

“by George!”

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The “by George!” connects all parishioners through electronic or hard copy distribution. It is normally published in September, November, January, March, and May. All articles are welcome; electronic submissions are appreciated.

The “by George!” would not be possible without the assistance of many parishioners. Thanks!

Ted Cotton, Editor
Home 488 3606
Work 360 5104
tedcotton@mymts.net

MAY 2012

MOTHERS’ DAY EDITION

Can you hear me now?

What do you do when the contract expires for a service you no longer require? Many people would cancel the service and save the cost of the service ... or try to!

April 1: “Your contract expires on May 28. You will have to notify us of your intentions a month in advance or you will begin a new contract.”

April 25: “There will be a \$125 fee as you are cancelling your contract before April 28.”

April 28: “There will be a \$25 fee as you are cancelling your contract more than 30 days before the contract ends. 30 days is April 29”

April 29: “Would you like to upgrade to ... ? How would you like a \$50 resigning bonus? Could you transfer the service to a friend or relative? What can we do to save this account? Are you sure you no longer want this service?”

Only the next bill will confirm whether the service has been cancelled.

Communication is our connection with broader community; the two words even “share” similar origins. People become frustrated when the message is confusing especially if there’s some suspicion the confusion is deliberate. Are you doing your best to communicate clearly in your business and personal life?

The next edition of “by George!” will be in September. Document your experiences and gather your thoughts over the summer. Please submit your articles by the September 16th deadline.

Happy Mothers’ Day and enjoy the summer!

Ted Cotton

MARK YOUR CALENDARS WITH THESE UPCOMING DATES

Within our Parish Church of St. George, Crescentwood:

DAY	DATE	EVENT	TIME
Thurs	17-May-12	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:30 AM
Thurs	17-May-12	ASCENSION DAY SERVICE	7:30 PM
Sun	20-May-12	The Seventh Sunday of Easter Morning Prayer	10:30 AM
Mon	21-May-12	Victoria Day - Building and Office closed today	
Tue	22-May-12	PWRDF Winnipeg Meeting	7:00 PM
Tue	22-May-12	The Relevance of Paul - Adult Christian Ed.	7:30 PM
Thurs	24-May-12	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:30 AM
Sun	27-May-12	FEAST OF PENTECOST – Eucharist; Threenie Lunch	10:30 AM
Thurs	31-May-12	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:30 AM
Sun	03-Jun-12	Trinity Sunday - Eucharist	10:30 AM
Thurs	07-Jun-12	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:30 AM
Sun	10-Jun-12	The Second Sunday after Pentecost - Eucharist	10:30 AM
Tue	12-Jun-12	Worship Committee Meeting	7:30 PM
Wed	13-Jun-12	Mission & Ministry Committee Meeting	7:00 PM
Thurs	14-Jun-12	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:30 AM
Sun	17-Jun-12	The Third Sunday after Pentecost - Eucharist	10:30 AM
Wed	20-Jun-12	Parish Council Meeting	7:15 PM
Thurs	21-Jun-12	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:30 AM
Thurs	21-Jun-12	Phyllis Thomson Recital Church, Hall & Kitchen	3:00 PM
Sat	23-Jun-12	KinderSchule Graduation Party Hall, Kitchen	11:00AM
Sun	24-Jun-12	The Birth of St. John the Baptist - Eucharist Ralph Baxter presiding celebrating 50 year of Ordination	10:30 AM
Sun	01-Jul-12	Eucharist Canada Day	10:30 AM
Sun	08-Jul-12	Eucharist	10:30 AM
Sun	15-Jul-12	Eucharist	10:30 AM
Sun	22-Jul-12	Eucharist	10:30 AM
Sun	29-Jul-12	Eucharist	10:30 AM
Sun	05-Aug-12	Eucharist	10:30 AM
Mon	06-Aug-12	Civic Holiday Building & office closed today	
Sun	12-Aug-12	Eucharist	10:30 AM
Sun	19-Aug-12	Eucharist	10:30 AM
Sun	26-Aug-12	Eucharist	10:30 AM
Sun	02-Sep-12	Eucharist	10:30 AM
Mon	03-Sep-12	Labour Day - Building & office closed today	
Tues	04-Sep-12	Carpet Cleaning all over	
Wed	05-Sep-12	Carpet Cleaning all over	
Sun	09-Sep-12	Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost - Eucharist Start-Up	10:30 AM
Tue	11-Sep-12	Worship Committee Meeting	7:30 PM
Wed	12-Sep-12	Mission & Ministry Committee Meeting	7:00 PM
Sun	16-Sep-12	Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost - Eucharist	10:30 AM
Wed	19-Sep-12	Parish Council Meeting	7:15 PM

Sun	23-Sep-12	Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost - Eucharist	10:30 AM
Sun	23-Sep-12	CHORAL EVENSONG	4:00 PM
Sun	30-Sep-12	Sung Morning Prayer	10:30 AM
Sun	07-Oct-12	Feast of St. Francis - Eucharist	10:30 AM
Mon	08-Oct-12	Thanksgiving Day Building & Office closed	
Tue	09-Oct-12	Worship Committee Meeting	7:30 PM
Wed	10-Oct-12	Mission & Ministry Committee Meeting	7:00 PM
Sun	14-Oct-12	Celebrate Harvest Thanksgiving - Eucharist	10:30 AM

