

2014 Annual Vestry Report

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Opening Hymn - Let All Things Now Living The Ash Grove

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God the creator triumphantly raise, who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, who still guides us on to the end of our days.

Love's banners are o'er us, God's light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night, till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished, as forward we travel from light into Light.

God's law still enforces the stars in their courses and causes the sun in its splendour to shine; the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the deeps of the ocean in praises combine.

We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing; with glad adoration a song let us raise till all things now living unite in thanksgiving: "To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"

Archbishop's Pastoral Letter to Vestries, 2015

to be read or circulated on the Sunday of the parish's annual vestry meeting



To the Clergy, Churchwardens and Parishioners My Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Grace and peace in the name of our Saviour Jesus Christ.

The Area Bishops and I are deeply grateful to all of you gathering today in the annual Vestry meeting of your parish to review the past year and establish priorities for the year ahead. We offer you our prayers and support as you continue to join in Christ's mission to his world.

This past December marked the 175th anniversary of the installation of John Strachan as first Bishop of Toronto in the newly created Cathedral Church of St. James. The young colony over which he presided – all of southern and most of northern Ontario – was a very different community than now. Nonetheless it was facing rapid growth, new immigration and ethnic tensions (e.g, Irish vs English, and Roman Catholic vs Protestant). The new diocese had to come to terms with being Anglican in a challenging context, learning to adapt from the privileged position of a state-supported and protected established Church to being one part of a multidenominational mix.

Bishop Strachan identified four principles that continue in our DNA today:

- 1. **A Missional Approach**: The diocese established new parishes and innovative ministries to proclaim the Gospel in response to the religious needs of a growing population; within 35 years, four new dioceses were carved out of Toronto to assist in that mission.
- 2. **Contextual Ministry**: The creation of an indigenously recruited and locally trained ministry, both clerical and lay, would be necessary to understand and minister most effectively in the new world context. As a teacher, Bishop Strachan valued education of the highest order in all disciplines, including science, arts, technology and theology.
- 3. **Self-sufficiency**: Bishop Strachan knew that the new diocese and its parishes could not thrive if they looked primarily to outside resources to fund the ministry. Instead, there was a need to develop strong financial support from the laity. This meant that the laity needed to be engaged in the decision making processes of the Church. This led to the development in Toronto of some of the first Synods in the Anglican Communion.
- 4. **Social Engagement**: The Anglican ethos was integrally connected with the whole of society, with a concern for the welfare of the civil community as well as the Church so Anglicans expected to be engaged in schools, government, business, hospitals and work with the poor as a public expression and natural extension of their faith.

We have inherited this DNA and it marks our witness to Jesus Christ through "intelligent faith, compassionate service and Godly worship." I am pleased to say that we are increasingly reclaiming our fundamental role as a missional people - listening, discerning and joining in God's great work of building the Kingdom and reconciling all things in Christ.

Across the diocese, in rural communities, suburbs and cities, Anglicans are reaching out in faithin creative ways as well as the tried-and-true approaches. Applicants for ordained ministry continue to come forward – more than a dozen will be ordained this year from diverse backgrounds and ages.

Over 10,000 individuals have completed screening in order to participate in significant lay ministries across the diocese. The contributions to the Our Faith, Our Hope campaign, to parish budgets and the FaithWorks ministries are sustaining our work. And as Christian citizens we are deeply engaged in the welfare of communities where we live.

I hope that the priorities for ministry, the programmes you offer, and the work you do in your parish meeting today support this mission.

As part of our engagement with our community, I draw your attention to the proposal for a motion on climate change prepared by our Social Justice and Advocacy Committee. It is deliberately framed to allow it to be tailored to your own context. While it is helpful to have the motion passed or amended – I can use this data when I meet with members of government, for instance, to indicate the level of support that I represent - that is not the most important thing. For me, it is to have the issues discussed and people of all persuasions to commit to learn more, understand better and act responsibly and faithfully in the name of Jesus Christ.

There are inevitably different possible solutions and different ways of both understanding and addressing the problems, which is why open discussion and healthy debate within our parishes on these matters is an essential part of our Christian duty. Complex issues are not solved only by experts. In fact, solutions to complex problems require imagination, creativity, determination and changed attitudes because expertise does not yet exist. As Anglicans, we know that we need to wrestle with how we interpret our faith and that there will often be competing conclusions. There is, however, no such thing for an incarnate Christianity as faith without engagement with theissues of the day.

I want to thank especially the churchwardens and the lay leaders of your parish, as well as the clergy, for their incredible gift of their time and energy this past year for the ongoing life of the Church. We could not function without them. We welcome those who are beginning or continuing in office this year and assure them of our prayers and support.

Together with the College of Bishops, I wish each of you every blessing for the year of our Lord that lies before us.

Yours faithfully,

The Most Rev'd Colin R. Johnson Archbishop of

+ John Formits

Toronto



January 12, 2015

Dear co-workers in ministry,

I wish you God's blessing in the New Year. I trust that you will read the pastoral letter from the Archbishop at your annual meeting. May I also share some thoughts as your Area Bishop.

First and foremost, thank you for faithful witness to our Lord Jesus. Thank you, priests, deacons, wardens, treasurers, board members, anyone who serve others in the parish and beyond. The Archbishop pointed out at the New Year Levee that thousands are involved in ministry in this Diocese. You are fulfilling our mission in the world of creating communities of hope and compassion.

We are all aware of the changing context for Christian witness. On the one hand, openness to spirituality in our culture presents tremendous opportunities for witness. On the other hand, "doing church" takes more effort, costs more, and is under closer scrutiny from society. More than ever, we need to be more intentional in order to have healthy churches, be they small or large. We have learned that a healthy church has a clear sense of its mission, as well as adequate resources – volunteers, staff, buildings, and money – to fulfill that mission. In the coming year the Diocesan Leadership Team will make objective benchmarks of what these are.

I urge you to pay attention to record-keeping. I have asked the Regional Deans to inspect vestry records, as the canons require them to do. Our registers are legal documents that may confirm or dispute someone's residency or marital status. Statistics will also give us solid data for projection into the future. Financial accountability is an expectation for non-profit organisations, and we are keenly watched by the Canada Revenue Agency. It causes me alarm that some parishes in York-Scarborough have had their charitable status taken away from time to time, all for avoidable lapses in record-keeping. Timely preparation before vestry will ensure that parochial returns are filed on time, saving time-consuming and unpleasant rounds of subsequent follow-up. Both the Diocesan website and our staff are most helpful. Please call if you have any questions.

