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Retreat

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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February 2019

NEARLY LENT EDITION

Retreat

Have you ever heard someone say I’m going to “beat a hasty retreat”, “retreat into my shell”, “go to my retreat”, or “retreat to my dreams”? The word “retreat” appears in every phrase. But, does “retreat” always have the same meaning?

“Retreat” can be traced through late Middle English and Old French to the Latin word meaning pull back. It has had both military and religious connotations for centuries.

My Google dictionary tells me retreat means:

- An act of changing one's decisions, plans, or attitude, especially as a result of criticism from others.
- A signal for a military force to withdraw.
- A quiet or secluded place in which one can rest and relax.
- A period of seclusion for the purposes of prayer and meditation

You may have heard that that Parish Council is holding a leadership retreat on March 9 to discuss opportunities for revenue building. As the word “retreat” is used in various settings what Parish Council is doing may not be clear. It doesn't have to do with criticism or the military. It is intended to be a secluded place where leadership will consider opportunities and make plans for the future. There will also be prayer. It will be active not quiet. Please include the leadership of the parish in your prayers.

Please help us connect with all parishioners by documenting your thoughts and experiences over the winter and spring, and submitting your articles by the April 28th deadline for the next “by George!”. Have a thoughtful Lent!

Ted Cotton

MARK YOUR CALENDARS WITH THESE UPCOMING DATES**Within our Parish Church of St. George, Crescentwood:****CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

DAY	DATE	GROUP	TIME / PLACE
Wed	27-Feb-19	Wednesday Communion Service	12 Noon Chapel
Thurs	28-Feb-19	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:00 am Guild Room
Sun	3-Mar-19	Transfiguration of the Lord communion service	10:30 am Church
Tues	5-Mar-19	Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper	5:00 pm Church
Wed	5-Mar-19	Worship Committee	7:00 pm Guild Room
Wed	6-Mar-19	Wednesday Communion Service - Ash Wednesday	12 Noon Chapel
Wed	6-Mar-19	Ash Wednesday service	7:30 pm Church
Thurs	7-Mar-19	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:00 am Guild Room
Sat	9-Mar-19	Leadership Retreat	9:00 am Guild Room
Sun	10-Mar-19	First Sunday in Lent communion service	10:30 am Church
Sun	10-Mar-19	Dr. Chris Trott – Treaty one acknowledgement with a light lunch	12 Noon Guild Room
Wed	13-Mar-19	Wednesday Communion Service	12 Noon Chapel
Thurs	14-Mar-19	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:00 am Guild Room
Sun	17-Mar-19	Second Sunday in Lent communion service	10:30 am Church
Sun	17-Mar-19	Choral Evensong	4:00 pm Church
Wed	20-Mar-19	Wednesday Communion Service	12 Noon Chapel
Wed	20-Mar-19	Parish Council Meeting	7:00 pm Guild Room
Thurs	21-Mar-19	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:00 am Guild Room
Sun	24-Mar-19	Third Sunday in Lent communion service	9:15 am Chapel
Sun	24-Mar-19	Third Sunday in Lent Morning Prayer	10:30 am Church
Wed	27-Mar-19	Wednesday Communion Service	12 Noon Chapel
Thurs	28-Mar-19	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:00 am Guild Room
Sun	31-Mar-19	Fourth Sunday in Lent communion service	10:30 am Church
Wed	3-Apr-19	Wednesday Communion Service	12 Noon Chapel
Thurs	4-Apr-19	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:00 am Guild Room
Sun	7-Apr-19	Fifth Sunday in Lent communion service	10:30 am Church
Wed	10-Apr-19	Wednesday Communion Service	12 Noon Chapel
Thurs	11-Apr-19	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:00 am Guild Room
Sun	14-Apr-19	Palm Sunday	10:30 am Church
Wed	17-Apr-19	Wednesday Communion Service	12 Noon Chapel
Thurs	18-Apr-19	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:00 am Guild Room
Thurs	18-Apr-19	Maundy Thursday service communion	7:30 pm Church
Fri	19-Apr-19	Good Friday Stations of the Cross	9:15 am hall
Fri	19-Apr-19	Good Friday commemoration of the Passion of Jesus Christ	10:30 am Church
Sun	21-Apr-19	Easter Day	10:30 am Church