Visit St. George's website for the most current calendar and event information:

<http://www.stgeorges.mb.ca/>

In the Broader Community:

June 15 to 16: Sacred Circle – St. Peter's, Dynevor

June 29 to July 2: National Anglican/Lutheran Conference - Winnipeg

October 18 to 20: Diocesan Synod

Visit the Diocese of Rupert's Land website for the most current calendar and event information:

<http://www.rupertsland.ca/category/events/>



THOUGHT FOR THIS EDITION

Life is a huge canvas. There are always new experiences to add to the picture.

SABBATICAL COMMENDATION PRAYER

God our Creator, whose care and love reach to the furthestmost parts of the Earth, grant that Lyndon may be surrounded by your embrace in his time of sabbatical, learning and growing in new ways. Defend Lyndon from all dangers, and grant that we may continue to be supported by your love in the communion of your Holy Spirit, and in the fellowship of your saints; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

YOUR PARISH PRIEST WRITES ...

Love Yourself So That You Can Love Your Neighbour

As you read this I am on my sabbatical taking time to pray, read, meditate, and contemplate in order to discern where I and our church may be called to love, accept, welcome and serve in our community and beyond. The thing we often forget about loving our neighbour and loving one another is that we are to love others as much as we love ourselves. My time away on sabbatical is a time for deep self-nurture through reading, pilgrimage, reflection, meditation, contemplation, prayer, writing and learning. All of these contribute to the process of personal discernment. All of these help me to discern what part I am called to play in the church, the body of Christ, here in Crescentwood and in the world. But this is not just for me to do.

The parish survey that went out recently was asking for your wisdom and insights on the needs of our local community within and beyond our parish. We, the people of the parish of St. George the Martyr in Crescentwood, have achieved great things in the past several years locally and globally. As we look ahead to next year and beyond we need to discern what there is to do now. We continue to do great things serving school age children in some of the economically challenged areas of our city. We continue to offer support to West Broadway Community Ministries. We continue to support the Thelma Wynne Project, which helps young mothers in need. We do many things individually and as a congregation to serve those in need in our city, and our parish survey recently sent out was about gathering information about future needs in the world around us. Another part of the survey was about discerning where you feel a sense of call to serve as individuals living in our city and in our world. Where do your passions lie? What are you feeling a sense of call to do in our congregation and in our world today? This is what I am doing right now on my sabbatical and this is something that we, as followers of Jesus, are constantly called to throughout our life's journey.

This process of discernment requires spiritual nurture. Are you getting the nurture you need from our faith community? Does our worship feed you each week so that you are energized to go into the world and continue to serve and make a difference? Do you have opportunities to study and learn, on your own or with our study groups, so that you can feed your mind, body and soul? Do you have opportunities to gather with each other during the week to support each other in all the trials and tribulations and all the joys and celebrations of life so that we can be strong on our journey together? These are tough questions and the work of intentional discernment for a fulfilling life is not easy, but we must engage in this process in order to love our neighbours as we love ourselves. This

personal work of discernment helps us to get the nurturing self-care we need so that we have the energy and the will to care for our neighbour.

So over the next few months I encourage you to think about what it is you are doing to love yourself and nurture your soul. If you are not getting what you need then I encourage you to talk to each other about creating new opportunities for our congregation to offer what you need. And as we care for each other and nurture each other may we then be empowered to go out together to nurture and love our neighbours as much as we nurture and love ourselves. We are a great community of faith with wonderfully compassionate people seeking to love, accept, welcome and serve in many ways. I look forward to returning at the end of August with new energy and new openness to the needs and ideas of all of us in our community. Let's share all our ideas and passions to try new things so that we each grow, and so that our community of faith grows, and so that the whole world around us grows through the sacred life and divine love that infuses all things. AMEN.

Peace, Lyndon

Your Parish Priest in Assisi, Italy walking in the footsteps of Saints Francis and Clare.

A Message from the Bishop

To: The Parishes of the Diocese of Rupert's Land

From: The Bishop

Re: Pastoral Letter from our Primate for this Sunday – March 25.

Dear friends,

Our Primate, Archbishop Fred Hiltz has asked that the attached letter be read at worship services this Sunday. I am also asking that you read it and/or copy it into your Sunday bulletin. It is a letter encouraging individual Anglicans, Parishes and Dioceses to become Canadian Companions of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. I hope you will share with your congregations that this is a very important practical and symbolic action. On a practical level, though being the original community of Christianity, it is an impoverished diocese. The funds raised through companion memberships will be invaluable to the mission of that diocese. But in addition, the Christian presence in Jerusalem and surrounding Palestine continues to dwindle due to persecution and prejudice. Our brothers and sisters who faithfully carry on their witness in the locale of Jesus birth, life, death and resurrection, need to be supported in their ministries. (I've also asked Susan to attach two additional files for your information to be shared with any who are interested.)