We are excited about upcoming events and programs in the Area to enhance ministry, including a social media training day; another clergy health day; and a clergy and musician workshop. A list of events and their dates follows this letter. Our Youth Animator, Jillian Ruch, is available to support youth leaders.

I am privileged to be teaching some short courses at Ming Hua Theological College in Hong Kong and will resume parish visitations in Lent. God's richest blessing on you all.

Yours faithfully,

The Right Reverend Patrick Yu Area Bishop of York-Scarborough Bishop Suffragan of Toronto

Christ Church Deer Park Minutes for Vestry February 23, 2014

- 1. Opening Hymn (Let All Things Now Living), & Prayer.
 - The names of the Parishioners that passed on in 2013 were read.
 - A note of thanks to the caterers of today's lunch.
- 2. Appointment of Vestry Clerk Barbara Marwood
- 3. Minutes of the Vestry Meeting of February 24, 2013 Moved by Robert Hutchison and seconded by William Jackson Accepted
- 4. Acceptance of 2013 Annual Vestry Report Moved by Bob Shea and seconded by Margo Bowen. Accepted
- 5. Financial Report Given by Robert Morrow
 - a. Financial Report for 2013 -
 - Some highlights were noted: there was a small deficit in 2013; noted that the ACW budget is now reported through the annual budget rather than separately as it was in the past; the congregational givings in 2012 were higher due to a single gift which was not repeated in 2013; funds from rental of church property were down in 2013; in 2012, the clergy salary was lower as we did not have a full complement of clergy; the restrictive funds reflect a better investment income in 2013 particularly in relation to the market value of the funds set aside for the rectory (under the control of the diocese.)
 - Questions Phyllis Creighton noted that our Outreach funds had dropped in 2013 and that we could do better. Elizabeth Joy noted that although the ACW funds are reported separately, they are also including Outreach funds.

Motion to Accept Audited Financial Statements Moved by Robert Morrow seconded by David Thornton. Accepted

b. Motion to Appoint the Auditor for 2014.

Appoint Maureen A. Parry as auditor for 2014.

Moved by Robert Morrow and seconded by Michael Butler.

Accepted

6. Elections:

The Management Team has recommended that in the interests of continuity, a number of the current positions remain for 2014.

a. People's Warden: Carolyn Kearns

b. Deputy Warden: Henry Zaluski

- c. Ministry Chairs:
 - i. i. Learning: Emily Chatten
 - ii.ii. Hospitality: William Jackson
 - iii. iii. Communications: Joyce Hamilton
 - iv. iv. Property: Walter Blackwell
 - v.v. Rummage Coordinator: Maxine Henry
- d. Lay Members of Synod: Al Rands, Kathleen Lindsey, William Jackson Maggie Symons will be leaving as lay member of synod as her term is up and she was thanked for her participation. Moved to accept the elected officials by Robert Hutchison and seconded by George Lewis.

Accepted.

- 7. Rector's Appointments:
 - a. Rector's Warden: Genevieve Chornenki
 - b. ACW Chairs: Anne LeFeuvre & Joan Huycke
 - c. Chancel Guild Presidents: Anne Larkin & Maggie Symonds
 - d. Coordinator of 10:00 a.m. Lay Assistants: David Thornton
 - e. Coordinator of 10:00 a.m. Sides persons: Al Rands
 - f. Coordinator of 10:00 a.m. Readers: Jill MacRae
- 8. Management Team Appointments:
 - a. Treasurer: Rick Varkey
 - b. Chairs of Stewardship: Robert Hutchison & Innes van Nostrand
 - c. Chairs of Trust Committee: Jill MacRae & Franck Perrin
 - d. Archive Committee Chairs: Pat Murdoch & Jenny Rieger
- 9. 2014 Operating Budget presented by Genevieve Chornenki

Refer to the separate narrative budget document entitled "Money Matters".

- The following points were made: a projected increase in congregational givings of 9% amounts to \$2.44 per parishioner; the projected increase in expenses for children is due to the fact that we have increased staff hours to support programming for young adults as well as children; new initiatives will result in an increase in funding for 2014.
- Questions Anne Larkin: As there is no chairperson for Outreach, who manages the budgeted funds? The answer is the Management Team on behalf of the parish. All commitments such as the food bank, meals on wheels and the breakfast program are included in the budget. JR Thornton offered to assist a new person.
- Walter Blackwell's question about capital funds will be responded to later in this
 meeting.
- Eleanor Kirk suggested that an envelope be placed in the pews for money to be designated to a specific concern.
- Jane Reeves asked when the new initiatives mentioned in the operating budget will be started. It was answered that some already have and others are likely to begin sometime in 2014.

Motion to accept 2014 Operating Budget by Don Dority and seconded by Bob Shea. Accepted

The Rector expressed thanks to Genevieve Chornenki. Henry Zaluski and Paul Marritt for their exceptional work preparing the narrative budget document.

10. Looking Forward

a. a.Rector's Warden - presented by Genevieve Chornenki re the reserve fund. An engineering company was commissioned to do a study on projected capital expenditures needed within the next ten years. This report, the Halsall report, was received last week. Expenditures will be required for normal wear and tear, mandatory statutory compliance and safety issues. No safety issues were found. The capital expenditures amount to about \$115,000 per year. On May 4th, 2014, a Parish Forum on Money Matters has been scheduled and ideas will be discussed.

b. Rector -

- Douglas Graydon, Associate Priest is retiring at the end of February and Julie Meakin, Assistant Curate will be leaving on March 31, 2014.
- A selection committee has been convened consisting of the Rector, Genevieve Chornenki, Carolyn Kearns, Barbara Barnett and Jessie Billett.
- The Rector talked about the success of the parish being dependent on the
 engagement of every member and on the ability of a parish to reach out to the
 community.
- The certification of the Congregational Care team will be held next week.

11. Recognition & Thanks -

Carolyn Kearns.

