

# The Messenger

Spring Special Edition 2018  
Parish Leadership

## Reverend's Reflections, Our Church Leadership

As a parish in the Royal Oak community, St. Michael's has seen a lot of change from the days when people arrived at church on foot or by horse and buggy, via a dirt road. Now our car park, while still well used, boasts no horses, and no carriages (although our Messenger Editor, Helen, has promised to bring her horse Anika for the blessing of the Animals).

The ways we organize ourselves and our leadership teams for the church community have also changed over the years. St. Michael's has been blessed with wonderful, committed Christian leaders who have navigated the societal, cultural and institutional changes faithfully; sometimes with a bit of head scratching but generally, with good humour. (Our treasurer, Peter Goddard's capacity to help us all laugh gently at ourselves is one of the many assets he brings to our leadership team).

For many generations there have been wardens designated as people's and rector's. The people's warden was elected by the people at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and the rector's warden was appointed by the rector. My sense has always been that the best way for us to work together is as a community and so I have always had all of our wardens elected by the people at our AGM. While we still sometimes call Lanny the Rector's warden, he has, in the five years I have been here, been elected along with our other wardens, so they are in a sense all people's wardens. There may have been a time when the Rector needed the support and backing of their own appointed warden, but certainly in my time, I have a strong sense that we are all on the same team and working together to keep St. Michael's a wonderful, loving place where people can pray and grow together in Christ.

We seek to make sure that our Parish Council is comprised of people from each of the services and represent a wide array of organizations, ages, and view points, along with a balance of gender. We have recently been working to insure that we bring some of our newer church members on board so that we have the benefit of their expertise, and also of their questions about how and why things are done the way they are. This helps us to see ourselves through another lens, as we seek to continue being a place where people from different backgrounds and faith traditions can come together.

Have fun reading this Messenger and getting to know our Parish Council, leaders of some of the organizations that help promote the life and work of our wonderful church. And, don't hesitate to ask questions or to visit with the leaders as you seek to find a place where you can share your gifts.



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This is a Special Edition of  
the Messenger focusing on  
our Parish Leadership &  
Grounds Project

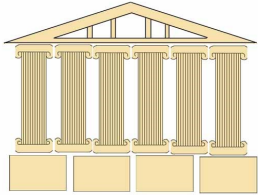
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## Reverend's Reflection, Diocesan Vision

The Diocesan Vision outlines the ministries in which we share as we live into our mission statement at St. Michael and All Angels': To live with and for Christ. The three focal points for the Diocesan Vision are Faith in Foundation, Faith in Formation and Faith in Action. There are, of course, overlaps as much of what we seek to do connects these areas of living out our faith with one another.



**Faith in Foundation** is comprised of the ongoing ministries that support and uphold the work we do, including the work of the Finance Committee, the church office, Parish Council, Buildings and Grounds, Communication, and...We are blessed with fine teams who care for each of these areas with expertise and skill and keep everything running smoothly and our facilities well maintained.

**Faith in Formation** includes our worship, our Sunday School and education programs. Weekly meditation, baptismal, confirmation, marriage and funeral preparation and intergenerational opportunities for learning, including the Walk through Holy Week. Mid-week meditation and study group are both areas where we are experiencing growth. One of the focal areas of the Diocesan Vision is Engaging God's World and our meditation and study have helped to reach out beyond our doors and invite people in. It's an exciting part of my job to ask people how they found their way to us and what brought them in. It's been wonderful to hear that the opportunity for prayer, silence, meditation and connection with others is one of the significant ways we are connecting with God's people.



Shaping our worship with the beautiful prayers and old and new liturgies has been another way we have been connecting with people. As a member of the liturgical commission, I was so grateful to the St. Michael's community for your willingness to try new things and to offer constructive and truly helpful suggestions for improvement of the new liturgies. Our own Tony Booker composed a Kyrie and Trisagion that framed our penitential rite at the beginning of the Lenten service and was also used by many other churches across the diocese. I am proud of the many ways the St. Michael's community shares in the ministry of welcoming all to worship, to coffee hour and to all the different activities, events and services.



**Faith in Action** embraces all of the ways that we seek to share our faith through word and deed. Our support of mission and outreach work and commitment to organizations that help to meet the needs of our brothers and sisters in our local context and around the world are all part of how we live our faith in action. The BAC and Women's Guild take lead roles in this ministry and we are grateful for their energy and enthusiasm. We have begun a process of assessing and strengthening our Pastoral Care program. Many thanks to those who stepped forward with grace and courage to join in this process. This group reaches out to those in need, those who are grieving, struggling, sick, recovering and those who just need a friendly phone call. The Altar Guild helps us to worship God in the beauty of holiness through the liturgical seasons. Their eye for colour and tidiness helps keep our space lovely. The Choir is another group whose ministry overlaps categories, their anthems and general music leadership under Tony's fine guidance help shape our worship in a way that invites people in and provides solace, encouragement and hope.

# St. Michael's Church Council & Wardens

The Parish Council is the Management Committee for the Parish. It is established pursuant to and in accordance with Canons of our Diocese. The duty of the parish council is to assist and support the incumbent (Rector) and the churchwardens in the general business and the programs of the parish. Between annual and special meetings of the parishioners, their powers are vested in the parish council.

