

“by George!”

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The “by George!” 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

**September 2010
EDITION**

WELCOME BACK

Birds ...

As I fill the empty birdfeeder, I sense I’m being watched. The first chickadee lands on the birdfeeder while I’m still on the ladder. He looks at me and appears to say “Where have you been? This has been empty for days!”. Other chickadees and sparrows soon arrive. A blue jay sits on the birdfeeder briefly; he can’t find good footing, so he eats on the ground below. Crows and grackles eat there too.

There are four-legged visitors to the birdfeeder too. The grey squirrels would jump from the tree to the birdfeeder until I moved it further from the trunk. The birdfeeder would be empty every morning until I saw a deer nudging it with her nose so all the seeds fell on the ground; I then put the birdfeeder higher in the tree. The squirrels and deer now help clean up spilled seeds on the ground.

As I have to keep filling the birdfeeder, I know the wildlife relies on me to provide at least some of their meals. Children, parents, coworkers, customers, friends, pets, drivers, pedestrians, and many others rely on each one of us to do the right “thing” at the right time. It’s a significant responsibility! Are you keeping all your birdfeeders full?

What is your group doing? Send an article to “by George!” and let everyone know. The next edition of “by George!” will be in November. Please gather your thoughts over the fall and submit your articles by the November 14th deadline.

Enjoy our great Manitoba fall weather!

Ted Cotton

MARK YOUR CALENDARS WITH THESE UPCOMING DATES

Within our Parish Church of St. George, Crescentwood:

DAY	DATE	EVENT	TIME
Tue	28-Sep-10	Stewardship Committee Meeting	7:30 PM
Sun	03-Oct-10	Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost - Children's Homily	10:30 AM
Tue	05-Oct-10	Corporation Meeting	7:00 PM
Sun	10-Oct-10	Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost	10:30 AM
Mon	11-Oct-10	Thanksgiving Day	
Tue	12-Oct-10	Worship Committee Meeting	7:30 PM
Wed	13-Oct-10	Mission & Ministry Meeting	7:00 PM
Sat	16-Oct-10	Decorating church for Harvest Thanksgiving Service	
Sun	17-Oct-10	Harvest Thanksgiving Service followed by Celebration Threenie lunch	10:30 AM
Sun	17-Oct-10	Choral Evensong – Harvest	4:00 PM
Tue	19-Oct-10	Membership Committee Meeting	7:30 PM
Wed	20-Oct-10	Parish Council Meeting	7:30 PM
Sun	24-Oct-10	Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost – Stewardship Sunday	10:30 AM
Sun	24-Oct-10	Youth Group Meeting	12 noon
Tue	26-Oct-10	Stewardship Committee Meeting	7:30 PM
Sun	31-Oct-10	Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost	10:30 AM
Tue	02-Nov-10	Corporation Meeting	7:00 PM
Sun	07-Nov-10	Remembrance Sunday - Children's Homily	10:30 AM
Tue	09-Nov-10	Worship Committee Meeting	7:30 PM
Wed	10-Nov-10	Mission & Ministry Meeting	7:00 PM
Thur	11-Nov-10	Remembrance Day - Building & Office closed	
Sat	13-Nov-10	Tea & Closet Sale	time to be announced
Sun	14-Nov-10	Twenty Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	10:30 AM
Sun	14-Nov-10	Altar Guild Annual General Meeting	
Sun	14-Nov-10	Deadline for submissions to "by George!"	
Tue	16-Nov-10	Membership Committee Meeting	7:30 PM
Wed	17-Nov-10	Parish Council Meeting	7:30 PM
Sun	21-Nov-10	"The Reign of Christ"	10:30 AM
Tue	23-Nov-10	Stewardship Committee Meeting	7:30 PM
Sun	28-Nov-10	The First Sunday of Advent	10:30 AM
Sun	28-Nov-10	Youth Group Meeting	12 Noon
Sun	28-Nov-10	"by George!" delivery	
Fri	03-Dec-10	Preparation for Annual Christmas Dinner	all day
Sat	04-Dec-10	Annual Christmas Dinner	time to be announced
Sun	05-Dec-10	The Second Sunday of Advent - Children's Homily	10:30 AM

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

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

BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY

If you're reading this before September 26th, remember to invite a friend or relative to church and double our congregation on September 26th.

