested distinguishing between problems and dilemmas, and not treating these two in the same way. In order to allow for the possibility that unlike problems that need to be solved, dilemmas which are insolvable, can rather be recast as opportunities.

"Each One Teach One" Youth Ministry

I attended this workshop, without having considered the title. Judy Steers helped us to explore simple ways for individuals and parishes to engage in youth ministries that have a profound impact on the lives of young people amongst us.

She acknowledged that most churches are in the same position as regards youth. They don't have many young people, or even children for that matter. There are notable exceptions in every diocese of course. So there is a national initiative to help us work together.

One program for children which is growing in our diocese involves godly play. It is the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. This follows the pattern for learning first developed by Maria Montessori in Italy. Its beginnings were in the Roman Catholic Church, and have spread. It really requires a special room, (the Atrium) set aside, so that the children on entering feel that it is their holy place. It is working well at The Church of the Ascension, and has started at St. Luke's. Gillian Morris and I attended a workshop during the summer to learn more about this program.

Judy felt that youth ministry happens in building relationships with young people one at a time. We should show them what nurtures us and what we are passionate about, in our work for God. This way we show how our faith impacts on our work.

Our role is one of mentoring and encouraging. There are many simple ways in which youth can be included in the regular Sunday service, as readers, servers, choir members, welcoming, giving out bulletins, taking up the offering etc. They can start this as very small children.

Society divides us into age groups, and it is much more helpful for teens to see people of all ages and stages, and in different financial situations.

We often can work along with young people and show them what it is that gives us joy. It could be visiting the elderly or sick, or taking food or gifts to Debra-Dynes in our case.

The best way to make church relevant for our youth is to involve them in what is going on, which means a personal relationship with a young person.

There were questions about how safe it would be to send a teenager off with an unrelated adult, but people were reassured that the screening in faith process would come into effect for this.

It was reassuring to see that we are coming to grips with reality, which is that we will not be having big youth rallies in our churches, but we can work quietly with young people and bring them into a relationship with Jesus.

We would like to thank the Vestry of St. Mark's for allowing us the privilege and opportunity to attend Synod 2010. For three of us it was a first time experience, very interesting and engaging. We learnt a lot from it.

Respectfully submitted,
Wanda Bowman,
Cynthia Greer,
Riva Lieflander

St Mark's Prayer Ministries

Healing Prayer Team

"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thessalonians 5:17)

During Communion each Sunday at the 10:00 a.m. service two of our members offer laying-on of hands for those who have a prayer request for themselves or a concern for someone else. This is a time to join our hearts and minds to focus on Christ our Healer.

December 2010 marked eleven years of Healing Prayer Team ministry at St. Mark's. At present there are five members serving on the team: Johanne Barnum, Marilyn Benn, Ann Matthews, Sheila Pitt, and Gail Stone. Enid and Terry Thompson and Marion Stalter also served on the team at the beginning of the year before moving to other parishes.

The scriptures tell us to pray continually, which means that prayer ministry everywhere belongs to everyone. If you feel called to this ministry or would like further information, please speak directly to Fr. Brian, to whom the team is responsible. New members are always welcome and very much needed if this ministry is to continue.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Matthews,
Coordinator

Prayer & Praise Group

This group met in the church choir room each Tuesday evening (7:30 -9:00 p.m.) during the entire year, except on the 3rd Tuesday of the month when we attend the Healing Service which Fr. Brian holds in the Church.

Membership this past year consisted of eight people, with an average attendance of six. The evening's program consists of times of meditation; prayer for those on our Parish Prayer Cycle and others known to us needing special prayer for healing; Bible study and sung worship. Leadership rotated amongst the membership. All are welcome to join us at any time.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Dicks

Parish Prayer Cycle Phoning Team

Each week one of a team of four callers contacts those people whose names are on the Parish Prayer Cycle for that week, asking if they have any requests for prayer for themselves, their family members or friends for whom they would like us to pray. These requests are shared with Fr. Brian but are kept confidential by the members of the prayer group, who offer these requests to God at our prayer meetings and in our own private prayers.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Dicks

St Mark's E-prayer

In 2010 we had 41 parishioners praying by e-mail for people who had requested prayers.

During the year we were asked to pray for many people, in many ways and for various stages of spiritual and daily life. As in other years, the prayers were not just from our St Mark's family for our own people – prayer has no boundary - they were also for people in the city, other parts of Canada and as far away as Europe, Guyana, Afghanistan and Haiti, people that most of us might never meet, but who had heard that St Mark's people prayed for others.

Some people we only knew by name. Some prayers came with simple information and some with a lot; some with follow-up and some with none.

In our 2010 prayers we prayed for health, strength and support, successful surgeries and recovery, peace of body, mind and spirit, and the safety of those working to bring peace.

We gave thanks for birth, baptism, marriage and anniversaries, and many recoveries. We were saddened by the loss of 19 parishioners, family or friends, and their families, but gave thanks for their life.

We rejoiced and we grieved.

Again this year, the E-prayer worked as a conduit between pray-ers and those being prayed for. It helped provide an instant prayer link of support and comfort when it was needed. The E-prayer list was also used to spread support on spiritual events being led by others.

We also prayed for the Prayer Ministry at St Mark's: Laying-on-of-hands prayer ministry at the 10:00am service; Tuesday evening Prayer and Praise group; Parish Prayer-cycle phoning group; new Prayer shawl ministry; new Healing Prayer services; E-prayer group.

Thank you to our pray-ers who receive the E-prayer requests and have added people to their own prayers, and thank you to those who are now using the E-prayer for their own prayer requests. Also, thank you to those who saw the need and asked me to continue this service.

If you want to join the prayer list, or have prayers said for you, St Mark's E-prayer can be reached via drblodge@sympatico.ca or just let me know. If only one extra person offers their prayers for another it will be worth while. Please join us.

Margaret Lodge
E-prayer Coordinator

The Altar Guild

I would like to thank all the Altar Guild members for all their dedication and hard word serving at God's Altar.

On Oct. 3rd 2009 the Altar Guild members of St. Marks hosted the Altar Guild Annual meeting which was a great success. Thanks to everyone who helped with the service and the luncheon. In March 2010 the Altar Guild had all the wax candles changed to liquid oil which will be more cost efficient in the long run. We had to repair a few Communion Vessels which cost less than it would to buy new ones. We were responsible to set up the Altar for Sunday services and any other service that the Church. is involved in. The Altar Guild is always looking for new members so if you are interested in serving. God in this way please give me a call or talk to Father Brian. This is a very rewarding calling.

President,
Gale Deering

Screening in Faith

The Screening in Faith Committee made up of Margaret Williamson, Georgia Roberts and Michael Perkin have continued working on the screening and re-screening of volunteers working in High-risk positions at St. Mark's.

As you will remember, the aim of the Diocese's Screening policy initiated in 2000, "was to ensure that there is a safe environment in all parishes, ministries and activities for children, seniors, any who are physically, emotionally or spiritually vulnerable and those who are ministering in the Church" (<http://www.ottawa.anglican.ca/SIF.html>)

Because we want our Church to be a clear symbol of the Kingdom of God - a safe and holy place for all people, clergy, staff and volunteers have to be screened in a manner appropriate to the ministry or job being undertaken. For ministries identified as High-risk, part of the screening involves getting a Police Records Check (PRC) and having it updated every 5 years.

The main activity of the SIF team at St. Mark's during 2010 was ensuring the PRCs of our staff and volunteers were up-to-date and processing new applications for PRCs.

Renewals:	14 volunteers and 2 paid staff	16
New:	13 volunteers and 2 paid staff	<u>15</u>
		31

(3 other volunteers in High-risk positions are completing applications for PRCs)

The Ministries and positions designated as High-risk are:

Church School (Head and Teachers)	Pastoral Care (Perley Residence Visitors not included)
Nursery (Head and Helpers) included).	
Friendly Visitors	Wardens (4) Rector's Warden, People's
Circle of Friends	Warden, Deputy Wardens
Junior Choir (Leader)	Parish Administrator (not a volunteer)
Instructor of Servers	Parish Nurse (not a volunteer)
Home Communion Visitors	Rector

In the coming year, we will be contacting for PRC updating requirements, all volunteers in High-risk positions who had their last screening in 2006. As well, we will be contacting the Heads of groups and ministries for their input, information and assistance in updating the Job Description files done in 2003.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation and thanks to Georgia and Michael for their help, support and wise counsel. A big thanks to Margaret Pirnat whose assistance has been invaluable these past months. Thank you to Father Brian for his encouragement and support of this necessary and important ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Williamson, Georgia Roberts and Michael Perkin

Choir Report

Our three choirs of St Mark's are the senior choir, the junior choir and the "Requiem" choir. The senior choir sings on every Sunday morning of the year, as well as for any additional services, including those during Lent, Holy Week and Christmas. We rehearse on Thursday evenings, with a break for the summer months.

The first additional service of 2010 was the January 17th joint Ecumenical Service at Madonna della Risurrezione across the street. A number of senior choir members learned the Italian hymns and went up to the choir loft to join in the singing. After the service we feasted on delicious Italian treats with a glass of wine. On Ash Wednesday, February 25th, we sang our first evening Eucharist of the year, and Lent culminated in the Holy Week choral services including Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil, which we celebrated using the old and familiar music of John Merbecke.

On June 18th our fearless choir president, Ray Davidson (with a little help from his daughters) welcomed us yet again to his home and garden for a very enjoyable choir party. After the summer break, Thursday choir practices resumed as usual after Labour Day. We sang an Evensong service on October 24th. We sang the Remembrance Day morning service on November 7th, and this year we are grateful to young Ben Paterson who played the trumpet for the Last Call and Reveille and some of the hymns.

Our Advent Carol Service was on the afternoon of November 28th, and during the potluck afterwards, choir and congregation joined in singing Silent Night, first in its original German version with guitar (legend has it that the music was composed for guitar on a Christmas Eve because the organ of the Nikolaus-Kirche in Oberndorf, Austria had broken down), and then in the more familiar English version. This was filmed as part of the Silent Night Project of the Anglican Church of Canada (see <http://www.youtube.com/user/SilentNightProject#p/u/17/vrnvOcUD6kI>). Three weeks later, on December 19th, we sang the Nine Lessons and Carols Service, where Sheila Vaudrey joined us, playing her aboriginal frame drum. The choir sang the 10pm Christmas eve service, using the Merbecke ordinary, with Deirdre Sheehan-Laxton joining us. The Christmas morning service choral selections were made possible by Doug and Susan Palmer, visiting from Montreal, and two volunteers rounded up from the congregation: Sheila Vaudrey and Carol Dicks, augmenting our choir of one (Jenny Morphey). Susan also played some lovely music on her Irish harp.

The senior choir membership has been relatively stable: we have one new alto, Lindsay Setzer. Doug Vavasour is no longer available to join us for extra services, as he did in the past.