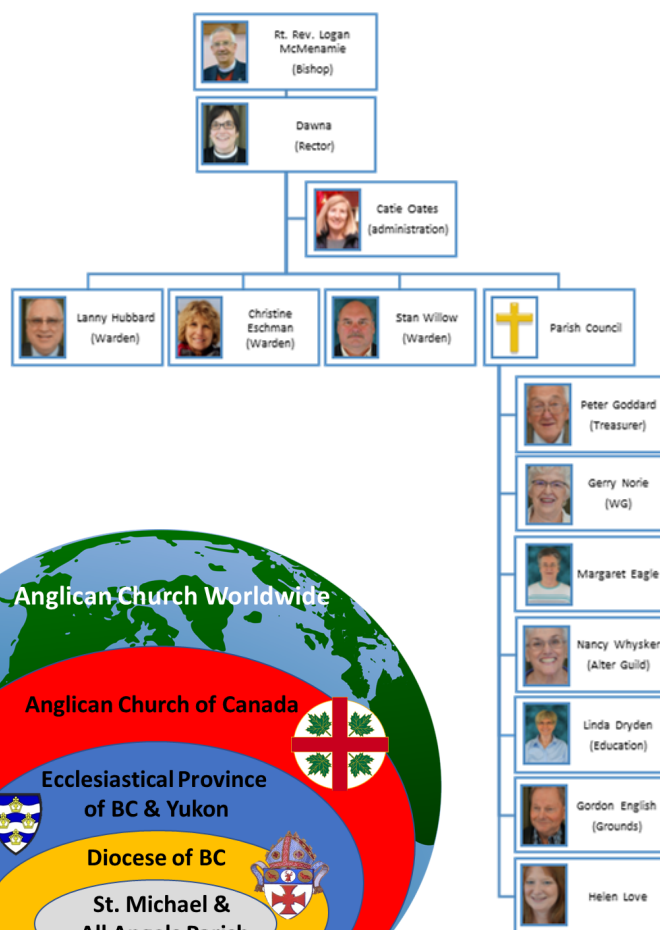
The Canons are like the Constitution that sets the rules for our Diocese and all the Parishes in the Diocese of British Columbia. There are several Dioceses in Canada, each having their own Canons, which would all be similar but might have some differences. The rules that make up the Canons are approved and may be amended at a Synod meeting. Synod meetings are held every couple of years and have voting representation from the Lay members of the Parish and the Clergy.

The **main** provisions of the Canons governing Parish Council are as follows:

- Parish council is elected from and by the parishioners and consists of not less than three nor more than twelve members. Ex-officio members may also be invited onto council.
- Council must meet at least quarterly. Our practice is to meet monthly except July/August and December.
- There are special provisions that allow for the appointment of additional members to Council by Council and the Rector if necessary. (e.g. if membership fell below the minimum required to function properly).
- Unless elected or appointed to parish council, the treasurer and secretary do not have a vote. It has been our practice to include the Treasurer as an elected member of Council at the Annual meeting.
- The Rector, any other clergy licensed to the parish, the churchwardens and lay delegates to Synod are ex-officio members of the parish council and all have the right to vote.
- The incumbent, the incumbent's nominee, or a person elected by the council, in that sequence, shall be the chair of the parish council.
- A quorum of the parish council shall be the chair and one of the churchwardens and one-third of the membership of the council.

Church **Wardens**, together with the Rector function as the Executive of the Parish. In every parish there must be two churchwardens selected from the communicants. One may be appointed by the Rector unless right of appointment is waived. Thus one or both wardens are elected by the Parishioners at the Annual meeting. Only the Bishop can remove a Warden from office.

Continued on page 4...



## St. Michael's Church Council & Wardens continued

Although the Canons provide for only two Wardens, we have, this year, elected Stan Willow to Council and designated him as a Deputy Warden. We have done this to provide overlap and opportunity for him to take on the role of Warden next year. The terms, "People's Warden and Rector's Warden" follow from the option of the Rector to appoint one of the wardens. The Canons make no distinction as to the responsibilities of either warden and we make no distinction other than taking on tasks as may be best aligned to each wardens talents and time.

The Canons prescribe the main duties of the Wardens to be as follows:

- To see that Divine Worship is regularly and decently performed by persons licensed by the Bishop.
- To set an example of regular attendance and hearty response on the part of the congregation and to assist and support the incumbent by zeal and moral support in all matters affecting the welfare and advancement of the parish.
- To have supervision of all financial matters in the parish and insure that a financial statement is prepared each month for presentation to Council. Also to ensure yearly accounts are presented to parishioners at the annual meeting and sent to the Diocesan Financial Officer.
- To insure the incumbent's stipend is paid in full each month.
- To insure all properties belonging to the parish are in good repair, insured, and all taxes paid.
- To execute contracts on behalf of the parish having consent of the Council.
- To assist the incumbent with the appointment of all lay employees.

For more information about the canons and regulations of the diocese outline the legal and procedural framework for the diocese refer to the diocese website (<https://www.bc.anglican.ca/resources/canons-and-regulations>)

## Getting to Know Your Council

**Lanny Hubbard:** Lanny moved to Victoria with his wife Barbara in 1972 after completing his Master of Science in Chemical Engineering at the University of Saskatchewan. He was born premature on January 1, 1949 at his Grandparent's farmhouse near Avonlea, Saskatchewan. The first few months of life were difficult and included a hernia operation during which the doctor decided to remove his appendix since he was already working in the vicinity. He was baptized and confirmed at the small Anglican Church in Avonlea.

Lanny and Barbara were married in 1971 at the Cathedral in Saskatoon and enjoyed a very happy married life together. Unfortunately, Barbara passed away in June 2015. Lanny has one brother and two sisters, all younger than him. His daughter, Jocelyn lives in Victoria with her husband, Jeff and two children, Kaelyn and Marlowe. His son, Christopher, lives in Ottawa with his son Hendrik.

Lanny attended St Philips, Oak Bay, for a few years after he and Barbara first moved to Victoria, where he was also Warden for several years. He has been a member of St Michaels for about 30 years. He worked for the Ministry of Environment for 24 years during which time he developed much of British Columbia's legislation on control of hazardous wastes and clean-up of contaminated sites. For the next 13 years, he was Executive Director for the Office of the Ombudsman. He retired in 2010, but now works part time as a Commissionaire at 443 Helicopter Squadron. Lanny also has a long history with Air Cadets and earned his Private Pilot License in 1967. He enrolled in Canadian Air Force Reserves in 1999 after which he held many positions at 89 (Pacific) Royal Canadian Air Cadet Squadron including Commanding Officer. He retired from the Canadian Forces in 2014 upon reaching mandatory retirement age.



*Lanny Hubbard  
Warden*



## Getting to Know Your Council continued



*Christine Eschman  
Warden*

**Christine Eschman:** I grew up in the US, studied music at universities in Ohio, Michigan, and BC, and moved to Canada to teach figure skating and music. Until 2010 I lived in the Vancouver area where I raised two children and taught piano full time.