EARTH AND ANIMAL BLESSING – FEAST OF FRANCIS OF ASSISI

On Oct 3rd we will be celebrating, again, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. I invite you all to bring pictures of pets or favourite animals. But this year I would like to add picture of favourite places in our wonderful world, places that help you to feel the Sacred Spirit moving in your life.

We will use these pictures to help us give thanks for the blessings of our animal friends and the wonderful habitats that we share with all of creation.

BAKE TABLE

To all the great cooks in the Parish: **When you are canning or making jams or jellies this summer or early fall please make 1 or 2 extra for St. George's Bake Table. St. George's would be very grateful. *Thank You.***

In the Broader Community:

Sep 30 – Oct 2 Diocesan Synod at St. John's Cathedral and North Kildonan Mennonite Brethren Church

Oct 14 Annual Bishop's Dinner at Southwood Golf and Country Club

Oct 17 Welcome and Celebration for Ugandan visitors at St. John's Cathedral

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

http://www.rupertsland.ca/diocesan_community/upcoming.html

THOUGHT FOR THIS EDITION

The little boy watched as the offering plate moved closer to his pew. When the plate came to his parents, the boy said loudly, "Don't pay for me Daddy. I'm under five."

YOUR PARISH PRIEST WRITES ...

Bread, Living Bread!

Dear Friends,

Welcome back to many of you who have been away at the lake or in other exciting places for vacation time. We are gearing up, again, and welcoming people into our Sunday School programs and into our choir. And we welcome everyone back into the life of the Body of Christ, our Church of St. George the Martyr. Our choir is continuing their preparations, including almost one Evensong per month, for their trip to England this coming summer of 2011.

As we prepare to come together for more opportunities to learn and grow I like to point towards our Sunday Liturgy for inspiration and guidance. Last year your Worship Committee engaged in some learning with the Worship Resource called "Making Preparation." You can download your own copy at <http://www.abcpublishing.com/site/wp-content/uploads/Making-Preparation.pdf>. We, your Worship Committee, found lots of insight and affirmation in this document for the things that we all do well to bring together great liturgy on Sunday mornings and on festivals. And we also learned a few things that we thought would be good to try. One of the things we are going to try is to use eucharistic bread that is more powerfully symbolic. We hope this bread will more effectively serve to symbolize that we are united into one body, sharing the one bread. Have no fear, we are not going to bake and use real bread like some other churches do. Instead we are going to use bread similar to the small white wafers, but this bread will be a large whole wheat wafer that can be broken into many pieces. By each of us receiving a piece of a larger whole, the symbolism of our connections as the body of Christ, meeting at the corner of Wilton and Grosvenor in Winnipeg, will be stronger. We will all be sharing of One Bread, reminding us that we are One Body in Christ.

In our worship we are called to offer the best of what we have and we have come to realize, as the dieticians among us will assert, that whole wheat bread is better than white bread. So we will try whole wheat bread, for our own good, just like mother and father said it was.

The Rev. Paul Gibson in Making Preparation says, "A discussion of planning the offertory must include two other issues. They are the nature and quality of the bread and wine that are prepared, and the role of the offertory as the first step in a series of actions that constitute a symbolic meal... Early Christian art indicates that the young church used bread at its eucharistic celebrations that was identical to the bread consumed in domestic meals." Our primary purpose, as the church, is to gather and support each other in our spiritual growth and development amidst all the changes and chances of life, amidst the cares and concerns of the world. And then, with our spiritual strength, to love and serve others in our community in need. We are called to love, accept, welcome and serve. And clearer, more powerful symbols of our interdependence as the body of Christ may help us to remember that we are united in service and love, that we are One Sacred Body, that we are made stronger as we come together into a Sacred Community called Church.

As members of the church, I continue to encourage you to share ideas and thoughts with each other about how to make our congregation into a stronger community of learning and service. Let's continue to work at sharing the bread of life with each other and with those in need in our world and to discern ways of fulfilling those needs in love and service together.

For another year we've started up our Nursery and Sunday School, and I encourage you to invite any families in your neighbourhood to join in to strengthen their spirit. And we've had our first annual "Back to Church" Sunday along with many other congregations in our diocese. I encourage you to continue to invite friends and neighbours who are looking for a spiritual home. We continue to grow together and you are all the best witnesses of our growth. And for this I give thanks. We are the leaven in the Living Bread, the Body of Christ here at the corner of Wilton and Grosvenor.

Thanks be to God, the Sacred Power of life and love giving us the courage to love, accept, welcome and serve.

Peace,
Lyndon



DRAGON LADIES

Did you know that the Dragon Ladies are ready and willing to cater your next reception or group luncheon or dinner?

