

ANNUAL REPORTS TO VESTRY

FEBRUARY 28, 2016

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Parish Statistics, 2015

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Households	217	212	208	209	201	185
Average Sunday Attendance	111	106	97	*99	87	82
Total attendance on comparable Sundays			4353	4052		
Christmas	211	218	186	171	184	171
Easter	186	170	162	181	175	146
Baptized	1	6	4	6	0	2
Confirmed	0	0	0	0	0	0
Marriages	2	2	0	5	0	2
Deaths	14	11	12	10	12	13

* The calculation of Average Sunday Attendance for 2013 does not include the six Sundays that summer when services were held at St Michael and All Angels' and at St Richard's. The attendance at these services in previous years is significantly less than those held during other seasons of the year. This calculation does include the three Sunday when the other churches worshipped along with St Mark's, yielding a much higher than normal attendance. The net effect of these irregularities is to make the calculated average higher than it would have been had we not engaged in joint worship. This might mistakenly lead to the impression that attendance increased in 2013, which is not really the case. The total attendance at services on the 42 Sundays in 2012 and 2013 that can be directly compared is provided as another means of representing what happened in 2013.

Deaths

Marion Dick
Gordon Campbell
Jan Adams
Konard Hoyme
Louise McDonnell
Gerald Pitt
Grace Dean
Walter Crawford
Lorne Bowerman
John Trant
Jean Deachman
Margaret Mosher
Eunice Clarke

Baptized

Daniel Anderson
(Daniel) Kelly Woods

Married

Stella Menjura & Howard Smithson
Georgia Roberts & Russell Wilkins

Lay Assistants at Communion

Audia Barnett	Sheila Pitt
Joy Bowerman	Georgia Roberts
Les Cundell	Robert Stocks
Jenny Morphew	Sharon Walter
Janis Perkin	Keith Wilkins
Michael Perkin	Brenda Zanin

Rector's report

Following a Sabbath leave, with which I began 2015, I returned to the parish on the Sunday after Easter to find the congregation happy, healthy and engaged. I am very grateful for the ministry the Reverend Joan Riding offered while I was away. Her excellent pastoral care of the congregation allowed me the opportunity to rest and recharge my batteries. My thanks also to the wardens, staff and everyone else who made this Sabbath possible for me. I was excited to return to my usual pattern of preaching, leading worship, teaching and nurturing faith and visiting the faithful with fresh energy.

Spring unfolded at St Mark's as it does every year, with the steady stream of events we all enjoy: the Art Show, the BAC dinner (a new location this year, at St Thomas' Anglican Church, but with a great many faithful St Mark's supporters in attendance), and the Senior's Service and Lunch. Also this spring, in early June, St Mark's sponsored a workshop series called "Arts as a Part of Healing" led by the Reverend Dr. Linda Privitera. This was well attended and very well received by participants from our parish and beyond. I resumed my duties as a member of Diocesan Council and chair of the Community Ministry Committee of the Diocese, which began important work in the area of Homelessness and Affordable Housing.

The Annual Parish Picnic, an event we all look forward to, signalled the beginning of summer. The following Sunday we moved to one service at 9am, which worked very well again this year. Despite a slower pace in some ways, other conversations became much more active. It was about this time we realized we may have a problem making our budget this year. The wardens and I also had some exploratory conversations with the Ottawa Diocesan Peacemaking Centre, who facilitated conversations at Parish Council through the fall and a parish Meeting in November. I credit their ministry with moving us towards healing and a restoration of shared ministry.

The summer drew to a close with the return to 8 and 10 am worship services on the Sunday after Labour Day, the annual Parish BBQ that brings us all together. Around that time, we received a letter from St Mark and St Mary of Egypt Coptic Orthodox Church informing us they would be moving to Sunday services. We were asked to consider whether we could accommodate their need to move to Sunday worship. That conversation is ongoing, and whether or not we are able to accommodate their request, we are committed to praying for their church's well-being and continued growth, and hope to find ways we can work together on mission.

As the seasons turned this fall, I was pleased to announce the appointment of Sharon Walter as incoming deputy Rector's warden. A regular attender at the 8 am service, Sharon brings a voice to the leadership team of St Mark's that is wise, thoughtful and passionate about our church. I am pleased to see her continue on the Corporation in 2016 and assume her position as Rector's Warden, with my prayers for her ministry and for that of St Mark's.

The wedding of Georgia Roberts and Russell Wilkins was a highlight of the fall for me (I'm sure they were almost as excited as I was when the day finally arrived). Evensong that same weekend was a great

way to celebrate the memorial of Francis of Assisi, and I do hope even more members of St Mark's make the most of this opportunity whenever we are able to offer it this coming year. I had the privilege of attending Provincial Synod in October, and to carry on with Diocesan Synod at the end of that month. In November we kept Remembrance Sunday with the 72nd Scout Troup. The second Seniors' Service and Lunch we have each year was well attended and well-appreciated. Then we were into the cycle of Advent Lessons and Carols, Nine Lessons and Carols, Christmas Eve and Day, important celebrations for our parish family when it seems we all come together as much as we can, because we can.

As the new liturgical year began, an Advent appeal was launched seeking extra funds to cover the large accumulated deficit we were facing. True to form, St Marks' responded with enough money to cover the shortfall in 2015 and almost erase the deficit carried over from the previous year. It was a tremendously encouraging response, and I am very grateful to work in a parish that is willing to put up dollars to make ministry happen.

This vestry marks the end of Jane Delroy's term serving on the Corporation as People's Warden and Deputy Warden. On behalf of the parish I would like to thank God for Jane's ministry, and for everyone who serves St Mark's on the Corporation, Council and Committees that keep our parish going. A special thanks for others whose terms will end at this vestry.

I won't hide from the challenges we are facing. The ministry of St Mark's Church is at a crossroads. The deficit coming in 2016 is problematic. Our congregation is slowly getting smaller, and the losses we endured this year stung hard. But when I look back over the year we have enjoyed together, I see a parish that clearly embraces life at every opportunity. I trust that this story will continue in 2016, and that the wardens and I will be given the resources, mandate and confidence of the parish to embrace the life God would have us live together.

The Reverend Brian Kauk, Rector

Wardens' Annual Report

The two Wardens and the Rector, who make up the Corporation, as well as the Deputy Wardens and Treasurer, meet regularly to discuss operations and concerns falling under their responsibility.

Early in 2015, Penny Miller and I sought estimates from contractors to update the Church kitchen, including the replacement of the refrigerator, dishwasher, refacing the cupboard doors and replacing the door and drawer pulls, fresh paint and an upgrade of the centre island. Funds for these renovations were to come from the estate of Joan Knight bequest to St. Mark's.

However, this has been a year in which we were cascading financial challenges. In June, Parish Council asked Corporation and the newly reconstituted Financial Advisory Committee to consider ways to raise awareness within the St Mark's community about the church's unsustainable financial situation. In addition, significant capital expenditures were going to be required in this year. The boiler and furnaces had to be replaced to ensure continued viability of the buildings. That cost more than \$30,000. In addition there is the prospect in the next year or two of the organ needing to be repaired or replaced and the floor in the sanctuary to be extensively repaired. At the same time as this news, collections had declined by approximately \$10,000 over the same period last year.

The boiler in Bishop Reed Hall and three new furnaces for heating the Church and basement were replaced, depleting our Capital Reserve Fund with the balance coming from GIFT (Sustainability) and Memorials. As a result, the work to renovate the kitchen was postponed.

The Parish Nursing program will be sunsetting at the end of April 2016. There are not enough reserve funds, which have totally funded the program for the last year, for it to continue.

The facilities at St. Mark's continue to be busy with rentals. On a weekly basis; Guides, NROC play group, slim and trim and until December square dancing. The Coptic church of St Mark and St Mary of Egypt are weekly users and the Armenian and Mar Toma congregations rent the Church and Hall, approximately once a month. The Scouts use the basement for storage and hold occasional meetings in the building. Carleton Memorial Day Care rented the hall and kitchen for their summer day camp, which ran from June 29th to September 4th.

There have been many successful gatherings for the congregation in the Hall for Parish Breakfasts with occasional key speakers, Senior's Luncheons and Celebration Dinners.

In April, we gathered to thank the Rev Joan Riding, on her last Sunday for assuming the duties of celebrant and other related pastoral activities during Father Brian's sabbatical leave, which took place from January 5- April 5, 2015. The celebration included cake, flowers, a prayer shawl as well as a song written by Brenda Zanin from the choir. Joan has returned since then both as a member of the congregation and as celebrant. For two weeks in the summer, the Rev John Stopa led our summer schedule of Service.

In September we received a letter from St. Mark & St. Mary of Egypt (SMSM) who advised that they were entering a new phase in their growth as a congregation and church. For several years the congregation has rented Bishop Reed Hall and the church for worship and fellowship on Friday evening and Saturday during the day, as well as the church on Monday evenings for a prayer meeting. The congregation were seeking an arrangement that would permit them to worship in St Mark's on Sundays. In November a meeting with representatives of SMSM and parishioners from St. Mark's discussed this proposal. Questions were raised and groups were formed to research the answers. Work is ongoing and to date no decision has been reached by either party.

The deficit continued to grow and after consultation and much thought, it was decided that an appeal for funds would be made to mitigate the situation. During Advent a letter was sent out to all parishioners and the response reduced the projected deficit by \$23,500.00 coming in, ending the year with a relatively small deficit of just over \$3,100. We thank everyone who was able to support this initiative.

Respectfully submitted

Suzanne Wilkins, Rector's Warden

Penny Miller, People's Warden

Synod Report

Attending Synod is an opportunity to learn more about the Diocese beyond our own doors.

It can be moving, exciting, a time for reflection, learning and networking.