Christ Church Cathedral Vancouver was my parish for 34 years. I sang in the choir, taught church school, and helped with Christmas pageants. I now live in rural Saanich with my husband, Miki and chose St Michael's because it is close to home, has a dynamic compassionate young priest, excellent music director, and a diverse friendly group of parishioners.

I've done many kinds of volunteer work throughout my life and am pleased to help out at St Michael's in the coming years. I'm passionate about great music, sailing, hiking in nature and living a life of faith. I continue to teach and play the piano, and enjoy practicing Tai Chi with Miki. I often travel to visit my son, Christopher, and daughter-in-law, Eliza, in Chicago and my daughter Rebecca, her partner Steve, and daughter Sky (age 3) in Nova Scotia. I look forward to visits with them this summer. Miki and I are planning a lengthy trip through Italy at the end of the year.



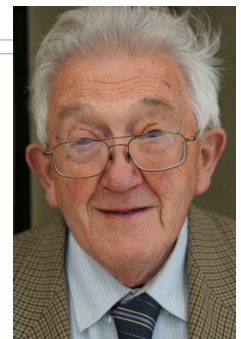
*Stan Willow  
Warden*

**Stan Willow:** I was born February 1958 in Vancouver. My parents moved from Vancouver to Port Neville then in 1961 to Victoria. I graduated high school in 1975 and promptly joined the Army. I was commissioned into the Infantry in 1996 and served with the PPCLI until 1997 when I transferred to the Reserve Army. I met my wife Terry in Victoria and we were married at St. Michaels in December 1979. We have two children, Robyn and Mathew, and 2 grandchildren Gavin and Margot. Terry and our family have lived in New Brunswick, Alberta and Ontario. We settled in Victoria in 1989. I however continued to serve overseas and in Canada for a further five years between 1992 and 1997 before returning home. I have served with the Army in Germany (West at the time), Cyprus, The Western Sahara, the Former Yugoslavia and Sierra Leone. At home, I have worked at the 1988 and 2010 Olympic Winter Games and several flood and wild-fire events in BC and Canada.

From 2000 to 2011, after I received my degree in business, I owned an emergency management company that specialized in business continuity planning and emergency response planning. I retired from both the Army and work in 2011. My pastimes are travelling, golf and our grandchildren. I believe in service and am pleased to fill a variety of roles in volunteer positions in the Church and in other capacities.

**Peter Goddard:** I have been a life time member of St. Michael's. Baptized in 1936, confirmed in 1948, married Ellen in 1965, and there is a cemetery plot reserved for a future date. I went to school in the Royal Oak area and my life work was as a poultry farmer where we had a 20,000 bird egg farm on a property next to my parents on Haliburton Rd for 36 years. At 29 I married Ellen and we built a home 500 feet from where I started life. We have been moving in for 53 years and not much has moved out. Our three children, Bruce, Brian and Sara plus six grandchildren live close by where they can "COD" (Call On Dad).

It was in 1983 when Ken Phillips our parish Treasurer had a medical problem and could not continue. I was asked by Rev Bill Hill if I would look after the parish books for a couple of weeks until a new Treasurer could be found. I did not know two weeks were so long.



*Peter Goddard  
Treasurer*

## Getting to Know Your Council continued...



*Margaret Eagle*

**Margaret Eagle:** I born in Vancouver and moved to Brentwood Bay as a baby. In 1947 we moved to Claremont Rd. and started coming to St. Michaels. I grew up with the Tuckey's, Cleland's and Scott's. Mark Scott and my dad built the miniature church of St. Michael's for St. M's addition in 1954. My Dad (Bob Chase) sang in the choir, my Mum was on Parish Council and President of the Women's Guild. My grandmother Hester Peach also attended St. Michaels and Mum and Nan are buried in the cemetery.

I enjoy knitting teddy bears for Canada's Comfort Bears and toques and wash cloths for the Compassionate Warehouse, reading, jigsaws, and going on Alaskan Cruises, whenever not winning the lottery works out.

My husband, Tom, and I will have been married 50 years in July. We have three grown children and are grandparents to eight, ages 23 to nearly 13. We also have a small farm raising sheep.

I spent 28 years working at the Royal Jubilee Hospital, the last 19 years working in the operating room mostly washing and sterilizing instruments. I also spent 22 years working at Michell's Farm Market. A very nice change from the hospital on my days off. I was very Passionate about Camp Columbia and all the influence that it had on so many lives including my own and those of my grandchildren and we all sadly miss it. I also love to decorate for Christmas. You can never have too many Christmas decorations.

We moved into Victoria so my Mum was closer to the Jubilee where she worked as dietitian so I was away from St. Michaels for a few years. After I was married and we moved to Central Saanich I came back to worship at St. Michael's and my kids could go to Sunday School here. I have been President of the Women's Guild three times and still very much enjoy being part of the Guild and all the taking part in the sales and teas that we do.

**Linda Dryden:** Linda and her husband moved to Victoria from Ontario in the late sixties. They were, and continue to be, enthralled by the beauty and unique qualities of Vancouver Island. It is truly their home in every sense of the word. They are blessed to have two children and five grandchildren living on the Island.

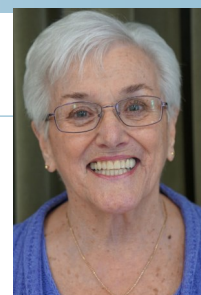
Linda has attended St Michael's Church for approximately fifteen years. Over that time she has become the coordinator of the Sunday School which she has thoroughly enjoyed. She loves getting to know all the children and watching them grow up and develop into fine young adults. She chairs the Church education committee and is also a member of the Parish Council. She enjoys continuing to learn more and more about the Church.

Besides her involvement in the church, she is actively engaged on the local, provincial and national boards of a non profit housing society for seniors. She has a genuine interest in financial matters and is a member of a good-natured ladies investment club. Community involvement is a very important aspect of her life and one to which is passionate and dedicated. In her spare time she loves to boat, read and garden. Professionally, she is a "very" retired nurse with a Masters in Health administration and still considers nursing a wonderful helping profession to pursue.



