

St James Anglican Church  
Fergus



# VESTRY

Sunday, February 24th 2019

**The photo on our Vestry manual cover is entitled THE BEAUTY OF CREATION, DAY FIVE: FISH AND FOWL and is a part of a collection of tapestries, The Beauty of Creation, that bring the Genesis story to life. Crafted by textile artist Ruth Sproul, the series was gifted to St. James Anglican Church, Fergus in June of 2017. The series was designed by Alex Beattie.**

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### **A Prayer for Vestry**

Almighty and everliving God, giver of all good gifts, look upon your church with grace,  
and guide the minds of those who take counsel here in the Church of St. James.  
Teach us in all things to seek first your honour and glory.  
Guide us to perceive what is right,  
and grant us both the courage to pursue it  
and the grace to accomplish it,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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### **Memorials January – December 2018**

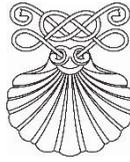
John Shaw, Gladys Silvestro, Eleanor Pearce, William Maguire

*O God of all, we pray to you for those we love, but see no longer:  
Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them;  
and, in your loving wisdom and almighty power,  
work in them the good purpose of your perfect will;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

# Vestry Agenda

February 24, 2019

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Prayer
3. Appointment of Vestry Clerk and Reading of Canon of Eligibility
4. Adoption and Approval of 2017 Vestry Minutes
5. Adoption of Reports
6. Presentation of Grants: WOW, CSJ, New Horizons
7. Presentation of Financial Statements for 2018
8. Presentation and Adoption of Proposed 2019 Budget
9. Presentation of Positions for 2019 Lay Leadership: Nominations Committee
10. Territorial Acknowledgment Motion
11. Other Business
12. Adjournment and Grace



## St James Anglican Church, Fergus

### Special Vestry Minutes Sunday, January 14th 2018

Chair: Rev'd Ann Turner

1. Welcome & Declaration

Because of the upcoming Episcopal election, a special vestry was held to elect 2018 Synod delegates and alternates. Those present were asked to sign in observing the declaration of eligibility to vote.

"I do solemnly declare that I am baptized Christian of the full age of 16 years, who for at least six months preceding the holding of this Vestry meeting has been identifiably involved with this congregation, through worship, fellowship, and financial support. Further, I declare that I have not voted as a member of any other vestry within the said six months."

196 persons eligible to vote at Vestry. 58 persons in attendance.

2. Minute Secretary

Walter Gosk nominated Angela Mullins as Vestry Clerk. All in favour.

3. Nominations

Tammy Rutherford nominated:

Caroline Macdonald as new delegate to Synod for a 2 year period.

Anne Warner and Phil Chester as alternate delegates to Synod.

In addition, confirming John Bolton as a delegate to Synod entering the second year of his term.

Rev'd Ann Turner asked (3 times) for any additional nominations.

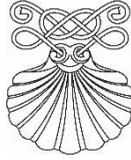
Motion to accept nominations. Voting was by show of hands.

All in favour, no abstentions for: Caroline Macdonald as Synod delegate for 2 year term; John Bolton as Synod delegate entering the second year of his term; Anne Warner and Phil Chester as alternate Synod delegates.

Motion passed.

4. Meeting Adjourned

Sharon Lathrop. All in favour.



## St James Anglican Church, Fergus

### Vestry Minutes

Sunday, February 25th 2018

Chair: Rev'd Ann Turner

5. Call to Order

The annual Vestry meeting was held on Sunday, February 25th, 2018. 65 names were on the registry of attendance.

6. Opening Prayer

7. Appointment of Vestry Clerk

Angela Mullins was appointed Vestry Clerk.

8. Adoption and Approval of 2017 Vestry Minutes

Motion to approve. All in favour.

9. Adoption of Reports

Motion to approve. All in favour.