Our sandwiches are very popular and are definitely very tasty!

Save your time and energy by calling the Dragons> You will also be helping St. George's as the funds raised go to the church.

We can be reached by calling Marion in the church office at 453 5642



ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

We are in the process of developing a program for the fall and would like to have your response to some potential topics. Please indicate which topics and times are of interest to you by checking the appropriate boxes and returning the information to the office **by September 28th 2010**.

The topics are as follows:

1. 'LIVING THE QUESTIONS (Unit 1)' - Videos & Discussion led by Lyndon. Repeat of last year's offering. Seven weekly sessions from 5.30 - 7.00 p.m. beginning
 - Tuesday, October 19 or
 - Thursday, October 21
2. Joseph Campbell on 'MYTH' – Videos and Discussion
3. 'UNDERSTANDING SAINT PAUL' – Discussion group based on readings to be selected
 - 2 & 3. would consist of 5-6 sessions and could run on
 - Monday a.m. or Tuesday p.m. or Tuesday eve.
 - Leaders to be determined.
4. 'ISLAM – THE BASICS' – Two or three lectures with question period; presenter and times to be determined.

We hope that one or more of these subjects will appeal to you.

Lyndon Hutchison-Hounsell

David Punter.

MARGARET WRITES ...**Haiku Poetry by Gail Walker**

When I suggested to Gail Walker that I interview her for “by *George!*”, *she* suggested to me that we print some of her Haikus instead. She told me that she is best expressed through her poetry, and I agreed. Gail has organized her Haikus by season.

Spring

1. Away flies the robin
 Leaving her song at day-spring
 And me in suspense.
2. Where is the robin
 That sings at dayspring, leaving
 Its music with me?
3. On the gable, edged
 A grackle, indecisive
 Awaiting the call
4. Dressed in priestly clothes
 A grackle on a wire
 Sidles up to her
5. I am ready now
 On arrows, lifting the pain
 To the stars’ brilliance

Summer

6. Slipping through the pines
 The moon, dressing the birches
 In wedding gowns, smiles.

7. In the calm between storms

The loon calls “how are you?”

Now five birds trilling.

8. Along the trail lies

A muck of footprints in mud

And the wolf follows.

9. From hills and valleys

The hermit thrush speaks to souls

In isolation.

10. In the afternoon

A goldfinch rides the sunlight

Invisible waves.

Autumn

11. Otters, like children

Eat clam-jam sandwiches

And throw the crusts away.

12. In the earths’ shadow

On the moon, a deer with fawns

Holds autumn’s brilliance.

13. Near the dead of night

The north wind blows the rain through

The bedroom window.

14. Rising from ditches

Reeds, warrior and giants point

Spears into the sun.

15. In the night, a deer

Nibbles by my window, breath

A heartbeat away.

Winter

16. Seven starlings sit

On a single branch, winter's

Exclamation marks!

17. From a bed of clouds

Wind, the Goddess of breath, shapes

An Arctic prairie.

18. Sunlight and crystal

A prism is born, touching

A moment, your hand.

19. Down the hydro pole

Red squirrel bristles fur and

Electricity.



ELECTRONIC DOCUMENTS

If you are reading this “by George!” on paper and have an email address, please help us reduce paper use, copying, postage, and associated costs. Give your email address to the Church office at 453 5642 or office@stgeorges.mb.ca

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

Ted Cotton

MISSION AND MINISTRY COMMITTEE

PWRDF

The United Nations estimates that more than 21 million people are injured or homeless as a result of the Pakistan flooding, exceeding the combined total of individuals affected by the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami, the 2005 Kashmir earthquake and the 2010 Haiti earthquake. At one point, approximately one-fifth of Pakistan's total land area was underwater due to the flooding. The Honorable John Baird has announced that CIDA will continue to match donations made by individual Canadians to the Pakistan Flood Relief Fund until October 3, 2010.

Mission and Ministry will be sending a \$500.00 donation to PWRDF for the Pakistan Relief fund. We invite all parishioners who have yet to make a donation to assist the Pakistan people with their recovery and reconstruction efforts. Make your cheque payable to PWRDF - Pakistan Floods Relief Fund.