This year was a special year for the St Mark's senior choir in that we got our new choir robes, every single one designed, cut to measure and expertly sewn by Joy Bowerman. The design is new and the material is thicker than the former robes, which were beginning to be threadbare in places. The white is of a more intense shade; when the choir processes up to their places, I feel enveloped by a cleansing wave of white! Thank you Joy, for this huge contribution to our well-being.

The St Mark's Requiem choir, which includes members of the senior choir, former members and other musically inclined parishioners, gathers to sing for funerals, occasional weddings and other events. This choir is often led by our organist parishioner Carol Dicks, as I am often unavailable to play for these services. On May 18th, the Requiem choir, under Carol's direction, sang at the Eucharist for the retired clergy which is hosted every year by St Mark's. On November 13th, long-time choir member Bobbi Cain died, after a long illness. Several choir members had been in to visit her and sing hymns for her earlier in the day. On December 13th, a memorial service was held for her at St Mark's. Former organist and choir director Fred Graham flew in to play and direct the choir for the funeral. The service included a musical tribute in memory of Bobbi, who had been active in many musical organizations. The choir was augmented by former choristers Norma Mellon, Scott Kirby and Wayne Blatchley and members of the Canadian Centennial Choir.

The Junior Choir continues to make an excellent contribution to our Sunday morning worship. Its composition has changed at various times this year. We began the year with six choir members: Sarah and Alex Dee, Delaney, Fletcher and Quinn McGill, and Kathleen Pirnat. In the spring, Lovena Mathew joined our ranks. In the fall, the McGills were unfortunately unable to reconcile sports schedules with singing in the choir. Thomas Pilson came back to sing with us, and his brother Joshua joined as a probationer (he received his surplice just before Christmas). Nevin Mathew also joined in the fall, but just before Christmas the Mathew family moved away to Brampton. The junior choir members contributed to both winter carol services, and led the 7pm Christmas Eve Family Eucharist service, for which they were joined by Delaney, Fletcher and Quinn McGill.

The junior choir welcomes new members; the only requirement for junior choir members is that they be able to read English.

My thanks go to Carol Dicks, Don Marjerrison, David Huddleston, and Barb Hallam, who have substituted for me this year. I also want to express my profound gratitude to all the members of the choirs, for faithfully volunteering their time, their energy and their voices to praise God in song. I would like to thank Ray Davidson, our choir President, for continuing in this position, efficiently taking care of choir business; Joy Bowerman for her work with the juniors, for setting up the chairs in the choir room each week, for help with sectionals and for occasional accompanying; Jenny Morphew for taking care of our music "library", for representing the choir on parish council, for posting the hymns on the hymn board, and for keeping our choir robes organized; our convenor Cynthia Greer for making all those phone calls and taking care of cards when necessary; Coralie Sheehan for keeping track of our finances; Janis Perkin for restoring books that are falling apart; Brenda Zanin for straightening our choir robes when they don't look right on us; David Matthews for preparing the attendance sheets; Bruce Lodge for leading some sectionals and for turning pages for the organ voluntaries; and former chorister Scott Kirby who joined us as a trumpeter for a rousing rendition of Allen Pote's "God is our Refuge and Strength" in February. In addition, I would like to thank violinist Marla Haring, who is not technically a part of the choir, but who adds so much to our services with her music.

I am grateful to Fr. Brian for all the support he has given to me and the choir of St Mark's, and for his steadfastness and humour, and also grateful to the three cheerful and efficient women who have successively and successfully worked in the church office this year: Claudette Gravelle, Jennie Lee and Margaret Pirnat - many thanks to you all.

Respectfully submitted,
Ariane Dind

Mothers' Union

The Mothers' Union is a world –wide sisterhood within the Anglican Church. It is dedicated to prayer, service and mission, with 4 million members in 76 countries.

The aims are:

- To share Christ's love and teaching by supporting and nurturing marriage and family life,
- To maintain a world-wide fellowship of Christians, united in prayer worship and service,
- To seek justice for all,
- To support individuals and families in troubled circumstances.

There are only 2 branches in the diocese, the other being St. Barnabas, Deep River
Our branch was re-established in 1983, and we are individually very involved in the life of St. Mark's.
We wear many hats, and provide many services, all connected to our Aims, and mandate.

In February and April we joined forces with the prayer group, and prepared meals for the residents of Cornerstone who had been uprooted because of a deadly fire in their home.
On Mothering Sunday, the 4th in Lent, we prepared Simnel cakes for coffee hour, and gave carnations to every woman at church that day.

A special prayer service was held for Kay in March, to support and uphold her (and she us) on her journey. We also held an English tea for Kay, with prayers, in April. Our monthly meetings were held at Kay's until her death.

On June 19th, we realized that Kay's time was drawing close, and took part in a very meaningful service of prayer and songs. We joined with the prayer and praise group, and Patti our Parish nurse, and laughed and cried together. Gillian Morris brought her first prayer shawl, which we blessed together, and put around Kay. . What was to have been potentially our last corporate communion with her, became a Thanksgiving Eucharist for her life: her funeral.

Two annual events which M.U. hosts are the picnic and B.B.Q. Both were well attended, and we raised \$300 for the Main Street Community Services, where Sarah Kelly works, and \$327 for the Council of the North.

Another 'annual' event is the Church Army supper. Members of the M.U. serve the potluck and clean up. We renew acquaintances annually with the group.

This fall we decided to go to a more regular format of service and program at church . We still have a potluck lunch, and are meeting on the 4th Friday of the month. Our meetings are open to the parish..

In October, we were pleased to have Anna Otienge Ogara visiting from Nairobi, Kenya. Her husband William was attending a P.W.R.D.F. conference, as an international partner. Our meeting was organized by Judy Oatway, who had worked in Kenya. Anna spoke about her own church, and her involvement in M.U. She and Judy brought over the altar pieces which were displayed in our church before Christmas.

We had a table at the bazaar, with an afghan made by Diane McCaul, which was won by Cicely Richardson. This money allows us some leeway to support outside groups.

We organized 2 projects in the fall. Our Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry was well supported, providing 47 boxes and 2 backpacks of gifts to go to children in impoverished or war-torn countries. Throughout Advent we accept gifts for our Advent Givings Tree, hats, mitts, scarves and socks, toiletries, special seasonal foods, and small gifts.

These are delivered to: Centre 454, The Well, The Mission, Shepherds of Good Hope, Operation Come Home, Hope Outreach, Harmony House, and the Debra-Dynes Family House.

Most Sundays, a table is set up during coffee hour to sell used books. This 'Buck a book' table raised \$900. All the money is sent to outreach. These include Akany Famonjena orphanage and a day centre for teens in Madagascar, PWRDF, The Northern Clergy Families Fund, and anywhere disaster strikes, this year Haiti. Jenny organizes the table every Sunday, so Jenny we thank you for your faithfulness.

One very significant change that has occurred over the last two years is that, after over 30 years of lay and M.U. involvement in baptismal preparation, this is now being done by Brian. We continued to provide a wandering Jew plant to families who have been part of our parish.

This fall we have gained 4 new members. We welcome parishioners to attend our meetings. We also have our 'auxiliary', Bruce Lodge, Ray Davidson, and Paul Greer.

Mothers' Union supports the Membership Committee so you also find us in the membership report.

I would like to take this opportunity which I know I repeat every year, to thank you our parishioners who support all our endeavours. It is your generosity, your concern and support that allow us to be God's hands in the neighbourhood, our city, and around the world. May God bless you all.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Greer, Branch Leader.

Membership Committee

The Membership Committee is as all encompassing as we make it. M.U. is an active part of the committee along with Paul, who has jobs thrust upon him when pre-service choir practice time arrives, and the kitchen needs help! Part of our mandate certainly still involves the food arena.

In March we held a Newcomers Lunch, which was well attended by newcomers and some oldies and goodies.

Three services were enjoyed in the fall, the October Evensong, the Service of Advent Lessons and Carols, and the Lessons and Carols for Christmas. The meals after these services were all organized through the membership committee. Thank you to everyone who took part, either bringing food, serving and cleaning up, or attending and participating. Feeding our bodies as well as our souls is a very important part of our fellowship here.

The Greet the Christ Child reception after the late night Christmas Eve service is another contribution from the Membership / M.U. group. People enjoy the relaxation of wishing each other a Merry and Blessed Christmas, before rushing home to wrap and prepare for the next day.

We do gain and lose members throughout the year, more or less the same number. Sadly our loss is often by death, this being a community that was young in the 40's. The church was started by veterans who were able to buy out here in the 'boonies' as a result of the Veterans' Land Act. The original members walked to the Prescott Highway (#16) in Wellington boots, and changed into more suitable footwear to catch the Colonial Coach into town. We do have some very healthy 'veteran families'.

Another large percentage of our parishioners live in retirement homes, or some type of supported accommodation. This change of location often changes the worshipping pattern of our members. However, if you see the Para-Transpo buses lining up for the 10 o'clock Eucharist, you will understand we keep the younger generation in employment.

Some people move house, and while we would like to see them continue here, it makes more sense to encourage them to attend a church closer to their new location.

Many join us, but for various reasons not all become active members.

These days young families are so busy trying to organize family life in the few hours they have, that Sunday is frequently the only day of relaxation.

We have a group of very active and hard working core members who make sure things keep going and get done. One of the easiest ways of helping out is to join the roster of a group, coffee nursery, altar guild, or sides people. Helping set-up or cleanup from an activity, supper, bazaar, or rummage sale is another way. The demands are not onerous, but you get to know people better, and want to be involved.

As part of the membership team, I have been trying to interest people in the many opportunities to serve God, our parish, and the wider church. Several people have shown interest in helping in some way. This is encouraging. I shall continue this into the New Year.

This fall we have done an update of the white pew leaflet, thanks to Margaret Lodge for her computer skills and artistic eye, and to Margaret Pirnat for her support in the final production.

We have also prepared a yellow leaflet which has more specific information with contact names.

The Nursery

The nursery came back into being when Jean Cobb was Membership coordinator 10 years ago. It is in this report, but could equally be part of the M.U. report. Nursery has a roster of helpers, all of whom must fill in a Police Records check through the screening in faith team. We would dearly like to add a few more helpers. Helpers work in twos, and Gillian Morris is usually around to help the little ones make a craft she has prepared. Many thanks to Gill for her work with the little ones, and to the helpers for being so willing and caring.

For several years we have been asking for a class for the 5 to 8 year olds, too old for nursery but too young to join the youth class.

Now there is a church school class for the younger age, which they thoroughly enjoy.

Our older kindergarten children attend the class, and then return to nursery for another story and a craft. They take part in the Children's Circle, and are in church for Communion or a blessing. This way they are part of the whole church, but get their special time also.

