

“by George!”

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Fall

The “by George!” connects all parishioners through electronic or hard copy distribution. It is normally published in September, November, February, 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
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September 2024

Fall Edition

All Things Bright and Beautiful

I think of Fall as a season of natural beauty and thankfulness. The hymn, All Things Bright and Beautiful, was written in the 1800s but it still describes our setting much better than I could:

Refrain:

All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.

1 Each little flow'r that opens,
each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colors,
He made their tiny wings. [Refrain]

2 The purple-headed mountain,
the river running by,
the sunset and the morning
that brightens up the sky. [Refrain]

3 The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden:
He made them every one. [Refrain]

4 He gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God Almighty,
who has made all things well. [Refrain]

Source: Psalms and Hymns to the Living God #184

Simple but meaningful!

The next “by George!” will be in November. Be thoughtful and have a great fall. See you at St. George’s!

Ted Cotton

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mark Your Calendars with these Upcoming Dates within our Parish Church of St. George, Crescentwood:

Wed – Oct 16 Mid-Day Eucharist – Noon – Chapel
Parish Council Meeting – Guild Room – 7:00 pm
Thu – Oct 17 Crafts & Conversation – Guild Room – 1:00 pm
Sun – Oct 20 Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost – Morning Prayer – 10:00
Wed – Oct 23 Mid-Day Eucharist – Noon – Chapel
Fri – Oct 25 Annual Fall Sale – 5:30 pm
Sat – Oct 26 Annual Fall Sale – 10:00 am
Sun – Oct 27 Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost – Eucharist – 10:30
Choral Evensong – 4:00 pm

This calendar is an intentional look at the short term. For the most current calendar and more information about St. George's, please visit:

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

The **Parish Office** is open Tuesday to Friday, 10 am to 3 pm; access after hours can be pre-arranged by calling the office 204-453-5642 during office hours. Please note: The office will close at 2:00 pm on Wednesdays.

Our Incumbent, Rev. Fr. Sheppard Gwende, can be reached at: (204) 390-8522 or rector@stgeorges.mb.ca . If you have an **urgent pastoral situation**, please contact him at (204) 390-8522.



For those **attending worship** in-person, masks are recommended but are not required!

If you prefer to attend virtually, Sunday services are live-streamed. You can view from the comfort of your own home, cottage, or Join at <http://www.stgeorges.mb.ca/live>

There is no livestreaming of Chapel services on Wednesdays.

The organ prelude will begin at approximately 10:25 on Sunday am and the service at 10:30 am.

Sunday School continues in the Guild Room during the 10:30 service.

Please join us for a friendly **chat and a beverage** after the 10:30 service in the Parish Hall. You'll be able to catch up with some and meet others you don't know as well. Thanks to those who set up, serve and clean up. **Anyone interested in helping provide the beverage service and engaging with the parish** is encouraged to sign up for a Sunday on the Wilton bulletin board or contact Ted Cotton at tedcotton@mymts.net. Opportunities to provide this fellowship service are available in the Fall. Thanks.

An **Advent Study** will be held after Sunday services from November 3rd through December 8th. Registration is advised so the correct number of books can be purchased. The study book is called, "God With Us: The Companionship of Jesus in the Challenges of Life," by Herbert O'Driscoll. To register please contact David Lyttle at drlyttle@hotmail.com or the Parish Office.

A **Trivia Night** is being planned for Saturday November 23. More information will follow.

THOUGHT FOR THIS EDITION

Fall shows us what a beautiful world we live in.

IN THE BROADER COMMUNITY

Dates for Synod 2024, the 119th Session of the Synod of the Diocese of Rupert's Land

- Thursday, October 17, 2024 5:30PM - 9:30 PM
- Friday, October 18, 2024 8:00AM - 5:00 PM
- Saturday, October 19, 2024 8:00AM - 2:30 PM

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 .



SUNDAY SCHOOL PRAYERS

Dear God, today we learn to serve others before ourselves and this is what makes us great. God, help us to be great at...

- giving food
- sharing stories
- donate old clothes
- Share toys
- Show love

God, we know to be your children and follow your word we need to first serve you.
Amen!