25 Years With Winnipeg Harvest

Twenty five years ago Winnipeg Harvest started operating to serve some of the needs of the poor people of Winnipeg. At the time it seemed that, because of an economic slow down, some of our fellow citizens were going hungry but it was thought the need would be short-lived. This was not to be. Instead, during the past 25 years poverty has steadily increased while public social services to address poverty have not kept up. The demand has increased many fold in those 25 years and the past year saw a 33% increase in the number of people seeking help from Winnipeg Harvest.

It may be of interest to parishioners that St. George's was a part of Harvest's team at the very beginning. Our Mission and Ministry Committee responded to a request from David Northcott, Co-ordinator of Winnipeg Harvest, to pick up and deliver left-over baked goods and other produce from the Super Store on Grant Avenue. A small team of parishioners was organized to provide this service. Very early, on the appointed day, winter and summer, no matter the weather, the appointed parishioner(s) arrived at the back door of Super Store, loaded their vehicle with everything on offer and drove it to Harvest's warehouse and unloaded it.

Over the years the process went through many transitions. For several years the baked goods were delivered to St. George's church hall where it was sorted and repacked then delivered along with other food donations from our parish. Later still the food was picked up by Harvest at the church. As the scale of Harvest's operation expanded there were further transitions. After several years Harvest had sufficient staff and trucks to take over all of St. George's services and our activity shifted to supplying and helping the West Broadway Community Ministry food bank and lunch program.

In a recent bulletin David Northcott writes, "Though we will not celebrate that the need for Winnipeg Harvest continues and grows, we are proud to celebrate our loyal and

committed donors and volunteers who, through their gifts of money, food and time, make it possible for Winnipeg Harvest to feed over 49,000 people, half of whom are children, each month."

So many thanks to St. George's parishioners who were there to help from the beginning and who, through generous financial support, continue to serve this very worthy enterprise.

Gordon Spafford,
Mission and Ministry Committee

ST. GEORGE'S ANNUAL GARAGE SALE

September ... and the early birds are already delivering treasures for our April 2011 Sale. We welcome these donations. If you are delivering larger items, we suggest you call the office in advance to ensure we have adequate storage space available. Also, because of special church events we may request you postpone delivery for a few days; on these occasions, advance notice will be posted in our Weekly Notices.

Our sale this year was outstanding! With your generous donations and enthusiastic support, our 2010 profit was \$16 224.46. The meeting of the Garage Sale Committee held on June 8 distributed funds as follows:

• Parish Church of St. George, Crescentwood	\$10 000
• Mission and Ministry Outreach, St George's	\$2 000
• Face Lifters, St, George's	\$3 500
• Purchase of new Tables and Chairs	<u>\$1 500</u>
	\$17 000

Thanks again for your support and we look forward to another fun-filled event in 2011.

Garage Sale Committee



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

From the June 16th Parish Council meeting:

- The plans for summer coverage were discussed.
- The Diocesan Vitality and Viability Assessment self-assessment was discussed and completed.
- The May 2010 financial statements were reviewed. The Net Loss of \$27 392 is unfavourable to Budget but favourable to last year. The chequing account has been reconciled to the end of May. Details of the current financial statements are in this “by George!”.
- The Stewardship Committee reported on the planning for fall financial stewardship activities.
- The calendar of Diocesan events was reviewed.
- Worship Committee will investigate how to help those who have difficulty navigating the church steps and doors.
- Pastoral Care discussed guidelines for volunteers who visited parishioners.
- Courtesies were given to Lyndon and Parish Council for their thought and input into the Parish self-assessment document. Congratulations were given to James and Rebecca Kirk on the arrival of their new baby boy.

The next Parish Council is October 20th.

THE ELUSIVE J. P. WHITE

In the Prince of Peace Chapel, there is a Memorial to 15 members of St George’s who were killed in World War I. As only the initials of the men were listed, I was asked to try to ascertain their full names.

The reason for the request was so that Lyndon, the Rector, could read out their names in full, as is done with the World War II casualties, during the Remembrance Day Service in November. After weeks of research all the names have been traced with the exception of P. White, also known as J. P. White. I have been unsuccessful in finding information from the usual Ottawa and Winnipeg sources and am now hoping someone in the congregation will provide the answer or offer some research suggestions.

Shirlee Anne Smith,
Parish Archivist,
Tel. 489 9333,
email sas@mts.net

STEWARDSHIP

The Stewardship Committee thanks for your support during 2010. You have provided the inspiration to continue our ministries.

We're beginning the fifth year of encouraging personal growth through supporting the church's mission and ministry. This approach to financial stewardship focuses on giving for spiritual development rather than for paying bills.