- Recognition and thanks were extended to all who work so hard for CCDP and to their families and friends who support these volunteer efforts. Often they are the same individuals but recently there have been a number of new faces.
- Douglas Graydon has been with us for the last two years. He has been instrumental in setting up pastoral care, Christian education during Advent and Lent and particularly the extra work he took on during the Rector's leave. He is also the coordinator for chaplaincy services for hospitals, prisons and Christian schools in the diocese.
- Robert Morrow has been active at CCDP for twenty seven years. He has been involved
 in many aspects of the church including finance (1988 -1998, 2011-2013), organizing lay
 readers, coffee hour, confirmation classes and stewardship. Acknowledgement and
 thanks were also extended to his wife, Sandra, who often worked with Rob on these
 activities.
- Both Douglas and Rob are presented with small gifts of appreciation of their time with CCDP.

Kevin Robertson noted that the numbers in our financial report do not reflect the tremendous amount of time and energy given by members of our community.

- Thank you to all members of staff Dennis Delisle and the part time custodians, clergy, and music director. The hiring of Paul Marritt as the Director of Parish Operations has been a great addition to the staff team.
- Thanks to the Management Team who meet regularly and work very hard in the best interests of the parish.

12. Other Business

Petition re minimum wage in Ontario. Parish vestries have been asked if they wished to vote for support of a provincial petition requesting that the government increase Ontario's minimum wage beyond the amount recently approved by the Province of Ontario. A copy of the petition has been made available for anyone to sign as they wish.

• Bob Shea- new CCDP website is wonderful. Henry Zaluski responded that if he likes it now, just wait until it's finished!

13. Adjournment, Closing Prayer

Moved to adjourn by William Jackson and seconded by JR Thornton. Accepted.

Rector

Dear Friends

The annual Vestry meeting is an opportunity to look back at the past year, and also plan for our future together.

Let's begin with the past. 2014 was a year of change and growth within our parish community. Nowhere was this more evident than our staff team. In February, we bade farewell to the Reverend Canon Douglas Graydon, who had served as part-time Associate Priest here for a few years. A month later, we said good-bye to the Reverend Julie Meakin, as she concluded her two-year curacy with us and went on to become the rector of the Church of the Holy Family in Brampton. A good number of us were able to join Julie for her induction last April, and I know that her formation at Christ Church Deer Park will serve her well in her future ministry.

The spring and summer months were challenging due to the fact that we had just one cleric on staff. Though that would continue until the arrival of our new Associate Priest in September, I was grateful for the ministry of Phil Hamilton, our summer intern from Wycliffe College. Phil made an impact on our parish, particularly with younger people and those who live in our immediate neighbourhood. At the conclusion of Phil's internship in August, he stayed on with us in a part-time capacity to undertake new areas of ministry, including the development of our presence on social media, as well as a new Friday evening service called, *Church on Tap*.

In July, we saw changes in our music ministry with the departure of Eric Robertson, and the arrival of Mary Legge, and then Fred Graham, as interim organists and choir directors. We have been grateful for their ministries among us. As we looked for new musical leadership, a small search committee met through the fall. Recently, we were delighted to announce that Matthew Otto will be our new choir director and music, beginning on March 2. Matthew has tremendous gifts and brings experience with some of the best choirs in the city.

In September, we were very pleased to welcome the Reverend Andrea Christensen as our Associate Priest. Andrea had been interview by a parish search committee last spring, and was then appointed by the bishop over the summer. In a short time, Andrea has made a significant contribution to the life of our parish. Her gifts in pastoral care, administration and teaching have all been well-received, and she is such a welcome addition to the staff team and the parish.

In spite of all the change, there was some continuity on our staff through 2014. We are grateful to Paul Marritt, Hilary Keachie, Elisabeth Lunder, Denis Delisle, and our team of part-time custodians for the steady and solid work they provide for our parish day by day. We have a staff team that is the envy of most parishes, and it's a delight to work with them.

Other significant developments over the past year included the presentation of a narrative budget at our Vestry meeting last year, the renewal of our parish website, a new Vacation Bible Camp at the end of the summer, and a fall stewardship campaign, which was followed closely by a parish gifts inventory. None of these initiatives would have been possible without the tireless work of our Management Team. Genevieve Chornenki, Carolyn Kearns, Henry Zaluski and Rick Varkey have done an outstanding job steering this ship in the right direction. Our systems and programs are far more streamlined than they were a year ago, and I believe our communications within the parish and in the wider community are only getting better. These four individuals have given so much of themselves. Please remember to thank them for their incredible service to our parish.

As we look ahead to 2015, I am aware how well-positioned we are to face the future, but I am also acutely aware of some the challenges that we face. As I mentioned earlier, our staff team and management team are second to none, and we have incredible parishioners giving leadership in the areas of liturgy, outreach, pastoral care, property, community events and fund-raising.

I see our main challenges in three main areas: congregational growth, parish engagement, and stewardship. I'd like to say word about these three areas.

Congregational Growth

We had a small increase in the size of our worshipping congregations in 2014. This is good news in a time when many churches are experiencing declining numbers year after year. We had a number of deaths in the parish in 2014, and some people moved to other places, but we've also welcomed many new people into our community over the past twelve months. Some of these are making significant contributions to the life of the parish. However, the welcoming of new people must be a top priority for us. If "there's life here", and if we desire our doors to be open as widely as possible, we cannot afford to act like a social club for members only. Everyone – not just the clergy – needs to take the responsibility for welcoming new people. We have the unique advantage of having real estate on the main street of the biggest city in Canada. Furthermore, I believe we are doing lots of things really well. We must be a community that is constantly oriented towards those who are not yet here.

Engagement of Parishioners

The engagement of parishioners goes hand in hand with parish growth. There is so much to be done to accomplish the mission of God in this place. So whether you've been here for 30 days or 30 years, there's a role for you here, and we want to help you find it. The gifts inventory that we've recently undertaken will help with this, but we need to work away at integrating everyone and their Godgiven gifts into the life and ministry of this church.

