

# “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!

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MAY 2014

MOTHERS’ DAY EDITION

## Let There Be Light

It’s a dull day. The sun is hidden by the clouds, the wind is blowing, and there’s moisture in the air. It could be rain or (even worse) snow in early May. How do you feel?

Most people feel down. The Oxford Canadian dictionary uses words like “in...a...weaker...condition”, “depressed”, and “in low spirits” in its long list of meanings for “down”. That’s how we feel. In northern climates, there’s so little light over the winter that some people develop winter depression or Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD). The usual solution is artificial light and exercise.

While the usual solution is a great idea, people offer their own ideas about how they minimize being down when it’s dull:

- They look forward to the weather being dull
- They accept it and don’t focus on it
- They go for a walk when it’s raining
- They think of their plants growing after the rain
- They find a good book and a warm fire, and read
- They go to a movie (it’s always bright after a movie)
- They look at the impact of even a little light on a stained glass window
- They get involved with people, projects, or hobbies
- They go to a sunny place for a couple weeks.

What do you do? Don’t let the dull make you feel down or SAD. Take advantage of the dull and move ahead!

Happy Mothers’ Day! The next “by George!” is in the fall. Please document your experiences and gather your thoughts over the summer. Submit your articles by the September 14th deadline for the September “by George!”. Enjoy your cottage, your travels, or whatever you choose to do over another wonderful (and well-deserved) Manitoba summer.

Ted Cotton

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS WITH THESE UPCOMING DATES**

Within our Parish Church of St. George, Crescentwood:

<b>DAY</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>EVENT</b>	<b>TIME</b>
<b>Sun</b>	<b>18-May-14</b>	<b>The Fifth Sunday of Easter</b>	10:30AM Church
Mon	19-May-14	Victoria Day: Building & Office closed	
<b>Wed</b>	<b>21-May-14</b>	<b>Wednesday Communion service</b>	12 Noon Chapel
<b>Wed</b>	<b>21-May-14</b>	Parish Council Meeting	7:15 pm Guild Room
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>22-May-14</b>	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:30 am Guild Room
<b>Sun</b>	<b>25-May-14</b>	<b>The Sixth Sunday of Easter</b> Morning Prayer	10:30 am Church
<b>Wed</b>	<b>28-May-14</b>	<b>Wednesday Communion service</b>	12 Noon Chapel
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>29-May-14</b>	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:30 am Guild Room
<b>Thurs</b>	<b>29-May-14</b>	<b>Ascension of the Lord Service</b>	7:30 pm Church
Sat	<b>31-May-14</b>	Rupert's Land Caregiver Support Group	10:00 am Guild Room
Sun	<b>1-Jun-14</b>	<b>The Seventh Sunday of Easter</b> <i>communion service</i>	10:30 am Church
<b>Mon</b>	<b>2-Jun-14</b>	The Parish Office starts summer hours Monday to Friday	9:30 am to 3:30 pm
Tues	<b>3-Jun-14</b>	Outside Rental	6:30 pm Guild Room
Wed	<b>4-Jun-14</b>	<b>Wednesday Communion service</b>	12 Noon Chapel
Thurs	<b>5-Jun-14</b>	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:30 am Guild Room
Sat	<b>7-Jun-14</b>	Wedding in the afternoon	
Sun	<b>8-Jun-14</b>	<b>The Day of Pentecost and Baptism</b>	10:30 am Church
Tues	<b>10-Jun-14</b>	Worship Committee Meeting	8:00 pm Guild Room
Wed	<b>11-Jun-14</b>	Mission & Ministry Committee Meeting	7:00 pm Guild Room
Thurs	<b>12-Jun-14</b>	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:30 am Guild Room
Sun	<b>15-Jun-14</b>	<b>Trinity Sunday</b>	10:30 am Church
Wed	<b>18-Jun-14</b>	Parish Council Meeting	7:15 pm Guild Room
Thurs	<b>19-Jun-14</b>	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:30 am Guild Room
Sun	<b>22-Jun-14</b>	<b>The Second Sunday after Pentecost</b>	10:30 am Church
Sun	<b>29-Jun-14</b>	<b>The Third Sunday after Pentecost</b>	10:30 am Church
Tues	<b>1-Jul-14</b>	Canada Day: Building and Office Closed	
Sun	<b>6-Jul-14</b>	<b>The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	10:30 am Church
Sun	<b>13-Jul-14</b>	<b>The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	10:30 am Church
Sun	<b>20-Jul-14</b>	<b>The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	10:30 am Church
Sun	<b>27-Jul-14</b>	<b>The Seventh Sunday of Pentecost</b>	10:30 am Church
Sun	<b>3-Aug-14</b>	<b>The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	10:30 am Church
Sun	<b>10-Aug-14</b>	<b>The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	10:30 am Church
Sun	<b>17-Aug-14</b>	<b>The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	10:30 am Church
Sun	<b>24-Aug-14</b>	<b>The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost</b>	10:30 am Church
Sun	<b>31-Aug-14</b>	<b>The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	10:30 am Church
Mon	<b>1-Sep-14</b>	Labour Day: Building and Office Closed today	
Sun	<b>7-Sep-14</b>	<b>The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	10:30 am Church
Sun	<b>14-Sep-14</b>	<b>The Feast of the Holy Cross</b>	10:30 am Church
Sun	<b>14-Sep-14</b>	"by George!" deadline	
Wed	<b>17-Sep-14</b>	Parish Council Meeting	7:15 pm Guild Room
Sun	<b>21-Sep-14</b>	<b>The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	10:30 am Church
Sun	<b>28-Sep-14</b>	<b>The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	10:30 am Church
Sun	<b>28-Sep-14</b>	"by George!" delivery	