Once more thank you to those who have contributed in some way to the wellbeing of St. Mark's., whose hearts make our church a very welcoming place.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Greer, Membership Committee Chair

Coffee Coordinators

The coffee coordinators' position fits closest with the membership team. Jean Cobb makes up the roster for the 8 a.m. There are 4 teams who faithfully provide refreshments after the 8 a.m. from September until June. Cynthia Greer is responsible for the roster for coffee after the 10 a.m. Service. There are 11 teams. We are always looking for helpers to join a team. This is a good opportunity to meet people, and speak to them.

There is on- the -job training, and it is simple and rewarding. You make people happy, and encourage them to get to know each other. You would be on the roster 3 times a year after the 10 a.m. service, and can sign up for a Sunday during the summer, when there is no set roster. Or you may be happy to provide refreshments only during the summer. That is fine too.

If you feel this is your way of helping, please speak to Jean or me.

We would like to thank those who presently provide coffee, tea and cookies, those who have just become involved, those who have been doing this as long as we can remember, and longer, and those who find the lifting of trays too much for them now.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Cobb, Cynthia Greer.

Slim and Trim

Slim and Trim had a very successful year with numbers about the same but attendance slightly increased. We donated \$600 to the church and \$25 to charity. Thank you Gail for providing carrot cake and coffee on the last day. Once again we would like to express our thanks to Gail Volk our instructor, and to Rose who keeps the floor clean for us.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer M Morphey

St Mark's Ladies Guild

CIRCLE 2

St. Mark's Ladies Guild
Financial Statement
January 30, 2010 - January 30 2011

Bank Balance		\$1,052.24
	Calendars ACW 2010	\$184.00
	Donations- Circle 2	\$1,000.00
	Donations	\$375.00
Interest		\$0.05
		<hr/>
		\$2,611.29
Expenses		
	St. Mark's	\$1,000.00
	Diocesan ACW	\$500.00
	Bank Fees	\$1.50
	Cash on Hand	\$184.00
	Bank Balance	\$925.79
		<hr/>
		\$2,611.29

Respectfully Submitted
Jacqueline Sorfleet

Circle 2 Ladies meeting is at noon on the first Monday of the month. Our main projects are the Art Show in April and Christmas Puddings in November-December. We also sell Church Calendars. The ladies contribute breads for Funeral receptions and help with serving. We collect Campbell Soup Labels, plastic milk bags, and used postage stamps. We process these stamps and send them to The Leprosy Mission of Canada. In 2009 the sale of these stamps made \$13,100.00 providing 37 patients with medication. This past year we sent 10 shoe boxes to them.

Respectfully submitted,
Jacqueline Sorfleet

Lenten Outreach 2011

As part of our Lenten program since 1999, we have included almsgiving envelopes to support outreach initiatives. This has allowed us to broaden our outreach in a way which our church budget will not allow. We are planning to continue this program for the year 2011. Please prayerfully consider the projects listed below. **It is our intention to support only two of these projects. The two projects will be chosen at vestry.** We feel that by supporting only two projects, each of the projects gets a larger contribution and is able to do more with it. Because we were unable to support the Debra-Dynes Family House in the budget last year, we passed a motion at vestry selecting Debra-Dynes as one of the projects and giving a choice between the other two. Because we are in the same situation again, it our intention to proceed in the same fashion this year.

Offering envelopes will be included with the newsletter and there are some available at the back of the church during Lent. These should be used in addition to your regular offering envelopes. All money received in these envelopes will be divided evenly between the outreach projects chosen at vestry. If you wish your offering to be directed specifically to one of the projects or to a different project, please write the name of your choice on the blank line at the bottom of the label on your Lenten offering envelopes. If nothing is filled in on this line, it will be assumed that the money should be split evenly between the two projects chosen. Don't forget to write your name or envelope number on the envelope to receive tax credit for your donation!

Previous Projects Supported

2005 Centre 454, Carlington Chaplaincy, South African Hospice
2006 Carlington Chaplaincy, Mary Sherwood
2007 Centre 454, St. Jude's Iqaluit
2008 Centre 454, The Mission
2009 Grandmothers to Grandmothers, St. Jude's Iqaluit
2010 Debra-Dynes Family House, Cornerstone

Cornerstone

"We want to be leaders in naming and creating sustainable, future oriented programs grounded in a belief that all women can change, grow and heal; that no one need remain trapped in the cycle of homelessness and soul-destroying dependence. We want to take up the challenge to partner with our residents to create a new set of options for a hopeful future". This is the vision of Cornerstone.

Over five years ago, the Diocesan Community Ministry began to envision a new apartment building, which would have gardens and green space and lots of energy efficient features. It would also be fully accessible for people with disabilities. For the residents, there would be access to supports for education, employment and health care. The total cost will be more than \$11.8 million. That vision is close to reality with the residence under construction and only 2.3 million left to be raised.

By June 2011, the new house to be owned and operated by the Cornerstone Foundation will provide permanent safe, affordable, supportive housing for 42 women who will live in self-contained apartment units in a building at 314 Booth Street. Twenty units will be allocated to low-income seniors and 22 to younger homeless women, many with a variety of disabilities, often the result of long-term life on the street. This House will be the first purpose built facility offering housing and support services for Ottawa's homeless women. It has been a journey of challenges, disappointments, successes, time-consuming negotiations, long hours of planning, searches for government funding and collaboration with many partners.

Debra-Dynes Family House

The Debra Dynes Family House is a multiservice community resource in a low-income social housing area located very close to St. Mark's. At any given time there are approximately 800 people with a minimum of 25 nationalities represented in Debra Dynes. Much of that population is under 25 yrs of age

and in single parent households. The Debra Dynes Family House is committed to improving the quality of life for these culturally diverse families, children and youth who are low income and working poor. The House does this through a range of services and programs that are community driven and meet their needs, such as daily lunches for children in need, summer camps, skills training for youth, afterschool programs, homework club, emergency baby cupboard, ESL classes, food bank and so much more. St. Mark's has been involved with Debra Dynes Family House for the past several years, through donations of money, volunteer time, most of the remaining clothing after the rummage sales, items,.... Partnerships with and donations from local organizations such as St. Mark's are critical for Debra Dynes Family House to continue its important work.

St Peter's Altarpiece, Widows & Orphans Group of Bwaja, Kenya

On Sunday, February 20, 2010, Judy Oatway was invited by a group of women of the Church of St Peter's, Bwaja, Kenya to visit with them during her term at Bishop Okullu College of Theology and Development. These women and the many others like them are the courage and strength of rural Kenya. They have been called upon to begin parenting again to the many orphaned grandchildren of African countries. Many find themselves isolated and locked with their pain of depression and poverty and with little hope. There is subsidized food available to help feed the grandchildren, but sometimes even the few shillings required cannot be found.

From March-July 2010, the widows of St Peter's Anglican Church, Bwaja created an altarpiece which tells their story in fabric and thread. This altarpiece visited the parish of St Mark's on December 19, 2010.

This project, which supports the Widows and Orphans Group in Bwaja, is under the patronage of Catherine Chapman.

Parish Nursing and Pastoral Ministries

Jesus said, "as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me" Matthew 25:40

This report to Vestry includes several reports to cover the full extent of the parish nursing ministry as well as the pastoral care and friendly visiting ministries in 2010. You will first find the report on the Pastoral Care and Friendly Visitor ministry. This will be followed by the report of the Parish Nurse and then that of the Health Committee which supports the work of the parish nurse. At the end will be the report by the Parish Nursing Ministry Committee.

Report on the Pastoral Care and Friendly Visitor Ministry

Pastoral Care is the care shown by those who seek to minister in the name of Jesus Christ. This care for others is expressed through the skills of listening, affirmation, prayer and referral. The "Friendly Visiting" ministry began in 2004. This kind of visiting does not require specialized pastoral care training but, instead, is based on having the time and care to be present with others in a regular and committed way.

A small dedicated group of the Pastoral Care and Friendly Visitor teams focused their efforts at the Perley Rideau Veterans' Health Centre, assisting residents to attend the Eucharist in the Chapel each Friday morning and also doing some bed-side visiting. This is a ministry of long standing for St. Mark's but is needing some new participants. Why not come and try it out? It is not necessary to commit to every Friday.

There was extra focus in 2010 on our friendly visiting ministry and on a circle-of-friends ministry for a dying parishioner who did not have family or many friends in Ottawa. The "friends" grew with their experience and hope that St. Mark's has the privilege to minister in this way again.

Being properly equipped for pastoral care work and friendly visiting is important. While little formal training went on in 2010 team members were made aware of the ten-week basic pastoral care training course offered as an inter-denominational programme affiliated with the Christian Council of the Capital Area.

In both May and November, the Pastoral Care and Friendly Visiting members were involved in the organization of a Eucharist and luncheon which is open to all, but parishioners who find it difficult to attend regular services are sent special invitations and are offered transportation. Musical entertainment was provided by the choir from St. Rita's in the spring and by a young singer/pianist in the fall. This continues to be a joyful event for those in attendance.

The work of the Pastoral Care and Friendly Visiting Ministry was strongly supported and nourished by our Parish Nurse. Patti provided leadership to our group. In 2010, she particularly functioned as health counselor, making herself available for consultation about how to handle any situation where a worker had concern about the health or behaviour of a person being visited.

Father Brian is playing a vital role with the team for their work at St. Mark's. He gives support and encouragement and is bringing new ideas to the ministry.

On behalf of St. Mark's, I wish to thank all members of the Pastoral Care /Friendly Visitor team for their dedication. I also encourage others to consider joining this ministry, since there is a growing need for this type of work in the parish.

Respectfully submitted
Georgia Roberts

Report by the Parish Nurse

This past year was another busy and rewarding year. Along with many others at St. Mark I was able to journey alongside a few parishioners, suffering from terminal illnesses, as they reached the end of their lives. It was a privilege to work with both the individuals dying and with their "circle of support". One of those who died was a much loved, well-known parishioner and it was wonderful to see her surrounded by the love of her family and long time friends. Her friends were there for her and her family at least weekly and often more frequently for several years. Another parishioner was new to St. Mark's and had no family and few friends in Ottawa. Fr. Brian and myself knew we could not provide the support needed alone, so with this person's permission, we put out a call for help. A group of St. Mark's volunteers took on the job of supporting this person, even though they did not know him or most of the other team members very well at the beginning. Their dedicated service over almost a year gave him the gift of companionship in his last several months of life and allowed him to die in peace, surrounded by caring people. Many of those involved in both these situations have shared what a gift it was to them to be part of these experiences and what they learned about themselves through these journeys.

The St. Mark Prayer Shawl Ministry at St. Mark's started developing last spring, as myself as well as a few parishioners had become interested in the idea. We decided to see if there was enough support to have this ministry at St. Mark's. After speaking about it at some of the services, putting announcements in the bulletin and on my bulletin board, we did get a very positive response and many stepped forward to express their interest. Gillian Morris agreed to coordinate this ministry. We had our official launching on September 26th with a blessing of all the shawls made so far. We plan to bless any new shawls made the last Sunday of each month. Knitters/crochet-ers pray while knitting the shawl, they are then blessed at St. Mark's so that the whole church's prayers are part of them and when they are given out, prayers are also said. To date we have given out 19 shawls. Any of the times that I was the one delivering them, it was a privilege and moving experience to see how touched the recipient was to receive the shawl.