Stewardship

Above, I've spoken briefly about the stewardship of gifts and talents. That's crucial. What's also essential is the proper stewardship of our money and property. You will notice in the accompanying 2015 budget that we are forecasting a deficit in our operating fund of almost \$50,000 this year. You will also notice, if you look around, that carpets need to be replaced, walls need to be painted, and critical maintenance to the building needs to be undertaken. We have a wonderfully comprehensive report which sets out the work that needs to be done over the next decade, but these upgrades will only be possible through the regular and sacrificial gifts of those who make this parish their spiritual home. As a community of faith, we are reminded that everything we have is a gift from God. So, in fact, it's not really ours. How are we using the treasure that we have been so graciously given?

As we move into a new year, may we recommit ourselves to our church as a place where relationships are formed and nurtured, faith is deepened, and hope is given for ourselves and for the world in which we live.

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Respectfully submitted

The Reverend Canon Kevin Robertson Rector

Rector's Warden Reporting for Management Team

A lot has been accomplished at Christ Church Deer Park since our last vestry report in February 2014. We have continued to grow and evolve as a community, and have experienced a number of positive changes. Here are some highlights:

- Strengthened clergy team. The Rev. Andrea Christensen joined us as our full time Associate Priest at the beginning of September 2014. What good fortune for Christ Church Deer Park! Although Andrea has been with us for less than a year, parishioners already recognize and appreciate her experience, commitment, and enthusiasm.
- New worship service. In 2014, we introduced *Church on Tap*, a service held in the Arthur Smith Room at 7:00 p.m. on the last Friday of every month. The brain-child of our theological intern Phil Hamilton, and catering to individuals who may not be familiar or comfortable with traditional worship, *Church on Tap* attracts about 40 people to each service.
- Vacation Bible Camp: A new summer initiative from PromiseLand. In August 2014, Christ Church Deer Park hosted its first *Vacation Bible Camp*. Twenty children attended the camp that was led by Hilary Keachie our director of children and youth, and included a dramatic "parting of the Red Sea." Plans are under way for another camp in the summer of 2015.

Management team is the group of lay volunteers and clergy that works collaboratively to look after the secular affairs of the parish. Under the canons of the Anglican Diocese of Toronto, the Incumbent, rector's warden, and people's warden—sometimes referred to at Christ Church Deer Park as "corporation"— have ultimate legal authority, but management team is broader than that. In 2014, other team members were the treasurer, deputy-warden, associate priest, and director of parish operations. Management team members have complementary skills and experience, and work in a collegial way for a common goal, namely the best interests of the parish as a

- Focus on finances. Throughout 2014, management team continued to focus on regular communication about parish finances. Efforts included the 2014 narrative budget that explained expenses and revenues in a way that everyone can understand; a special Vestry on May 4, 2014 to simplify the current arrangements for parish reserves; a written interim financial update in May of 2014; and the 2014 outreach plan. Copies of management team's written reports can be found on our website at http://www.christchurchdeerpark.org/parish communications.htm. The 2015 budgeting process was under way by November 2014, culminating in the 2015 narrative budget presented at the parish forum on February 8, 2015. To assist with budgeting for 2015, management team also initiated an end-of-year stewardship brochure and pledge card.
- Music and worship. Many people value music as an integral part of worship at Christ Church Deer Park, including at Jazz Vespers, the new Church on Tap, and our 10:00 a.m. Sunday service. Beginning in the summer of 2014, conductor Norm Nurmi and our 24-member choir worked with interim choir directors and organists, Mary Legge and Fred Graham, to continue our tradition of choral music at the 10:00 a.m. service. On Sunday, March 8, 2015, and following an interview, audition, and selection process, we will welcome Matthew Otto as our new choir director and organist.
- Communicating in a wireless world. Information that is fast, easy to access and regularly updated is a key requirement in today's world. In 2014 we launched a redesigned website that is easier for parishioners, newcomers, and visitors to use. Christ Church Deer Park is now on Facebook, and you can also follow us on Twitter. Computer upgrades and other changes are planned for 2015.

•

Renewed focus on volunteers. Often, the same individuals volunteer to organize events, contribute their talents, and work in needed volunteer roles. They model for all of us what community service and engagement really mean. At the November 2014 parish forum, we invited individuals to take the *Spiritual Gifts Inventory* to help discover what they have to offer Christ Church Deer Park, and where they might do so. Through this exercise, over 15 individuals identified areas that they consider suitable for their interests and talents, and management team has followed up with them.

• Christmas Fair silent auction. For many in our parish and the broader community, the Christmas Fair is a highlight. Whether it is the downstairs fashions and baking, or the carefully laid out tables and "treasures" upstairs, there is something for all ages and interests. In 2014 a new feature, the silent auction, gave shoppers more unique and thoughtful options, and helped to raise additional money.

Of course, any organization has challenges, and Christ Church Deer Park is no exception. As a community we must meet the evolving needs of parishioners, maintain an aging physical facility and grounds, provide worship services that reflect the diversity found in the Anglican Communion, and constantly review our financial position. With the help of all parishioners, management team remains committed to addressing our many needs and to acting in the best interests of the parish as a whole. In this way, the actions of all of us will demonstrate that "There's Life Here!"

We are proud of our parish over the past year and excited about the year to come. On behalf of the management team, thank you for your prayers, support and good wishes

Respectfully submitted on behalf of management team:

Genevieve Chornenki Carolyn Kearns Henry Zaluski Deputy Richard Varkey Rector's Warden People's Warden Warden Treasurer

Associate Priest

"Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God" — William Carey

I'm often asked to reminisce with parishioners who yearn for the days when the pews were constantly filled on Sunday mornings. It was a time when there was a natural succession of ministry; a time when young people took over ministry committee groups when the older generations stepped down. This doesn't really speak to our context today. As Bishop Yu stated in his recent pastoral letter, "We are all aware of the changing context for Christian witness...more than ever, we need to be more intentional in order to have healthy churches..." The filling of pews for the purpose of worshipping God can no longer be taken for granted. We have become the new mission field. In response to this, we are constantly experiencing and experimenting with fresh expressions of church, with new ways of reaching the lost- with a message that the church has something to offer to a people who already believe they have it all. It really is an exciting time in the church, and I believe Christ Church Deer Park has a clear sense of its mission to live out the gospel in this new context.

Perhaps it is time to not just expect great things from God, but to expect even *greater* things in the days and years to come.