The first event is on the Thursday evening, a Eucharistic service at the Cathedral where the Bishop reads his address to Synod, which is recorded and can be found on the website <http://www.ottawa.anglican.ca>. It is always interesting to see the procession of the clergy in their colourful vestments. The music and hymns led by the choirs bring everyone together to begin the journey. Anyone can attend this service, not just Synod delegates.

On the Friday and Saturday mornings, after a short service, there is a guest speaker and this year it was the Rev. Canon Dr. Isaac Kawuki Musaka, African Relations Co ordinator , Global Relations for the Anglican Church of Canada. He is the African Relations Officer for the Episcopal Church as well. His

address was on "Custodians of the Faith in Secular Society" These keynote addresses can offer very different perspectives and provide talking points for discussion.

There are presentations from other parishes usually from one deanery, these can include, videos, skits, and stories of life lived in a particular place. Some of these are funny but altogether provide a picture of a region. This Synod had a presentation from the Deanery of Arnprior presented by Karen Coxon from the Parish of March and Mary-Ellen Berry, Archdeacon for the deaneries of Lanark and Arnprior. It was interesting to note that 5 incumbents serve 12 churches in the area and all of the incumbents are women. There was a video shown to us produced by John Stopa featuring the deanery.

There are also introductions of organizations within the Diocese that you may only know by name. This year one of them was from the Anglican Foundation, it was fascinating to hear how this began, with every church that could, donating \$50.00 an year to provide a fund that parishes could apply to, to access funds for major expenditures. The fund has grown over the years and has also supported outreach projects but you can only apply for funds if you have paid your \$50.00, that amount has not increased over the years.

During the session there are motions for Synod to consider and to vote on to establish the direction for the Diocese. One area that was addressed this year was the desire, to have the Diocese divest itself of Fossil Fuel Holdings in their investment portfolio, as fossil fuels are linked to the creation of climate change. The motion presented was passed unanimously. This was a direction that had been discussed at Deanery meetings, held prior to Synod, so that we were informed participants when it came time to vote.

Synod also approved an action plan set forward for Embracing God's Future related to three different priorities, Buildings and the shape of parish ministry, Engagement with the world and a charter for a Parish Ministry Institute as it applies to Lifelong Formation.

Another area of discussion was the current refugee crisis. There are over 60 million refugees worldwide. It is the biggest crisis since the Second World War. As a Sponsorship Agreement Holder, one of the largest, the Diocese is working with many parishes interested in sponsoring refugees (at the time of Synod 16 were actively involved). As well the Diocese is a resource to outside organizations.

If you have the chance to attend Synod we hope you find it as interesting as we did.

Janis Perkin, Penny Miller, Gillian Morris

Health Committee Report

The Health Committee (HC) met the fourth Wednesday of most months. In January the AED machine, ordered in late 2014, was delivered and arrangements were made to train 10 people on its use in early February. The cabinet containing the machine was installed in the link outside the nave, and Suzanne Wilkins has agreed to be the point person for oversight of the AED.

In the spring and fall a monthly coffee visit by several St Marks ladies was coordinated with Park Place for several parishioners living there. Sadly, by October these parishioners had either relocated or died so this visit was discontinued.

We received a request from Kristin Vaudrey for china tea cups so Mothers Union could host an English tea at a residence for ladies with development and/or psychiatric challenges. This was easily accomplished and it was reported the ladies were delighted.

During the year the HC hosted two luncheons for senior parishioners, one in June and one in November. Both were well attended by approximately sixty guests. A communion service welcomed everyone

followed by lunch and entertainment. A good time was had by all at both events and the HC was gratified by the appreciative comments we received.

In 2015 the HC spent time at each meeting discussing how to build a group of friendly visitors. A description of what it could include was prepared. Parishioners were invited to speak to Janet or to sign up if they were interested. It was pointed out that visiting could be done by phone or in person and Janet was prepared to train anyone interested. As there was very little response, this is still a ministry looking for participants.

At vestry 2015 we learned that the budget would not support the salary of the parish nurse but a bequest from Sheila Vaudrey would cover this expense in 2015. The HC spent time brainstorming ideas to solve this challenge. In September we talked to the people at the parish breakfast about the importance of the work of the nurse and invited ideas for funding this ministry. Unfortunately, it has become apparent as St Marks 2016 budget is developed that this ministry is no longer sustainable. The parish has been informed that our relationship with Janet must end in April.

The HC is very aware of the gift Janet Helmer has been to the people of St Marks and their families. Her caring ministry has taught, informed and comforted many. We will miss her loving kindness and we wish her well as she moves on.

Respectfully,

Judy Darling, chair Health Committee

(Janet Helmer, Georgia Roberts, Gillian Morris, Carol Dicks, Jackie Sorfleet, Jane Delroy, Margaret Lodge)

Parish Nurse Program

My healing pastoral ministry, promoting holistic health of body mind and spirit received the strong support of our Health committee, over 2015, my third year as your parish nurse. My relationship with our faith community and individual parishioners continued based in mutual trust, respect and loving compassion, following Jesus' lead as a healer.

Our seniors' bi-annual service and luncheons were held again in June and November. These opportunities for our older parishioners to come together as both a worship and social community continue to be well attended and appreciated. One of the key factors in healthy aging is keeping connected to your community and socializing with others. Efforts were made to balance the volunteer support needed to host these events with the benefits of continuing their worship and social ministry. The commitment and work of Health committee members, with support of volunteers from Circle 2 and Mother's Union, with special recognition to Georgia Robert's tireless leadership, carried these events to the successful enjoyment of all who participated.

Our Friendly Visiting /Calling program struggled into being. Few persons stepped forward to volunteer. I developed a Program Orientation and a training session was held in late Spring. Matching of Friendly visitor with parishioners has launched the program and visits ensue. The newly formed, monthly "Coffee Klatch" led by Kate Close and Cynthia Greer, was brought to a close after the volunteers outnumbered attendees (change in place of care and deaths). Margo Whitaker explored the possibility of inviting St Richards folks to such an event but they gratefully declined on the basis of their social needs already being met and time/scheduling constraints.

Our AED (Automated External Defibrillator) machine was mounted on the wall in the Link following the training session held February 9th in Bishop Reed Hall. Suzanne Wilkins has agreed to assume oversight for St Mark's. The City of Ottawa Paramedic contract for maintenance is still in limbo. Communication with the City staff continues.

My weekly contact with parishioners in support of their health concerns occurs in person, over the phone and by e-mail. Most often, it is a visit where they live (in their home, a retirement home, a nursing home or in the hospital). Increasingly, my time is being spent communicating with family members who need support when there is a perceived change or real change in the health status of a parent.

Navigating the health care system and movement from one sector to another can be a challenging, stressful time. Resource manager and systems navigator are two very important roles of the parish nurse.

Our aging parishioners experienced significant changes in their health status and care needs over the past year. It was a blessing to walk beside them and their families, some on their palliative journey.

Father Brian and I shared providing Home Communion to our members who were unable to attend Sunday service. This added a new dimension to my spiritual care which I and the parishioners found healing.

In November, I took a certification offered by Bereaved Family of Ottawa in Bereavement and Grief support. Training which will serve me as I move towards work in some capacity in Palliative care.

God's GRACE and support has been with me as I walked beside the lonely, sick and dying in our parish.

Your loving support of this Parish Nursing ministry sustained me for my three and a half years in the position.

I will miss my working relationship with St Marks and your parishioners.

God's grace and blessings

Janet Helmer, Parish Nurse

Prayer Ministries

St Mark's E-prayer

The E-prayer group had 55 members in 2014, praying by e-mail for people who requested prayers. We lost one member and gained two new members.

In 2015, over 70 E-prayers were sent out. The majority of our prayers were for the sick. We prayed for 59 people or families, for health, surgery and recovery, and we gave thanks for 9 who were 'healed'. We were saddened by the loss of 28 parishioners, or family or friends. We gave thanks for their life, and prayed for comfort for their families. We prayed for those affected by disasters and war. We prayed for their safety and for peace.

We gave prayers of thanksgiving for the birth of five babies, including a new princess, for baptism and marriage. We prayed for various stages of spiritual and daily life, including a 100th birthday.

Our prayers were not only for the church family, but for our own families and friends, and not just in Canada. Some people we only knew by name. Some prayers were with simple information and some with a lot; some with follow-up and some with none. We rejoiced and we grieved.

Over the years the E-prayer circle has worked as a conduit between pray-ers and those being prayed for. It has helped provide an instant prayer link of support and comfort when it was needed. I found out first-

hand, in December, just how this really works through the E-prayer group and those who passed on the need for prayer. The love and caring that reached Bruce and I during his sudden illness in Toronto was truly amazing, and we were literally carried on a wave of prayer.

Another aspect of the E-prayer circle is that those we pray for can use the circle to give updates on their situation and also give their thanks.

As in past years we thank those who have put their trust in us, by using the E-prayer for their own prayer requests, and we give thanks to our pray-ers who receive the E-prayer requests, and have added all these people to their own prayers,

If you want to join the E-prayer list of pray-ers, 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

Prayer & Praise Group

This group met in the church choir room each Tuesday evening (7:30 -9:00 p.m.) during the entire year of 2015, except for a month in the summer.

Membership this past year, 2015, consisted of six people, with an average attendance of five. 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. For further information call Carol at 224-0858.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Dicks

Prayer Cycle Calling Ministry

Each week one of a team of four callers contacts those people whose names are on the Parish Prayer Cycle in the bulletin 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

Prayer Shawl Ministry

We continue to make prayer shawls and pocket prayer shawls as well as baptismal shawls. Each one is knitted or crocheted with love and prayer. New shawls are blessed on the first Sunday of the month, during the 10am service.