I am pleased to announce that I will be taking out membership as a Companion and I hope that parishes and our individual members will do the same. Thank you for facilitating this important invitation from our Primate.

Donald Phillips, Bishop

A Pastoral Letter from the Primate

to be read on Sunday, March 25, 2012

Dear Friends in Christ,

Our Lenten journey with Jesus takes us to Jerusalem. Among the many forms of devotion used in Holy Week is The Stations of the Cross. A particularly lovely one written by John Peterson is entitled "A Walk in Jerusalem". It takes us to the very places where it is believed Jesus stopped along the Via Dolorosa, to Calvary and to our place beneath the Cross.

At the last station commemorating Jesus' body being placed in the tomb, Peterson writes, "We go finally to the small building called The Empty Tomb inside the great Church of the Holy Sepulchre, to lift our prayers... What other church, what other cathedral, what other basilica in the world hosts an Empty Tomb? None other does. Such a church is found only in Jerusalem. Our roots stem from this empty tomb... It makes us all citizens of Jerusalem - not only this earthly city but also the heavenly Jerusalem."

With Anglicans around the world we pray on Palm Sunday for all Christians living in the Holy Land and for the leaders of The Churches in their common witness to the Gospel of Christ Crucified and Risen. I especially ask your prayers for the Anglican Bishop in Jerusalem, Suheil Dawani and for his family; for the clergy and faithful in the twenty seven parishes scattered throughout Palestine and Israel, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

At the General Synod of 2010 in Halifax, Nova Scotia there was a resolution to strengthen ties between our Church and the Diocese of Jerusalem. Since then there have been a number of exciting developments, including the appointment of a Canadian, The Rev. Major John Organ as the next Chaplain to Bishop Suheil. Work has begun on the establishing of a companion relationship between Ottawa and Jerusalem.

A new venture is Canadian Companions of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. These are men and women "drawn together in common concern and support for the well being of the Church in the land of Christ's Birth, Death and Resurrection". (Terms of Reference approved by the Council of General Synod in November 2011.) They will foster knowledge of the diocese and its multiple ministries, its contextual struggles, and its abiding commitment to co-operative ecumenical initiatives for reconciliation. In consultation with Bishop Suheil, they will fund specific ministries and new initiatives in housing, health-care and education and they will explore opportunities for those who feel a call to serve as volunteers in mission. They will support actions of advocacy for lasting peace in the Holy Land.

My hope, dear friends, is that we will grow the membership of Canadian Companions of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem quickly. I am asking that we take Holy Week and The Seven Weeks of Easter as a time frame for initial response. By Pentecost, I hope every bishop will have become a Companion and that they will have encouraged their

diocese and parishes to do likewise. As parishes become members I hope individual clergy, lay leaders, and parishioners will also.

In my heart I am convinced that this companionship is of Christ's will and blessing. In every account of his appearing to the disciples after The Resurrection there is a drawing near, and a walking with, a companionship that is beautiful and abiding. May it be so for us and for our brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Jerusalem.

In Christ's love,
I am,
Sincerely yours,

Fred J. Hiltz
Archbishop and Primate

For more information on the Canadian Companions of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, their terms of reference and an application to join please visit the website at: <http://www.anglican.ca/jerusalem/companions>

Canadian Companions Of Episcopal Diocese Of Jerusalem Terms Of Reference

Who We Are

The Canadian Companions of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem is a voluntary body of members of The Anglican Church of Canada drawn together in common concern and support for the well-being of the Church in the land of Christ's birth, death and resurrection.

Purpose

To provide leadership and support for General Synod's partnership with the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, and to enable a unified national response.

Membership

Membership shall consist of individuals, parishes and dioceses with an interest in furthering the purpose of the Canadian Companions of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. Members will apply in writing to the Primate and remit an annual membership fee. The yearly fee for a diocese will be \$500, a parish \$250 and an individual \$50.

Responsibilities

- a) To foster knowledge of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem's mission, congregations and institutions, contextual struggles and present vocation in reconciliation and cooperative ecumenical initiatives.
- b) To establish and promote October 23rd, the Feast of St. James of Jerusalem, in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer as a day of particular concern, awareness, prayer and action for the Diocese of Jerusalem, and to encourage a portion of the Sunday offering to be directed through this body to specific ministries identified in the Diocese of Jerusalem.

- c) To provide information for Canadians planning travel to Israel, including the selection of itineraries, educational opportunities through St. George's College, local Anglican Churches and Sunday worship services, organizations whose mandate connects Christian pilgrims to the "living stones" of the Church and current realities, the Cathedral Guest House, and local Christian Guides.
- d) To develop and post a list of resources to enhance awareness and build bridges, including books, organizations, and web sites.
- e) To identify projects of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem where specific funding support may be directed and promoted through Resources for Mission, including voluntary mission personnel.
- f) To develop connections with General Synod standing committees, councils and boards, and the House of Bishops in the interests of network development and collaboration.
- g) To initiate and support actions of advocacy, fundraising and communication in partnership with the Office of the Primate, Global Relations, Resources for Mission and Communication and Information Resources as appropriate.
- h) To initiate fundraising and designation of grants in partnership with the Office of the Primate, Global Relations and Resources for Mission.
- i) To report annually to the Office of the Primate and Council of General Synod, and
- j) To undertake any other appropriate functions pertaining to the relationship between the Canadian Church and Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem, assigned to it by the Council of General Synod.