The bulk of my time each week continues to be spent providing personal health counseling with lots of home visiting, phone counseling and follow up needed. End of life issues, coping with chronic illnesses, bereavement, finding a family physician, loss of independence and the need for increased support to manage at home, caregiver stress, and relocation to retirement homes and long term care facilities continue to be the issues I am supporting people with. Fr. Brian, Georgia Roberts (Pastoral Care Coordinator) and I communicate regularly to try to ensure that all parishioners' needs are being met to the best of our time and abilities.

Health Education this year included blood pressure screening, presentations on Connecting Faith and Health, and Planning Ahead to Stay Safely at Home. Bulletin Board and education materials were provided on the topics of: H1N1, Staying Healthy In Winter, Healthy Blood Pressures, Lowering Salt Intake, The Prayer Shawl Ministry, Planning Ahead, and Keeping Your Bones Strong.

Along with the Pastoral Care Team and the Health Committee I helped organize the Eucharist and Luncheon for Seniors in June and November.

I provided professional referrals and acted as a resource and advocate as needed, referring parishioners to physicians, the CCAC, palliative care, support groups, etc.

Professional development this year included the following: attending the Council on Aging: Do You Hear What I Hear, the Regional Geriatric Program Education Day, the Ontario Gerontology Association Conference, and completion of my Community Health Nursing Certification. These activities are generally attended outside my regular hours of work.

My hours remain at 12 hours per week. Detailed statistics are available on how these hours are spent, the number of people I visit/telephone each week, how many attend each education session, etc. I am available every Monday and Wednesday, as well as one Sunday per month.

Respectfully submitted
Patti Robillard, R. N.

Health Committee Report

The Health Committee, formed in 2001, continues to be a support and resource for the Parish Nurse in developing and carrying out an effective ministry of health promotion and illness prevention amongst the members of St. Mark's Parish and, where appropriate, in the wider community. Health Committee members were involved in the following activities in 2010:

- Health Committee meetings June, October and November with Parish Nurse, Patti Robillard.
- provided support for the St. Mark's Prayer Shawl Ministry
- assisted with the Seniors Spring and Fall Luncheons and Eucharist
- assisted with planning and implementation of October educational event "Planning Ahead: Live Safely In Your Own Home"
- The committee is presently involved in discerning ways to raise the awareness of the Parish Nursing Ministry and the need for increased financial support to sustain this ministry

Since the inception of the Parish Nursing Ministry in 2004, Patti has ministered to nearly 150 individuals. This means that more than 50% of the approximately 215 families on our Parish List have been reached through this ministry.

The Parish Nursing Ministry is a Ministry of the whole congregation. One way to support this ministry and serve our most vulnerable parishioners is to increase our regular givings to St. Mark's Church. Even

though some of us may never require this valuable ministry we are reminded that we are all called, according to the Gospels, to comfort one another and share one another's burdens.

Respectfully submitted, and with thanks to the dedicated members of the Health Committee

Gail Stone

Report of the Parish Nursing Ministry Committee

The Parish Nursing Ministry Committee was established by Corporation in October 2005 to support the work of the Corporation and to serve as a link between Corporation and this Ministry. The present members of the committee are Gail Stone and Georgia Roberts.

The duties of the Committee include provision of statistical reports and a performance review of the Parish Nurse, when requested by Corporation, based on the job description. The committee is also to ensure that the Parish Nurse receives a 'peer feed-back' assessment, as required by the College of Nurses, and to ensure that required registration with the College of Nurses and malpractice insurance are up to date. Reports to Vestry are also expected annually from the Committee.

The Report of the Parish Nurse, appearing earlier, describes the breadth of the work that has been carried out by Patti. Her documented statistics reveal that, since the beginning of her ministry in May 2004, she has served a large number of different clients (and often their families too) in her capacity as health counselor and supporter and provider of professional referrals. The clients served in these ways during 2010 received care from Patti through personal and telephone visits (with 407 individual contacts being made in 2010, close to ¼ of which were home visits. There were 7 new clients among those receiving care in 2010). As well as this work, Patti found time to carry out important health education activities and to be available to consult with the pastoral care and friendly visitor teams.

Based on the statistics and report provided by Patti, our contacts with Patti, and our involvements with the Health Committee and the Pastoral Care and Friendly Visitor teams, we see the valuable work being done in the Parish Nursing Ministry.

Respectfully submitted by Gail Stone and Georgia Roberts

72nd St. Mark's Scout Group



The Mission of Scouting is: To contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities through the application of Principles and Practices. Scouting based on three broad principles which represent its fundamental beliefs: Duty to God, Duty to Others, and Duty to Self.

Scouts Canada is in the process of reinventing itself to make us more relevant and attractive to all youth of all ages who may be looking to join our organization. I would like to discuss some of these changes and how they relate to Canadian youth and leaders of today and, specifically, how these changes have influenced the 72nd St. Marks Scout Group.

Training of Leaders

In the past we have had new leaders who must have their part 1 wood badge training in the section they are working in completed in the first 12 months of joining the 72nd or they cannot be registered for the following year as a leader. This training normally takes a weekend to complete and many adults have had

difficulty finding a free weekend for the course. Starting about a year ago this training can now be done online (e-training). The course is set up in a series of modules that can be done at their leisure over a period of months as long as it is completed within one year of them becoming a leader. For our new leaders with families and demanding jobs this e-learning has solved a problem that was a headache for the new leader and the group committee.

Uniforms

For as long as I can remember the uniform has been a contentious issue with our youth. It was not thought to be “cool” by the older sections (Scouts & Venturers) and many did not want to wear it in public. Although there have been some changes in the past few years such as T-shirts for most activities, the brown shirt and necker has been a staple for most groups including ours. This is all about to change, Scouts Canada has partnered with Joe Fresh Clothing to design a completely new look in the uniform that will demonstrate Scouts Canada commitment to innovation and respond to the changing needs and wants of Canada’s youth. This new look will be unveiled this Feb. and go on sale in Sept.

No One Left Behind

The purpose of “No One Left Behind” is to ensure that financial barriers are not an issue when a child wishes to participate in Scouting in Canada. This program enables children from all walks of life to gain knowledge and skills that will benefit them now and in the future. This is a National fund that makes resources available to us as required. We have had a number of our youth at the 72nd take part in this program which is great for them and otherwise would be a significant drain on the financial resources of our group committee budget.

There have been other significant changes at Scouts Canada as well. They include a younger more innovative management team, updated programs for youth, a new Scouter Welcome Kit, and more recognition for leaders. All of these initiatives will go a long way for Scouting in Canada and, in particular, the 72nd to flourish in the years to come.

The 72nd St. Marks Scout Group would again like to thank our partner, the Church, for the support you have given us over the past year. The encouragement of Reverend Brian and members of the congregation to the Group Committee, section leaders and the youth have been greatly appreciated.

Don Flynn
Group Commissioner
72nd St. Marks Scout Group

Church School

Janis and I are grateful for another year with such fantastic children. We have had some wonderful learning experiences. We have discovered how God has been working with his people throughout the ages. We discovered how the lessons of the Old Testament and the New still have meaning in our present day lives, that God is alive and well and working through us. As a group we also studied the Heroes of the Bible, Noah, Moses, Jonah, Joseph, David, Daniel and Sampson. Who would have guessed that they could replace Spiderman, Superman and the Green Lantern while at the same time inspiring us with the

wisdom of God. Our journey through Advent we explored the symbolism associated with the Jesse Tree literally covering our tree with a rich diversity of biblical symbols.



This year we added two much needed teachers to our team, Sarah Dee and Kathleen Pirnat. They gently guide our junior members in discovery and awareness. Their enthusiasm and dedication are a real blessing for the Children and allows a more diverse approach to our

teaching. Many thanks to all those who helped out throughout the year and for all the support we receive through your prayers and participation.

In His Service
Janis and Michael Perkin

Memorials and Gifts Committee

This report is the last official report of this committee.

The committee was created in 2004, to co-ordinate memorial gifts. After the first stained glass window, in memory of the Veterans, was placed in the church, and then the Baptism window from Eileen Holt in memory of her husband John (Tex) Holt, other people wished to remember their loved ones similarly. We chose a theme for each window, which was quite a long task, because it had to be something that could be reproduced in a small window. Margaret Lodge did most of the drawing, while Coralie Sheehan and I critiqued it. When we were satisfied, we left the production and detailed artwork to Brian Eagle, at Northern Art Glass.

Once this was done, we turned to using the memorial funds for something visible. This concept became the memorial garden, built and installed by Jonsyl landscaping. It is not completed yet, but will contain benches this spring, and more landscaping. There is a plaque on the wall in memory of our past parishioners.

Throughout this plan we always had in mind that the bells given in memory of Dorothea Kirby 10 years earlier still had no resting place. After what now amounts to years of work, frustrations, and concerns because there was only \$10,000 to create the framework, we finally found a solution and a company R.P. Metal, to bring this dream to fruition.

The triangular frame with the three bells was installed in June of 2010. The Dorothea Kirby bells, and the John and Dorothea Kirby Trinity Monument were dedicated on Thanksgiving Sunday, October 10th 2010.

May you rest in Peace, John and Dot.

Also dedicated at the same time, was the leather bound book of Lectionary Readings which rests on the lectern. It was given by Betty Gillham in memory of her husband Robert (Bob) Gillham.

Margaret and I thank you our parishioners for listening, and helping during the long process. We trust you are as happy as we are with the result.

The Memorials Committee has now been dissolved. The job is done. Thanks be to God.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Greer and Margaret Lodge.

Dollar for Dollar

What is the Dollar for Dollar program? You may purchase gift cards from us at face value and spend them in all participating grocery stores listed on the card, Independent and Loblaw's are the ones closest to us. The balance of the card decreases as you use it. The cards come in a variety of denominations. We usually stock \$250, \$100 and \$50 cards. They're quick and easy to use and very easy to carry.

So how does that generate profit for the church? Although you give us \$100 and we give you \$100 to spend in the grocery store, we actually paid less than \$100 for the certificate. Depending on the amount

we order at a time, we get usually get a discount of 4%. **In 2010, \$1,638 was contributed to general revenues through the Dollar for Dollar program.**

The big advantage of this program, in my opinion, is that it is “Money for Nothing”. You don’t have to give a donation, there is no money out of your pocket. The money that you spend on groceries is the same money you would spend on groceries anyway but this way, the church gets a percentage of it. It is an easy and convenient way of paying for groceries. In our house, my husband or daughter will pick up things from the grocery store if I give them the card! You can also use the card in the Loblaw’s garden centre in the spring to pick up your annuals or at Christmas to buy your tree!