The shawls are given to those in need of comfort and solace as well as in joy and celebration and represent the love and prayers of our church community.

I would like to thank knitters, past and present and especially Betty, Ada and Diane for their help in making this ministry possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Gillian Morris

St Mark's Ladies Guild

Financial Statement

Receipts	Bank Balance Jan 25, 2015	\$1,379.21
	Circle 2	4,000.00
	Donations	3,000.00
	Donations	360.00
		<hr/>
		\$8,739.21
Expenses	Diocesan ACW	\$500.00
	St Mark's	4,000.00
	Bank Service Charges	25.25
	Bank Balance	4,213.96
		<hr/>
		\$8,739.21

Circle 2 Ladies will be holding their 48th Art Show and Sale on April 9, 2016. Do come and see some great art. We help at funerals and the Annual Bazaar. We sell Church Calendars and send money to the Diocesan ACW for Bales for the North. We again made Christmas Puddings with the help of Mothers' Union Ladies and Bruce Lodge. We processed used Postage stamps for the Leprosy Association of Canada. The funds they make selling stamps to collectors provide funds to buy medication for leprosy patients. We are always looking for new members.

Respectfully submitted

Jacqueline Sorfleet

Treasurer

St Mark's ACW Umbrella Group

Mothers' Union Report

The Mothers' Union is a world-wide sisterhood within the Anglican Church, with 4 million members in 83 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.

St Mark's branch was re-established in 1983. We wear many hats, and provide many services, generally connected to our Aims and mandate. One of those hats is the church Membership Committee, where we help with the parish Seniors' lunches, and another is running the Nursery. Members of the MU also help at the Church Army's (Threshold Ministries) fall meeting in Ottawa, by serving the potluck and cleaning

up. We also support the Church School and Nursery whenever possible. As a group, or individually, we are very involved in the life of St. Mark's.

2015: Our year started with an Epiphany Dinner in January, at Algonquin's Restaurant International. Our monthly meetings are open to the parish, and are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month in the conference room, starting at 1:00pm. Anyone who is interested is welcome to attend. We presently have 10 active members and 2 supporting members, plus Bruce, Paul and Steve, who are acting auxiliary members and chief BBQ-ers.

One very special event MU held was a High Tea for 30 ladies of a residential care facility. Kristin Vaudrey is Executive Director, and had remarked how wonderful it would be for her 'ladies' to enjoy a traditional tea party, but they had no china cups. MU, with help from parishioners, collected about 40 china cups, and just before Easter gave Kristin's ladies their tea, and their very own cups and saucers. They came bedecked in colourful fascinators, and even learned how to raise the pinky finger when drinking tea! It was a wonderful experience.

In November we held an open meeting and lunch with special guest, and former St Mark's MU member, Leslie Worden, who showed the video "Our History, Our Hearts", the story of Anglican women, the WA and ACW, through their work in and for the church in Canada.

Outreach: Mothers' Union is not a fundraising organization, but everything that we are involved in on a social or community level, requires funds or donations in kind. We have been very fortunate at St Mark's to have the support of a very giving parish. Without this help our programs would not be as successful as they are. Some of our outreach is within the parish, with annual and even weekly events, and some reaches around the world.

- ❖ **ACW Bales for the North:** an annual project of Anglican women for over a hundred years. Parishioners provide items for the bales. MU helps sort and pack them. Circle 2 also makes a generous annual donation to the Bales to help with mailing costs, as each 40lb bale costs over \$125 to send. St Mark's bale was valued at \$2824!
- ❖ **Advent Giving Tree:** a great success again this year. We collected more gifts than ever before! We collected hats, mitts, scarves, socks, and underwear, toiletries, special seasonal foods, and small gifts. These were shared out among Hope Outreach, the Mission, Centre 454, The Well, Cornerstone, Operation Come Home, St Luke's Table and Debra-Dynes Family House.
- ❖ **Bazaar:** an afghan, made by Diane McCaul was raffled, and we ran the candle table, making \$79 for outreach. We also ran the boutique for the bazaar.
- ❖ **'Buck a book' table:** this weekly table raised \$700, including \$150 to Akany Famonjena orphanage and a day teaching centre for teens in Madagascar, \$100 to PWRDF, \$150 to the MU travel fund, \$150 to the branch travel fund, and \$150 to our special outreach, the Northern Clergy Families Fund. This project has raised \$12,250 since 2000. Jenny Morphew takes care of the table every Sunday. Many thanks Jenny.
- ❖ **Debra-Dynes:** although not directly involved in Debra-Dynes, MU does support its programs, and 2 of our members are particularly involved.
- ❖ **Diocesan Calendars:** the calendar project was completely run by St Mark's MU this year - our first. For many years it had been organized by the Diocesan ACW. We advertised, phoned and emailed, received 86 orders, ordered 3440 calendars, received, sorted, packed and delivered them. A big job, but we also did it all electronically too, so it should be easier in 2016. It has been a wonderful experience for outreach as we now know all the churches and deaneries in the Diocese, and who's who in each church too, and they know St Mark's MU. This endeavor raised over \$800 which will be sent to various outreach projects world-wide.

- ❖ **Mothering Sunday:** the 4th Sunday of Lent, and as we have for many years MU served Simnel cake and coffee and gave carnations to the ladies of the church.
- ❖ **Picnic June 28 & BBQ September 20:** these two annual events are an Omega and Alpha of the summer. Each year a new charity is chosen for each event. Some charities are local, others far reaching. This year the picnic raised \$400 for the PWRDF Nepal earthquake disaster fund. We felt very close to this as Scott Kirby (son of the parish) was actually at the foot of Everest waiting to climb when the quake hit. He and his fellow climbers were safe, but help was needed. The fall BBQ raised \$315 for the Stephen Lewis Foundation program supporting grandmothers in Africa. Over \$6000 has been raised through these fun events in the last 15 years.

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 your support that allow us to be God's hands in the neighbourhood, our city, and around the world.

May God bless you for your love and caring.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Greer, Mothers' Union Branch Leader

Membership Committee

Mothers' Union members wear many hats. One of those the past few years has been Membership.

Although MU is an active part of the committee, membership is open to anyone who would like to serve. I call upon different people for help, depending on the need.

One need was the formation of a sub group of Membership - the Parish Vitality Working Group. This was a new initiative in 2014 that became very active in 2015. It was a direct result of the Special Vestry decision in 2014 to discontinue our association with the MAP process. A group of parishioners saw the vote as a desire to keep the church alive, and the reality that if we are to survive we have to make radical adjustments to our attitude. The group is headed by Brian Harrison, whose report follows.

The aim of the Membership committee is to work with and for the people of the parish. The past few years we have produced information leaflets for the pews, including the main 'welcome' one and 'get involved' with more specific information and contact names. We also produced the "St Mark's Parish Nursing and Pastoral Care ministry". Our plan to start introducing more topic-specific and detailed leaflets is moving slower than we hoped for. Hopefully more will follow.

An obvious aim of Membership is to ensure that we know personally all the parishioners, by sight and name. We notice who is present and absent, so that if people are not in church, when they usually are, we are able to make sure they are not sick, or moving house.

We also extend this to speaking with everyone whose face we do not recognize. That way we can welcome them and encourage them to attend coffee hour.

Most years we gained or lost members equally, but now our numbers are in decline. Due to our parish being founded by returning vets in the late 40s, an increasing number of our parishioners now live in retirement homes, or some type of supported accommodation. This change of location often changes the worshipping pattern of our members. 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. Others rely on the Church Services in their care-homes. One positive part of Membership is that young

people are joining, including children. Another is seeing the pleasure enjoyed by the parishioners, when the Church School rejoin us during the church service.

As in past years, one of our unofficial roles has been to feed our parishioners. Food is a very important part of our fellowship here. Anything that involves gatherings involves food. We had some regular gatherings but added a few new ones.

- ❖ **Coffee Hour:** the most frequent and noticeable gathering is after the services on Sunday. Helen McGill (8am) and Georgia Roberts (10am) coordinate the coffee hour rosters. This allows us time to chat with each other and any visitors.
- ❖ **Advent Carol service November 29:** was followed by a potluck supper, organized by Georgia Roberts and Penny Miller, and was once more very much appreciated.
- ❖ **Nine Lessons Carol service December 20:** was followed by a soup and chili supper prepared by various members of the parish. This relaxing evening also was well attended, and much enjoyed.
- ❖ **Greet the Christ Child:** the reception after the late night Christmas Eve service is another contribution from the Membership / MU group. We keep thinking that each time will be the last, and less people will attend. This year was below the usual attendance, but most stayed long enough to sing 'We wish you a merry Christmas' at midnight, and enjoy food and fellowship.
- ❖ **Seniors' Lunches:** the past few years we offered our help to the Parish nurse, Janet Helmer, to do whatever was needed to make the twice a year seniors' luncheon a continued success. This allowed our very active older parishioners to take a well-earned rest from the kitchen, and be served instead of serving.
- ❖ **Parish Breakfasts:** these take place 4 times a year, and are organized by Brian Harrison.
- ❖ **February 22 Evensong Reception:** the Membership / Vitality group organized the reception following the evensong held to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the dedication of our church building.
- ❖ **St Mark's Patronal Lunch April 26:** this was a new project in 2015 for the Membership / Vitality group. Over 70 parishioners attended the ham and salad lunch.
- ❖ **St Mark's 60th Anniversary Dinner June 13:** this was organized by the Membership / Vitality group celebrating the building of the church.

As a Parish, we have a group of very active and hard working core members who make sure things keep going and get done, but helpers for all parish events are down each year. We are always looking for new 'hands' to share the load or to join a group.