Administrative Practices Advisory Council

The activity of the Canadian Companions of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem shall be overseen by an Advisory Council comprised of nine members appointed by the Council of General Synod. The Primate shall be an ex officio member:

Membership

1. At least seven of the nine members shall be members of the Anglican Church of Canada;
2. At least one of the seven members shall be a member of General Synod;
3. One of the nine members shall be a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada;
4. At least one of the nine members shall be a Palestinian Anglican residing in Canada.

Officers

The Primate shall designate the Chair, Vice-chair and Secretary.

Term

Members shall serve for a three year term, except for an initial term as provided in this section. It is the intention that members will have staggered terms, and the Primate may specify the length of the initial term for a particular member as well as the term of a replacement member. Members may be reappointed but may not serve more than three consecutive terms

Expenses and Reimbursement

Members shall receive no remuneration for acting as such but may, at the discretion of the Council, be paid their reasonable expenses properly incurred in the performance of their duties.

Resignation

Members may resign in writing to the Secretary of the Advisory Council. Resignation shall be effective on the date it is received by the Secretary.

Vacancies

Vacancies on the Advisory Council will be filled by Council of General Synod appointment in accordance with Council composition cited above.

Amendments

Upon recommendation by the Advisory Council, The Terms of Reference may be amended by the Council of General Synod.

Meetings Of The Advisory Council

- a) The Advisory Council will meet at least three times each year by teleconference;
- b) A quorum shall be one-third of members of the Advisory Council, but not less than three members.
- c) Meetings of the Advisory Council may be convened by order of the Chair, the Vice-chair or by the Council at any date and time and at any place within Canada or, if a majority of the members so agree, outside Canada.
- d) Notice of any meeting of the Advisory Council is to be sent by the Secretary not less than fourteen days before the meeting is to take place. Notice may be sent by electronic means.
- e) The Advisory Council may prescribe such rules, regulations and policies not inconsistent with the Purpose and Responsibilities of the Canadian Companions of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem relating to the management and operation of the Canadian Companions of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and other matters.

Collection And Disbursement Of Funds

The Advisory Council may receive and disburse funds in keeping with the purpose of the Canadian Companions of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem and in keeping with specific initiatives identified by the Diocese of Jerusalem. The Advisory Council will keep appropriate financial records and will make an annual financial report available to members.



Membership Application for Canadian Companions

of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem

Member Information

Membership Category Individual ___ Parish ___ Diocese ___

Name

Street Address

City, Prov., Postal Code

Home Phone

Work Phone

E-Mail Address

Diocese

Parish

Interests

In which areas you are interested (Check all that apply):

___ Foster knowledge about the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem

___ Travel to Israel, Jerusalem, Palestinian Territories, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria

___ Fundraising

___ Education and Advocacy for Peace with Justice

___ Companions Networking

___ Communications

___ Other: _____

Skills and Resources

What special skills and resources e.g. local activities, ecumenical and interfaith groups, previous experience do you bring to relationship with the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem?

Signature

Name (printed)

Signature/Signatory

Date

Membership Fee Schedule

The annual Membership Fee Schedule is as follows:

Diocese \$500

Parish \$250

Individual \$ 50

Please send membership application and fee by cheque payable to *The General Synod* to:

Treasurer, General Synod

80 Hayden Street

Toronto, ON. M4Y 3G2

Thank You!

MARGARET WRITES ...

Watch for Margaret's column in the fall!

RELIEF FUND

On Tuesday April 24, you may have seen the following on the News:

“A home in the Corydon area has been gutted in a fire early Tuesday morning, with another severely damaged. Hydro crews are now on-scene dealing with gas leaks coming from both affected houses. Fire fighters arrived on scene at a two and a half storey house at the corner of McMillan Street and Daly Street North to find it completely engulfed in flames around 2 a.m. The flames then jumped to the neighbouring home. One person was taken to hospital in stable condition as a precautionary measure.

The one duplex was being rented by 3 girls on the main level and on the second and third floor to Geoffrey Owen (son of Margaret & Bill Owen) and it was Geoffrey who was taken to hospital suffering from burns to 3 fingers and smoke inhalation. He is out of the hospital now and doing fine however he has lost everything. Geoffrey is currently attending St. Luke's however was a long-time member of our Parish.

St. Luke's will be advising their parishioners and asking for any contributions to help Geoffrey and St. George's would like to help as well.

If you are able to contribute in a monetary way to help Geoffrey, please forward your cheque to St. George's indicating that it is for Fire Relief. Your contribution will be tax deductible.

If there are any residual funds they would be used to help the other victims of this fire and or sent to the Burn Relief Fund.