For me, being invited to begin ministry at Christ Church Deer Park felt like an attempt to do something great for God; to pick up and begin work in another area of the city, with a new community, and a new parish family in Christ. Moves like this can sometimes be a frightening experience. However, aside from the learning curve which has presented new and exciting challenges, it has been a most wonderful blessing to me - and to Ben and David as well. It is an inspiration to be connected with such a strong and thoughtful community.

Over the course of the fall, we spoke a great deal about financial stewardship as the vehicle which enables ongoing growth and fruitfulness in the vibrant ministry and work of this parish. We also learned that stewardship encompasses even more than the giving of our material possessions or wealth. It refers to the way we share our experience, time and skills to bring about life in this place.

Together, we were invited as a community to participate in a Spiritual Gifts Inventory. During that Spiritual Gifts forum, we discovered our individual gifts, and talked about our gifts with others. Each person was invited to volunteer their time and talent in a ministry area where they felt a passion to serve. Out of that time of discernment, we had a total of 16 parishioners offer themselves in service to various committees or ministry initiatives within the church.

Each of us has been given a purpose and individual gifts from God. There is life here because God has enabled us to be a part of it! Moving forward, the challenge is: what are you going to do with the many blessings God has bestowed on you? Many of our parishioners have already stepped up in their financial contributions, as well as offering themselves in service to various church community projects and committees. My heartfelt thanks to Henry, who helped bring all of our ideas into a colourful reality with Jazz Vespers Contact cards, Stewardship and Gifts Inventory Brochures, and Vestry booklets. It is a delight to work with you, Henry!

As the season of Advent approached, we invited the parishioners of Christ Church Deer Park to enter a four-week online Advent practice of scripture reading and reflection each Sunday during Advent. The reflections—based on Delia Smith's **A Feast for Advent**—were designed to help prepare our hearts for the real joy of Christmas. Special thanks to our Rector's Warden, Genevieve, who helped inspire, edit and support this endeavour!

This winter, we will be embarking upon a Lenten Study which, I trust, will appeal to our wider congregation. The Lenten Study features the *Awareness Foundation's* 5-week course called, "<u>Living in a Global Village</u>". This course will enable us to effectively discuss our faith with others in the context of our communities, friends and families. The sessions cover topics such as hospitality & generosity in faith, preaching the Gospel by living it out in our daily lives, and how we can celebrate difference and diversity without having to compromise our faith. The videos are short and provocative with exciting discussion to follow. Please watch for further details on the posters that will be placed around the Church.

In partnership with Grace Church-on-the-Hill, Hilary Keachie and I will be hosting a 6-week Confirmation Class based on the Episcopal study, "I will, with God's Help" beginning the second week of February. Candidates will be confirmed at the Cathedral on April 19th at 4:30 PM.

Preparing families for baptism has been one of my greatest pastoral joys over the last few months. I love building relationships with these new families, and discovering God's love and light in new and unexpected places!

It has been amazing getting to know you all; chatting with members of the choir, laughing and sharing with Hilary and the PromiseLand/YAL members, worshiping with the layreaders, crucifers, servers and congregation, being supported by our extremely dynamic and creative wardens, Genevieve and Carolyn, and carrying out team ministry with Kevin, our capable and faithful leader who lives out his calling with depth, love and humour.

Thank you to the many individuals and families of the parish who have so willingly trusted and shared their stories with me. I will continue to hold you and your loved ones in prayer.

Special thanks to those who make day to day ministry so fulfilling: to Phil, who captivates us with his love for God, reaching the lost and creativity in the world of graphic design and social media, to Paul and Elisabeth, who keep us organized with kindness and compassion, to Denis, who really is the glue of our staff family, and to our many volunteers who delight me with their presence and stories. I have enjoyed getting to know you!

As we live out Christ's Vision at CCDP, I pray for new growth, inspiration and compassion as we serve our God within this new mission field. We are to expect great things from God; and with each other's help, we will continue to attempt great things for our God.

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend Andrea Christensen

PromiseLand & Young Anglican Leaders (YAL)

2014 was a year of friendship, learning and fun for the kids and teens of Christ Church Deer Park. Every Sunday morning, about 20 kids between the ages of 4 and 14 gathered together in the Chapel of St. Nicholas for stories, creative play, songs and drama. The kids were thoughtful and engaged, and always eager to ask questions and learn new things. A strong sense of friendship and community has developed in PromiseLand and it's wonderful to see the kids continuing to play and hang out together during coffee hour.

The PromiseLand programme followed the Christian Calendar, and we marked the major Holy Days and Seasons together. During the six weeks of Lent, the kids built their own spiral Labyrinth in the Rainbow room out of rope, tape and battery operated tea lights. At the center, we placed a cross and water from the Holy Land. Every week, we spent quiet moment walking the Labyrinth, chanting Ubi Caritas (in Latin!) and reflecting on our Lenten journey. The kids took the Labyrinth very seriously and would intentionally prepare themselves before even entering the space by taking their shoes off, and being silent. It was a powerful experience, and I was in awe of their commitment and enthusiasm to continue their practice week after week. During Eastertide, we focused on the people who walked with Jesus and whose lives were transformed by the experience. We wrote letters with Mary Magdalene, made perfumed soap with Mary of Bethany and caught fish with the disciples. One of the highlights of the year is always the annual Christmas pageant, and 2014 was particularly spectacular! The teens of YAL took major leadership over the pageant, and worked tirelessly to ensure that everyone knew their lines, their cues and had a great costume to wear. It was so much fun preparing, and the perfect way to celebrate the birth of the Lord.

In September 2014, PromiseLand also began using *Godly Play* to explore the sacred stories of our faith. We wandered the desert with Abraham and Sarah, danced triumphantly with Miriam, built the intricate Temple with King Solomon and listened to Ezekiel's hopeful message about returning home. The kids were very engaged in each story, and offered insightful reflections and questions afterward. It has been an excellent and effective tool to engage the kids in the stories of People of God, and get them to think deeply about the big questions of our faith.