Wed	24-Apr-19	Wednesday Communion Service	12 Noon Chapel
Wed	24-Apr-19	Parish Council Meeting	7:00 pm Guild Room
Thurs	25-Apr-19	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:00 am Guild Room
Sun	28-Apr-19	Second Sunday of Easter communion service	10:30 am Church
Various	Apr 29 to May 1	Setting up for annual Garage Sale	Lower level first
Wed	1-May-19	Wednesday Communion Service	12 Noon Chapel
Thurs	2-May-19	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:00 am Guild Room
Fri	3-May-19	GARAGE SALE open to public	7 pm to 9 pm
Sat	4-May-19	GARAGE SALE open to public	9 am to 1 pm
Sun	5-May-19	Third Sunday of Easter communion service	10:30 am Church
Wed	8-May-19	Wednesday Communion Service	12 Noon Chapel
Thurs	9-May-19	Prayers for Peace & Justice	9:00 am Guild Room
Sun	12-May-19	Fourth Sunday of Easter communion service <i>Mother's Day</i>	10:30 am Church

Please bring in your **Palm Crosses** from last year and place them in the basket at the church entrance. These palm crosses will be burnt and the ashes used during the Ash Wednesday services on March 6.

Daylight Saving Time will begin at 3:00 am on Sunday March 10, 2019 in Canada. It's Spring ahead and Fall back, so you'll lose an hour of sleep before heading to St. George's on Sunday morning.

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

The Province has approved our **Parish Accessibility Policy**. It is located at the bottom of the page on our website <http://stgeorges.mb.ca/downloads/>. We'll now begin to implement the policy. If you have any questions, please contact Ted Cotton (tedcotton@mymts.net).

The Parish Office is open Mon to Fri from 9 AM to 5 PM. The **Wilton door** is locked at 3:00 PM. Please contact the office at 204 453 5642 or office@stgeorges.mb.ca if you don't have a key and need access after 3.



In the Broader Community:

March 23 to 25: There will be a series of three events featuring the **Rev. Canon Andrew White**, the former Vicar of Baghdad speaking on the Middle East.

April 7 at 7 pm: St. John's Cathedral Winnipeg will hold a **Blessing of Oils and Renewal of Vows**

Please visit the Diocese of Rupert's Land website for more information and the most current calendar: <http://www.rupertsland.ca/category/events/>

The Rupert's Land News is only electronic. To subscribe to the weekly electronic edition and get the latest news about the Diocese, please use the following link: www.rupertslandnews.ca and then go to "subscribe to RLN Weekly".

THOUGHT FOR THIS EDITION

Retreating is advancing in another direction. *Based on various similar quotes.*



OUR RECTOR WRITES FROM HIS DESK ...

Henry Venn and the Church Mission Society

Henry Venn was born in Clapham on February 10, 1796 to John and Catherine Venn. He was the grandson of Henry Venn who has been a traditional Anglican priest until his Evangelical conversion around 1750. The elder Henry's theology was neither high nor low when Whitfield and the Wesley were tearing things apart¹. His father and grandfather were not the only influences on young Henry. He grew up listening to the evangelical voices of the Clapham Sect such as William Wilberforce's. Richard Gathro describes the Clapham Sect as a group that "came together with the desire to apply their faith in Jesus Christ to personal, social, political, national and international matters"². It was this group of people whom, in the 1790s, fought for their causes on both public and church fronts. One such cause was the anti-slavery campaign. Although they supported both William Carey's Baptist Missionary Society (BMS) as well as the London Missionary Society (LMS) the Clapham group wanted an entirely Anglican missionary society. Eventually, after overcoming their own inexperience, they formed the Church Mission Society (CMS) on April 12, 1799.