MISSION AND MINISTRY**Prayer Shawls**

Thank You! Marvellous Knitters! You have answered our call and need for Prayer Shawls.

We are confident that our sick and lonely will be comforted by your warmth and generosity, for the months ahead.

Thank You on behalf of Mission and Ministry for providing 23 available Shawls as of April 29th, 2012.

Gail Walker

“Breaking Down Barriers” Bus Pass Project

THANK YOU to all who have so generously supported this worthwhile project. To date \$2,570 has been contributed. Mission and Ministry Committee has given \$500 and the remainder comes from St. George’s parishioners and their families. The Thank You we received from the school for the initial \$500 contribution is posted on the Mission and Ministry bulletin board in the parish hall.

West Broadway Community Ministry

MANY THANKS to everyone who supports our covenant with West Broadway Community Ministry. On May 2nd, 39 bags of groceries were delivered to restock their emergency food cupboard and assist with their lunch program.

A Local Connection to Japan

Here is an article that appeared in the Japan Times March 10 about Second Hand, a Japanese NGO of which our daughter Cathy is Executive Director. Our folk might be interested in the content as well as the local connection. More than a generation ago Cathy grew up in Winnipeg, attended Kelvin High School ... etc. ... a local product.

Thanks,
Gordon Spafford



Cathy Hirano, director of the Second Hand charity organization, poses with workers at a shop run by the group in Takamatsu, Kagawa Prefecture. COURTESY OF SECOND HAND

Cambodia experience facilitated aid effort in the Tohoku region

Veterans at Second Hand charity had the knowhow to collect funds and goods, and to get them where they were needed. Cathy Hirano says it was "so painful to feel powerless in the face of such a huge disaster," recalling the day a year ago that the Pacific coast of Tohoku was hit by the huge earthquake and tsunami.

The feeling of helplessness is something that will likely linger among many others throughout the country, but Hirano, a ginger-haired long-term resident of Takamatsu, Kagawa Prefecture, and director of the charity Second Hand, was less powerless to help than many at that moment.

"It makes a huge difference to be able to do something," Hirano says. "I think what was really moving for me were these small acts — people coming to us at Second Hand, bringing things to send to the disaster area. You could see they were just longing to do something, you could see they thought 'Thank God, there's someone giving me a chance to help,' because it was so painful."

Second Hand, at the time, was in a unique position. Long-term work in Cambodia and a charity shop-based fundraising approach had given the organization both the knowhow to collect funds and necessities for the disaster areas, and the networks needed to get supplies to people most likely to need them.

"We started raising funds right away, because we knew that money was going to be needed. My daughter, who also volunteers for Second Hand, went out on the Sunday after, and within two hours had raised, I think, ¥150,000. To raise even ¥10,000 in an hour is pretty good, and we were stunned. She went to the train station and people so obviously wanted to do something, but they also wanted to make sure that it was going to be used well. When they saw it was Second Hand, they contributed. We were also contacting all of the NGOs and friends we knew, to find key people in the disaster area who could tell us what was needed. Within four days, we had word from an organization that we've been doing a medical project with in Cambodia. They're from Tokushima, and they had contact with a local hospital in Natori (in Miyagi Prefecture, one of the areas hardest hit by the tsunami) and were sending doctors. They were able to tell us what was needed there, and we sent out an appeal through the media and our website to gather supplies. We sent two truckloads with them. Very soon after that we were able to get in direct contact with two shelters in Ishinomaki."

"Within the month, we had sent nine shipments of more than 30 tons of supplies. And we were being referred calls from both and prefectural and the Takamatsu city government from people who wanted to donate things or volunteer or do anything that was needed. But the government wasn't prepared — and that's not a criticism, because nothing like this had ever happened — they just didn't know how to respond, so they told people to contact Second Hand. When the city government did start accepting supplies, they didn't really know how to get them up there, so they asked us for help. So we helped facilitate sending their supplies into the area."

Getting to the stage where the organization is so trusted by local governments and local people alike has been a long and complex process, both for Second Hand and for Hirano.

Born in Ontario and raised across Canada, Hirano came to Japan as a student, and upon graduation found work in Tokyo as a translator at a construction company engaged in overseas development projects.

"I worked there from 1983 to 1987, and during those years I began to see that what we were calling overseas development assistance wasn't actually helping people to develop. A lot of the money was going into the pockets of government officials in the other country, and a lot of it was coming back to Japan by employing Japanese engineers, and Japanese experts, and importing Japanese machines. It was the old style, you know. I was looking at it and thinking, 'Oh my God, this is where my tax money is going?' I decided that I wouldn't get involved in anything like that again, unless I could be sure how the money would be used."

Started organically in 1994 by local radio announcer Yasuko Nitta to do something concrete to help Cambodians, Second Hand is based on the British model, where donated goods are sold to raise money for projects overseas.