*Linda Dryden*

## Getting to Know Your Council continued...



*Nancy Whysker*

**Nancy Whysker:** My history with St. Michael's began 27 years ago in 1991, though I was baptized and confirmed at St. Michael and All Angels church in my old home town of Chemainus. I was not a cradle Anglican, having spent the first 12 years of my life as a Baptist.

When my children, Susan and Patrick, were young and I was a single parent, we went to St. Philip's in Oak Bay, where they attended Sunday school. I was also involved in co-operative preschool for Susan, and early intervention programmes for Patrick who has Down syndrome. Meanwhile, I furthered my nursing education enough to become charge nurse in the Endoscopy department at Victoria General, until my retirement in 1996.

After 10 years on my own, I met and married Dennis acquiring four stepchildren, three of whom were grown and attending tertiary education. Dennis partially pried me out of the gym and into the outdoors where we hiked and skied with great enthusiasm. His keen interest in gardening also caught mine, especially as I love flowers. I attended the United church with Dennis for three years, then resumed my life in the Anglican tradition, and that brought me to St. Michael's.

I have studied and grown in my faith since coming to St. Michael's, beginning with Bible study and some retreats, as well as reading and attending educational programmes such as Sorrento Centre. Reading about faith and prayer as well as general reading are certainly chief among my interests. I have become close to a number of people who share these interests and am currently challenging myself to learning to "meditate" though it has been a stretch for me. ( God and Dawna keep me trying).

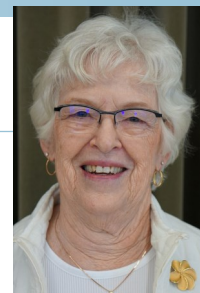
It has always been important to me to treasure old and new friendships, but my longest standing friends are from the days of my nursing school, and though it has been over 55 years, we still get together as regularly as we can.

**Gordon English:** I grew up on a farm near Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. We moved to Chilliwack in 1959 where I finished high school. I then attended the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology and graduated in Construction Technology in 1963. I worked in the construction industry in various places in Canada and moved to Victoria in 1969 where I was employed as a Construction Estimator. Later that year I became a partner in a commercial floor covering business and a few years later in 1978 I started my own construction/development business. I met Lenore in November of 1969 and we were married a year later. We have two children and three grandchildren. We began attending St. Michael & All Angel Church in 1976. I have been Peoples Warden, Chair of Building and Grounds, Chair of Brotherhood of Anglican Churchmen (BAC) and a member of Parish Council.



*Gordon English*

## Getting to Know Your Council continued...



*Gerry Norie*

**Gerry Norie:** I am on Parish Council to give voice about the happenings at Women's Guild meetings. I was secretary for Women's Guild from 2010 until last year 2017. I enjoyed this position and it taught me a lot about the function of Women's Guild and its goals. It was a position that was a challenge to me as those skills were not taught in Nursing School. I was lucky to have a daughter who does minutes in her job and set me and my computer up in templates for the meetings. It was a big learning curve for me but fun to do.

I was born and raised in Victoria did most of my schooling here until the mid-fifty's when Dad moved the family from Royal Oak to Kamloops. I graduated at Kamloops High School, worked in a Bank for a year but my heart was focused on being a nurse. Having friends and relatives still living in Victoria, I applied and was accepted into the St. Josephs School of Nursing Registered Nurse program under the guidance of the Sisters of St. Ann. Nancy Whysker was a classmate and we became very good friends in a group of Nurses and their husbands. My career kept me at St. Joseph's Hospital. I worked on a newly developing Neuro-vascular ward for the hospital. In the 1980's we moved into the new Victoria General Hospital. Moving an acute Neuro-Vascular Ward was a big challenge but very interesting. I loved Nursing and ended a career of 35 years in 2000.

After retiring I found I wanted to continue my Anglican faith and with the help of Nancy I found myself at the very welcoming St. Michael and All Angels Church during Rev. Ed Lewis's time. Once in the door I found the parishioners so welcoming I knew I would be happy here meeting and getting to know new people. I can not say enough about how wonderful the congregation and our Canon Rev. Dr. Wall have been in guiding me, supporting me and is a big part of my life journey.

This last year I have been blessed with re- connecting with a school classmate from Kamloops High School days that I had met at class reunion parties held over the years. I am so blessed to be able to share this church life with my best friend, soul mate and new husband Donald MacSween. Our wedding on March 10<sup>th</sup> 2018 at St. Michael and All Angels was what we wanted a happy celebration with family and friends attending.



*Helen Love*

**Helen Love** and her husband Ricky moved to Victoria in 2003 after her son Marcus was born. Having taken her masters degree at Royal Roads Helen fell in love with Victoria and knew that it was where they wanted to raise their family. Georgina was born a year later and we could not imagine living anywhere else. Helen has worked as a healthcare standards expert and project manager but her main focus is on her family which keeps her very busy.

Helen has a horse called Anika and will escape to the trails at any opportunity. Her interests also include making jewelry and glass art as well as gardening. Helen is a relative newcomer at St. Michael's, but feels like she has been here all her life. She loves participating in the church events and supporting the parish library and education committee—but her favorite role is as editor of the "Messenger" where she can help share the news in the parish.



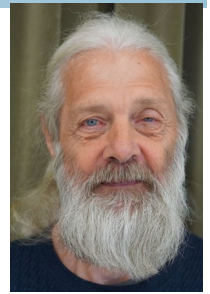
## The Choir

The choir's main role is to lead the hymn/liturgy singing at the 10:30 service on Sunday mornings. The choir also sings the psalm settings each week and provides anthems for all the major feast days and for other Sundays during the year. Occasionally stronger singers from the choir will perform pieces for soloist or small vocal groups.

The choir meets in the church hall at 9:15 every Sunday morning and extra rehearsals may be held after church or at some other time during the week to prepare for special performances. The preparation to sing Vivaldi 'Gloria' for performance over the first three Sundays of April has required some significant extra rehearsal time.