10. Presentation of Grants: WOW and Canada Summer Jobs (CSJ)

a. WOW Proposal: On Saturday, January 20th, a team from St James made a presentation to the Diocese WOW Grants Committee requesting \$4,950 for 'Project Welcome' – a proposal for a summer programme.

(Presentation to parishioners). Rev Ann reported the WOW Committee had chosen to give St James \$3,000.

b. CSJ: Application for funding 3 summer students: A Summer Programme Co-Ordinator; Gardener; Office Administrator (to cover for 7 weeks Angela Mullins will be away June/July).

11. Presentation of 2017 Financial Statements

Barbara Clunes reviewed 2017 financial statements on pages 1-4 of the Financial Report.

Walter Gosk reviewed 2017 investments on page 27 – Statement of Financial Position.

12. Presentation and Adoption of Proposed 2018 Budget

Barbara Clunes reviewed proposed 2018 budget on pages 1-4 of the Financial Report.

Rod Irving presented the 2018 Challenge Factor.

Motion to approve and adopt 2018 budget. All in favour.

13. Presentation of Parish Challenge: Project Welcome

Rev Ann made a 'charge to vestry' challenging parishioners to exercise our identity as a missional church reaching into the community rather than waiting for the community to find us – to stretch and grow, try new things, encourage and challenge one another.

Project Welcome: Some grant money received for this programme (WOW) and more applied for (CSJ). Parishioners challenged to make a one-time donation to match our grants and make this summer programme a successful project. Envelopes numbered 1-100 are available. The number of envelope you select is the \$ contribution you make. If all 100 envelopes are adopted, it will total \$5,050!

14. Presentation of Positions for 2018 Lay Leadership

- Deputy People's Warden: Debbie Roberts nominated Earl Macdonald. Seconded. All in favour.
- Parish Council Member at Large: Angie Reynolds was nominated. Seconded. All in favour.

15. Other Business

- Rev Ann thanked outgoing Wardens, Dave Roberts and Tammy Rutherford, for their work and support as Rector's Warden and People's Warden respectively.
- Acknowledging the roles they play, Barbara Clunes has been given the title, Pastoral Assistant and Anne Warner, Music Assistant.
- Thank you to the ACW for preparing lunch and refreshments today.

16. Adjournment and Grace

Motion to adjourn. All in favour.

## Ministry Positions

### 2019

Rector's Warden [A]	Walter Gosk [year 2 of 2]
People's Warden [E]	Earl Macdonald [year 1 of 2]
Deputy Rector's Warden [A]	Joyce Sweeney [year 2 of 2]
Deputy People's Warden [E]	to be nominated
Synod Delegate #1 [E]	Anne Warner [year 2 of 2]
Synod Delegate #2 [E]	Caroline Macdonald [year 2 of 2]
Alternate Synod Delegates [E]	Philip Chester [year 2 of 2] to be nominated

### Parish Council Members

ACW [A]	Joan Rutherford [year 2 of 2]
Physical Plant [A]	Duane Pickle [year 1 of 2]
Worship [A]	Helen Henderson [year 2 of 2]
Community Outreach [A]	Brian Dowling [year 2 of 2]
Finance [A]	Rod Irving [year 1 of 2]
Pastoral Care [A]	Barbara Clunes [year 1 of 2]
Members at Large: [E]	Angie Reynolds [year 2 of 2] Ted Vanderveen [year 1 of 2]
Member at Large: [A]	Lynn Bailey [year 1 of 2]

### Staff

Rector [F]	Reverend Ann Turner
Church Administrator [P]	Angela Mullins
Bookkeeper [P]	Jackie Feenstra
Treasurer [V]	Howard Johnston
Organist [P]	Paula Stouffer Wilson
Sexton [P]	George Bailey
Staff and Volunteer Management [A/V]	Janice Sheppard
Envelope Secretary [A/V]	Doug Waechter
Counters [A/V]	Caroline Macdonald and Joan Nixon

E – Elected  
A – Appointed  
V – Volunteer  
F – Full-time  
P – Part-time

## Rector's Report

I have nothing but a heart of gratitude for this first year as your Rector!