"As far as I know," Hirano says, "it was the first charity shop in Japan. At the time the Japanese idea of volunteering and charity was very narrow, in an all-or-nothing way. But because Second Hand was a charity shop, even shopping, even donating something that you don't need that someone else might want, becomes an act of volunteering because you're contributing to this cause, right? I felt the shop really raised awareness that volunteering didn't have to be hard, volunteering can be fun, volunteering can be done when you have the time, you don't have to sacrifice your family to do it, you can make it a natural part of your life."

In the following years, Second Hand's projects expanded from the initial library-stocking to the construction of schools and health facilities, the establishment of a vocational training center and the development of a model for emergency medical services, all aimed at educating and empowering Cambodians.

The charity also focused on raising awareness in Japan by taking study groups to Cambodia and bringing Cambodians to Japan. Hirano first visited Cambodia in 2003 to facilitate discussions between Second Hand and a health project in a slum district of Phnom Penh. From there, her connection with the charity grew, first as she became more seriously involved in the steering committee and then by taking on the directorship in 2007.

"We give people of all ages the opportunity to do something. And we take them to meet the people they are supporting, to experience what life is like for them and to see the impact that their volunteer work has had on these people's lives. That really empowers them. They know they can make a difference. It's the empowerment on both sides; it's the face to face. You actually get to know the people you're assisting as human beings. And when you get to know someone like that, it can really change your life, and that was, for me, quite profound.

"This sort of people-to-people style of cooperation is what really builds lasting bonds between countries. When the earthquake and tsunami happened, we got so many

messages from Cambodia, people asking if everybody was alright, or telling us that they went to the embassy and donated for the disaster victims, or took flowers, or said prayers at their temple for the people in Japan. These are people who are living on the edge, and we were all so touched, because their lives are so much more difficult than ours."

While Second Hand has been continuing to fund Cambodian projects over the last year, a portion of its sales in the months after the disaster was set aside to help the Tohoku survivors. In addition to sending supplies to shelters in Ishinomaki, the charity worked with other NGOs to launch and fund a cash-for-work project in April.

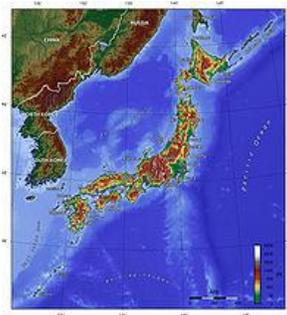
"We used the money to pay people to help clean out the homes; to help disaster victims help other disaster victims. It allowed people to stay where they were until other work was available, and I think that was really important."

Although the future is still uncertain in the worst-hit areas, it seems crucial to find a way forward. Second Hand is keen to provide opportunities to empower people.

"We're in the process of setting up a community shop. We're working with a locally based NGO to find a premise near temporary housing that will be able to provide both a shop space and a community space. Second Hand will provide the knowhow and initial inventory, as well as directly employing the manager and paying people to work there on a cash-for-work basis. They will be gaining skills, learning how to manage inventory or do whatever is involved in running the shop. The shop itself will be a charity shop, offering goods that are priced low enough that people in the community can afford them, and they'll use the funds collected for their community. It will also provide a space where people can gather."

Hirano returns to her theme: "I think again that the people connection will be what keeps this going. Big organizations move on. But the little people oriented groups, like Second Hand, are going to want to continue until they're sure that everybody is OK, or at least, back on their feet."

Skye Hohmann
Special to The Japan Times



ST. GEORGE'S ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

For everyone who carried, moved, set up, sold, bought, baked, donated, greeted, fed workers, organized, packed, cleaned, swept, vacuumed, counted, priced ...

GIVE YOURSELVES A BIG ROUND OF APPLAUSE!

Your efforts once again helped our Annual Garage Sale be outstanding and prosperous! To-date we've raised \$12 000.

A Big Thank You to Everyone who made this possible.

Your Garage Sale Committee



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

From the April 18th Parish Council meeting:

- Parish Council discussed the results of the parish survey and the need to do more research.
- Wording for a motion to the 2012 Diocesan Synod on same sex blessings was approved.
- A motion for St. George's to join the Canadian Companions of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem at an annual cost of \$250 was approved.
- The March 2012 Finance Report was discussed and is in this "by George!".
- The calendar of Diocesan events was reviewed.
- Worship reported on the possibility of a Taize Worship in the fall, the need for a Committee Chair, and ideas on the organ console and choir loft pews.
- Christian Education reported the Fergusons have agreed to continue teaching Sunday School, the need for teaching assistants, and the May Bible study about the letters of St. Paul.
- Pastoral Care reported on Communion for shut-ins being almost completed.
- Property reported on the annual building inspection, the coming low roof inspection, and further ramp design and location planning.
- The Ministry of Fun reported the annual Time and Talent event has been postponed until the fall, and will consider a Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebration.
- The Refugee Group expressed concern about upcoming federal changes in Manitoba immigration settlement services.
- Courtesies were given to the parish youth for their reading of the Passion Play on Palm Sunday.
- The next Parish Council meeting is May 16th.