Thanks must be extended to the sales team who have so conscientiously carried out their jobs. Judy Corbishley had to retire from the coffee hour team this year due to transportation issues and I would like to thank her for her dedication and the many times she did the coffee hours shift on short notice. The coffee-hour team members, as of the end of 2010, were Georgia Roberts, Coralie Sheehan, Penny Miller, and Margaret Pirnat. Margaret Pirnat also sold many gift cards in the office during the week. I wish to thank this team for their dedication to their task in this important fund-raiser for our parish.

Joy Bowerman
Dollar for Dollar Coordinator

Parish Breakfasts, Pancake Supper, and BAC Events

Breakfasts: Our four Parish Breakfasts went well again in 2010. We had cash on hand of \$14.19 at the start of the year, revenue of \$754.00, breakfast expenses of \$264.860, donation to St Mark’s of \$500.00, leaving a balance of \$3.33 at year end. A special thanks to Don Porter, Poni Howe, Donna & Les Cundell, Vaughn Barnum, and Helen McGill for their continued support, and to Sheila Pitt who does our phoning.

Pancake Supper: We ran another well attended (178 attendees) and enjoyable Pancake Supper. The total ticket sales were \$1,202.75 and leftover sales and donations of \$41.10. We had expenses of \$248.41. We donated the profit of \$995.44 to St Mark’s. Many thanks to all the workers without whom we could not do it. A good Parish event!

BAC: The Monthly Luncheons of the Diocesan BAC are held at the Army Officers’ Mess on Somerset St. They run from noon to 1:00 pm on the last Wednesday of most months. We have an average of four from St. Mark’s attend – a car pool is available. We held the Lenten Service and Luncheon for the BAC at Saint Paul University in March and it was well attended. The 15th Annual Scholarship Dinner of the BAC was held at St Mark’s on May 7, 2010 from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm. Over one-half of those who attended came from St. Mark’s. Many thanks. The proceeds from the Dinner were given as a Bursary to an Anglican postulant of the Diocese - for 2010 it was Linda Wheeler. The next Dinner will be Friday, May 6, 2011 at St. Mark’s.

Submitted by Lorne & Connie Bowerman on behalf of the Parish Breakfasts, Pancake Supper, and the BAC. (The only common element is that Lorne & Connie are involved with them all.)

Rummage Sales

We again held two very successful and enjoyable rummage sales for the year, one in the spring and one in the fall. For those who are involved, it is a lot of fun, although it is a lot of work. The May proceeds were \$1,085.48 and the September were \$935.76 for a total of \$2,021.24. A short summary of our rummage sales would be that we take in unwanted clothing and household items from parishioners, sell about one-half, and give the rest to a charity. And a good time was had by all. We were very pleased to have DD Family House take all the leftover clothing from the Rummage Sales. That is help going directly back to our community.

Submitted by Lorne & Connie Bowerman on behalf of the many Rummage Sale volunteers

Bazaar 2010

A highly successful bazaar was held on November 6, 2010, followed by a mini-bazaar on November 28. The net revenue from both of these events was \$6,290. It was a good day and one that many people worked together on.

This year saw several new ventures for the bazaar. John Topelko donated a number of fine art note cards to the church and these were sold at the Pancake Supper & Art Show as well as at the Bazaar and Mini-Bazaar with the income being credited to the Bazaar. They have been well received and we wish to thank John for this generous donation. This year as well saw the Ladies of St Mesrob Armenian Church join us at the bazaar. We enjoyed this growth in community and the new tastes available in their baking. We were also joined for the second year by Jan Sheridan from our local community who represents CanHave, a local charity making a difference in Africa.

The success of the bazaar depends on the commitment and participation of the people within the parish, both in helping to prepare for the event and in coming out to support it. The bazaar would simply not be possible without the knitters, sewers, crafters, bakers, preservers, soup makers, pie makers and sorters of second hand treasures. Also required are greeters, servers, pricers, sellers and setters up and takers down. To run a successful bazaar, almost one hundred people are involved - truly a community event and one whose revenue is necessary to help balance the books. A sincere thank you to all of those involved.

Special thanks to all of the area convenors: Attic Treasures - Janis Perkin; Baking - Penny Miller; Books - Pam Rogers Café - Georgia Roberts; Circle 2 - Marilyn Benn; Crafts - Gale Deering; Jewellery - Doreen Matweow; Knitting - Margaret Pirnat; Lion's Needleworks - Joy Bowerman; Note cards & leftover 60th memorabilia - Lorne Bowerman; Plants - Jane Delroy; Preserves - Jean Cobb; Rummage Plus - Lorne Bowerman and Toys - Margaret Blakney. As well, the ACW sold puddings and calendars.

Submitted on behalf of the Bazaar staff by Joy Bowerman, Bazaar Convenor 2010

Property Report

The property team has changed its work time to Monday mornings from 9:30 to noon, and to ensure we can work on anything, we have reserved the entire property for the period. The team consists of Lorne Bowerman, Les Cundell, and Allen Deering. We very much appreciated the help of Trevor Dee and Vaughn Barnum when the going got tough.

A major change this year was the installation of a separate line by Rogers for our phone system. It works very well. We are finally free of the old Bell lines which had many problems.

There were more concerns with the church roof and we are still suffering from the loss of shingles. The major problem is that the nails are rusting out. As well it leaked once in 2010 directly over the altar. After discussion, the Corporation decided to ask Vestry for approval to replace the roof in 2011. It was also decided to ask Vestry approval for the installation of solar panels under the Ontario Micro-FIT program where the Ontario Power Authority will buy generated electricity for 80.2 ¢/KWH for 20 years. It is an income generating addition. Lorne with the help of Trevor Dee have been working on the roof and solar panel proposals.

The two Navy Lady shrub roses given to the Church by Ruth Werbin have been planted in the north Link bed

An outside tap was installed by Lorne on the east side of the Hall near the kitchen door. Water was taken from the Fisher Ave sink in the Kitchen. We finally have water for gardens or clean-up at the front of the Church.

Another plumbing event was that the sink in the BRH Ladies' washroom started to leak in June, Allen, Les, & Lorne took the old wall mounted sink out; Lorne put in a new cabinet with sink. It was a very tough job both coming out and going in.

The water heater in the Basement furnace room stopped producing hot water. After examining a number of options, an identical electrical replacement was bought and installed by Lorne.

A constant job every week in the late summer and fall was picking up crabapples. The help that was recruited by Parish Council did not do the job. The property workers would like the tree replaced with another flowering tree that was not such a pain to look after.

The basement floor was painted with the same oil base paint we have been using. We did do the alcove near the stage and the workshop with an Epoxy garage floor finish to see if it would stand up in the basement. It still looked good at the end of the year.

We were given 70 plastic chairs from the Barrhaven Kiwanis. They are more comfortable than our wooden chairs, some of which we have had since 1954. We replaced some chair tips, cleaned them, and put them in service.

Best Start pre-school drop-in started using BRH on Tuesday and Thursday morning in late Fall. Our only problem is that we are overwhelmed with toys. We are working on a storage solution.

The property was kept in good shape by grass cutting by the cleaning contractor, Simply Cleaner. Russell Wilkins did yeoman work in keeping our trees and hedges trimmed. Connie Bowerman and Helen McGill kept the flower beds looking good, which took about one morning every week. The property team, Vaughn Barnum, and Trevor Dee tied up a lot of cedar trimmings when our cedar re-cyclers closed down. Well done to all!

Submitted by Lorne Bowerman on behalf of the property workers.

Financial Data and Statistics

Total Parish Income Data

Year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total Collections:	\$186,503	\$178,857	\$171,024	\$169,000	\$167,734
Total Gained from Assets:	\$12,860	\$14,192	\$13,656	\$12,975	\$17,991
Total Organizations:	\$13,426	\$10,857	\$11,225	\$10,546	\$12,358
Total Directed:	\$13,239	\$19,257	\$9,024	\$9,774	\$7,689

Non Directed Contributions

Giving Profile of Envelope Users

\$500 or less:	37%	36%	36%	38%	37%
\$501 to \$1000:	28%	30%	28%	23%	21%
\$1001 to \$1500:	18%	18%	13%	21%	21%
\$1501 to \$2000:	7%	6%	8%	4%	5%
over \$2000:	10%	10%	15%	14%	16%
Totals:	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Average Envelope Givings:	\$1,029.36	\$1,120.85	\$1,061.62	\$1,064.72	\$1120.03

Yearly Percentage Envelope Givings by Month

January	8.0%	8.5%	7.7%	6.7%	8.0%
February	8.1%	8.3%	7.0%	8.3%	7.7%
March	8.2%	7.4%	7.8%	8.4%	7.0%
April	9.6%	9.9%	7.4%	7.9%	7.9%
May	7.4%	8.6%	7.7%	8.9%	7.5%
June	7.8%	7.2%	7.4%	7.1%	7.0%
July	7.2%	9.1%	6.7%	6.8%	6.5%
August	7.8%	6.4%	8.1%	8.1%	6.8%
September	7.4%	9.4%	7.4%	8.6%	7.4%
October	9.7%	8.1%	7.8%	7.3%	8.9%
November	8.0%	7.6%	10.0%	9.2%	9.4%
December	10.9%	9.6%	15.0%	12.5%	15.8%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Parish Identifiable Givers of \$25.00 or more: (from Parish members)

Totals	186	181	157	159	142
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Total Envelopes Used: 196 185 167 171 147

Distribution by Contributors: Weekly - 37; Monthly - 42; PAR - 58; and non-regular givers - 10.

Over the past years, there is a gradual trend to PAR and monthly giving. Many thanks. This makes counting and accounting easier, reduces the volunteer work required, and produces fewer errors. PAR and non-regular givers do not receive offering envelopes, but they are accounted for just as though they had envelopes - in today's lingo they have "virtual envelopes".

Weekly numbers are 1-99; monthly are 100-199, PAR are 200 - 200, and non-regular are 300 -349.

Notes:

Total Collections includes Open, Envelope, Initial Offering, Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

Total Gained from Assets includes rent, all interest, and Dollar for Dollar.

Total Organizations includes ACW, Bazaar, Parish Breakfasts, Pancake Supper, Rummage Sales, Slim & Trim, and Kicked the Habit.

Total Directed includes all funds given for a purpose such as PWR, Centre 454, Flowers, Lenten, etc.

Prepared by Connie & Lorne Bowerman

Treasurer's Report

After a difficult and unpredictable financial year, our current year's income exceeded expenses by \$3,072. This would be a good time to do a short celebratory dance!. The collections income, which is our main source of income, fluctuated widely over the year. The first quarter was slightly above expected, starting out well and gradually fading. The next quarter was more or less on target. The third quarter fell behind by almost \$3,000 per month. By the end of September, our collections income was \$12,800 dollars behind what was expected. Our year to date expenses had exceeded our income by \$23,400 and we were looking at an almost \$20,000 deficit at year end unless spending could be curbed and income increased - a grim picture indeed. So we looked for ways to economize and tried to make everyone aware of our financial position. Now, all I can say is thank you. The parish very generously responded to the situation and our collections income ended up only \$1,300 below expected. Our Gain from Assets income last year was a little more than expected, due to a increase in the CTF income due to a bequest adding to the balance and a large increase in the amount of rent. The ACW contributed to general revenue and the bazaar and breakfasts brought in more than expected. This increased the income from Organizations as well.