This week we honour Orange Shirt Day as we remember that every child matters. Today we pray that every child feels...

- safe
- cared for
- happy
- important
- loved
- special
- a sense of belonging

Lord, we know there have been mistakes in the past. Help guide us through our journey of learning and sharing the truth, and taking action to do better. Amen!

FROM THE DESK OF THE INCUMBENT

Embracing the Seasons of Faith

As we come to the close of another summer, the changing seasons offer us a moment to reflect on the passage of time, both in nature and in our spiritual lives. The warmth of the sun, the beauty of long days, and the opportunities for rest and renewal that summer brings are now fading, making way for the cooler breezes and the approaching rhythm of fall.

This transition reminds us of the cycles and seasons that God has placed in our lives. In Ecclesiastes 3:1, we are told, "To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under heaven." Just as nature moves through its seasons, so too does our faith. Each season has its own purpose, blessings, and lessons, and as summer comes to an end, it is worth pausing to consider how this time has shaped us and how we can move forward with renewed hearts.

1. Gratitude for a Season of Rest

Summer often brings a slower pace, whether it's through vacations, time spent with family, or simply enjoying the beauty of creation. My family had various experiences during the summer, from day trips to St. Malo and Birds hill, to a six-day adventure at Nutimik Lake. There is lots to see and enjoy in Manitoba and we are grateful. As we step into a new season, we should all carry with us a spirit of gratitude for the moments of rest and relaxation that God provided during this time.

Rest is a gift from God, and it reminds us that we are not defined by our busyness or achievements, but by our identity as His beloved children. As we read in Psalm 23, "He makes me lie down in green pastures, He leads me beside quiet waters, He refreshes my soul."

Let's take a moment to give thanks for the refreshment of our souls this summer and recognize that God often speaks to us in times of rest, renewing our strength for the season ahead.

2. Reflection on Growth

Just as nature grows and flourishes in the summer months, this season may have been a time of spiritual growth for many of us. Whether through time spent in prayer, attending Mass, or personal reflection, summer can provide the opportunity to deepen our relationship with God.

Now, as the season changes, it is important to reflect on how we have grown spiritually. Have we taken the time to draw closer to God? Have we strengthened our faith and relationship with others? Have we become more aware of God's presence in our daily lives?

As the leaves begin to change, let's take stock of the fruits of this summer's growth, asking God to help us continue to nurture these seeds of faith in the months to come.

3. Preparing for the Harvest

The end of summer is also a time to look ahead to what God may be calling us to in this new season. In the same way that farmers prepare for the harvest in the fall, we too are called to gather the spiritual fruits of our labor and share them with others.

Jesus reminds us in Matthew 9:37, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.” As we transition from summer into autumn, we are invited to reflect on how we can become laborers in His vineyard, sharing His love, mercy, and truth with those around us. This involves volunteering to serve God in various capacities at St George’s Parish. Whether you are a new or regular member of the parish, perhaps God is calling you to volunteer in a new ministry, deepen your involvement in the church community, or reach out to someone in need. Whatever the harvest may be, let’s enter this new season with open hearts, ready to respond to God’s call.

Conclusion: Carrying the Light Forward

As we say goodbye to summer and prepare for the months ahead, let’s carry with us the warmth and light of this season. Summer may end, but the light of Christ never fades. He is with us in every season, guiding, nurturing, and renewing us. Let us enter this new season with gratitude for the blessings of summer, reflecting on the ways we have grown, and a readiness to respond to God’s call. May we embrace the changes ahead with faith, knowing that God is doing something new in each of our lives, even as the leaves begin to fall.

May the Lord bless you and your families as we journey together into the beauty of this new season, trusting in His love and provision every step of the way.

Fr. Sherpard Gwende

Métis Sash Displayed at St. George’s

In October, 2023, the Rev. Deacon Tanis Kolisnyk visited St. George’s to preach on Indigenous issues and the path to reconciliation.