From August 25-29th 2014, Christ Church Deer Park also ran a very successful Vacation Bible Camp. We transformed Elliott Hall into the Egyptian desert and traveled with Moses and the Israelites as they escaped the Pharoah and wandered for 40 long years. We had so many adventures – we crossed the Red Sea (with spray bottles through a tunnel of blue tarp), witnessed the miracle of manna, made ancient textiles and learned Hebrew songs! We had an amazing group of 17 kids and 6 dedicated teen volunteers who served as "Tribe Leaders" for the week. Our adult volunteers – leading the music, crafts, stories and more – were also fantastic and contributed so much to the overall experience.

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Young Anglican Leaders continued to be our youth leadership programme for teens in middle and high school. We had 38 YAL events in 2014 – and so much fun learning and serving the community together.

From January to June 2014, YAL had monthly youth-led "Lunch & Learns" on the *Book of Ruth*, fun socials like rock climbing and a board games night, and important community action including making breakfast and walking the 5K AIDS walk. The teens demonstrated leadership and maturity every step of the way. From devising creative activities about *Ruth*, to raising \$1378.90 for Mama Jane's Orphange in Uganda, to serving as crucifer, acolytes and readers, to regularly volunteering in PromiseLand and the Nest, the teens of YAL have contributed to the life of our parish in so many ways.

Starting in September 2014, YAL moved to once a week for our "Lunch & Learns", every Sunday from 11:30-12:30. We had a number of new teens join the group and so did some introductory explorations throughout the fall like a scavenger hunt around the church and mapping out the history of the People of God in 6 Acts.

YAL also started a monthly cooking night with the teens of Grace Church-on-the-Hill called *Cooking with grace*. We alternated between meeting at CCDP and at Grace, and together cooked new recipes for about an hour and then sat down to share the meal. We have made delicious pumpkin risotto and shepherd's pie and started developing new relationships with the teens of Grace. Finally, YAL took on a new level of leadership at the Saturday morning Community Breakfasts. The last Saturday of each month, the teens arrived bright and early to set up, cook, serve and clean up the breakfast for people in need in our community. Over the past few years, the teens have learned the routines and techniques from the dedicated team of Saturday morning volunteers and were ready for a new challenge. So we decided to add an additional monthly breakfast to the roster, this time completely led by our teens. It has been wonderful to see the teens rise to the challenge, and we will be continuing this form of community action next year.

What an amazing year it has been! The kids and teens of Christ Church Deer Park should indeed be proud of their learning, personal development and commitment to social action.

Respectfully submitted,

Hilary Keachie Director of Children & Youth Ministry

#### **Anglican Church Workers (ACW)**

The ACW ladies met every Tuesday, some for friendship, others quilting and sorting jewelry. Lunch is at noon where announcements are made and following that is bridge.

Activities during the year consist of taking part in "World Day of Prayer", and during Lent a series of lectures on Tuesdays. We helped out with the Rummage Sale, volunteering to help sort and sell. The highlight of the spring is the Annual Luncheon. Summer is quiet and then in September helping again with the Rummage Sale and in November the Christmas Fair which involves a lot of people. The year ends with our Christmas lunch with lots of carol singing and friendship.

Some money raised by the ACW goes to the Church and Outreach.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Le Feuvre, Joan Huycke Co-Presidents

#### **Rummage Sale**

The success of rummage depends on donations, volunteers and our community shopping clientele.

Rummage is a very vibrant or should I say a staple in the life of parishioners at CCDP. Current senior members can recall their parents being involved in the ACW, from which the rummage room as grown. This was where the women would wash, clean, iron, mend and replace buttons on items that were donated to the church for resale.

The rummage room has transformed itself over the years and 2014 was no different. I am not mending or replacing buttons but we are cleaning and shining up most of the items we receive. However, we have stuff and lots of stuff coming in each and everyday.

To no one surprise, Rummage Room space is now at a premium, yes, we are bursting at the seams and our space seems limited. This is due to the growth and change in people's lifestyle, mainly downsizing, members and the community are donating more to our cause and that we are thankful for.

The rummage room donation supports three sales: the spring sale held April 26 and fall sale October 4 and also the Christmas Fair November 22 respectively.

#### What was new:

In the spring sale, we wanted to get rid of a lot of stuff, and as a thank you we did a one time only 50% off sale on all items except for Jewellery and Ladies boutique.

In the fall, we introduce the men's boutique room, this was to stimulate sale of men's wear and offer the comfort of shopping. Thanks to Peter and Joe who took this to another level, they provided music, coffee and cupcakes.

Women's boutique and ladies clothing was moved to lower basement and the women clients felt more comfortable and happy in the new space.

We also had a Ladies boutique at the Christmas Fair and we had many a request for men's clothing. This year we had volunteers from Jamaica and Saskatchewan

We thank all the many volunteers over the years who give of their time.

How can we forget Ebie Dunbar who is no longer with us. Ebie worked in the linen department and it was always fun, I would model some of the clothing; she would have a good laugh with all the ladies in the linen department. Good rest Ebie.

I have to mention Phyllis Reid, the shoe lady, my friend. No one sells shoes like Phyllis and it was no surprise this fall when many of her clients came looking for the shoe lady, "shoes for all occasion, shoes for walking and shoes for your dancing feet" those were her famous words. Phyllis is not well and I hope you will continue to remember her in your prayers.

Thank you once again to our small rummage room team:

Judith, Renee, Raye, Ursula Rona, Laura, Susanne who help with sorting and pricing the items, ladies in jewellery, Joyce for doing our advertising and the custodians especially Dennis.

Thank you to all the parishioners for your words of encouragement and support.

Total Rummage sale for 2014 - \$18,824

Next rummage sale will be April 11, 2015 October 3, 2015 Respectfully submitted,

Maxine Henry, Coordinator

#### **Chancel Guild**

Chancel Guild Members ": ensure that all services are carried out in decency and order"

The members have carried out their services in an excellent manner. the brass, silver, linens and candles have been kept in excellent condition. A special mention should be made of the contribution of Sandy Crane who launders the linens each week, with the exception of the large altar cloths which are looked after by Cathy Thomas,

The members look after decorating the Church at Christmas and also at Easter.

Jim Mclean deserves an honourable mention as he looks after all the liturgical supplies and tends to any repairs that are needed for the "liturgical vessels" over the year

The flowers arrangers are also members of the Guild and their arrangements over the year are always admired by all. The small brown envelopes help to defray the cost of the flowers at Easter and Christmas.