¹ Wilbert R. Shenk, *Henry Venn – Missionary Statesman* (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 1983), p.1

² Richard L. Gathro, *William Wilberforce and His Circle of Friends*, in C.S. Lewis Institute Report, Summer 2001

Henry's father John led the meetings that led to the creation of the CMS and it was he that was primarily responsible for placing the CMS within an evangelical framework when he said that the CMS "should be founded upon the church principle, not the High Church principle"³. This set it apart from the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge (SPCK) and the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (SPG) and LMS, the latter being an interdenominational society and the former two being enterprises of the High Church branch of the Church of England. John, and the other evangelical voices of the Clapham Sect who help to shape Henry, believed that the Gospel must be praxis. They are remembered as "pioneering Christian philanthropy and for creating institutions for Christian mission and humanitarian services"⁴.

The CMS that Henry joined in 1819 was certainly not the first mission organization in or near the Church of England. The SPCK and SPG had been in existence for almost a century beforehand and the LMS was established in 1795. During much of the eighteenth century, however, the Church of England paid little attention to mission. It was not until people like John and Charles Wesley, George Whitefield and Lloyd Harris began to preach throughout Great Britain that the Church of England began to awaken to missionary zeal. The early work of the Eclectic Society eventually led to the formation of the CMS⁵ for varied reasons not the least of which was the desire to make amends for the actions that white Britons had done to other races⁶.

At an Eclectic Society meeting in 1796, Charles Simeon, supported by William Wilberforce and Henry Thornton, proposed that mission be directly linked to the church. Returning to this issue three years later it was determined that the Evangelicals within the Church of England should sponsor a missionary society⁷. John Venn and Charles Simeon successfully argued against joining forces with the LMS and the CMS was born. John Venn pressed four points upon which to build this society. First, success depends on the Holy Spirit opening doors and guiding the people involved; second, the strength of mission lies in the quality of the men and women sent out; third, mission must begin small and build; fourth, as mentioned above, the society must be based on church principles not High church principles⁸. The CMS acknowledged the priesthood of all believers. They did, however, firmly position themselves within the institution submitting the society to the authority of the church. In 1825 the CMS founded the Church Missionary Institution at Islington "to assure a regular supply of missionary candidates"⁹.

In the early missions of the church young Henry believed that there was a general method of preaching the Gospel¹⁰ and that 'controversy' was to be used. By drawing comparisons and contrasts between Christianity and other faiths, such as Hinduism and Islam, missionary preachers could demonstrate the errors of the other faiths. Over the years this approach

³ Shenk, p.2

⁴ Ibid

⁵ Shenk, p. 19

⁶ Ibid

⁷ Shenk, p.20

⁸ Ibid

⁹ Shenk, p. 21

¹⁰ Shenk, p. 29

changed, and dialogue replaced controversy¹¹. Henry was ahead of many of his peers when he established the Female Education Society in 1834. He believed that “female education as a means of training Christian mothers and female native teachers presents at the present time the most important field of missionary labour”¹². Henry generally disliked the institutional approach to mission e.g. Christian orphanages, but rather believed in the “Ragland Plan”. This approach involved the missionary moving from village to village living in a tent¹³. The apostle Paul was to be a model for mission, i.e. fixed on a purpose, farsighted and pioneer as well as founding not joining churches.

The evolution of Henry’s thought is also evident in church leadership. Early on, the idea of an ‘indigenous church’ referred to a church that had met the European standards in leadership. The underlying belief was that any culture other than European was inferior. But Henry Venn respected other cultures and in 1843 he opposed bringing non-Europeans to Britain for training because “it would denationalize them”¹⁴. Initially, Venn held in tension his belief that European culture was the paradigm and that all people were created equal. He argued that the “great principle of Protestant missions is native agency under European superintendence”¹⁵. Eventually, however, he came to see his paternalistic position as untenable. His papers of 1851, 1861 and 1866 spoke of self-governance and self-support. He introduced a four-part structure to the indigenous churches, which made them responsible for their own costs, education, division of teachers and evangelists and the building of an indigenous episcopate.

Peace,
Simon+



PARISH COUNCIL NEWS – January 30, 2019

Current Diocesan events were highlighted. Please see this “by George!” for current information.