Financial stewardship will continue to emphasize the biblical principles of generous and unselfish giving. Though a series of thoughtful messages, parishioners will be encouraged to reflect on the question, "What portion of my wealth is God calling me to give?".

The 2010 financial stewardship events include:

- Sunday October 3: listen to parishioner #1
- Sunday October 17: listen to our guest speaker
listen to parishioner #2
enjoy a Celebration Threenie Lunch
- Sunday October 24: listen to a sermon on Christian stewardship
complete your Estimate of Giving Card
make your offering to God

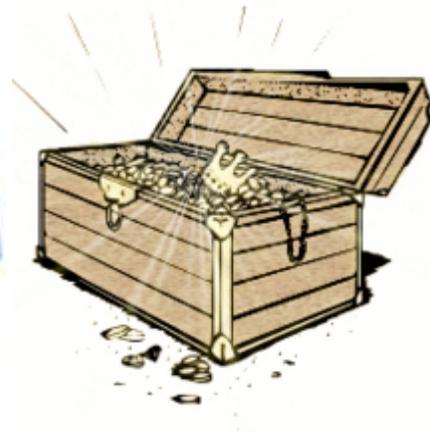
The Stewardship Committee encourages all parishioners to attend all stewardship events and ... to welcome Stewardship Sunday - October 24, 2010!

For those wishing to change their monthly donation or start the Electronic Offering Program, the form and instructions are always available on the church web site at [Donor Registration/Amendment Form](#). Complete forms and information will be included with your Estimate of Giving card in an October letter and the November 2010 "by George!".

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
The Rev. Lyndon Hutchison-Hounsell
Karl Purchase
Marlene Ramsey



FINANCE REPORT

St. George's Church – January to August 2010

	Actual 2010	Actual 2009	Budget 2010
Revenue	\$168 776.35	\$185 608.46	\$200 450.22
Expense	\$192 844.24	\$203 680.64	\$198 890.73
Net Income (Loss)	(\$24 067.89)	(\$18 072.18)	\$1 559.49

The Net Loss of \$24 067 is unfavourable to Budget and last year.

Variances of \$700 or more to Budget are:

- Fundraising is unfavourable \$4 073. This is due to fewer 2010 events.
- Interest Earned is unfavourable \$2 993. This is less investment than when budgeted.
- Regular Offerings is unfavourable \$24 534. This is lower Identified Giving. Identified Giving is unfavourable to Budget and to last year.
- Advertising is favourable \$809. This is timing.
- Ministry is unfavourable \$1 241. This is largely higher Payroll Benefits from the shift in Lyndon's Living Allowance to Stipend.
- Music is \$1 344 favourable. This is timing for Music Purchases, and Piano and Organ Maintenance.
- Sunday Scholl Superintendant is favourable \$891. This is less time worked.
- Property is favourable \$5 272. This is lower Utilities Gas (from lower rates and warmer weather) as well as timing for Fixtures and General Maintenance.

The chequing account is reconciled to the end of August.

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 August 31			
	2010	2009	change
	Actual	Actual	
Current Assets (chequing, cash)	\$ 25 743.26	69 289.98	(43 546.72)
Fixed Assets (building at cost)	785 030.20	785 030.20	0
Other Assets (investments)	353 159.06	314 630.89	38 528.17
Total Assets	\$ 1 163 932.52	1 168 951.07	(5 018.55)
Current Liabilities (designated)	\$ 168 336.17	219 392.13	(51 055.96)
Long Term Liabilities (trusts)	7 260.26	7 260.26	0
Equity	988 336.09	942 298.68	46 037.41
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 1 163 932.52	1 168 952.07	(5 018.55)

Significant (>\$500) changes to Designated Funds in August 2010:

- Facelifters: \$1 896 disbursement for the west entrance door floor tiles

Ted Cotton

VULNERABLE PERSONS PROTECTION PROTOCOL

The Diocese and our insurance company require all parishes to have a documented Vulnerable Persons Protection Protocol. All staff and volunteers who work with children, youth, and at risk adults must be familiar with this Protocol and adhere to it.

This requirement is similar to what many parishioners see in today's workplaces.

The Protocol is designed to help staff and volunteers interact with vulnerable persons in a positive manner.

Your Corporation and parish leaders are currently finalizing a Protocol for St. George's setting and will distribute more information soon.

Corporation



ST. GEORGE'S IS TREMENDOUS

Take a look at our parish committee tree in the Parish Hall:



Membership Committee