The choir is open to all women in the congregation. This is not for sexist reasons, but merely a question of balance of voices. A four part choir including men would be wonderful in principle but in order to match the volume and quality of our present female members we would need at least 4 very accomplished (and loud) male singers. Even if you haven't sung very much you are welcome to join us. Being able to read music is obviously a huge advantage for a would be chorister, but the present choir members are VERY supportive and patient and as long as you sing in tune, attend regularly and demonstrate enthusiasm you will be accepted and may find yourself learning to read by 'osmosis'. At the end of the 'choral' year we have a pot-luck supper with spouses, musical friends and significant other members of the congregation.

Our main project for early 2018 has been learning the Vivaldi 'Gloria' which we will perform in it's entirety at 7:30 pm on Tuesday June 19th. We will be accompanied by a small orchestra which will also be performing excerpts from instrumental works by contemporaries of Vivaldi. Admission is by donation.



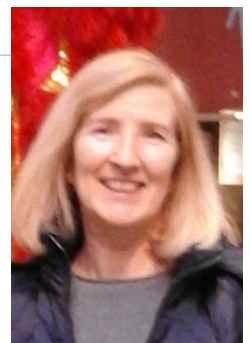
*Tony Booker*  
Choir Master

## Parish Office Administration

Being asked to describe my job is a bit like being asked how long is a piece of string!

There are routine things such as ensuring the services run smoothly with preparation of notices and the pew leaflet, ensuring the readings are in place and that there is paper for our prayer lists. I also attend and take Parish Council minutes, update the website, collect the recycling and send out the e-blast. Answering the telephone and email can result in the less routine such as a wedding enquiry or facility rental. Then there's the cemetery! A whole job in itself and without Peter Goddard's help, very tricky. I have special projects, such as the booklet for the Altar Guild which was revamped last year. This year I'm working on our new website. Then there's the quirky, digging someone out of our icy carpark, only to do it again when he stopped to thank me! The list could go on and I'm sure all of you can name things I've missed out. St. Michael's is not a static entity and to remain the vibrant place it is requires flexibility, changing what is outdated, preserving what makes us special and generally keeping me very busy.

Catie Oates moved to Canada in July 1994 at the start of the Commonwealth Games and, with her husband, went into Victoria nightly to watch the fantastic fireworks in the harbour; what a welcome! Catie is an avid experimental gardener and cook and in the very slow process of writing a cookery book suitable for her son, who has severe food allergies. Music brought Catie to St. Michael's, when she returned to singing with Tony, our very talented organist and choir director. Her role as office administrator for our church brings her great joy and she loves that every day is different. Some days she will be preparing the pew leaflet and answering the phone and on others she is enlisting the help of Peter Goddard to solve a conundrum in the cemetery. Catie will always welcome visits in the office if you have a question, need some help, or would just like to drop by to say "hi".



*Catie Oates*  
Administration

## The Women's Guild

Within the two published histories of this Parish, it indicates that the first Women's Group was established in 1911 and was called the "Women's Auxiliary" (WA). During the years that followed, the WA was instrumental in supporting many projects including raising the funds to build the Parish Hall [opened April 18, 1922]. The WA supported forming many other groups within the parish including the Sunday School, Girl's Auxiliary, Junior Youth Group, Altar Guild and Choir. During the 1930's depression years the WA helped many parishes on the Prairies sending clothing, food and money. Outreach, social events and care of the Parish Hall were the primary areas of focus. Throughout World War Two the parish grew and, in 1947, women's groups in the parish were re-organized with the WA becoming the "Anglican Church Women" (ACW), part of the National Anglican Women's Organization. The active ACW members met national commitments, continued outreach work, started the annual plant sale and began organizing and catering special events such as the BAC dinners and bazaars. The reorganization in 1947 also formed a "Parish Guild" (PG) with the main focus on social and fellowship evenings for the wives and mothers of the Parish. The PG started meeting in the hall and the "making of improvements to the Hall" became a need and a priority. The Parish Guild also hosted "Sewing Bees" to make hall curtains, choir robes and hats, cassocks and altar dressings. Traditional "Specials" included the "Strawberry Feasts" held at Ellen Goddard's home in June and the "Christmas Party" held in the rectory in December. Current parishioners who were members of this group in the early years include Edna Hill, Sally Tuckey, Ellen Goddard and Margaret Eagle.



With the late eighties came changes to the parish and a decision was made to have only one women's group. Membership in the National Women's Network ceased as did the Parish ACW. The "Parish Guild" became the "Women's Guild" which continues to this day. The "Peace Plant" by our organ was a "Gift In Perpetuity" from ACW members at that time.

The purpose statement of the current Women's Guild (WG) is *"To give women of the parish the opportunity to unite in fellowship of worship, study and service to the parish, community, diocese, nation and world"*. The annual report every February reflects the myriad of activities, projects and outreach work done throughout the year. "Looking after the Hall" continues as a common thread as well as social and special events, sales, receptions and hosting BAC meals. The WG also allocates outreach funds to selected organizations outside the parish and supports special maintenance projects in the parish. Financially, the WG has done very well and carefully monitors its funds so that they are wisely used each year.

Meetings are held at noon on the second Tuesday of every month [except July and August]. Attendees bring a bag lunch and members take turns making the refreshments and providing sweets and fruit for dessert. Often a speaker is present for a short time and then a business meeting follows. The membership list currently numbers 26 and many WA members also belong to other Parish groups as well.

All women of the parish are encouraged to come and join in as they are able. Since 1911, there has been a vital and active group of devoted women gathering and supporting this beautiful historic parish. That is 107 years of service! I hope that all women who read this report will come together to continue the good works being done and maintain the fellowship and goodwill that always ensues.

Submitted by Lenore English, Women's Guild Chair



## Brotherhood of Anglican Men

The Brotherhood of Anglican Men (BAC) was started in 1962 when Reverend Jack Rogers initiated a group for the men of the parish to meet and share in fellowship at a supper meeting. We have continued to meet on the 3rd Monday of the month for dinner where we enjoy time together sharing life stories and events. Our dinner is catered to by members of the Women's Guild for which we are grateful and know that we would not exist were it not for their dedication.