The Property Department is working with Corporation and the Memorial Fund to improve the flow of information and invoices. Four motions were carried by Parish Council for referral to the Memorial Fund:

- An additional \$2195.77 for the kitchen stove/oven.

¹¹ Ibid

¹² Shenk, p. 40

¹³ Ibid

¹⁴ Shenk, p. 42

¹⁵ Shenk, p. 43

- The cost of condensate return tank's replacement of \$4 520.
- Repairs to the piping on the boiler for \$2 525.39.
- Up to \$2 250 for JVC, the mechanical company that has been doing some work on our heating system, to complete an evaluation of the heating/mechanical systems.

Hospitality highlighted that membership at St. George's follows the Canon definitions – regular attender of worship, and 16 years of age or older. Any member can attend and vote at the AGM. The Visitors' Guide will be updated after the AGM and more copies distributed throughout the pews.

Mission and Ministry will be holding the Thelma Wynne shower on February 10.

Corporation reported that Kinderschule wasn't able to trial use of the parish hall in January, as they haven't heard back on a licensing change; and Simon will have time off and coverage after his March 15 surgery.

After line by line review and some changes to reduce the deficit on January 23, Parish Council approved a deficit budget of \$52 532 for submission to AGM. Parish Council will provide the AGM lunch and there will not be a cost for the lunch.

Glen Douglas will be facilitating the March 9 Parish Council Retreat. The purpose of the day was clarified and the expected outcome was seen to be a list of items/concepts that could be costed in more detail. Chairs of various committees will be invited now, so they can block the time off in their calendar.

Courtesies were given all departing members of Parish Council and to Andrew Thomson for his work as Warden.

The next Parish Council meeting is March 20.

Approved Parish Council Minutes are posted on the Parish Council bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

FINANCE REPORT

St. George's Church – January 2019

As a one month statement has too many timing differences for meaningful reporting, there are no details of the January statement in this "by George!". Watch for details in the next "by George!" and in the posted Parish Council minutes.

The chequing account is reconciled to the end of January 2019.

Our Balance Sheet includes about 42 **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 – Norquay

School can only be used for Norquay School. Some Funds have ongoing activity and some don't.

Changes to Designated Funds > \$500 in January:

- Eritrean Family: -\$964 for expenses
- West Broadway Community Ministry: -\$600 for the cooks's salary
- Flowers: +\$533 from donations

If you haven't read about the preliminary 2018 Actuals and the 2019 Budget, I encourage you to see the AGM report presented on Sunday, February 17.

If have any questions on the Finance Report, please let me know. Thanks.

Ted Cotton



STEWARDSHIP MATTERS

As you likely know, 2019 will be a challenging financial year. Similar to the words of Mahatma Gandhi – Generosity isn't based on the sum given, but on the manner it is bestowed - St. George's appreciates all financial donations regardless of the amount. We hope that you see the irony in the anonymous quote – When it comes to charity, many people stop at nothing.

We are grateful for the many parishioners who are sharing their time and talents with St. George's. Some of these ministries can use more time and talent, including:

- Choir members aged 7 and up. Contact Rick Morgan
- Sidespeople. Contact Dean Melnychuk
- Flower arrangers. Contact Brenda Cotton
- Stewardship. Contact Ted Cotton
- Servers. Contact Geri Morgan

Electronic Offering Program: 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 from the church office or on the church website at [Preauthorized Donation Registration/Amendment Form](#) .

Envelopes: If you prefer regular donations by cheque, the church office can provide you a box of envelopes. If you need an occasional envelope, there are multi-use envelopes in the pews.

Note: parishioners should be aware that about 3% of a credit card donation to a charity goes to the credit card company and provider of the credit card donation system.

Ted Cotton



SUNDAY SCHOOL PRAYER – February 24, 2019

DEAR LOVING GOD, FEB. 24/19

THANK YOU FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS. WE ARE
THANKFUL THAT WE ARE SURROUNDED BY THEIR LOVE.
THANK YOU FOR BRINGING THESE SPECIAL PEOPLE
INTO OUR LIVES. HELP US TO LOVE OTHERS AND
FORGIVE OTHERS THE WAY YOU LOVE AND FORGIVE US.