Thank you to all the members for your dedicated work for the Church

Any ladies or gentlemen who would like to spend a quiet hour in the Sacristy doing God's work would be very welcome

Respectfully submitted

Maggie Symons Co-chair

#### **Sides Duty**

Each Sunday four of the 50 or so parishioners participating in this Ministry, greet attendees and welcome newcomers and during the Service present offerings and manage the flow of those taking Communion.

Last year we were able to continue to broaden participation in this Ministry with the addition of 6 newer parishioners.

Respectfully submitted

Al Rands Chair

#### **Challenging Christianity**

Challenging Christianity is an adult discussion group, which meets at lunchtime on the second Friday of the month, September to May, to discuss contemporary concerns which challenge, and are challenged by, traditional Christian ideas. Average attendance: 8-12.

Respectfully submitted

Peter Slater Chair

#### Learning Ministry

The Learning Ministry sponsored a number of events at CCDP in 2014 including: Mom's and Infant's Movie Afternoons in the late winter and spring A guest speaker in the fall on the Anglican Spirituality of the N'siga

Also encompassed in the work of the Learning Ministry is the Art and Spirituality program which hosted the work of the following artists in The Gallery in the Arthur Smith Room:

• Brenda Bisiker: January 26 - March 9

• Judith Seifer: March 23 - May 4

• Susan Brown: May 11 - June 22

• Tony Cook: September 7 - October 12

In addition, the Gallery space was used in November by the Contemplative Knitting group for their silent auction.

Respectfully submitted

Emily Chatten Chair

#### **Memorials Committee**

The Memorials Committee assists the Rector and Corporation in the design and purchase of memorials in the parish. There were no memorials in 2014.

Respectfully submitted

Joan Huycke Chair

#### **Community Breakfast**

The Community Breakfast, now in its 7th year, continues to run 2-3 Saturdays at month with the YAL group. We served over 1000 guests a hot breakfast of sausages and eggs. Our guests, from all over the city, all living situations (underhoused, homeless) are very appreciative. Thank you to a truly dedicated group of volunteers, rising and shining at 7 am on Saturday: Michael, Walter, Ann, Mary Kay, Julie, Elizabeth, John, Robert, Edna, Peter, Joyce, Vickie, Deirdre. A few of our original volunteers retired this year: Michael Gendron, Ross Morrow, Joan Filip. Our toast maker extrodinaire, dear Ebie Dunbar is truly missed.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Larkin Coordinator

#### The Churches on the Hill Food Bank

The Churches on the Hill Food Bank served over 10,000 clients, providing over 100,000 meals. We buy approx 70% of our food with Daily Bread providing 20% and the Food Drives and participating churches providing 10%. We have a truly dedicated group of volunteers from CCDP on all teams, restocking/repackaging food, Community Information Centre, interviewing and handing out food to the clients, some there 2 times a week to once every 4 weeks. Thank-you to the ACW for their continuing support.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Larkin

#### Congregational Care Team

The Care Team was established in October ,2013. It's purpose is to:

- 1. Formalize the care that already existed at CCDP
- 2. Promote awareness of caring in our community
- 3. Assist the clergy in maintaining contact with members of CCDP who are homebound either temporarily or permanently.

The Care Team offers friendship and ongoing contact with the Church and the homebound. Currently we are in touch with 16 CCDP parishioners. It is important to empasize that our visits are supplementary to the pastoral care carried out by our clergy.

The Care Team has formalized a driver program to transport members of our parish to services at CCDP. This initiative is under the leadership of Walter Blackwell. In order to continue this program we desperately need drivers who can help out on an occasional basis.

A mailing list of homebound parishioners has been initiated to send copies of The Herald and selected church bulletins to keep them informed of their church and its activities.

I wish to sincerely thank the following members of the Care Team who have been so responsive to the care and needs of our homebound: Margo Bowen, Joy Graham, Anne Larkin, Deirdre Malone, Bob Reeves, Maggie Symons, Cathy Thomas, Tony van Straubenzee.

Respectfully submitted,

David Moore

#### **Trust Committee**

The CCDP Trust Committee oversees the investments of the various trust funds (see below) held by CCDP. The Committee is composed of five parishioners appointed by Corporation. The Committee welcomed Robert Morrow as full member in the fall. While Treasurer of CCDP, Robert sat on the Committee as ex-officio. By December 31, 2014, members were:

Franck Perrin Co-chair
Jill MacRae Co-chair
Robert Morrow
Kathleen Kent
Michael Butler
Rev. Canon Kevin Robertson, ex-officio
Paul Marritt, Director of Parish Operations, staff support

The responsibilities of the Committee are as follows:

- 1. Engage an Investment Advisor to advise on the management of the Trust Funds in accordance with these Terms of Reference;
- 2. Evaluate the performance of the Investment Advisor annually. Such evaluation could lead to the replacement of the Investment Advisor;
- 3. Evaluate the performance of the Trust Funds at least semi-annually;
- 4. Review the Trust Funds for compliance with these Terms of Reference at least semi-annually;
- 5. Report to Corporation as requested and at least annually;
- 6. Report to the annual Vestry meeting;
- 7. Review these Terms of Reference annually, with any substantive proposed changes first being submitted to Corporation for comment; and
- 8. Carry out these responsibilities with the diligence, independence and objectivity reasonably expected of a volunteer committee.

The Committee met quarterly, focussing on matters such as:

- 1. Reviewing and updating the Terms of Reference for the Committee;
- 2. Reviewing the performance of the portfolio and individual holdings with Bruce Moore CIBC, our financial advisory/stock broker, on a regular basis; and
- 3. Increasing the diversity of investments held.

The Investment Objectives for the Trust Funds are:

- 1. Preservation of Capital;
- 2. Provision of secure income for the operations of the Church;
- 3. Capital appreciation without undue risk;
- 4. Achieve an annual total rate of return on the funds that exceeds the rate of inflation by 3% over the most recent 4 years period; and
- 5. Achieve the specific investment policy for each of the Funds (see below).