The BAC members assist with parish events. Our biggest annual event is the Fall Sale which was started 52 years ago to assist the parish meeting it's budget. Over the years the sale has become a major, and most popular, parish event which now requires the assistance of many parishioners to make it happen. Over the years the sale has earned over \$140,500 with proceeds used to support parish programs and contribute to the cost of major repairs and maintenance. The BAC also assist with funding outreach programs of the parish.

Submitted by Peter Goddard, BAC Chair

## Building, Grounds and Gardening

The Building & Grounds committee is responsible for the repair and maintenance of all buildings and grounds on our church precinct. This committee identifies any repairs and maintenance required, request and reviews quotation from contractors when required and makes recommendations to council. The committee is responsible for overseeing all work to insure that it is completed on time, on budget and to a high standard. Gordon English is the chair of the Building & Grounds committee.

From April to May, Buildings and Grounds organizes semi-regular groups on Tuesday mornings informally known as the "Gardening Group". The group also meets for a larger "grounds clean-ups" in the Spring and Fall on a Saturday morning. The garden border are scuffed over and planted with types of annuals that the deer tend to leave alone. Tulips, Pansies and Petunias don't get a chance to bloom. The cemetery and surrounding areas are kept tidy with the help of Brian and Tristan Goddard who cut all the grass. Watch for notices in the weekly service booklet for when the next garden session will be. There is always a mid-morning fellowship with coffee and donuts. Come and enjoy the camaraderie and friendship of the Gardening Group.



## Education Committee

The purpose of the education committee is to provide opportunities for church members, and the community at large, to learn and grow in knowledge and understanding of the Christian faith in the context of contemporary issues. This committee organizes courses for the parish and acts as the parent body for the Sunday School, Library and Bible Study.

Sunday School takes place every Sunday from September to June, during the 10:30 am service for children from 3 to teens. The Bible Study occurs at the Church on Wednesday mornings. The recently rejuvenated Library provides a broad selection of reading materials for all ages.

Fun Fact: In 1918, fifteen tree stumps were "blasted" and "removed" by Parishioners who laid out a tennis court in front of the Rectory. This was greatly appreciated by the young people of the community!



Periodic topical educational sessions are coordinated throughout the year by the education committee. New ideas are encouraged and welcomed.

Please contact the Church office for additional information concerning the education committee.

Submitted by Linda Dryden, Education Chair

## The Parish Purse

Maintaining a healthy financial situation is essential for our Parish to remain viable. We live in a time when declining church attendance and high costs of living have resulted in financial pressures for nearly all churches. Fortunately, through generous giving by our parishioners, careful management of funds accumulated over many past years, and significant fund raising efforts through our various sales, St. Michael's has been able to maintain a balanced budget over recent years.

The finances are managed by the Finance Committee and Parish Council. The Finance Committee consists of the Rector, Wardens, Treasurer and one or two co-opted parishioners. The Finance Committee meets monthly to review the financial reports, prepare recommendations to Council for non-routine expenditures and prepare the annual budget. Parish Council is the decision making body on financial matters and operates in accordance with the budget approved at the Parish Annual meeting.

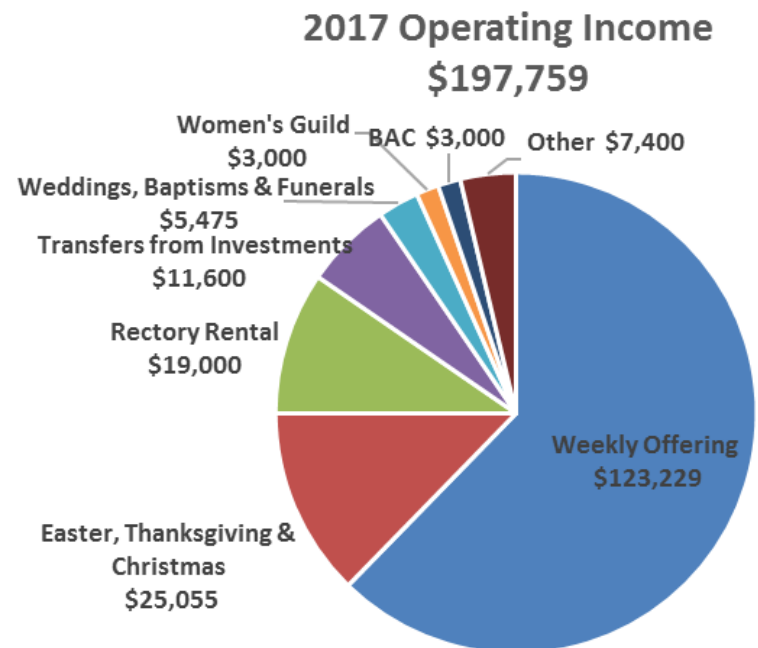
Funds raised by parish organizations or groups including the Women's Guild, BAC, Sunday School, Choir, and Altar Guild are held in the Parish Operating Account. These groups make recommendations to Parish Council for expenditures of a non-routine nature. These are typically projects for improvements or maintenance of the church, hall or to support outreach. Legally, Parish Council is responsible and accountable for all funds in the Parish.

Detail on the parish finances is reported in the Annual Report each year (ask for a copy if you don't have one). This article is a summary of that information in the 2017 Annual Report.

The largest source of funds is the weekly and special (Easter, Christmas and Thanksgiving) offerings. In 2017, there were 94 regular contributors using envelopes or pre-authorized giving. A simple calculation of the average donation is \$30 per week; however the actual giving distribution presents a very different picture. Over half of our regular contributors give an average of less than \$20 per week. A consistent average increase of \$5 per week by our parishioners would increase our income by \$25,000 per year.

In addition to the operating income shown in the graph, Parishioners donated \$21,300 specifically for Outreach.

We do have invested funds (approximately \$288,000) which yield some investment income. Approximately \$100,000 is for maintenance of the cemetery. Other amounts have been given over the years for specific purposes such as support of music programs, outreach, and youth programs. Approximately \$110,000 is held for Capital expenditures. It is the practice of the Parish Council to avoid drawing down the capital of these investments to the maximum extent possible.