Many hands make light work and one of the easiest ways of helping out is to join a group: coffee, nursery, altar guild, or sides- people or help set-up or clean-up from an activity, supper, bazaar, or rummage sale. The demands are not onerous, but you get to know people better, and it's a good way to get involved.

Thank you to those who have contributed in some way to the well being of St. Mark's. This is what makes our church a very welcoming place.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Greer, Membership Committee Chair

Altar Guild

The altar guild, continue their work of preparing for services in the church including for major and extra celebrations that happen throughout the year. There were four teams doing this work during 2015 but because of retirements we ended the year with three amalgamated teams, working on a roster and serving for two weeks at a time. We wash, clean, set up and tear down but also enjoy each other's company as we work "behind the scenes" to ensure that all is in place for worship. If anyone is interested in joining us and would like more information please feel free to talk to any of us, you will find us in the sanctuary and sacristy after the service.

Penny Miller

Flowers

This year we continued with the practice of only having flowers in the church if there was a dedication or it was a special service. Flowers can be requested to mark a special event; anniversary, celebration of a birth or a major birthday as well as memorials.

To request flowers and describe the specifics of the request, for the bulletin, please fill in a form, from the board in the link and return it to the office. You can either place your request on the collection plate or drop it off when the office is open. We will contact you to see if you have any preferences for the flowers or colours to be used.

Penny Miller

Choir Report

With the reinstatement of the junior choir this fall, St Mark's once again has three choirs: the regular senior choir, the junior choir and the Requiem choir. The Senior Choir sings on Sunday mornings, as well as for any additional services, including those during Lent, Holy Week and Christmas. Choir practice is on Thursday evenings, with a break for the summer months. In summer we have a pick-up choir that meets before the Sunday morning service to practice the service music and an anthem chosen on the spot, according to who is there.

Our first big project of the year was an Evensong service of thanksgiving on February 22th which marked the 60th anniversary of the dedication of the church. On March 13 Kate Greer-Close and family welcomed us to their home and hearth for a lovely choir potluck party. It was a pleasure to spend some time with Kate, Steve and young Jeremy, Madeline and Penelope. On Ash Wednesday, February 18th 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 the evening of June 26 it was Karen and Bill Barber who welcomed us into their home and garden for a potluck and barbeque in the glorious summer solstice sunshine. We gathered round their piano to sing a few favourites.

After the summer break, Thursday choir practices resumed as usual after Labour Day. We sang for another Evensong service on October 4, the Feast of St Francis, with a 13th century Italian lauda in praise of San Francesco as our introit. The service was followed by a reception in Bishop Reed Hall complete with finger foods supplied by the choir.

We sang the Remembrance Day morning service on November 8, and this year we are grateful to Nick Dyson who played the trumpet for the Last Call, Reveille and some of the hymns as well as to Don Marjerrison, who was the substitute organist.

The Advent Carol Service was on the afternoon of November 29, and was followed by a potluck supper in Bishop Reed Hall. Three weeks later, on December 20 we sang the Nine Lessons and Carols Service followed by chilli and soup. The choir sang the 10pm Christmas eve service, using the Merbecke ordinary. Thanks to former chorister Deirdre Sheehan, her partner Simon Grant as well as James Zacour, husband of choir member Michelle Zacour who joined us for some of these services. On Christmas morning our skeleton choir crew was once again augmented by harpist Susan Palmer and her bassoonist brother Christopher as well as Alyssa, one of their relatives. Chris played a lovely arrangement he had written of the Three Kings by Pieter Cornelius as a postlude, leaving congregation members riveted in their pews!

We have a several new choir members: Greta Robinson has joined the soprano section, James Kelly returned to the tenor section in September, and more recently Jerry Thompson and former junior choir member Thomas Pilson have joined the bass section. Tony and Susan Martin (bass and alto) also sing with us when they are in Ottawa.

The St Mark's Requiem choir, which includes former adult choir members, present 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. In the fall, several choir members led by Joy Bowerman provided the entertainment at the Seniors' Luncheon, with a sing-along session of favourites from the Sound of Music which was a resounding success. Many former choristers and friends of the choir joined the Requiem choir for Lorne Bowerman's funeral on November 9.

Thanks to Kate Greer Close's efforts we have a Junior Choir again, after a two year hiatus! This relatively young but enthusiastic group has five members: Madyson MacKenzie, Jeremy, Madeline and Penelope Close, and Patrick Findlay. Patrick's little sister Caitlyn comes to all the practices and will surely be a fine chorister when she's old enough! The junior choir members have been singing the first verse of the communion hymns on their own during the Sunday services, and now contribute a simple anthem as well. In fact, by Christmastime they were able to lead the 7pm Christmas Eve Eucharist service and sing two anthems. They were assisted by former junior choristers Sarah and Alex Dee as well as Ella Williamson and her cousin Jaden Williamson. Thank you to Kate, who is co-director of this choir, and to choir "parents" Carolyn Findlay and Kathy Joly. The junior choir welcomes new members; the only requirement for junior choir members is the ability to read English.

My thanks go to Carol Dicks, Don Marjerrison, and David Huddleson, who have substituted for me this year. Thank you to Margaret Lodge and Gillian Martin, our successive choir Presidents; to Joy Bowerman for leading some choir rehearsals in my stead, for help with sectionals and for occasional accompanying; to Jenny Morphew for taking care of our growing music library, for posting the hymns on the hymnboard, and for keeping our choir robes organized; to our convenor Cynthia Greer for making all those phone calls and taking care of cards when necessary; to Coralie Sheehan for keeping track of our finances; Janis Perkin for restoring books that need it; Brenda Zanin for straightening our choir robes when they don't look right on us and Bruce Lodge for leading some sectionals and for turning pages for the organ postludes. Thank you also to Fr. Brian for his support and interest in music, and to Joy Bowerman who is such a well-informed and efficient presence in the church office.

Respectfully submitted by Ariane Dind

Nursery and Sunday School

Kate has been the main teacher supported by Cynthia Greer. This year has been a year of change and growth in both helpers and children. In the winter and spring we worked with Kathy Chu, Betty Coughlin and Sylvia Groulx. Then in the fall we were very lucky to have returning and new helpers, including Isabelle Boutros, Carolyn Findlay, Katie Hartai, James Kelly and Maria Padin. Big thanks to all of our helpers as we could not offer our program without you.

We continue to refer to several on-line sites for our lesson planning, including a Virtual Church program originally designed for the diocese of Keewatin <http://churchschool.info/>, the Episcopal Church <http://episcopaldigitalnetwork.com/> and Sermons4kids <http://www.sermons4kids.com/>. In general, we follow the lectionary and church calendar and teach on the lessons read in church that week.

We begin each week in the church service for the opening hymn and prayers followed by the children's story (Father Brian, Janis Perkin). Janis' story is always a great start for our lesson! Thank you Janis.

Then we exit to the Hall where the nursery and school-aged children remain together for a prayer and song. The youngest children can go into the nursery (and be supervised) at any time but usually all of the children stay in our circle to listen to the story and then do an activity. Activities commonly include crafts, discussion, dramatic representations, songs and prayers.

Sunday school finishes in time (we try!) for the children to join the congregation for Communion. We have added a new element where Father Brian welcomes the children, who complete our community and the children enter singing (e.g. Halle Halle, Give me oil in my lamp). The children approach the altar and pray the Lord's Prayer from there, with the whole congregation. They then rejoin their families for communion. Since September we've had a junior choir so those children go up to choir at this time and remain in the church until the dismissal. Some of the younger children go back to the nursery after communion (supervised).

It is very difficult to listen to the service (over the speakers) while teaching in the Hall so we rely on the sidespeople to let us know when it is time for us to prepare to rejoin the service - thank you!

Kate regularly plans and leads Sunday school with that week's nursery helper as hands-on support. Cynthia fills in when Kate is away. Sunday school is planned for each Sunday (10AM service) and must be flexible as we can have from 2-22 children. On average there are 7-10 children, ranging in ages from 1 to 13. Overall, there have been more children attending regularly and more joining us occasionally. YAY! Sunday school roughly follows the school schedule (e.g. no organised classes during school breaks). Many children attend church with their grandparents and so are unable to attend each week.

In terms of our outreach, we continued our Sunday school card ministry - colouring and sending cards to our seniors and shut-ins at Valentine's, Easter and Christmas. We also decorated cookies (baked by parishioners) and took them to St Luke's Table as our part of St Mark's Lenten outreach. The children additionally had PWRDF collection boxes that they put money in when they were helpers at home so we sent that \$60 to PWRDF for Nepal. We again decorated cookies in Advent and delivered them to The Mission in time for their annual Christmas dinner. We sold Advent wreaths (to our parishioners and beyond!) again this year and raised \$240 which we donated to PWRDF for Burundi (\$40) and to World Vision (\$200 for stocking a clinic and immunizations). Odette will come to speak to the children about Burundi. The children were also represented at our Big Give last June, where they welcomed other children to come chalk and swing from the trees!

We enjoy offering our gifts to the parish. Last Epiphany we participated in the creche Sunday by building and displaying our (impressive!) playdough creches. We now sing every week as we re-enter and we

offer our songs in church or at church meals (e.g. pancake supper, picnic) whenever possible. We seek out the older youth to help at church events (e.g. pancake supper, bazaar and rummage sale) and at Sunday school.



Christmas was an especially busy time as we presented a pageant on Advent 4 (10 o'clock service) with 21 children. The children also lead the early (7 o'clock) service on Christmas Eve with both regular and guest choristers. Really an impressive feat as most of them had never participated in a service from start to finish! Many thanks to Cynthia for crafting, once again, a pageant based on our liturgy stories and songs, that flexibly including all children present.