For the most current calendar and more information about St. George's, please visit:  
<http://www.stgeorges.mb.ca>

### Annual Garage Sale



THANKS to everyone who worked at the Annual Garage Sale and who donated their treasures. We've taken in over \$10 700 and we couldn't have done it without everyone's support. It would be very much appreciated if you could assist by taking some boxes of books (stored in the S.W. corner of the parish hall) to a fire hall. One last thing, the Garage Sale Committee is now on summer vacation. In mid-September, we will be accepting items for our next sale. For estate items, please contact Sandra Hartt 204-489-9250

Garage Sale Committee

### Spring has Sprung!

Love flowers, but don't have the time or space for a garden? Consider becoming a member of the \Flower Arranging\Committee. Memorial flowers in the service are to the Glory of God and beautify the sanctuary. Then, they are distributed as a reminder of the fellowship of our church family.

Be a part of this ministry!

A workshop will be provided. The time commitment is about one hour every three weeks.

Contact: Brenda Cotton at 204 488 3606 for more information.



### In the Broader Community:

May 10: Corporation Workshop for Clergy and Wardens

May 11: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations, St. Mark's

June 6 & 7: webcast of the Episcopal Network for Stewardship conference, St John's Cathedral

August 10: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations, Mustard Seed

September 20 – 21: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations, St. Saviour

October 16: Diocesan Synod, St John's Cathedral

October 17 to 18: Diocesan Synod, North Kildonan Mennonite Brethren Church

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

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

## **YOUR INTERIM PRIEST WRITES FROM HIS DESK ...**

As in all transitional ministries the issue of change is one that dominates all conversations. Yet the term 'change' is a constant reality for all of us. We grow up, we grow away, we move toward, we join, we break up, we heal and we are injured, we have children and then they leave, we get older, we have health issues, our finances change and evolve sometimes for the better and sometimes for the worse. Change is constant yet we resist that reality in the church. Sometimes it is because we view the church as a sanctuary, a bastion of sameness that keeps us feeling safe. The problem with this approach is readily apparent within these four walls. To not change, to not move to, to not stay in touch with the world around us leaves us vulnerable and that vulnerability is readily apparent throughout the church organization called Anglicanism.

There was a story of a woman who went to a healer and told him that she had been married for 10 or so years and had yet to have a child. The healer paused for a moment and then asked her what she was willing to do about it. She said that she had done everything that the doctors had recommended and still no child. So the healer told her a story. 'My mother was barren as well. She was raised in a different time so she also sought out a healer and the healer asked her the same question. She thought about it for a while and then decided to give the healer her best cloak. She went home and digging it out of her chest she came back to see the healer who had already left for another town. She followed him for a few days until she finally caught up to him and handed him her cloak. He hung it on the wall and stated it is acceptable. I was born the next year'.

The woman paused for a minute and stated; 'I will get you a cloak'. The healer smiled at her and stated "it will not work because that story has been told – my mother had no story to follow!"

Life is like that. We often try and do things the way we have always done them and expect something else to happen. Unfortunately we end up getting the same thing again which is why some treatment centres define this as an act of insanity. Doing the same thing over and over and again and expecting something different. Where we are as a church has never happened before and there is no story to follow.