If you look at the current year's income and expenses you will see large amounts for Other General Income (\$22,000) and Other Miscellaneous Expenses (\$22,427). These amounts are related to a further bequest received from the estate of Gladys O'Ray. A bequest of \$22,000 was received, and was then sent to the diocese and can now be found on the balance sheet under Gladys O'Ray Bequest.

At the parish council meeting in January, council voted to use the 2010 surplus to pay off the deficit from 2009 (shown in the balance sheet as an internal loan). After this, the residual funds were combined with the 60th Anniversary reserve account and the total was divided evenly between Debra-Dynes, the Ministry reserve fund and the Capital Projects reserve fund.

One of the problems with looking at church finances is the ever present obscuring overlay of directed income on budgeted expenditures. Did we really pay \$1,026 for flowers? Who authorized that? It requires careful checking to realize that yes, we really did pay \$1,026 for flowers but it was offset by directed income of \$1,820. In order to present a clearer picture of how closely we matched our budget, I have included the table below which negates the effect of directed income by subtracting the directed income from its offsetting expenditures.

	2010 Actual	2010 Budget	Over/Under	
Income				
Collections	167,734	169,000	-1,266	-0.7%
Gain from assets	17,991	13,380	4,611	34.5%
Organizations	12,358	10,220	2,138	20.9%
Other General Income	250	0	250	
Total	\$198,333	\$192,600	\$5,733	3.0%
Expenses				
Salaries	100,132	100,408	-276	-0.3%
Worship	43	2,040	-1,997	-97.9%
Parish Nursing Ministry	20,208	20,515	-307	-1.5%
Programs	841	1,870	-1,029	-55.0%
Outreach	35,075	35,046	29	0.1%
Finance	5,399	5,400	-1	0.0%
Church	30,199	30,567	-368	-1.2%
Miscellaneous	3,363	3,150	213	6.8%
Total	\$195,260	\$198,996	\$-3,736	-1.9%
Net Income	\$3,073	\$-6,396	\$9,469	

As you can see from the table above, in the income area we did not do as well as expected in the collections income and showed a 0.7% decrease from expected. This is a continuation of an ongoing downward trend. However, the decrease was offset by an increase in other areas of income. The Worship category looks like it spent (way) less than expected because offsetting directed contributions, notably for flowers. All of the flowers are paid for by Dollar for Dollar coupons. There is a possibility that some coupons were used for flowers that did not get recorded. If that is the case, the bottom line remains unaffected since income was not recorded for dollar for dollar, but likewise expenses were not recorded for flowers - it does however, make the line for worship look very strange. As you can see, our overall expenses were 2% less than expected.

The budget for this year was constructed in a similar way to last year's. All the people or organizations which spend money for the church were canvassed and asked for their needs for the coming year. A notice was put in the bulletin to make sure everyone was aware that the budget was being drawn up and any requests for expenditure should be submitted for consideration. The Financial Advisory Committee and Corporation met and considered these requests and made recommendations which were sent to Parish Council. Parish Council considered the budget at their December meeting and at their January meeting voted to present it to vestry allowing amendments when the actual figures from the diocese were received.

As you look through the budget for 2011, you will notice significant changes.

The estimate for collections income is a slight decrease from last year's amount.

Income from the Rectory Trust fund is used to offset the housing allowance. This year, the reduction is \$11,757. This varies from year to year depending on the markets and interest rates. The income from the Rectory Trust comes directly off our assessment at the diocesan offices. Because of the way the diocese presents the assessment figures, it is much easier to show the Housing Allowance and Salary assessment

with the Rectory trust income already subtracted. This amount is combined with the organist and administrator's salaries and is shown in the budget under Staff Salaries. Because ECOPS (Equalized Cost of Priestly Services) was passed at synod, the budget item Salary Equalization (under Outreach) is no longer assessed by the diocese. The cost of a rector will no longer change with the incumbent but will be based on the parish, in the same way Fair Share is based on the parish. (I do not know the funding formula or what it is based on, I simply mean that the salary is now set by the diocese).

Our contribution to the diocese can be found in the outreach category under Fair Share.

Under the category of church, you will see Projects broken down into Roof and Solar Panels, Storage Loft and Memorial Benches. The numbers for Roof and Solar Panels are estimates only, there will be a separate motion at vestry to cover these projects and set values. While a budget can offer values we think are reasonable, a motion to withdraw funds is generally set a little higher so that if there are cost overruns or difficulties, it is not necessary to call another vestry. There has been discussion on these projects elsewhere and details of the project may also be found on the web site. Under Income from Other Sources, there is an entry which lists the bequests in the CTF as the source for funding the Roof and Solar Panels. The Storage Loft is the proposal for the addition of a loft area in the alcove in Bishop Reed Hall. Our current storage space in the hall is full beyond capacity. This proposal would add an extra level of storage to accommodate our needs and our renter's needs. The funds would come out of the Capital Projects Reserve. The proposal for the memorial benches would simply add the last details to the memorial garden. The supports for the benches are there and this would add the actual places to sit. The funds would come out of the Memorials Reserve.

The budget presented this year is not a balanced budget. Like last year, we were faced with increasing expenses and decreasing income. As a way forward, to maintain or expand our level of ministry, we need to look at ways of increasing our income. While increasing our collections income would be lovely, we should also look for ways of increasing our other income. Generating income from solar panels seems to me to be an exciting opportunity. I would look at it as a way of being environmentally responsible and raising our profile in the community in a positive way, particularly among the younger generation while at the same time giving us a stable source of income. The budget does not show any income from the solar panels, but at the same time, it does not show any decrease in the income generated from the CTF funds. Given that it is impossible to tell when funds might be withdrawn or generated and what income would be added or subtracted, this was felt to be a reasonable approach.

I wish to thank the numerous organizations who made financial gifts to the church. The ACW, Bazaar, Breakfasts, Pancake Supper, Rummage, Slim & Trim and We Kicked the Habit contributed to the treasury of the church. The rental officer, Judy Corbishley, also deserves a vote of thanks for managing the rentals. Our bottom line is significantly affected by the faithful work of these people and organizations.

At the end of the year, the Financial Advisory Committee consists of Joy Bowerman, Lorne Bowerman, Judy Corbishley, Les Cundell, Allen Deering, Brian Kauk, Janis Perkin, Michael Perkin and Georgia Roberts. Thank you to Brian Darling and John Hancock who acted as auditors. A big thank you to the Envelope Secretary, Connie Bowerman for her long-standing, painstaking work in keeping track of income and to Lorne Bowerman, for his estimates of income and his work in managing PAR.

Joy Bowerman
Treasurer

Reserve Accounts Activity

	Income	Expenses	Balance
60th Anniversary			\$484.41
Item Proceeds	669.90		\$1,154.31
Affordable Housing			\$2,425.00
			\$2,425.00
Bell Project			\$10,157.44
Bell installation		11,239.29	
Donations	1,081.85		\$0.00
Capital Projects			41,707.23
Donations	144.00		
Conduit for monument		71.00	\$41,780.23
Choir Fund			1,966.71
			\$1,966.71
Choir Gowns			\$1,535.00
Gown Material		663.00	\$872.00
Key Deposits			435.69
Key deposit	10.00		\$445.69
Memorials			4,406.07
Memorials Received	8,325.34		
Concrete pad for bells		1,609.25	
Refillable candelabra candles		1,589.70	
Lectern Bible		397.64	
Sound system		20.99	\$9,113.83
Ministry			0.00
Donations	4,208.00		
Sunday school donation	1,792.22		\$6,000.22
Pastoral Care Support Fund			300.00
Donation	975.00		
Support payments		400.00	\$875.00
Rector's Discretionary			903.36
Income	2,876.96		
Disbursements		3,499.36	\$280.96
Sunday School			1,792.22
Donation to Ministry Reserve		1,792.22	\$0.00
Tree Care			900.00
			\$900.00

**St Mark's Church
 Balance Sheet**

Accrual Basis

As of December 31, 2010

	Dec 31, 10
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
TD BANK	43,720.31
Total Chequing/Savings	43,720.31
Other Current Assets	
PST Receivable	863.19
HST Receivable	341.89
Dollar for Dollar	5,952.48
GST Receivable	2,185.77
Total Other Current Assets	9,343.33
Total Current Assets	53,063.64
Other Assets	
Investments	
E Earle Bequest CTF 2623	92,087.71
Gladys O'Ray CTF 2654	51,000.00
Memorials CTF 2534	5,804.37
Rectory Trust CTF 4053	327,787.49
Capital Projects CTF 2479	8,500.00
Total Investments	485,179.57
Total Other Assets	485,179.57
TOTAL ASSETS	538,243.21
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
LOANS	
Internal Loan	-1,518.65
Total LOANS	-1,518.65
RESERVE ACCOUNT	
Ministry	6,000.22
80th Anniversary	1,154.31
Affordable Housing	2,425.00
Choir Gowns	872.00
Capital Projects	41,780.23
Choir Fund	1,966.71
Key Deposits	445.69
Memorials	9,113.83
Pastoral Care Support Fund	875.00
Rector's Discretionary	280.96
Tree Care	900.00
Total RESERVE ACCOUNT	65,813.95
Total Other Current Liabilities	64,295.30
Total Current Liabilities	64,295.30
Long Term Liabilities	
E Earle Bequest	92,087.71
Gladys O'Ray Bequest	51,000.00
Rectory Trust	327,787.49
Total Long Term Liabilities	470,875.20
Total Liabilities	535,170.50
Equity	
Net Income	3,072.71
Total Equity	3,072.71
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	538,243.21

Auditor's Report

January 31, 2011

To the Parish of Saint Mark the Evangelist
Anglican Church of Canada,
1606 Fisher Avenue, Ottawa, ON

A review of the financial records of St. Mark's has been performed for the year ending December 31, 2010. Our review was made in accordance with generally accepted standards for review engagements and accordingly consisted primarily of enquiry, analytical procedures and discussion related to information supplied to us by the Parish of St. Mark's. It is our opinion that the financial statements of St. Mark's are both accurate and reflect the financial activities during 2010.