I am so thankful to work with this wonderful group of young children who are growing together in their life in Christ, so lovingly supported by our whole St Mark's family.

respectfully submitted by Kate Greer-Close

Property Report

Greetings to all.

This past year I continued to be blessed with help whenever it was needed, whether it be labour or transportation related, my sincere gratitude.

Our second annual spring cleaning once again was successful. Twice we invested in having our Main windows facing Fisher Avenue as well as the fans cleaned inside our sanctuary. We helped set up for the Art show, Rummage sale and Bazaar. Our parking lot had its lines re-painted. General repairs were done throughout the church. Minor plumbing issues were addressed. Outside spotlights as well as inside were repaired/replaced when needed. The basement kitchen was cleaned out of its shelving in order to make way for the Coptic church to install their bread making machine as well as shelving unit(s). The maintenance room underwent a major clean-up as well to make things much easier to keep track of. The transition of all our furnaces to more updated ones was much needed and appreciated. Replacement of a kitchen fridge was quickly made without many noticing as well.

As I relinquish my position of Property Chairperson I give sincere thanks for all the men and women who have worked hard alongside me though out the year and I look forward to presenting a hopeful replacement for this position.

James Kelly

Pancake Supper

A great pancake supper! It was enjoyed by about 150 people including almost 30 children! Thanks to the many many helpers as well as those who came to enjoy a great community event - and brought friends too! We saw many of our St Mark's extended families as well as a significant number of 72nd Scouts families, and friends of St Mark's. The children sang a grace at 5pm to begin the evening.

The supper also raised \$850 for St Mark's. The number of attendees as well as the profits were up from 2014.

submitted by Kate Greer-Close

Sunday "Coffee Times"

Helen McGill coordinated refreshments after the 8 a.m. service. She has 8 or so faithful volunteers who prepare a great spread from September to June.

Georgia Roberts organized the 2014 roster for after the 10 o'clock Eucharist. There are presently 10 regular teams and occasionally a special group (such as Mothers' Union).

Serving refreshments is an excellent way to get to know your fellow parishioners - both those you are working with and those you are serving. If you would like to join a team or create a new one, just speak to one of us or leave a message at the office.

Our thanks go to those who are so faithful and willing to be involved in this ministry to the parish.

Respectfully submitted

Helen McGill and Georgia Roberts

Bazaar 2015

A highly successful bazaar was held on November 7, 2015, followed by a mini-bazaar on November 29. The net revenue from both of these events was \$6,816. Again this year we used the back of the church for the jewellery, Mother's Union and clothing. Downstairs we had Attic Treasures, the 25¢ Stage, Books, Toys and Rummage. It was a good day and one that many people worked together on.

We were joined for the seventh year by CanHave, a local charity making a difference in Africa. This year they had an African themed quilt to raffle.

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 - Bruce Lodge, Café - Georgia Roberts; Circle 2 - Doreen Matweow; Crafts - Edna Duke; Jewellery -

Pam Rogers; Knitting - Coralie Sheehan; Lion's Needleworks -Joy Bowerman; Preserves – Margaret Pirnat; Rummage – Paul Greer; Toys - Margaret Blakney and Vintage Linens – Pauline Adams. As well, the ACW sold puddings and calendars.

This year, I would like to particularly thank those who made my life easier during the bazaar by taking care of some of the details that I normally handle. This gave me time to spend with my family as we mourned the passing of my dad, a long-time bazaar supporter.

Submitted on behalf of the Bazaar staff by Joy Bowerman, Bazaar Convenor 2015

Parish Breakfasts

The four parish breakfasts held each year are an opportunity to bring together parishioners from the 8 o'clock and 10 o'clock services to share a meal and get to know each other better. They are also an opportunity to hear speakers who inform us on a variety of topics. At our first breakfast of 2015, in January, we welcomed our interim priest, Joan Riding, as our speaker and she kept us laughing with a description of her career as an Anglican minister. Our second breakfast, in March, featured Russell Wilkins, who used a PowerPoint presentation to provide a fascinating account of Health Inequalities in Canada. At our September breakfast, the Health Committee and Janet Helmer talked about the parish nursing ministry at St. Mark's. Finally, in November, we welcomed Riley Brockington, City Councillor, who provided insights into important issues in our community and in the broader city. Average attendance at the four breakfasts was 41 people. While the main purpose of the breakfasts is to bring parishioners together for fun and fellowship, we did have a profit of \$570 at the end of the year, which was donated to the church. I want to thank three special people who make essential contributions of their time and talents for the breakfasts: Jane Delroy, Sheila Pitt and Leanne Harrison. Finally, a big thank you to all who come to the breakfasts and make them a success.

Brian Harrison
Parish Breakfast Coordinator

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 Loblaws 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, \$50 & \$25 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 the time, we get usually get a discount of 4%. In 2015, \$1,383 was contributed to general revenues through the Dollar for Dollar program. At the end of the year, we had \$10,210 of cards on hand.

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, daughter or son will pick up things from the grocery store if I give them the card! You can also use the card in Loblaws' 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. The coffee-hour team members, as of the end of 2015, were Georgia Roberts, Coralie Sheehan, Penny Miller,

Margaret Pirnat and Ada Henwood. Gillian Morris and Grace Bryan also sold 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

Screening in Faith

What is screening? Screening involves assessing the risks involved in a particular position or ministry; finding an appropriate match between task and volunteer (or candidate for a job); providing sensitization and training, and sometimes altering the setting and arrangement of ministry delivery to minimize risks and maximize the ministry's success. (<http://www.ottawa.anglican.ca/SIF.html>)

The Screening in Faith Committee is comprised of Les Cundell, Georgia Roberts and Michael Perkin with assistance from Margaret Williamson. It continues to work on the screening process and procedures at St. Mark's.

Our records show that 1 application was made for a Police Records Check (PRC) for the year 2015. We will have to carry out 3 Police Records Checks this and will continue monitor our records for future checks.

The Ministries and positions designated as High-risk are:

-Rector (Diocesan responsibility) -Pastoral Care (Perley Visitors not included) -Church School (Head and Teachers) -Rector's Warden, Rector's Deputy Warden -Nursery (Head and Helpers) -People's Warden, People's Deputy Warden -Friendly Visitors -Instructor of Servers -Junior Choir (Leader) - Home Communion Visitors -Screening in Faith Committee (4) -Parish Administrator (not a volunteer) - Parish Nurse (not a volunteer)

Plans for 2016 include: 1) Continuing work on the Screening program – with new Police Records Checks applications/Reference Checks etc. for volunteers in High-risk ministries; 2) Notifying volunteers who need to have their records updated.

I would like to thank Michael Perkin, Georgia Roberts and Margaret Williamson for their help and guidance.

Respectfully submitted, Les Cundell

Pause Table

St. Mark's participated in the Carleton University Pause table again this year. In April we joined with St. Aidan's and hosted over 1200 students. Again in December we joined with St. Aidan's and this time were joined by St. Giles Presbyterian. Again, over 1200 students were helped through a challenging time. St. Mark's continued generosity, both financially and through volunteers, has made this two week period one of outreach and ecumenical fellowship. The students often say thank you, and bless you and "OMG you are amazing" is often heard. We look forward to participating again in 2016 at both exam periods.

Respectfully Submitted

Michael & Janis Perkin

Outreach

Over the past year the people of St. Mark's congregation have generously supported outreach requests and made a difference in our community. Thank you to everyone who contributes and assists in carrying out these projects.

To Debra Dynes Family House our church continues to give donations for their food bank, Mother's Day gift and school supplies drives, in addition to sending baby bundles and other needed items.

As well, in the late spring, St. Mark's provided the venue and helped to host the annual Debra Dynes Volunteer Appreciation supper and evening. In the fall, several members of the church assisted Debra Dynes with their very successful "Soupalicious" fundraising activity at Carleton Heights Community Centre.

For the Diocesan "Bales for the North" drive, we collected and sent items to St. Columba's to be packed for shipping north.

In May we participated in the Multi Faith Housing Initiative's Tulipathon Walk. While only two members walked, other parishioners made financial contributions to this fundraiser. Hopefully this year, on May 1, additional members of St. Mark's will increase the group to walk on behalf of our church and show our support.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Slaughter

Lenten Outreach 2016

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 2016. Please prayerfully consider the projects listed below. This year at parish council, there were 3 projects brought up for consideration. It our intention to support two of these projects. They will be selected by secret ballot at vestry.

Offering envelopes are 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

- 2008 Centre 454, The Mission
- 2009 Grandmothers to Grandmothers, St. Jude's Iqaluit
- 2010 Debra-Dynes Family House, Cornerstone
- 2011 Debra-Dynes Family House, Cornerstone
- 2012 Debra-Dynes Family House, Ancoura
- 2013 Debra-Dynes Family House, St Luke's Table
- 2014 Centre 454, St Jude's Cathedral, Iqaluit
- 2015 Diocese of Jerusalem (Princess Basma Centre), St Luke's Table

Refugees

There are about 60 million people in the world who have been displaced from their home. The Diocese of Ottawa is actively engaged in the support and ultimately sponsorship of refugees to Ottawa. Any donations would be used either as seed money to start a St. Mark's sponsorship group or would be given to another organization engaged in this kind of program.

Cornerstone Women's Shelter

Sue Garvey is seeking out donations of money to re-equip the women's shelter after the January 30th fire that affected 60 women. Due to specialized needs at the shelter cash donations are the best help for them.

Primate's World Relief and Development Fund

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) is the Anglican Church of Canada's agency for sustainable development, relief, refugees, and global justice. With the support of Anglican parishes across Canada, PWRDF makes financial and human resources available to support partners' initiatives and to promote knowledgeable actions of solidarity at home and around the world. PWRDF strives to be a part of the outreach ministry of every Canadian Anglican parish and an expression for all Anglicans of their baptismal covenant to strive for justice and peace and to respect the dignity of every human being.