FINANCE REPORT

St. George's Church – January to March 2012

	Actual 2012	Actual 2011	Budget 2012
Revenue	\$64 774.43	\$80 315.78	\$72 109.93
Expense	\$78 366.87	\$77 198.85	\$91 571.91
Net Income (Loss)	(\$13 592.44)	\$3 116.93	(\$19 461.98)

Here are the highlights:

The 2012 Net Loss to the end of March is \$13 592. This is favourable to Budget of \$19 461 but unfavourable to last year's Net Income of \$3 116. Variances of \$500 or more to Budget are:

- Interest Earned is \$4 174 unfavourable and is under review
- Identified giving (Envelopes and electronic offerings) is \$2908 unfavourable to Budget and \$3 550 unfavourable to last year
- Organ maintenance is \$1 100 favourable to Budget due to timing
- General Maintenance is \$2 626 favourable to Budget partly due to timing
- Utilities - Electricity and Natural Gas are \$805 and \$6 433 favourable to Budget partly due to timing. Natural Gas is also due to warm weather and lower rates.

While the **Net Income (Loss)** shows how we are doing this year, the **Summary Balance Sheet** shows what we have accumulated over the life of the church:

Summary Balance Sheet			
As at March 31			
	2012	2011	change
	Actual	Actual	
Current Assets (chequing, cash)	\$ 33 276.52	38 513.07	(5 236.55)
Fixed Assets (building at cost)	785 030.20	785 030.20	0
Other Assets (investments)	438 037.02	452 929.65	(14 892.63)
Total Assets	\$ 1 256 343.74	1 276 472.92	(20 129.18)
Current Liabilities (designated)	\$ 231 606.26	238 533.93	(6 927.67)
Long Term Liabilities (trusts)	7 260.26	7 260.26	0
Equity	1 017 477.22	1 030 678.73	(13 201.51)
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 1 256 343.74	1 276 472.92	(20 129.18)

The chequing account is reconciled to the end of March.

Designated Funds

Our Balance Sheet includes about 32 Designated Funds. These Funds range in size from less than \$100 to over \$100 000. The key aspect of each Fund is the money can only be spent on what the money was donated or raised for. For example, the Designated Fund – Christmas Cheer can only be used for the Christmas Cheer. Some Funds have ongoing activity and some don't.

Significant (>\$500) changes to Designated Funds in March 2012:

- \$1615 transferred from Two Bird Dinners to Mission and Ministry
- \$500 paid from Mission and Ministry to Norquay School for bus passes
- \$546 deposited to Sabbatical Provision for the quarter

If you need anything further, please let me know.

Ted Cotton

Final 2011 Audit

The Final Audit Report again shows few changes to the Preliminary Net Loss reported at the AGM. The auditors round to the nearest dollar so the numbers have minor rounding differences:

Preliminary Net Income (Loss): \$16 616

Interest (late accruals): (\$1 095)

Audited Net Income (Loss): \$15 521

Along with the unfavourable adjustment above, the auditors provided their annual entry for unrealized gains or losses on investments held at year end. For 2011, we had a \$12 011 unrealized loss on the market value of our investments held at year end. A loss was expected as the value of many investments fell in 2011. An unrealized gain (or loss) reflects what would have happened if we had sold all our investments at the end of the year. This year's unfavourable entry decreases the Net Assets on our Statement of Financial Position (or Balance Sheet).

The only other item to mention is there are new Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations effective January 2012. These are expected to have little impact on our financial statements.

Selected audited financial statements are included in this "by George!". If you have any questions, please let me know.

Ted Cotton

PARISH OF ST. GEORGE, CRESCENTWOOD

STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENDITURE AND BALANCE OF OPERATING FUND
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

	<u>Actual</u>		<u>Budget</u>	
	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
REVENUE				
Envelopes	\$ 122,058	\$ 121,924	\$ 213,000	\$ 231,936
Electronic offerings	102,472	94,646	-	-
Open plate	16,509	14,396	13,800	11,000
Initial/Designated offerings	8,993	3,045	2,800	2,000
Festival offerings	5,505	5,714	5,800	6,000
Rentals	9,783	9,448	8,960	8,760
Outreach donations	1,582	2,279	2,500	3,000
Miscellaneous income	2,077	1,919	1,955	2,935
Fund-raising	18,507	18,226	17,400	21,005
Investment income	17,901	22,480	20,030	15,940
	<u>305,387</u>	<u>294,077</u>	<u>286,245</u>	<u>302,576</u>
EXPENDITURE				
Ministry (<i>Schedule 2</i>)	82,391	81,944	83,033	80,398
Music (<i>Schedule 3</i>)	24,368	25,445	26,097	25,210
Church Maintenance (<i>Schedule 4</i>)	89,052	92,237	99,278	99,841
Program (<i>Schedule 5</i>)	7,686	7,313	9,554	10,095
Administration (<i>Schedule 6</i>)	48,064	48,864	48,491	49,232
Outreach (<i>Schedule 7</i>)	<u>38,305</u>	<u>37,280</u>	<u>39,223</u>	<u>38,000</u>
	<u>289,866</u>	<u>293,083</u>	<u>305,676</u>	<u>302,776</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE FROM OPERATIONS				
	15,521	994	\$ (19,431)	\$ (200)
Unrealized gain (loss) (<i>Note 4</i>)	<u>(12,011)</u>	<u>14,162</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENDITURE				
	3,510	15,156	<u>\$ (19,431)</u>	<u>\$ (200)</u>
BALANCE OF OPERATING FUND, beginning of year				
	<u>242,522</u>	<u>227,366</u>		
BALANCE OF OPERATING FUND, end of year				
	<u>\$ 246,032</u>	<u>\$ 242,522</u>		