Reviewed by:

Brian Darling



John Hancock



Budget

	2010 Actual	2010 Budget	2011 Budget
<u>Income</u>			
GENERAL			
Collections			
Open	6,831	8,000	8,000
Envelope	154,495	157,000	154,000
Special Collection	6,408	4,000	4,000
Total Collections	167,734	169,000	166,000
Gain from Assets			
Rent	8,827	6,000	6,000
Investment Income	1,494	1,000	1,000
Bank Interest		0	0
CTF Interest Paid	6,031	4,879	5,876
Dollar for Dollar	1,638	1,500	1,500
Total Gain from Assets	17,991	13,379	14,376
Organizations			
ACW	1,300		
Bazaar	6,291	5,500	5,500
Rummage	2,036	2,200	2,200
Slim & Trim	600	400	400
Pancake Supper	971	1,000	1,000
Breakfasts	500	400	500
We Kicked the Habit	660	720	720
Total Organizations	12,358	10,220	10,320
Weddings	250		
Other General Income	22,000		
Total GENERAL	220,333	192,599	190,696
INCOME FROM RESERVES			
Memorials			500
Capital Projects			1,000
CTF Bequests			130,000
Total Income from Reserves	0	0	131,500
DIRECTED			
Centre 454	700		
Cornerstone	340		
Crosstalk	25		
Debra-Dynes Family House	1,322		
Flowers	2,285		
Forward Day by Day	97		
Lenten Outreach			
Not specified	1,280		
Cornerstone	150		

	Debra-Dynes	100		
	PWR Fund	15		
	Total	1,545		
	PWR Fund	1,245		
	Other Directed Income	130		
	Total DIRECTED	7,689	0	0
	Total Income	228,022	192,599	322,196

Expense

SALARIES

	Staff	98,297	98,920	98,709
	Clergy Fill-in	1,110	1244	1244
	Organist Fill-in	725	600	600
	Total SALARIES	100,132	100,764	100,553

WORSHIP

	Service & Altar Supplies	1,302	1425	1,200
	Flowers	867		
	Hymn & Service Books	29	90	30
	Music/Junior Choir	50	150	150
	Piano/Organ	80	375	375
	Total WORSHIP	2,328	2,040	1,755

PARISH NURSING MINISTRY

	Parish Nurse Services	20,015	20,015	20,375
	Program Income			
	Program Expenses	193	500	300
	TOTAL Parish Nursing	20,208	20,515	20,675

PROGRAMS

	Christian Education	24	100	100
	Conferences & Memberships	219	325	325
	Membership	65	200	200
	New Members	144	145	
	Nursery		300	
	Pastoral Care	50	300	200
	Stewardship		350	
	Synod	339	350	350
	Total PROGRAMS	841	2,070	1,175

OUTREACH

	Centre 454	700		
	Cornerstone	1,130		
	Crosstalk	25		
	Debra-Dynes	2,062		
	Diocesan Fair Share	33,575	33,575	32,778
	PWR Fund	1,260		

Salary Equalization	1,500	1,471	
Other Outreach	130		
Total OUTREACH	40,382	35,046	32,778
FINANCE			
Bank Charges	413	500	500
Supplies	135	200	200
Insurance	4,851	4,700	4,851
Total FINANCE	5,399	5,400	5,551
CHURCH			
Cleaning Service	12,165	12,500	12,500
Operating Supplies	1,215	1,000	1,200
Electricity	4,713	5,000	5,000
Gas	6,095	7,000	7,000
Repair & Upgrade	2,069	1,000	2,300
Project - Roof		400	45,000
Project - Solar Panels			85,000
Project - Storage Loft			1,000
Project- Memorial Benches			500
Security	221	300	250
Snow Removal	1,787	1,811	2,200
Telephone	1,252	1,000	1,000
Water	683	500	700
Total CHURCH	30,199	30,511	163,650
MISCELLANEOUS			
Rector's Discretionary		200	200
Wardens' Discretionary		100	100
Office Supplies	378	500	500
Photocopying	1,117	1,300	1,300
Computer & Internet	977	800	800
Postage	494	250	250
Forward Day by Day	66		
Other Miscellaneous	22,427		
Total MISCELLANEOUS	25,460	3,150	3,150
Total Expense	224,949	199,496	329,287
Net Income	\$3,073	-\$6,897	-\$7,091

Nominations Committee

Your Nominating Committee undertook a wide consultation this year. The congregation was asked for input and a number of names were submitted. The Committee consulted and many people were approached to fill vacancies on Parish Council. We are pleased to offer the following slate for 2011:

Synod Member (2 years)	Penny Miller
Alternate Synod Member	Wanda Bowman
Member at Large (2 years)	Steve Coaker
Member at Large (1 year)	Mani P. Mani
Member at Large (1 year)	Sheila Vaudrey
Outreach	Gillian Morris
Stewardship	Michael Perkin

These people have agreed to stand for the above offices.

Judy Corbishley has offered to fill the post of Parish Council Chair

Nominating Committee for 2011/12

Les Cundell
Judy Corbishley
Betty Caughlin
Coralie Sheehan
Donna Cundell

The following names make up the balance of Parish Council:

Rector	Brian Kauk
Rector's Warden	Janis Perkin
Peoples' Warden	Allen Deering
Deputy Rector's Warden	Georgia Roberts (effective September 2011)
Deputy Peoples' Warden	Les Cundell
Synod Member elected 2010	Cynthia Greer
Synod Member Warden	Allen Deering
Alternate Synod Member Warden	Janis Perkin
Treasurer	Joy Bowerman
Membership	Cynthia Greer
Property (reporting via Jr. Warden)	Lorne Bowerman
Choir Representative	Jennie Morphew

Auditors	Brian Deering John Hancock
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Respectfully Submitted on behalf of the Nominating Committee: Judy Corbishley

Minutes of the Annual Vestry held on Sunday, February 21, 2010

ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST ANNUAL VESTRY FEBRUARY 21, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

Vestry was called to order at 11:50 a.m. The chairperson for the meeting was Rev. Brian Kauk and vestry clerk was Janis Perkin.

The meeting was opened with prayer.

APPOINTMENTS OF CORPORATION

The following people were appointed to one year terms by the Corporation:

Hall Rental Co-ordinator Judy Corbishley
Treasurer Joy Bowerman
Envelope Secretary Connie Bowerman

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL VESTRY, FEBRUARY 22, 2009

Approval was moved by Allen Deering and seconded by Judy Corbishley. *CARRIED*

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL VESTRY, APRIL 19, 2009

Approval was moved by Georgia Roberts and seconded by Judy Darling. *CARRIED*

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ELECTORAL VESTRY, JUNE 14, 2009

Approval was moved by Coralie Sheehan and seconded by Gail Stone. *CARRIED*

RECTOR'S CHARGE

Brian presented his report in the sermon time during the church service. Judy Darling requested that it be included as an addendum to the Vestry minutes. Margaret Lodge requested that the 2009 Rector's Charge also be included.

CHURCH WARDENS' REPORT

Acceptance of the Church Wardens' Report was moved by Les Cundell and seconded by Judy Corbishley. *CARRIED*

2009 FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND AUDITORS' REPORT

Joy Bowerman gave an overview of the statement and pointed out some things of interest. A new reserve account has been created called Affordable Housing and it will be filled by directed givings. These monies will cover the expenses created by the exploration of the possibility of affordable housing being built on the back area of the former rectory lot. The motion to accept the 2009 Financial statement was moved by Jenny Morphew and seconded by Wanda Bowman. *CARRIED*

2010 BUDGET

Adoption of the 2010 Budget was moved by Joy Bowerman and seconded by Margaret Blakeney. One change to the budget was the removal of the annual funds given to Debra-Dynes family House. Due to the expected deficit in the budget this was removed. Judy Darling made the request that if there were any surplus funds at the end of the year that perhaps it could be given to Debra-Dynes. Margaret Lodge asked about communication of the parish's financial needs. How would we let parishioners know? Judy Corbishley talked about stewardship which will become a focus in 2010 and pointed out that action had been ongoing since 2009. After the discussion the motion was **CARRIED**.

The following motion was also made. "If St. Mark's has a surplus at the end of the year that some of the monies be given to Debra-Dynes." Moved by Judy Darling and seconded by Marilyn Benn. **CARRIED**

ELECTION OF LENTEN ALMSGIVING OUTREACH

Joy Bowerman gave an overview of the process and its history. The projects for consideration in 2010 were:

Cornerstone

Debra-Dynes Family House

PWRDF-ACT

Due to removal of Debra-Dynes from the budget it was requested by the Treasurer that it automatically become one of the choices for Lenten Outreach in 2010. This request was approved by Vestry.

The Scrutineers for the voting were Gail Deering and Georgia Roberts and they counted the ballots. The two projects chosen were Debra-Dynes Family House and Cornerstone.

ELECTION OF LAY MEMBERS TO SYNOD

A report was presented by Coralie Sheehan. After the presentation of the procedure adopted by St. Mark's for sending members to Synod the new slate was presented. There were no nominations from the floor and so Phil Conquer moved that nominations be closed seconded by Coralie Sheehan. **CARRIED**

The roster was acclaimed.

ALL OTHER 2010 REPORTS

Acceptance of all other 2010 Church Reports was moved by Lorne Bowerman and seconded by Gail Volk. **CARRIED**

ELECTION OF AUDITORS

John Hancock and Brian Darling were nominated as Auditors, and were elected by acclamation.

MOTIONS NOT TIED TO CHANGES IN THE PROPOSED BUDGET

BELL MONUMENT

It was moved that "Vestry approve the proposal to install the Sculpture with consideration of the name by Parish Council, as presented to the congregation on January 10, 2010 to house the three bells given in memory of Dorothea Kirby."

Motion was moved by Cynthia Greer and Margaret Lodge. **CARRIED**

PROPOSAL FOR A SENIORS RESIDENCE

John MacFarlane attended Vestry as a special guest. He is the owner of the former Rectory on Normandy. He gave a presentation on the project and how it might look. John also answered a number of questions from parishioners. The following motion was presented:

“That vestry approve in principle our involvement in the proposal to redevelop the property behind 1118 Normandy Crescent, for a Seniors' residence as presented to the congregation on December 15th, 2009 “and Vestry February 21, 2010” and that Parish Council be directed to form a working group to consult with John MacFarlane, the property owner and interested partners and to bring a finished proposal back to this Vestry, with regular reports to Parish council and to the congregation.”

Moved by Marilyn Benn and Seconded by Coralie Sheehan.

A motion of amendment was made to change the word “involvement” to “interest” moved by Margaret Lodge and seconded by Margaret Blakeney.

The motion was defeated.

A friendly amendment was the addition of this vestry's date to the motion and the motion was then **CARRIED**.

APPOINTMENT OF BANK

Joy Bowerman moved that St. Mark's continue using Toronto-Dominion Trust at Emerald Plaza as the financial institution of choice. Seconded by Coralie Sheehan. **CARRIED**.

MOTIONS OF THANKS

Thanks were offered to the 60th Anniversary Committee for all of their wonderful work and parish events.

The Memorial committee was thanked for their dedicated work on the Memorial Garden and Bell Monument.

Thanks were also expressed to all who prepared Claudette Gravelle's Retirement Party.

There was a motion for the destruction of the Lenten Offering ballots made by Judy Darling and seconded by Les Cundell. **CARRIED**

A motion of adjournment was made by Judy Darling.