Slim and Trim

Slim and Trim had another very successful year with numbers slightly down. Attendance is generally good but it varies, sometimes we are over twenty and sometimes just over ten.

We donated \$400 to the church and \$25 to the Alzheimer Society.

Thank you Gail for providing carrot cake and coffee on the last day.

Once again we would like to express our thanks to Gail Denton our instructor, and to Rose who keeps the floor clean for us.

Respectfully submitted

Jennifer M. Morpew.

72nd St Mark's Scouting Group

For more than 100 years, Scouts Canada has brought a world of adventure, outdoor experience, friendship and fun to 17 million Canada youth.

This is achieved through the organization's vision, mission, values and method.

Vision

Canadian youth making a meaningful contribution to creating a better world.

Mission

To help develop well rounded youth, better prepared for success in the world.

Values

Scouting is based on three broad Principles which represent its fundamental beliefs. These include:

- **Duty to God:** Defined as, The responsibility to adhere to spiritual principles, and thus to the religion that expresses them, and to accept the duties therefrom.



- Duty to Others: Defined as, The responsibility to one's local, national and global community members to promote peace, understanding and cooperation, through participation in the development of society, respect for the dignity of one's fellow-beings, and protection of the integrity of the natural world.
- Duty to Self: Defined as, The responsibility for the development of oneself to one's full potential physically, intellectually, spiritually and socially.

This year, we have 43 youth enrolled in our programs

- Beavers -11
- Cubs – 13
- Scouts – 15
- Venturers -4

We are providing subsidy for 5 youth in our programs.

Our Beavers have grown from a low of 2 youth over a year ago to a growing colony of 11 enthusiastic Beavers! We've have the Beavers out on hikes, to Fall Camp, and cooking school, among our many activities. Part of our Scouting program is to provide leadership opportunities to youth from our older sections, and this year we have 2 Cubs helping out with Beavers.

Cubs continue to contribute to the community. This year we've learned about organic foods and farming and the role of Veterans.

Our Scouts have had a typical active program, including camping, canoeing, and learning important outdoor skills.

All sections have also taken part in environmental activities, with our yearly fall participation in the Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup. In addition, we have supported the parish with the Remembrance Day service in November.

We would be amiss if we did not mention one of our Scouts, Gaius Stroud, who was awarded with the Silver Cross in late 2014, after helping save his family from a car crash that past summer.

The 72nd St Mark's Scouting group would like to thank our partner, St Marks Anglican Church, for the support given to us over the past year.

Stewardship

Stewardship is a way of life, and it is definitely a way of life for St. Mark's. The stewardship of our resources, our talents and our treasures is evident everywhere. Be it collecting soup labels, stamps, glasses or knitting prayer shawls, polishing brass, singing in the choir or serving in the myriad of jobs that need to be done, St. Mark's is there.

Our Stewardship initiative is in transition from Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) to our own stewardship focus. We have just started to explore what our Stewardship will be like. Articles in Mark this Word, and other stewardship initiatives are just the tip of the iceberg of what will be coming in the next year.

Our Advent campaign was extremely successful and everyone needs to be congratulated for their participation and support. Although not strictly a stewardship event it does underline the depth of generosity and graciousness found in our parish.

Look for more articles and learning opportunities on Stewardship in 2016 as we explore what God has in store for us.

Nominations Committee

Several parish council positions will be filled through an election at the Vestry meeting on February 28. The Nominations Committee has asked the congregation for input and has also approached parishioners whom they thought would be suited for the positions to be filled.

Nominations will also be called for during the Vestry meeting.

Nominations, at present, of people willing to stand are:

Incoming Deputy People's Warden	Cynthia Greer
Synod Member (2nd year of 2 year term)	Gillian Morris
Synod Member (2 years)	Janis Perkin, Jenny Morphew
Alternate Synod Member (1 year)	Heather Simpson
Membership (2nd year of 2 year term)	Margaret Lodge
Member at Large (2 years)	Kate Greer-Close
Member at Large (2nd year of 2 year term)	

The following names will make up the balance of the Parish Council after February 28:

Rector	The Reverend Brian Kauk
Rector's Warden*	Sharon Walter
Outgoing Deputy Rector's Warden*	Suzanne Wilkins
People's Warden	Penny Miller
Treasurer*	Gillian Martin
Property*	
Stewardship*	Michael Perkin
Choir Representative*	Ray Davidson

*Appointed position

The Nominations Committee for next year will be Suzanne Wilkins (chair), Sheila Pitt, Joan Grayer and Jane Delroy

Respectfully Submitted on behalf of the Nominations Committee

Jane Delroy (chair)

Financial Report

I want to start by thanking the numerous organizations who made financial gifts to the church. ACW (Circle 2), The Bazaar, Breakfasts, Pancake Supper, Slim & Trim and We Kicked the Habit contributed to the treasury of the church. The management of booking our facilities has been looked after by Allen Deering, Penny Miller and Joy Bowerman. Joy (as office administrator and treasurer-guru) has also made a significant contribution to keep the ship afloat throughout the year.

A treasurer is a member of a financial team, all of whom make a valuable contribution to the financial management of the parish. The Financial Advisory Committee consisted of Jane Delroy, Terry Frederick, Father Brian Kauk, Gillian Martin, Penny Miller, Michael Perkin, Georgia Roberts, Sharon Walter and Suzanne Wilkins. The books were audited by John Hancock and Steven Coaker. Les Cundell and his teams of counters make sure the income is recorded and deposited and Envelope Secretary Karen Roberts enters the data and double checks for accuracy and manages Pre-authorized remittance (PAR) program.

This past year has been educational and anxious at times. We ended 2014 with a deficit of -\$10,290 and decided to present a 2015 budget that was very similar to 2014, hoping that givings and other income would increase to 2013 levels. Throughout 2015 the givings remained lower than historical patterns and what had been budgeted.

St. Mark's financial situation has been top-of-mind for many this year. The Financial Advisory Committee met several times to assess the situation. Subsets of the committee prepared year-end projections and demographic reports to guide discussions within the committee and at Parish Council. These reports were also made available to the congregation.

Financial updates were given through announcements at services, inserts in the bulletins, information posted on the bulletin board, articles in Mark This Word and via email updates. We reminded and asked parishioners to sign-up for or update giving levels via the Pre-authorized remittance (PAR) program. After a request from Parish Council, a stewardship committee met and decided to send a call for action in the form of a letter as a special Advent 2015 Gift.

In the end, an appeal for Advent gifts was launched. The appeal brought in \$23,500 in special givings by the end of 2015, allowing St. Mark's to finish 2015 with a small surplus. This reduced the parish's carried deficit to -\$3,121.

Please note the following:

- Vestry voted to fund the Parish Nursing Ministry in its entirety by using the funds set aside in the Vaudrey Bequest, so the ministry didn't use any operational funds in 2015.
- The Rev. Joan Riding acted as interim priest while The Rev. Brian Kauk was on his three-month sabbatical at the beginning of 2015. With Vestry and Parish Council approval, these expenses were covered using the Ministry Reserve Fund.
- We invested a significant amount to maintain the church buildings this year. The Special Project used funds from the Capital Reserve Fund, GIFT Funds-Sustainability and the Memorials Reserve Fund, to have a new boiler system and furnaces installed at a net cost of \$30,605. Archdeacon Chris Dunn provided his approval for the project due to its substantial cost.

It is very important that you review the additional notes included in the 2016 draft budget document—they are intended to provide a clearer explanation of spending in 2015 and projected spending in 2016.

As the former treasurer has explained before (thanks Joy!), when you look at a church budget, there is always the complicating factor of directed donations. We look like we spent way more than budget on flowers for example, but really that was offset by directed donations for flowers. To remove these complicating factors, the table below shows how close we came to actual budget by subtracting the directed income. It tells us that we were close while we were budgeting. Our expenses were more than budgeted (15%), but our income was also more than budgeted (14%), thanks in large part to the Advent Gift.

	Actual - Directed	Budget	% Difference
INCOME			
Collections	136,023	157,000	-13%
Advent Gift 2015	23,500		100%
Gain from Assets	32,685	31,100	5%
Organizations	13,355	12,220	9%
Income from Reserves	56,286	29,422	91%
Total Income	261,849	229,742	14%
EXPENSES			
Salaries	120,802	119,631	1%
Worship	2,567	2,690	-5%
Parish Nurse	20,983	21,100	-1%
Programs	1,621	2,550	-36%
Outreach	38,379	35,904	7%
Finance	5,891	5,898	0%
Church	66,072	34,850	90%
Miscellaneous	3,055	3,260	-6%
Total Expenses	259,370	225,883	15%

Gillian Martin
Treasurer

Reserve Account Activity

	Income	Expenses	Balance
Capital Reserve Fund			\$16,932.12
Transfer from Brian James Bequest	\$9,316.50		\$26,248.62
Transfer from GIFT (Sustainability)	\$3,500.00		\$29,748.62
Transfer from Memorials	\$3,813.26		\$33,561.88
Donations	\$3,305.00		\$36,866.88
Boiler replacement		-\$17,664.60	\$19,202.28
Furnace replacement		-\$12,940.53	\$6,261.75
Choir Fund			\$1,650.64
Donations	\$861.99		\$2,512.63
Funeral Fees		-\$425.00	\$2,087.63
Choir Gowns			\$810.07
GIFT Funds			\$27,574.97
Transfer from Diocese	\$7,465.18		\$35,040.15
Honorarium for Arts for Healing Workshop		-\$200.00	\$34,840.15
Transfer to Capital Projects		-\$3,500.00	\$31,340.15
Joan Knight - Kitchen fund			\$0.00
Transfer in from Ministry Reserve Fund	\$19,644.00		\$19,644.00
Key Deposits			\$455.69