PARISH OF ST. GEORGE, CRESCENTWOOD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2011

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
ASSETS		
CURRENT		
Cash and short term investments, notes 2 and 4		
Funds held for Designated funds (<i>Schedule 8</i>)	\$ 227,875	\$ 150,926
Funds held for Altar guild reserve	5,000	5,000
Funds held for Perpetual flower reserve	2,260	2,260
Funds held for Operating activities	<u>240,890</u>	<u>330,113</u>
	476,025	488,299
Accounts receivable	<u>11,602</u>	<u>2,235</u>
	487,627	490,534
PROPERTIES		
Church and parish hall, note 2	<u>785,030</u>	<u>785,030</u>
	<u>\$ 1,272,657</u>	<u>\$ 1,275,564</u>
LIABILITIES		
CURRENT		
Accounts payable	<u>\$ 6,460</u>	<u>\$ 6,859</u>
NET ASSETS		
Designated funds (<i>Note 2</i>) (<i>Schedule 8</i>)	227,875	233,893
Altar guild reserve (<i>Note 2</i>)	5,000	5,000
Perpetual flower reserve (<i>Note 2</i>)	2,260	2,260
Capital fund (<i>Note 2</i>)	785,030	785,030
Operating fund (<i>Note 2</i>)	<u>246,032</u>	<u>242,522</u>
	<u>1,266,197</u>	<u>1,268,705</u>
	<u>\$ 1,272,657</u>	<u>\$ 1,275,564</u>

CASH AND SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS				
	2011 <u>Cost</u>	2011 <u>Market</u>	2010 <u>Cost</u>	2010 <u>Market</u>
Cash	<u>\$ 36,022</u>	<u>\$ 36,022</u>	<u>\$ 44,834</u>	<u>\$ 44,834</u>
Short-term deposits				
Royal Trust G.I.C.	29,647	29,647	29,096	29,096
Canada Trust G.I.C.	-	-	29,634	29,634
TD Investment money market	<u>30,908</u>	<u>30,908</u>	<u>61,439</u>	<u>61,439</u>
	<u>60,555</u>	<u>60,555</u>	<u>120,169</u>	<u>120,169</u>
TD Investment Mortgage Fund	22,632	23,314	22,009	22,797
TD Investment Bond Fund	-	-	44,035	46,275
TD Preferred Shares	218,000	215,053	118,000	122,897
RBC Dominion Securities, portfolio investments	<u>105,493</u>	<u>141,081</u>	<u>93,917</u>	<u>131,327</u>
	<u>346,125</u>	<u>379,448</u>	<u>277,961</u>	<u>323,296</u>
	<u>\$442,702</u>	<u>\$476,025</u>	<u>\$442,964</u>	<u>\$488,299</u>

STEWARDSHIP

Planning continues for fall 2012 financial and non-financial Stewardship activities. Watch for more information about the Stewardship Committee events being held this fall.

If you want to change your monthly electronic donation or start the Electronic Offering Program during the year, the form and instructions are always available on the church web site at [Preauthorized Donation Registration/Amendment Form](#) .

If you have any questions, please contact any member of the Stewardship Committee.

St. George's Stewardship Committee

Allan Silk (Chair)

Ted Cotton

Roger Dennis

Sue Hollingsworth

The Rev. Lyndon Hutchison-Hounsell

Karl Purchase



CELEBRATING A HALF CENTURY OF EDUCATION IN MEDICAL REHABILITATION

When Leonore Saunders (BPT/72) arrived in Manitoba in the 1950s, she was among a select few physiotherapists in the province. Not one to shy away from a challenge, the mother of five lobbied successfully to create the School of Medical Rehabilitation at the University of Manitoba. In 1962, the university graduated its first class with diplomas in physical therapy or occupational therapy.

“If it hadn’t been for Leonore, we wouldn’t be celebrating our 50th,” notes professor emeritus Juliette ‘Archie’ Cooper (BOT/79, MSc/82, PhD/87). “She was absolutely tireless.”

This year, Medical Rehabilitation graduates of all stripes are invited to celebrate the school’s 50 years of colourful history. A gala is planned on the Bannatyne Campus with many events to be held during Homecoming weekend.

For complete event details, contact Norma Alexander (nalex@cc.umanitoba.ca or 975 7735).

To learn more about distinguished graduate, Leonore Saunders, visit bit.ly/y6ghU9.

Christine Hanlon (BA/85, BEd/89)

TOO MUCH PAPER?

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For more information about St. George’s, please visit our website at <http://www.stgeorges.mb.ca/>