☺

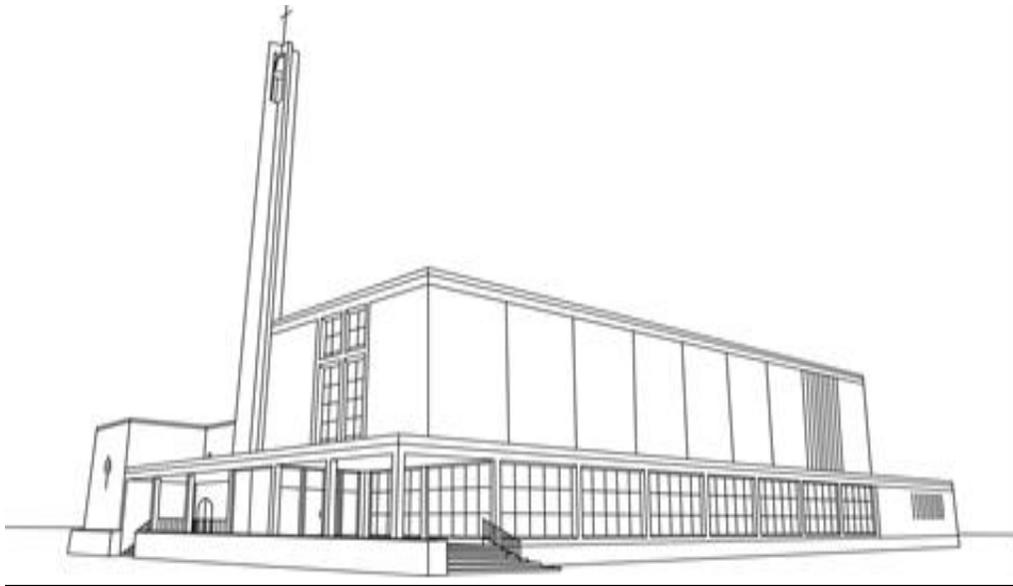
IN JESUS' NAME WE PRAY,
AMEN

MISSION AND MINISTRY

West Broadway Community Ministry is celebrating its 40th year with a Gala Dinner on March 23 at the Viscount Gort Hotel (by Polo Park). Doors open at 6 pm. Tickets are \$100.00. An income tax receipt for \$70.00 will be issued for each ticket purchased. A table of 10 is \$900.00; the tax receipt will also be \$70.00 per ticket. It is not necessary for one individual to purchase the whole table; 10 people can contribute \$90.00 each and receive individual tax receipts.

Westworth United Church (also a big supporter of WBCM) is challenging St George's to fill one table for the gala. Westworth has already 80% sold of its first table. Now they are aiming for two tables! We can do that too!!

Contact Rick Morgan or Sandra Hartt with your ticket order and your cheque! Aside from our refugee families, West Broadway is definitely the biggest outreach work that we do.



CONVERSATION CIRCLES

In September 2018, the 125th anniversary of General Synod, Archbishop Fred Hiltz invited the church to listen to its heartbeat—launching 10 months of “conversation circles” which will take place all across the country.

Conversation circles are guided by the 4 simple steps below, that will help Anglicans speak from the heart about their faith: where the holy is experienced in our lives, what moves us to pray, and what makes our hearts lift—or ache.

The Primate is inviting all Canadian Anglicans to listen carefully to their experiences of how God has touched their hearts, and to share their prayers for our beloved church with one another.

For more information, please use the link below.



STEP 1: *Opening*

STEP 2: *Speaking from the heart*

STEP 3: *Reflecting and praying on words of Jesus from the Gospel of John*

STEP 4: *Closing*

<https://www.anglican.ca/wp-content/uploads/heartbeat-booklet-5.5x8.5.pdf>

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TREATY 1 LAND

We acknowledge that we meet and work on Treaty 1 Land, the traditional land of the Anishinaabe, Cree, and Dakota people and the homeland of the Metis Nation. We are grateful for their stewardship of this land and their hospitality which allows us to live, work and serve God the Creator here.