Memorials			\$9,253.89
Memorials Received	\$992.00		\$10,245.89
Transfer to Capital Projects		-\$3,813.26	\$6,432.63
Library		-\$82.27	\$6,350.36
Directed donation to Canadian Cancer Society		-\$11.00	\$6,339.36
Ministry			\$33,069.35
Transfer to Joan Knight - Kitchen fund		-\$19,644.00	\$13,425.35
Sabbatical Fill-in Fees		-\$4,697.00	\$8,728.35
Funeral Fees		-\$125.00	\$8,603.35
Parish Nurse			\$0.00
Donations	\$100.00		\$100.00
Transfer from Vaudrey Bequest	\$638.64		\$738.64
Pastoral Care Support Fund			\$875.00
Rector's Discretionary			\$191.63
Income	\$3,148.61		\$3,340.24
Disbursements		-\$2,386.18	\$954.06
Sunday School			\$25.00
Donations	\$45.00		\$70.00
Tree Care			\$900.00
Vaudrey Bequest - Parish Nurse			\$21,622.07
Parish Nursing Ministry		-\$20,983.43	\$638.64
Transfer to Parish Nurse Reserve Fund		-\$638.64	\$0.00

Auditors Report

Auditors' Report

February 6, 2016

To the Parish of Saint Mark the Evangelist
Anglican Church of Canada
1606 Fisher Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario K2C 1X6

A review of the financial records of St. Mark's was performed for the year ending December 31, 2015. 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 financial information supplied to us by officers of the Parish.

In our opinion, the financial statements fairly present the financial position of Saint Mark's Church at December 31, 2015 and summarize the financial activities in comparison to the budget plan for the year then ended.

Reviewed by:

Stephen Coaker



John Hancock



Balance Sheet

6:12 PM
27-01-16
Accrual BasisSt Mark's Church
Balance Sheet
As of 31 December 2015

	31 Dec 15
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Chequing/Savings	
TD BANK	52,737.08
Total Chequing/Savings	52,737.08
Other Current Assets	
Dollar for Dollar	8,243.73
HST Receivable	3,089.85
PST Receivable	6,083.84
Total Other Current Assets	17,417.42
Total Current Assets	70,154.50
Other Assets	
Investments	
Gladys O'Ray CTF 2654	29,000.00
Judy Corbishley CTF	6,000.00
Memorials CTF 2534	5,804.37
Rectory Trust CTF 4053	327,787.49
Total Investments	368,591.86
Total Other Assets	368,591.86
TOTAL ASSETS	438,746.36
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
RESERVE ACCOUNT	
Capital Projects	6,261.75
Choir Fund	2,087.63
Choir Gowns	810.07
GIFT Funds	31,340.15
Joan Knight - Kitchen	19,844.00
Key Deposits	455.89
Memorials	6,339.36
Ministry	8,603.35
Parish Nurse	738.64
Pastoral Care Support Fund	875.00
Rector's Discretionary	954.08
Sunday School	70.00
Tree Care	900.00
Total RESERVE ACCOUNT	79,079.70
Total Other Current Liabilities	79,079.70
Total Current Liabilities	79,079.70
Long Term Liabilities	
Gladys O'Ray Bequest	29,000.00
Judy Corbishley Bequest	6,000.00
Rectory Trust	327,787.49
Total Long Term Liabilities	362,787.49
Total Liabilities	441,867.19
Equity	
Internal Loan	-10,289.78
Net Income	7,168.95
Total Equity	-3,120.83
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	438,746.36

Budget 2016	2015 Budget	2015 Actual	DRAFT 2016 Budget	Notes
Income				
GENERAL				
Collections				
ADVENT 2015		\$23,500		
Envelope	145,000	126,523	125,000	
Identifiable Open		4,050		
Open	8,000	2,515	6,500	
Special Collection	4,000	2,935	2,750	
Total Collections	\$157,000	\$159,523	\$134,250	
Gain from Assets				
Bank interest		\$9		
CTF Interest Paid	\$900	\$1,191	\$900	
Dollar for Dollar	1,500	1,383	1,500	
Investment Income	1,200	1,228	1,200	(1)
User Fees	16,500	16,930	7,800	(2); (3)
Solar Power	11,000	11,944	11,000	
Total Gain from Assets	\$31,100	\$32,685	\$22,400	
Organizations				
ACW (Circle 2)	\$4,000	\$4,000		
Bazaar	6,000	6,816	6,000	
Breakfasts	300	570	500	
Pancake Supper	800	849	800	
Rummage				
Slim & Trim	400	400	400	
We Kicked the Habit	720	720	720	
Total Organizations	\$12,220	\$13,355	\$8,420	
Other General Income				
Weddings				
Total GENERAL	\$200,320	\$205,564	\$165,070	
INCOME FROM RESERVES				
Capital Projects		\$30,605	\$500	(4); (5)
GIFT	4,000	0	8,000	(6); (7)
Ministry	3,800	4,697		(8)
Vaudrey Bequest for Parish Nurse	21,622	20,983		(9)
Parish Nurse Fund			739	(10)
Total Income from Reserves	\$29,422	\$56,286	\$9,239	

	2015 Budget	2015 Actual	DRAFT 2016 Budget	Notes
DIRECTED				
Altar Guild		\$78		
Centre 454				
Church School				
Cornerstone				
Crosstalk				
Debra-Dynes Family House				
Flowers		1,345		
Forward Day by Day		126		
Lenten Outreach				
Diocese of Jerusalem		50		
Mission		247		
Not specified		855		
St Lukes		50		
Total		\$1,202		
Prayer Shawls		123		
Primate's World Relief (PWR) Fund		1,500		
Other Directed Income		315		
Total DIRECTED	\$0	\$4,690	\$0	
Total Income	\$229,742	\$266,539	\$174,309	
Expenses				
SALARIES				
Staff	\$113,731	\$114,750	\$117,829	
Clergy Fill-in	1,500	930	1,500	
Sabbatical Fill-in	3,800	4,697		
Organist Fill-in	600	425	600	
Total SALARIES	\$119,631	\$120,802	\$119,929	
WORSHIP				
Book Repairs			\$0	
Flowers		344		
Hymn & Service Books	40		40	
Music	150	575	150	
Piano/Organ	1,500	439	1,500	
Service & Altar Supplies	1,000	1,209	1,000	
Total WORSHIP	\$2,690	\$2,567	\$2,690	
PARISH NURSING MINISTRY				
Parish Nurse Services*	\$20,600	\$20,600	\$8,239	
Program Expenses	500	473	500	
Program Income		-90		
TOTAL Parish Nursing	\$21,100	\$20,983	\$8,739	(11)

	2015 Budget	2015 Actual	DRAFT 2016 Budget	Notes
PROGRAMS				
Christian Education	\$400	\$237	\$250	
Church School	200	70	100	
Conferences & Memberships	500	360	450	(12)
Membership Committee Expenses	300		150	
Nursery				
Other Projects		100		
Pastoral Care	200		0	
Prayer Shawls		79		
Publicity	400	346		
Stewardship	100		0	
Synod	450	428	450	
Total PROGRAMS	\$2,550	\$1,621	\$1,400	
OUTREACH				
Debra-Dynes		\$40	\$400	(13)
Diocese of Jerusalem		468		
Diocesan Fair Share	35,904	35,904	38,733	
Other Outreach			200	(14)
PWR Fund		1,500		
St Luke's Table		468		
Total OUTREACH	\$35,904	\$38,379	\$39,333	
FINANCE				
Bank Charges	\$500	\$360	\$400	
Insurance	5,048	5,048	5,048	
Supplies	350	483	350	
Total FINANCE	\$5,898	\$5,891	\$5,798	
CHURCH				
Cleaning Service	\$14,900	\$15,687	\$15,200	
Electricity	5,000	6,187	6,500	
Gas	5,000	5,158	5,000	
Operating Supplies	1,200	787	1,200	
Repair & Upgrade	3,300	3,006	400	
Security	250	241	250	
Snow Removal	2,400	2,096	2,400	
(Special) Projects	500	30,605	500	(15)
Telephone	1,300	1,149	1,300	
Water	1,000	1,156	1,300	
Total CHURCH	\$34,850	\$66,072	\$34,050	

	2015 Budget	2015 Actual	DRAFT 2016 Budget	Notes
MISCELLANEOUS				
Computer & Internet	\$660	\$685	\$700	
Forward Day by Day		340		(16)
Office Supplies	500	316	500	
Other Miscellaneous				
Photocopying	1,200	1,220	1,200	
Postage	600	168	300	
Rector's Hospitality	200	182	200	(17)
Wardens' Hospitality	100	144	100	(18)
Total MISCELLANEOUS	\$3,260	\$3,055	\$3,000	
Total Expense	\$225,883	\$259,369	\$214,939	
Net Income	\$3,859	\$7,169	-\$40,630	
Previous year's accumulation		-\$10,290	-\$3,121	
Accumulated surplus (deficit)		-\$3,121	-\$43,751	

Notes:

- (1) represents Sun Life planned giving annuity
- (2) formerly listed as "rent", the line item has been renamed for tax purposes
- (3) assumes 3 months rent from SMSM
- (4) 2015, includes boiler replacement in BRH and 3 new furnaces
- (5) 2016, removal of chimney
- (6) \$4,000 budgeted for 2015 deferred to 2016 as a result of Vestry's decision to use Vaudrey Bequest instead
- (7) \$8,000 in 2016 will offset cost of Parish Nursing Ministry when combined with Parish Nurse Fund
- (8) offset cost of Sabbatical Fill-in
- (9) offset Parish Nursing Ministry
- (10) with GIFT funds allocated to Parish Nursing, will offset expenses
- (11) entirely offset by income from reserves, see note (7) & (10) above
- (12) includes Royal Canadian College of Organists, Multi-faith Housing Initiative and Anglican Foundation
- (13) proposal to sponsor an event
- (14) proposal to support Open Table (Carleton) & Alzheimers awareness
- (15) offset by income from reserves, see notes (4) & (5) above
- (16) partially offset by directed income (\$125.25 in 2015)
- (17) formerly known as Rector's Discretionary, but renamed to differentiate this from the Rector's Discretionary Reserve Fund
- (18) formerly known as Wardens' Discretionary, but renamed since it is used for hospitality (flowers, cakes, etc.)