Respectfully submitted by *Janis, Perkin*, Vestry Clerk

March 14, 2010

Incumbent's report to Vestry, 21 February, 2010

They give you a rule of thumb at seminars for Parish clergy and in the literature: until you have done everything twice in a parish, you are still new. Or, in the words of Canon Matthew Borden, known to many here and especially to the volunteers and residents at the Perley-Rideau: "In your first year, Brian, you're the new new boy. The next year you're the old new boy. The third year you're the new old boy, and then after that you're just the old boy." Compared with Fr Matt, I will always be the new new boy.

I've shared the Lenten journey with you twice, twice through Holy Week and Easter, two Electoral vestries, two fall start-ups, two Thanksgivings, Remembrance Sundays, Advents and two Christmases. And all the ins and outs, ups and downs and in-betweens.

Today is my third vestry at St Mark's, and I'm not new anymore. St Mark's is unique. Many of you here have the shared experiences of a lifetime together. You know the dance, and you know each other as partners in the dance. I think I can now say that I have a feel for the rhythms of St Mark's, and when I join with you in that dance, I'm not always watching my feet trying not to trip over myself.

My goal in this report is to offer my perspective on the general state of the ministry of this parish and our share in the mission of the church, and to challenge us all to listen for God's call to what is coming next. I commend to you the annual Vestry report and the details therein about what has gone on this past year. As I make my report, I want to acknowledge the good work and dedication of the whole ministry team here at St Mark's. Ariane Dind makes the music that keeps our dance in motion. She seems to know exactly when to give us the old standards we all know and love, and when to show us something new. Patti Robillard, our Parish Nurse at St Mark's, has proven over and over again to be an essential part of the ministry team. On several occasions this year, the details of which are usually unknown to others, I've gone home at the end of the day saying to myself, "I could not have done my job today without Patti on the job, doing her part." Claudette Gravelle retired this year as Parish Secretary. Claudette and I worked together closely for the last two years, during which time she showed me not only how things work here, but how we can be Christ to one another in the midst of the work. Jennie Lee joined the team just six weeks ago, but already I cannot imagine the office without her. Jennie brings dedication and professional skill to the position of Parish Administrator.

Ariane, Patti, Claudette and Jennie: thank you for offering yourself in service to God's church here. Your contributions are indispensable.

I also want to recognize the contribution of the lay leaders who offer so much of their time and energy making ministry happen. You sit on the councils and committees, you work closely with each other and with the staff here. You fill in the gaps, you keep the wheels turning. We are all in debt to your dedication and service.

None of this would be possible without the faithful participation of each and every member of this parish family. Each one of you answers the call to worship, offering yourselves to be living stones in the building of God's church, and returning gifts from the abundance of God's blessings in your life, because you see God's work happening here. All of you, each and every one, from the youngest to the oldest, from the newest to the longest serving of the original 44, give shape and substance to the mission and ministry of this parish.

Looking back on 2009, I see a year of celebration and solid ministry at St Mark's, standing on the shoulders of those who have gone before us. Of particular note of course is the 60th Anniversary Celebration. We shared good food and good wine, we shared the company of old friends and former clergy. The theme for the past year has been "Celebrating Our Past: Strengthening Our Future". It seems obvious to me that over the past 60 years, God has built up in this place a strong faith and a community dedicated to the mission of the church. We have much to be thankful for; God has given us so much.

In a year of incredible financial challenge the world over, we managed well. Very well, I would maintain. We have a deficit in 2009, which I know many of you will see as less than a success. I probably don't need to remind you that this was a year when people lost jobs, when businesses went under, when investments lost value. I don't need to remind you of this, because you will know it first-hand. We all

felt the pinch this year, and still, we ended the year with only a \$1,700 deficit. On an expenditure budget of just over \$200,000, that's really impressive in an economy like this one.

What's more impressive, I think, is what we've managed to accomplish with the resources we have at hand. Worship and praise are consistently beautiful and to God's glory. We have one of the strongest music programs and best choirs in the city, and certainly we are 'punching far above our weight' compared with other churches of our size. We have managed to preserve something here that others have lost.

We have extended our pastoral care program to the edge of our reach, and we are leading in this area. I received a call some weeks ago asking about Parish Nursing, and was able to offer the experience of our Parish that has benefitted from over five years of this ministry. We also have the ability to respond to immediate circumstances with compassion, grace and real helping hands. Individuals in this parish are being carried by circles of support. Without the ministry of the church, they would be isolated, alone, or worse. I would like to offer a bit of a plug here: if you have any skills, desire or even just a warm heart, we really need your energy in the friendly visiting program. It all starts there for us, with a simple connection between one parishioner and another. It's the kind of ministry almost anyone can do.

In some ways, I think we struggle with Christian education. It's the area in which we put the fewest resources. But it's also an area in which we have experienced extreme decline over the past decades. I believe we are meeting the needs and engaging the spiritual life of the children who are with us with passion and creativity, and I could not ask this parish for anything more at this time, except perhaps an adult bible study. I think that would be a good place to start something new.

But outreach is going strong. We contributed over \$42,000 to God's work beyond our parish in 2009. And that doesn't even take into account the outreach that happens inside the rest of our budget: the outside groups who use our space; the collaboration and networking with community groups.

I think what I'm trying to say to you is that up to now, for today, and in the near future, we are relatively strong and solid. But I think you all know that there's a great big 'but' coming.

While I don't want to get too bogged down in detail, I think we can all agree that an emerging trend has become obvious, in our parish and in the Anglican Church at large. It's a trend seen in most mainline Protestant denominations. For us, it looks like this.

Over the past 5 years, since 2005, the number of households on our Parish list has dropped by nearly 20%. While average Sunday attendance has similarly declined, it's the numbers that don't change too much that really seem to put a damper on things. Over the past 5 years, 78 burials in this parish have been met by only 13 baptisms, a 6:1 ratio that doesn't appear to be changing. You don't have to be a statistician to take those numbers, look about at the average age of this congregation, and imagine where we might be headed.

I do not want to contribute to the defeatist attitude I hear around here sometimes, but I think it's important to name this issue, and bring it into the light.

There are two ways of looking at this situation: either we are in the last years of what was a really good thing, or we are a church with a strong foundation on the cusp of something new.

Either we can sit back, pat ourselves on the back and tell each other "Good job, too bad there's nothing we can do", or we can turn the corner, see what there is to see, and find out what God has in store for us.

I hope by now you know me well enough to know which future I see, and which one I want to be a part of.

Our faith tradition tells us that the Church is the fruit which bears its seed in dying. As we say in this Lenten season, "If we have died with him, we shall live with him; if we hold firm, we shall reign with him."

Personally, I'm not afraid to be a part of a dying church. My livelihood is at stake, but I trust the one who said, "For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it" (Luke

9:24). As a Christian, death is not something I'm afraid of, and it should not be something the Church is afraid to face either. I suppose it forces us to ask ourselves what we really believe in: do we only believe in ourselves, our own power and strength, or do we believe in something larger than ourselves, something we can die into, and something which will call us out of death into new life, in the power of the resurrection?

I won't pretend to know what is around the next corner, and I cannot tell what we need to do in specific terms. However, I do see some general practices that we need to become really good at over the next few years if we are going to meet the challenge of God's call to new life.

Hospitality: we must become better than good at offering welcome. We must be intentional. We must have a clear idea of what happens to an individual from the moment they come within our sphere of influence. And, we must do it with a generous heart, recognizing that some who come to be with us are looking for rest and respite before they head out again. Whether someone comes to visit or comes to stay shouldn't make a difference. All should be welcome here, in Christ's name.

Stewardship: we must make stewardship a household word in every household of this parish. We need to redeem this word from the dirty-word category, and give it fresh life. Stewardship needs to be seen as everyone's job, not just the job of a few leaders or a few keepers.

Shared Vision: we all have a vision of what the church could be like, of what is good and right and holy. We need to work with each other, beginning with a shared experience of grace, working towards a common goal. We need to hear as one body what God is calling us to do. Each one of us likely has a piece of that puzzle, but we need to put it together into a clear picture, and then we need to invest ourselves in that call, that vision of what we have to do.

I do not have any specifics to offer other than these three areas of Hospitality, Stewardship and Shared Vision. I believe that our future as a faith community depends on our ability to work together in making these three things regular practices in our common life. I believe the leaders of this parish need to find concrete ways to express these ideals as goals and objectives we can work towards. I believe myself and the other staff on the ministry team need to support this community in working towards our common goals, with inspiring worship, empowering leadership and fostering loving relationships in our community.

I believe our ability to respond to God's call in the next generation is dependent on these three practices; at least that's what my instincts are telling me at this point in time. I do not believe that St Mark's demise within another generation is a foregone conclusion. We could talk ourselves into it, but I don't think it has to be that way.

We have the time to deal with this before it becomes a true crisis, and we are well-positioned to do so. We have tremendous resources of experience and dedication in this parish, and I see no reason why we can't respond to God's call for the foreseeable future.

Minutes of the Electoral Vestry held on Sunday, June 14, 2009

ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST ELECTORAL VESTRY SUNDAY, JUNE 20, 2010

1. Fr Brian Kauk called the meeting to order at 11:35.
2. Since the recording secretary was absent, a call was made for a recording secretary. Joy Bowerman offered to record and was accepted.
3. The nominating committee for this year consisted of Coralie Sheehan (chair), Judy Corbishley, Terry Frederick, John Hancock and David Whitman.

Coralie, on behalf of the nominating committee, submitted the following slate for election:

- Member at large, two year term – Stephen Coaker
- Member at large, one year term – Wanda Bowman
- Membership, two year term – Cynthia Greer
- Deputy People's Warden (incoming) – Allen Deering

For information purposes, she also listed the members continuing in office:

- Marilyn Benn (Outreach)
- Jenny Morphew (Choir representative)
- Les Cundell (People's Warden)

Also for information purposes, she listed the synod delegates who were elected in February:

- Cynthia Greer (Member of Synod)
- Riva Lieflander (Member of Synod)
- Wanda Bowman (Alternate Member of Synod)
- Judy Corbishley (Alternate Member of Synod)

A question was raised over whether Wanda Bowman should stand for the Member at large, one year term, since she was already a member of parish council. It was decided that nominations should be called for the member at large position. Gillian Morris offered to stand for the position. Moved [Gillian Morris, Margaret Lodge]

A call was made for any other nominations from the floor. None being heard, it was moved that nominations be closed [Allen Deering, David Matthews]

4. There was a motion of thanks for those who have completed their terms of office
 - Coralie Sheehan (People's Warden)
 - Sheila Vaudrey (Member at large)
 - Roger Ratelle (Member at large)
 - David Whitman (Nominating committee)[Les Cundell, Betty Coughlin]
5. A question was raised about the composition of the nominating committee which was deferred until later.
6. The meeting was adjourned 11:55 [Coralie Sheehan, Ray Davidson]

Submitted by Joy Bowerman