#### **Description & Balance of the Funds**

#### 1. Endowment Fund: \$1,329,646

The Endowment Fund was established in 1963 to receive gifts of money which were to be placed in approved investments to be selected and monitored by the Trust Committee. The investment income from the Fund may be used for such purposes as the Corporation sees fit. Such purposes would generally include any operating expenses of the Church. The capital of the Endowment Fund may not be withdrawn. Any investment income not used by the Corporation in any year shall be added to the capital of the Fund and thereafter may not be withdrawn.

<u>Investment Policy:</u> invest in long-term assets to generate current income whilst preserving capital.

#### 2. Capital Fund (formerly known as the Building Fund): \$0

At a special Vestry meeting in May 2014 the Vestry approved the renaming of the Building Fund to the Capital Fund and the transfer to the 1870 Reserve Fund of all of the former Building Fund's assets except for the Church properties and equipment. The Capital Fund's purpose is to hold and maintain the Church properties and equipment.

#### 3. 1870 Reserve Fund: \$398,499

Established by approval of vestry on October 14, 2007. Investment income may be used for the operations of the Church. Any use of the Capital of the Fund above \$35,000 in any calendar year will require prior approval of Vestry. As at December 31, 2012, the 1870 Fund had a loan receiveable of \$85,000 from Corporation. The original loan was for \$110,000.

<u>Investment Policy:</u> those funds not required in the current fiscal year should be invested in long-term assets to generate capital growth whilst preserving capital.

#### 4. Woodcock Theological Fund: \$60,323

This fund was created with a bequest from Canon Woodcock. No further contributions to this fund will be accepted. As Canon Woodcock did not specify how the funds should be used, vestry determined that income from the funds should be applied to theological education including the continuing education of the ministry staff of Christ Church Deer Park. Capital of the fund may not be withdrawn.

<u>Investment Policy:</u> invest in long-term assets to generate current income whilst preserving capital.

#### 5. Ministry Fund: \$66,105

This fund was created with a donation from a single parishioner. The funds are to be held and used for ministering to children and youth.

Investment Policy: Maintain liquidity and preserve capital.

#### 6. Rectory Fund: \$1,058,550

This fund was created with the proceeds from the sale of the rectory. The funds are held and invested by the Diocese on behalf of Christ Church Deer Park. Currently the income generated is forwarded to Corporation to meet annual operating/programme expenses.

<u>Investment Policy:</u> invest in long-term assets to generate current income whilst preserving capital.

Performance of the Funds: 01/01/2014 - 12/31/2014

Starting Value \$ 1,807,332.54

Inflows \$ 70,008.91 Outflows \$ -90,190.31 Revenues \$ 58,904.15 **Ending Value** \$ **1,886,344.60** 

Performance – Net 5.41 %

#### Notes:

- 1. The income from the Rectory Fund accrues to CCDP. The initial principal was generated through the sale of a residence previously purchased for the use of a previous Minister.
- 2. It is the policy of the Anglican Church of Canada that it is the ultimate beneficiary of all funds held by or on behalf of CCDP.

Respectively submitted,

Franck Perrin & Jill MacRae Co-Chairs

#### **Property Committee**

The Property Committee is responsible for providing guidance to Management with regard to property issues.

For 2014 the members of the committee were Paul Marritt (Director of Parish Operations), Arthur Huycke, Al Rands, Kathy Lindsey (Building Improvement Coordinator) and Walter Blackwell.

In early 2014 the parish received 2014 the final draft of the Ten Year Capital Plan prepared by Halsall Associates. This plan identifies the major building components that will likely require maintenance and/or replacement during the next ten years and gives time frames for doing this work. Only items costing \$3,000 or more are included in the capital plan, as smaller items would be included in the operating budget. The cost of implementing this plan is very significant, averaging about \$115,000 each over the next ten years.

The committee spent significant time reviewing the contents of this plan and determining how it should best be implemented. It was realized that, although the costs are high, these items will likely require attention during this period and cannot be deferred indefinitely.

However, in view of the timing of the report and the costs involved in its implementation, it was decided that some items listed for 2014 would have to be deferred, and that we should concentrate on items that were identified as contravening building code requirements, resulting in potentially unsafe conditions. These items included modifying stair and stair landing handrails which were below the heights require by code, as well as rectifying the hazards created by unprotected window wells on the north and south sides of the building.

Therefore, a firm of architects, Plant Architect Inc., was retained to prepare tender documents for the remedial work required for the handrails and window wells. The documents were received at the end of 2014, and the committee is currently getting competitive prices from general contractors for this work.

Other issues that require attention were identified during the year, and the committee will be making recommendations regarding these in 2015.

All members of the Property Committee are thanked for their hard work and excellent advice during the year. It has been a pleasure working with you all.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Blackwell Interim Chair

#### Christ Church Deer Park 2014 Attendance Statistics

| Service     | Total Attendance | Average Weekly (total divided by 52) |
|-------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 8:00 am     | 1,393            | 27                                   |
| 10:00 am    | 7,602            | 146                                  |
| Afternoon** | 2,716            | 52                                   |
|             |                  |                                      |
| TOTAL       | 11,711           | 225                                  |

Number of people in church at Easter Vigil/Easter Day (3 services) = Number of people in church on Christmas Eve/Day (4 services) = Average attendance at the Wednesday 7:30 am Eucharist = Average attendance at Church on Tap = Average attendance at Jazz Vespers =

Average Sunday attendance (includes all Sunday services) = 225 Average weekly attendance (all services except wedding & funerals) = 269

<sup>\*\*</sup> Afternoon = Jazz Vespers, Blessing of Animals, Celebration of New Ministry.

### Closing Hymn O Praise Ye the Lord Laudate Dominum

O praise ye the Lord! Give praise in the height; rejoice in God's Word, ye angels of light; ye heavens, adore him by who ye were made, and worship before him in brightness arrayed.

O praise ye the Lord! Give praise upon earth in tuneful accord, give thanks for new birth; praise God who hath brought you all grace from above, praise God who hath taught you the pathways of love

O praise ye the Lord, all things that give sound; each jubilant chord reecho around; loud organs, God's glory proclaim in deep tone, and sweet harp ,the story of what God hath done.

O praise ye the Lord! Thanksgiving and song be ever outpoured all the ages along; for love in creation, for heaven restored, for grace of salvation, O praise ye the Lord!