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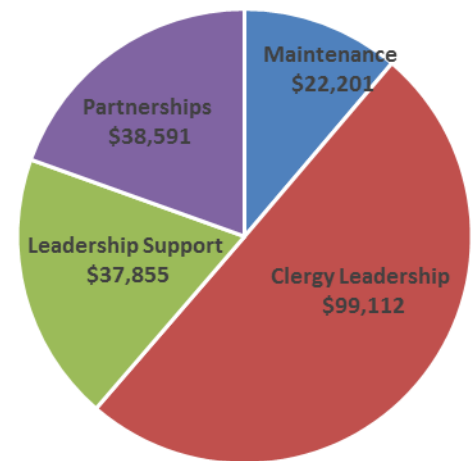
## The Parish Purse continued

On the expenditure side, the expenditure for **Clergy Leadership** is for the stipend and housing allowance for our wonderful Rector who leads us in worship, study, pastoral care, administration of the parish. **Leadership Support** expenditures are for our Director of Music, secretary, caretaker, and for supplies for worship, education, fellowship and administration. **Property Maintenance** includes utilities, heating costs, property taxes, grounds maintenance, and minor repairs. **Partnerships** is primarily our payment to support the wider church through the Diocesan Assessment. This is akin to a tax calculated on our income not including that portion spent on outreach or major capital expenditures. The calculation is almost as complicated as our personal tax system!

For major capital expenditures, we typically will ask parishioners to dig deep to meet the need. Recent examples include the replacement of furnaces in the church and hall a couple of years ago. This year we plan to do repairs on the stained glass windows and do initial design work on an outdoor grounds project. Many small capital expenditures are paid by funds raised by our Women's Guild and BAC sales, and the Thrifty's Smile Card fundraiser.

If you have any questions about the finances, please chat with Peter Goddard (Treasurer) or Lanny Hubbard.

2017 Expenditures  
\$197,759



### Quiet Garden Movement

The Quiet Garden Movement nurtures access to outdoor space for prayer and reflection in a variety of settings, such as private homes, churches, retreat centres, schools and hospitals – and creates opportunities for people to experience silence, restfulness and contemplative practices, with regular

quiet days and retreats being offered in many Quiet Gardens. There are over 300 Quiet Gardens worldwide.

The Quiet Garden Movement flows from the example of Jesus's withdrawal to natural places to pray and his invitation to, 'Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest' (St Mark's Gospel 6.31). If Jesus regularly and consistently needed such space to just 'be', then so do we.

Quiet Gardens vary widely in their size and situation, but at the core is the provision of outdoor space intentionally set aside for prayer, silence and refreshment which can be enjoyed in solitude or with others. Quiet Gardens provide hospitality and a safe, quiet space for coming home to oneself. The core values of Quiet Gardens include hospitality, contemplative prayer and Nature (re)connection.

For more information about the Quiet Garden Movement, see the website at [quietgarden.org](http://quietgarden.org)

Silence....

In our looking, our seeing, our awareness.

Silence in our hearing and listening.

Silence in our searching, striving, and forbearance:

The stillness of God in all reasoning and understanding.

There may we find, refuge from sorrows and trials;

Strength for challenge of day and loneliness of night;

Protection in moments of danger;

Peace in the wonder of creation.

God, be the source of our strength, the solid rock on which we stand.

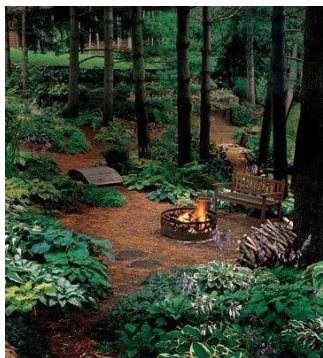
In you we place our whole being.

Trusting in your silence wherein your still small voice beckons.

Tina Jefferies / The Quiet Garden Trust



## Grounds Project First Town Hall Meeting



On Sunday, April 15 a meeting was held after the 10:30 Service to discuss the idea to create an outdoor grounds project on our Parish property. Approximately 30 people participated in the discussion. The purpose was to gauge general attitudes about the concept and to hear ideas about what parishioners might like to include or not. This is a record of the main points made during the meeting.

Two main ideas for increasing the opportunities to use and enjoy our outdoor property have been under discussion a Prayer Path and an outdoor area for worship, social, and education activities. By way of background, a slide show was presented, showing pictures, gathered from the internet, of prayer paths and outdoor gathering areas, developed at other churches.

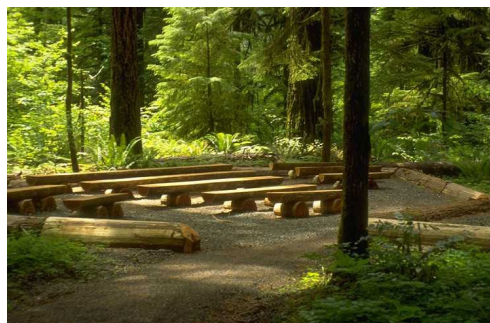
### Summary of comments:

- Spiritual Rest Stop
- Prayer path, labyrinth, and amphitheatre
- Retain the historical and natural beauty
- Benches
- Brochure and/or headset to use when walking the path
- Markers for stations and map
- Magical place to relax
- Outdoor activities – e.g. worship, teaching, yoga and aerobics
- Enjoy the outdoor movies
- Keep natural as possible – no ready water supply
- Catalogue the native plants
- Need a conceptual plan before details
- Accessibility is important
- Wood chips or gravel used for trails
- Benches should have spaces between them and be of various heights to facilitate access
- Enhanced entrance and signage for the church
- Diocesan input and contribution of funds
- Opportunities for partnerships

Overall, there was a general mood of support and excitement about the potential for this project. It is recognized that more planning and discussion is required to develop a plan, cost estimates and timelines.

### How do I get Involved and What's Next?

The Parish Townhall meeting on April 15 signalled a high level of support for the Outdoor Grounds Project. The next step is to turn the ideas that were discussed into a conceptual plan that can then form the basis for another meeting and further refinement before preparing a detailed landscape plan.