As she left us that day, she gifted the parish a Métis scarf, sharing that displaying the scarf in the church signifies an openness and welcoming to Indigenous peoples. St. George’s eagerly accepted this gift and, following consultation, decided to place the scarf on the lectern to be visible for all to see.

In the days after, it was noted that the scarf at the lectern would be visible only if one were in the church building; for those passing by the church, there would be no symbol the parish was welcoming to Indigenous peoples. Following a discussion at a meeting of Worship Committee in November, 2023, it was agreed a second Métis sash would be purchased so that one could be prominently displayed and seen by passers-by. Discussions were undertaken with various individuals and groups as to the placement of this second sash. In the end, it was agreed it would be displayed in the “birdcage window”. Brenda Cotton provided suggestions for placement, recognizing she regularly updates the birdcage window to reflect activities throughout the church year. Brent Cotton was also consulted, representing the Design Committee, who joined with Sheryl Thomson in determining placement and the method to display the scarf.

In early September, the original sash was relocated from the lectern and hung in the “birdcage window” facing out onto Wilton Street to show St. George’s as a welcoming place for all, especially our Indigenous sisters and brothers; the newly purchased sash was placed on the lectern.

Appreciation and thanks are extended to Brenda Cotton, Brent Cotton and Sheryl Thomson for their work in supporting this further step in our journey of reconciliation.

Christopher Thomson

Chair, Worship Committee

THANKS FOR CALLING

Throughout each day, the elderly are waiting; hoping that someone will call.
 A son, a daughter, a grandchild, a friend, or neighbour – anyone at all.
 Without a spouse or partner, they live alone, and time goes by so slowly.
 The only sounds are the TV, radio, or clocks tick-tocking loudly.
 Their social circle is much smaller these days, as their friends have passed away.
 Four walls and dark shadows may be their only company - day after day.
 They know their kids work hard, and can't spare the time, with the busy lives they lead.
 So, they pass the time with crossword puzzles, housework, or paper books to read.
 Texts are used by their kids to stay connected, but they aren't their parents' choice.
 A telephone call breaks up the quiet times and it's good to hear a voice.
 When my mom was still alive, I would phone her while I was on my lunch break.
 She had lots of questions about my family and worried for my sake.
 She did not have much news for me, so she talked about her local weather.
 She could tell that I was listening, and it was like we were together.
 When our call was ending, she was close to tears - I could hear it in her tone.
 But she always said "*Thanks for Calling*" before she sadly hung up the phone.
 With a visit for lunch or tea, a quick pop-in, or just a short phone call,
 Their mood could be made much happier – even though these gestures seem so small.

Anne Toth

An online parishioner from Calgary

FINANCE REPORT

The Net Loss to August 2024 is \$61 533. This is Favourable (F) to Budget but slightly Unfavourable (U) to last year.
 Fundraising is \$1135 U. Concerts is unfavourable due to less activity than budgeted and Dinners is unfavourable due to an accrual issue that should be adjusted with the Review.
 Interest Earned is \$3854U to Budget. This is timing and less investments.
 Identified Giving is \$3527 F to Budget but \$918 U to last year.
 Sundry Rentals is \$4485 F due to more ad hoc events e.g. movies
 Administrative Assistant Payroll Benefits are \$740 U. This is more benefits taken.
 Rector's Living Allowance and Stipend are offsets.
 Rector's Payroll Benefits are \$1054 U. This is underbudgeted.
 Music Director is \$993 U due to the overlap between Rick and Julian
 Music Director Payroll Benefits is \$894 U as we didn't budget for Julian to be an employee.
 General Maintenance is \$1633 F. This is timing.
 Security and Fire Detection is \$857 F. This is timing.
 Utilities – Gas is \$8770F. This is timing and ongoing commodity rate decreases.

The chequing account is reconciled to August 31, 2024.

Changes in Designated Funds > \$500:
There were no changes > \$500.

There have been two transfers from RBC investments to TD chequing for cash flow (pay bills): \$15,000 on August 15 and \$10,000 on September 16.

The auditors are concluding their 2023 Review. They expect to submit a draft later soon.

If you have any questions on the Finance Report, please let Ted Cotton know (204 488 3606 or tedcotton@mymts.net). Thanks.