2015 Vestry Minutes

ST. MARK THE EVANGELIST ANNUAL VESTRY FEBRUARY 15, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

Vestry was called to order at 12:00 noon. The chairperson for the meeting was Rev. Chris Dunn as Rev. Brian Kauk was on Sabbath Leave.

The meeting was opened with prayer and those who had died in the last year were prayed for by name.

APPOINTMENT OF VESTRY CLERK

The motion was made to appoint Janis Perkin as vestry clerk. (Moved by Jenny Morphew seconded by Judy Darling) *CARRIED*

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL VESTRY, FEBRUARY 23, 2014

Rev. Dunn called for errors and omissions. None were forthcoming and a motion to accept was moved by Gillian Morris seconded by Carol Dicks. *CARRIED*

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL VESTRY, APRIL 6, 2014

Rev. Dunn called for errors and omissions. On page 34 of the Vestry report the name John Crew should be John Groulx. No other errors were forthcoming and a motion to accept was moved by Les Cundell seconded by Betty Caughlin. *CARRIED*

CHURCH WARDENS' REPORT

A motion of acceptance of the Wardens' Report was made by Suzanne Wilkins seconded by Diane McCaul. *CARRIED*

2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENT & AUDITOR'S REPORT

Acceptance was moved by Joy Bowerman and seconded by Lorne Bowerman. *CARRIED*

Thanks were offered to Joy Bowerman for her dedicated years of service in the role of Treasurer.

THE PRESENTATION OF 2015 BUDGET

Gillian Martin the new treasurer was unable to present the budget and so Suzanne Wilkins did it in her stead. There was one typo in the budget on page 28. The Total Expense for the 2015 Budget should read \$225,883 and not \$225, 833 as printed.

It was proposed that the Sheila Vaudrey bequest of \$21, 622.07 be used to continue the Parish Nurse Ministry in 2015. At this point Judy Darling addressed Vestry about Janet Helmer the Parish Nurse and her work and ministry to the people of St. Mark's. She put forth the challenge to St. Mark's to consider how we can afford to continue this ministry beyond 2015. She suggested that we look at partnerships with other church communities in our area and that we explore the GIFT grant program for further funding.

The following motion was then put forth:

It is moved that the monies from the Sheila Vaudrey Bequest in the amount of \$21, 622.07 be used to continue the Parish Nurse Ministry in 2015. Moved by Suzanne Wilkins seconded by Les Cundell.

CARRIED

Acceptance of the 2015 Budget was moved by Suzanne Wilkins seconded by William Knight. ***CARRIED***

BALLOT FOR LENTEN OUTREACH

Vestry was asked to consider the following projects for Lenten Outreach:

Bales for the North,
Princess Basma Center for Disabled Children in Jerusalem
St. Luke's Table

Voting was done by secret ballot.

Penny Miller and Joy Bowerman served as scrutineers who counted the votes and then reported to Vestry.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

A number of positions were filled by election at the 2015 Vestry.

Positions with more than one nominee required that they left the room during the election done by the showing and counting of hands.

Synod member (2 years)

Nominees: Jenny Morphew, William Knight, Gillian Morris

Elected: William Knight

Alternate Synod member (1 year)

Nominees: Odette Inamuco, Pam Rogers

Elected: Pam Rogers

Membership (2 years): Cynthia Greer carried

Outreach (2 years): Laurie Slaughter Carried

Member at large (2 years)

Nominees from the floor: Jenny Morphew moved by Betty Caughlin seconded Kate Greer-Close Gillian Morris moved by Penny Miller seconded Judy Darling

Elected: Gillian Morris

A motion to accept the slate as put forward by the Nominating Committee was moved by Judy Darling seconded by Les Cundell ***CARRIED***

Thanks were offered to the Nominating Committee for their work.

ALL OTHER 2014 REPORTS

Margaret Lodge made a request regarding the Synod report. She would like all of the verbal reports given on Sunday morning by Synod members to be included as well.

Carol Dicks mentioned two ministry reports that could be included. One is the Perley-Rideau Pastoral Care Team which helps with Services on Fridays. The team includes Ted Dale, Donna Cundell, Doreen Craig, Carol Dicks, Helen McGill, Sheila Pitt Jackie Sorfleet, Jan Oswald and Rev. Kauk. In the other ministry Carol Dicks teaches piano at Debra-Dynes Family House.

The lack of a Scouting report may be due to the fact that their long-time leader Don Flynn has retired.

Margaret Lodge suggested that a final Ministry Assessment Process (MAP) report should have been included.

Acceptance of all other reports was moved by Joy Bowerman and seconded by Michael Perkin.

APPOINTMENT OF BANK

Joy Bowerman moved that St. Mark's continue using TD Canada Trust at Emerald Plaza as the financial institution of choice for the coming year. Motion was seconded by Georgia Roberts. **CARRIED**

OTHER BUSINESS

The two Lenten outreach projects chosen are Princess Basma Center for Disabled Children and St. Luke's Table. There was a motion for the destruction of the Lenten Offering ballots made by Jenny Morphew and seconded by Michael Perkin. **CARRIED**

MOTIONS OF THANKS

Thanks were offered to Lorne and Connie Bowerman for their dedicated service as greeters each Sunday.

Brian Harrison offered heart-felt thanks for the support and work of the Vitality Working Group.

Thanks were offered by Ada Henwood to Kate Greer-Close for all of the work she does with the children of the parish.

Margaret Lodge offered thanks to Joy Bowerman as she continues as the interim administrator.

Jenny Morphew was thanked for preparing the book table every Sunday and how the book purchases benefit Outreach.

Thanks were offered by Brian Harrison to all of the anonymous people who offer acts of kindness in the parish.

Margaret Williamson offered thanks to Margaret Lodge for keeping the lines of communication open through Mark this Word and the E-Prayer Group.

Thanks were offered by Betty Caughlin for the blessing that is the Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Joy Bowerman expressed heart-felt thanks for the support of Connie and Lorne Bowerman through 16 years as treasurer.

We are thankful to have Joan Riding serving as our interim priest.

Joan Riding offered thanks for the warm welcome given to her by St. Mark's.

Grateful thanks were offered by Judy Darling to Rev. Chris Dunn for his support throughout the year.

A motion of adjournment was made by Judy Darling and was seconded by Will Knight at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by *Janis, Perkin*, Vestry Clerk, February 15, 2015

Addendum

Vitality Working Group

This working group was formed at the beginning of 2015 and reports to parish council through Cynthia Greer, the membership chair. The purpose of this group is “To enhance parish life, particularly through activities and events that increase the sense of being part of the St. Mark’s Community”.

The group is chaired by Brian Harrison and members of the group in 2015 were Ray Davidson, Betty Caughlin, Cynthia Greer, Kate Greer-Close, Bruce Lodge, Maria Padin, Penny Miller and Margaret Williamson. The group initiated several new parish activities:

1. Book Study During Lent

With leadership from Betty Caughlin, Eddie Chu and Jenny Morphew, a book study was started on February 25th and continued for a month. The chosen book was “Out of Solitude” by Henri Nouwen and there were many interesting discussions around the themes in this book.

2. Patronal Lunch in April

The parish celebration St Mark’s Day, with a special ham and salad lunch on April 26. Children from the Church School led the Grace. It was a wonderful turn out, a chance for our church family to get together. Over 70 parishioners attended.

3. Dinner to Celebrate 60 years of Ministry in our Building in June

A sub-group consisting of Cynthia Greer, Margaret Williamson and Brian Harrison did much of the planning for this event. The dinner was catered and tickets were sold at the reasonable cost of \$25. The June 13 event was a huge success as 100 parishioners attended and enjoyed dinner and entertainment. Terry Frederick was the Master of Ceremonies and Brenda Zanin provided an entertaining poem. Local musician Gillian Kirkland performed during the evening. Parishioners were given an opportunity to talk about their memories of St. Mark’s and some fascinating stories were shared with Cynthia reading many of them.

4. The Big Give in June

The Big Give is a city-wide project involving many churches who provide items at no cost. Kate Greer-Close took leadership for this project in our church and free food and beverages were provided. It was a great occasion to get parishioners together and serve food and beverages to those passing by the front of the church. There were lots of treats and parishioners had an opportunity both to serve our neighbours and to enjoy the fellowship of others in the parish.

5. Dinner and Movie Night

All Saints Westboro has a movie night (including dinner) once each month. Dinner and a movie costs only \$10. We are considering a similar event at St. Mark’s. As a first step, parishioners are attending the dinner and movie at All Saints. Maria Padin and Brian Harrison are the organizers of this event.

6. Parish Survey

The draft of a parish survey designed to measure current and potential participation of parishioners was developed. It is being re-developed with a focus only on potential future activities. Margaret Lodge and Brian Harrison have worked on this project.

We are grateful to all parishioners who participate in church events and help to make St. Mark’s a vibrant community.

Respectfully submitted by Brian Harrison, Vitality Working Group Chair