This will be a significant **multi-year Parish Project** that will require thorough planning, Parish Council approvals at key intervals, and careful management of the financial and physical work carried out. Parish Council will establish a Steering Committee for the project. In this next stage, while conceptual and detailed plans are developed, a Consultation Group will be established to provide input and feedback to assist with this process.

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## St. Michael's Grounds Project continued...

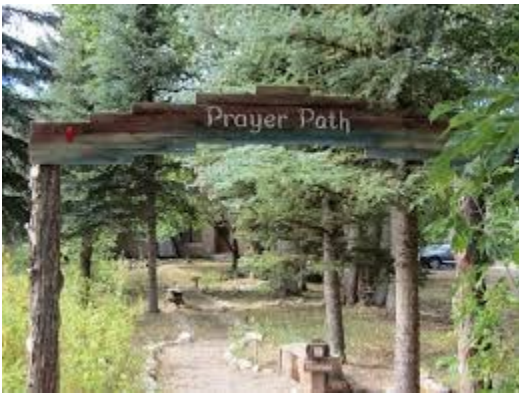
Other tasks that will need to be carried out include:

- fundraising (Diocesan Vision Fund application and individual donations)
- nurturing potential community partnerships (e.g. Master Gardeners; Horticulture Centre)
- partnerships with other Parishes and the Diocese (e.g. Quiet Gardens Movement)
- communications materials (e.g. Prayer Path, Cemetery History, Programs)
- programming (spiritual, educational, social)

Any Parishioner interested in volunteering to participate in the Consultation Group or any of the other tasks should advise the Wardens or Dawna.

The schedule for this project has not been tied down. This year will primarily be a planning year. That does not preclude us from using our outdoor area for specific activities that can be accommodated in the current state of the grounds. We will have some outdoor movie evenings. Other ideas?

As we look to creating our outdoor worship space and prayer path, we encourage you to take trips to similar spaces. In Victoria, St. Philip's Oak Bay has just put an outdoor labyrinth in their side yard, Holy Trinity has one in their parking lot. Sorrento is another place you might want to visit, if you're in the area. Get some friends together and go on a field trip and tell us what you found, take pictures, make notes and share your experience.



**Parishioners are encouraged to ask questions, make suggestions, share knowledge and ideas, and become involved.**

Editor: Helen Love

The Messenger is the newsletter of St. Michael and All Angels' Anglican Church.

The Messenger is a communication means for members of the parish. It does not necessarily reflect the beliefs of the editor, or the church. While the newsletter exists for parishioners to contribute their news, opinions and views, the editor may edit articles in order to facilitate understanding and fit space.

Contributions should report on parish activities, advertise upcoming events or be original literary articles, which are church related, maximum 500 words.

Please send submissions to the church office, preferably by e-mail to [smaaac@telus.net](mailto:smaaac@telus.net).

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## Terminal Terminology

**We know! We may win an award for the church with the most coded language.**

Coming to church can sometimes feel like you need a glossary of terms to get you through a Sunday morning. We are working on ways to keep the mystery where it belongs—in the sacraments. But, in the meantime, here are a few of the most common words or phrases we confound visitors with. If you find another term, don't be afraid to ask, or checkout the national Anglican church website ([www.anglican.ca/about/departments/cir/glossery/](http://www.anglican.ca/about/departments/cir/glossery/)).

**Book of Alternative Services (BAS):** The primary worship text used for Sunday services and other major celebrations in most parishes of the Anglican Church of Canada. It uses contemporary, inclusive language.

**Book of Common Prayer (BCP):** The traditional prayer book used, with local variations, in many Anglican churches throughout the world.

**Canon (nope - not the deadly weapon kind):** An honorary title granted to a senior priest or an outstanding lay person. To be named a canon of the cathedral is an honour bestowed by the bishop to recognize exemplary service to the wider church. See also page 4 Canons as constitution.

**Churchwarden (or just warden - nope, not the kind in a jail):** Senior lay (not ordained) officers of a congregation. In some dioceses, one warden is elected by the congregation and is called the people's warden; the other is appointed by the incumbent and is often called the rector's warden. In other dioceses, the members of the congregation elect both wardens.

**Eucharist:** The principal service of worship, which re-enacts the Lord's Supper (the last meal Jesus shared with his disciples before his crucifixion). From the Latin word meaning "thanksgiving" it's also called Communion or Holy Communion.

**Incumbent:** A cleric (ordained person) to whom the bishop has designated the care of a parish. Incumbents are appointed by the bishop on the recommendation of a parish selection committee.

**Lay person:** (pl. Laity) Members of the church who are not ordained bishop, priest or deacon.

**Lectern:** A stand which holds the Bible and from which the lessons of the day are read. Sometimes it's in the shape of an eagle, which is the symbol used to depict John the Apostle.

**Nave:** The main space of the church where pews or chairs are located on which the congregation sits during worship services. The word means ship, describing the church as it carries its members on their pilgrimage (that's why so many of the insides of churches look like ships turned upside down).

**Paten:** The plate on which the bread rests during Holy Communion.

**Postulant:** A person admitted by the bishop into the formal preparation for the ordained ministry.

**Primate:** (*Don't worry, everyone gets this wrong at first - it's pronounced more like primit than like the monkey*). The current bishop of a national church.

**Rector:** A priest to whom the bishop has designated the care of a parish. Rector has the same meaning as incumbent (*I know, so why don't we just use one?*), but incumbent is the preferred term in a Canadian Anglican context.

**Sanctuary:** The part of a church building where the main altar is located.

**Vestments:** The distinctive clothing (*some call them funny dresses*) reserved for use in the liturgy, worn by the clergy and those serving at the altar. Variations in style and colour denote the office of the wearer and the church season or festival being celebrated.

**Vestry:** (*ok, this one is really confusing*)

- The room where clergy put on their vestments (see vestments above).
- The decision-making body of a congregation, elected from the lay (see lay above) members. Also called the parish council.
- In some parts of Canada (like here), the annual meeting of parishioners (also known as the Annual General Meeting AGM).

There are lots more. If you think of any you come across all the time and you think it would be helpful to decode for others, let us know.