To get something different means that we must do something different; the act of changing the way we do things gives us many more options than we currently have. When we want something different we are in a place of taking a risk. The risk is that we will be faced with things that we did not anticipate. The risk is that things will not go the way we had hoped. The risk is that we may learn something's about ourselves; the risk is that we will likely grow and change and the biggest risk is that we may discover that our own limitations are suddenly not as limiting as we once thought they were. The challenge is that we accept whatever happens and be prepared to live with.

Our church is in a time of change, that is a time of risk and it is also a time of potential growth. In our own lives we remain in a constant state of change, nothing is guaranteed nor the outcomes absolutely assured. In our society we are taught to hedge our bets in as many ways possible, be it financial, be it through insurances, be it in assets or families.

We like to have our lives predicable. Unfortunately, life is never like that. Our own church experienced this last week when that 16 year old boy was hit on our corner. He did not die but was severely injured. When the unexpected happens we all experience the vulnerability that comes with it.

The only guarantee in life is that we will die (that and taxes). If we live in fear we are less likely to take a risk. When we expect predictability we end up being stuck and in times of trial less able to respond to the challenges placed in front of us. Change is our friend, it teaches us about life in a way that would never be possible if we were not confronted with change. Our task is to face all change without fear. Christ told his followers over and over again. Fear not and come and follow me. I place the challenge before all of you. Face life in all that it has to offer, it is in that challenge that we really get to experience life. In the process we experience God.

May this summer season be a spirit filled and exhilarating experience for all!

With deep respect and blessings

Brent

### **THOUGHT FOR THIS EDITION**

Be encouraging! You'll be surprised how helpful that will be.



### **MARGARET WRITES ...**

Bunty McDonald

Kathleen Mary Janet (Wilson) McDonald was born into Winnipeg's Scottish community over 90 years ago, and is still going strong. She is widely known by her nickname, Bunty.

"Bunty was the Scottish equivalent of 'darling', she explains, "and it was my father's pet name for me."

Bunty attended Machray and Luxton Schools, and Rupert's Land Ladies' College.

As a child, she was a member of St. John's Cathedral, where she was an active Brownie and then a Girl Guide. Her family was also involved with the St. John's College Boys' School.

Bunty met her husband Ian at a Lake of the Woods summer dance and their marriage was a long and happy one. After her marriage, she and Ian became members of St. George's, where their four sons were baptized and confirmed.

Not only our parish, but also the entire Diocese of Rupert's Land has benefited from Bunty's energy and willingness to roll up her sleeves and get to work. An early member of the Women's Auxiliary, she participated in St. Helen's Guild. She has held many offices, including member of parish council, head of Christian Education, a founding member of St. George's Friendship Club, chair of the Fellowship and Visiting Committee, a member of the Dragon Ladies, the Pastoral Care Committee, the Quilting Group and the Altar Guild. Until recently, she oversaw the weekly delivery of flowers to the sick and shut-ins of the parish, and organized the Walk-A-Block for the delivery of By George! She still co-chairs the funeral committee and coordinates the list of weekly greeters. She also helped organize two of the parish photo directories and along with the late Jean Stevenson was a past organizer of the garage sale.

At the Diocesan level, Bunty was parish information officer for Diocesan news. She was also a synod delegate, and a member of Diocesan Council and the Diocesan Executive.

As many of us know, when Bunty asks a person to do something, the only acceptable answer is "Yes, Bunty"!

Bunty remains active in the church and in her spare time manages to enjoy keeping up with her growing family of four sons with their wives, eleven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Thank you, Bunty, for your substantial contribution to St. George's and to the Anglican community in our Diocese.

Margaret Owen



## MISSION AND MINISTRY

### Knitting

Thanks to the “Mystery Knitter” for the three shawls that were left in the chapel basket for Prayer Shawls.

We have enough shawls now to give comfort to the sick for the summer months and they were blessed during the May 4<sup>th</sup> 10:30 service. For the fall and winter ahead, we will need more shawls to meet the needs of the sick. If you enjoy knitting on cool or rainy summer days, please find your favourite colour of acrylic yarn and knit a Prayer Shawl for the fall. For details and encouragement, see Gail Walker.

Also, thanks to Jacqueline Thomson for knitting 11 Infinity Scarves for the new immigrants at Sir William School’s E.A.L. Program. She sings and dances with her fingers too!