STEWARDSHIP MATTERS

Along with **treasure**, Stewardship is **time and talent**. If you have time and talent available, St. George's would welcome you in one of the many volunteer opportunities in the parish e.g. Stewardship Chair, by G! Editor, greeter, choir, beverage preparation, server Please talk to one of the Wardens.

Thanks to all parishioners who make their regular offerings to St George's. More than half of our donations now come from preauthorized donations.

Another easy way to make your offering to St. George's whether you are at church or not is to e-transfer from your bank account to office@stgeorges.mb.ca .

Our Square terminal allows us to take electronic payments at parish events.

In the Fall, we run our Stewardship campaign to determine what parishioners are willing to give to God's work in the Parish of St. George's (Crescentwood). This is especially important as we cope with deficits and cashing investments to pay our bills. Watch for more information soon.

If you have any questions about Stewardship or donation methods, please contact Ted Cotton at tedcotton@mymts.net or 204 488 3606.



MISSION AND MINISTRY

The Prayer Box: We pray weekly for some people who need those extra prayers, and we call out their names. Just to remind you, we also have dedicated parishioners that say extra prayers for those who may not want their names made public. When requesting prayer it really helps if you fill out a prayer request form and let Marian know if the person being prayed for has given permission to you to be on the public prayer list or if they prefer to be on the private prayers only.

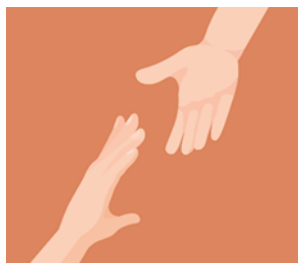
We are also looking for a few more people to pray for those on the private prayer list. If you have some moments during the day or evening, please consider this important ministry.

Community Support: St. George's has supported **West Broadway/1Just City** for many years. Things that are always needed: coffee, sugar, coffee whitener, common spices and seasonings, metal forks/soup spoons (used is fine - no plastic), regular size mugs (used is fine), baking powder, muffin liner cups, shampoos and conditioners. Cupcake papers, cake mixes and spices are always needed at West Broadway. Your empty travel-sized containers are needed too!

We will also deliver non-perishable food items to **Epiphany Indigenous Anglican**. Please bring in any of the following canned items: vegetables, juice, soup, fruit, Kraft dinner, pasta, pasta sauce, stews, baby formula/food or boxed cereal/instant oatmeal. Our work with Epiphany is a new initiative, part of our reconciliation activities.

All items can be placed in baskets at the back of the church and, after blessing, will be delivered to either WB or Epiphany. Your ongoing support is very much appreciated!

Mission & Ministry is now supporting a neighbourhood seniors programs that runs at St. Matthew's Anglican. We are requesting monetary donations to help with the costs of this program. Mark your cheque "**St. Matthew's Seniors**". Tax receipts will be issued for all donations. The program takes place on 3 Mondays per month, for 9 months of the year. It is a drop in which provides coffee, tea, snacks, card games, conversation and some craft activities. St. Paul's Anglican (Fort Garry) also supports this program with volunteers. Our own Rev. Peter is also involved.





THE FALL BBQ

Thanks to all those who organized, set up, grilled, served, cleaned up, and attended our Fall BBQ on October 6. It was an enjoyable fellowship event.



THE ANNUAL FALE SALE

**ANNUAL
FALL SALE**

**FRIDAY OCT 25
5:30PM TO 7:30PM
AND
SATURDAY OCT 26
9:30AM TO 1:30PM**

**AT
ST GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH
168 WILTON STREET AT GROSVENOR**

**ADULT CLOTHING
JEWELLERY
CHRISTMAS ITEMS
BOOKS AND BAKE
TABLE**



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TREATY 1 LAND

We acknowledge that we meet and worship on Treaty 1 Land, the traditional territories of the Ininiwak, Anishinaabe and Dakota peoples, and the homeland of the Red River Métis Nation. We recognize the mistakes and harms of the present and past and commit to the work of healing in a spirit of reconciliation and respect, trusting in God’s guidance and love.