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

From the April 16<sup>th</sup> Parish Council meeting:

- The Bishop released the Priest’s job posting on April 16.
- Corporation has been reviewing wedding and funeral costs. There will be no tax receipts for the scheduled costs of weddings and no charges for funerals.
- A proposal for live streaming of services was reviewed and it was decided not to pursue it at this time.
- The highlights of the March 2014 Finance Report were discussed. (The March 2014 report in this “by George!”).
- There will be an Episcopal Network for Stewardship conference in Atlanta, GA; our diocese is doing a webcast of the conference at the Cathedral on June 6 and 7.
- Worship Committee reported April 27 is the last Church School of the year and May 29 is the last regular service for the choir (there will be a choir at the June 8<sup>th</sup> service).
- The calendar of Diocesan events was reviewed. A current calendar is in this “by George!”.
- Courtesies were given to Jonathon Morgan for the work he did on the live streaming project.

The next Parish Council meeting is May 21<sup>st</sup>.



## FINANCE REPORT

### St. George's Church – January to March 2014

	Actual 2013	Actual 2014	Budget 2015
Revenue	\$66 739.68	\$67 948.37	\$68 218.51
Expense	\$84 371.66	\$82 254.02	\$89 570.88
Net Income (Loss)	(\$17 631.98)	(\$14 305.65)	(\$21 352.37)

The 2014 Net Loss to the end of March is \$14 305. This is favourable to Budget and to last year

Variances of \$700 or more to Budget are:

- Interest Earned is \$1 624 favourable. This is timing.
- Identified Giving is \$7 224 favourable to Budget and \$9 533 favourable to last year.
- Open Plate is \$2 868 unfavourable due to timing of United Way etc donations.
- Special & Designated is \$775 unfavourable due to less weddings and funerals.
- Rector's Living Allowance is \$3 750 favourable to Budget
- Rector's Stipend is \$3 750 unfavourable to Budget and an offset to the Living Allowance.
- Organ Maintenance is \$1 700 favourable to Budget. A bill is expected.
- Relief Caretaker is \$965 unfavourable due to more use than expected.
- Utilities - Electricity is \$745 favourable to Budget due to timing.
- Utilities – Natural Gas is \$4 247 favourable to Budget due to timing.

The chequing account is reconciled to the end of March 2014.

In early April, \$7 450 was transferred to chequing from TD Waterhouse and RBC Dominion Securities cash and near cash accounts.

### Balance Sheet

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.

Changes to Designated Funds > \$500 in March:

- Norquay School: \$712 was sent to the school and \$682 was received in donations
- Sabbatical Provision: \$516 went in as the quarterly provision
- Operations: \$830 payment to StandGuard for February boiler inspections

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:

<b>Summary Balance Sheet</b>			
<b>As at March 31</b>			
	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	change
	Actual	Actual	
Current Assets (chequing, cash)	\$ 11 603.28	19 607.34	(7 464.06)
Fixed Assets (building at cost)	785 030.20	785 030.20	0
Other Assets (investments)	486 955.82	485 921.17	1 034.65
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$ 1 283 589.30</b>	<b>1 290 018.71</b>	<b>(6 429.41)</b>
Current Liabilities (designated)	\$ 253 697.69	261 781.05	(8 083.36)
Long Term Liabilities (trusts)	7 260.26	7 260.26	0
Equity	1 022 631.35	1 020 977.40	1 653.95
<b>Total Liabilities and Equity</b>	<b>\$ 1 283 589.30</b>	<b>1 290 018.71</b>	<b>(6 429.41)</b>

### **Auditors**

The auditors are doing the 2013 review and have asked routine questions but we haven't received any information yet. A report will be provided to the parish when we do receive the review.

If you need anything further, please let me know.

Ted Cotton

### **STEWARDSHIP**

On June 6 and 7, the Diocese will be hosting a webcast of the Episcopal Network for Stewardship conference at St John's Cathedral. The Stewardship Committee hopes to receive some helpful information from this conference.

If you want to start the Electronic Offering Program or change your monthly electronic donation 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

**THE DISMISSAL ON MAY 4, 2014**

Celebrant: Like the woman who ran to share the Good News of the empty tomb,

All: Let us go forth with joy.

Celebrant: Like the travelers walking on the Emmaus Road,

All: let us go forth with opened eyes.

Celebrant: Like Thomas, filled with doubt,

All: let us go forth with faith.

Celebrant: Like fishers pulling heavy nets,

All: let us go forth with abundant life.

Celebrant: Like the disciples receiving the Holy Spirit,

All: let us go forth with peace. Alleluia!