On January 1, 2018, I officially became the Rector of St. James and there has been no looking back. I was installed at the Cathedral on January 10<sup>th</sup> and on January 28<sup>th</sup> we together celebrated my induction. It was a wonderful worship service that included all of you and more from our extended community. Together we began our shared ministry, renewing our baptismal covenant and committing to dreaming and enacting a wonderful future together.

I continue to be grateful for leadership in this parish that is faithful, strong, and forward-thinking. I have to thank all of you who have maintained your commitments to this community in committee and team labour. Core and significant committees — Christian Education (new in 2018), Finance, Kitchen Renovation (new in 2018), Ministry Resources, Outreach, Pastoral Care, Living Faith, Book Club, Quilters, Liturgical Assistants (Lay Readers, Servers, Greeters, Readers, Prayer Leaders, Earl Macdonald), Prayer Shawl Group, Worship — all of these continued with skilled leadership and energy.

The community garden continues to flourish under Tammy Rutherford's guidance and the community dinners continue with Brian Dowling (and his deep commitment and connection the Food Bank) along with ACW volunteers, Outreach volunteers, and other parish members who assist in hosting and hospitality. Vacation Bible School, with Helen Henderson's leadership, was again a successful summer programme in our own Butterfly Garden. The ACW continues its faithful presence in the church, raising fun and spirits with their activities. We are grateful to them for all their work, especially their generous contributions to parish operations. After our Direct Deposit and Envelope givings, the ACW is our most significant financial contributor. Thank you! The Altar Guild continues to keep our worship space beautiful and functional. They have adapted wonderfully to changes in worship set-up and offered creative input to Taizé services and seasonal decorating.

It is important each year that we thank and admit that little of our work here would be possible without D & E Maintenance (Earl Macdonald and Duane Pickle) monitoring and taking care of the property, indoors and out!

Special ministries this year included Eric Henderson crafting us a beautiful votive table. The table holds a place of honour in our nave and provides an opportunity for us to light candles as an act of remembrance or focused prayer. We have enjoyed Eric's handiwork at all of our services, with a particularly lovely contribution at Taizé worship.

Once again, Parish Council has worked hard this year with Rod Irving continuing in his much-valued role as Chair. Throughout the year, Parish Council continued to participate in conversations about clarifying our goals and vision for the church, both in terms of social responsibility and finances. We have offered pulse checks on change and development in the parish, have reviewed financial operations and special projects, have shared and explored new ways of worship and prayer, and have received, challenged, and endorsed the work of our Corporation.

I would be remiss if I did not offer thanks to Rev. Amy Cousineau, Honorary Assistant, for her work with the Taizé community in our parish and Rev. Dana Rodgers, who has agreed to assist me, filling in when I am on holidays or attending continuing education events. Canon James Lefebvre was once again generous with his time and leadership when he offered pulpit supply so that I had some time away, as was Dr. Barbara Clunes who, in her role as Lay Reader, led services during my summer vacation.

Paula Stouffer-Wilson continues to be a blessing to this community with her energy and fine musicianship. She and Anne Warner, Music Assistant, continue to steer the choir and aid in shaping worship that identifies us as an uplifting, interesting, and joy-filled community. Paula has quickly become a significant part of our team and our family. It has been fun to see different faces in the choir, seasonally, and I am impressed with Paula's ways of making our choir shine with anthems and special service music. The choir continues to grow in numbers and musicianship. That is good news, especially as we see June Ball move on to other ministries after 50 years in the choir!

While it always risky to name names, I will name a few folks who have simply been constantly available and ready for work and worship. First, of course, is Janice Shephard (this year's recipient of the Order of Niagara). In addition, I am especially grateful to Cathy Sweeney for her work with the Women's Community Lunch, to Barbara Clunes for her generous leadership in Christian Education, in Pastoral Care, in Outreach, and in worship. Barbara serves to challenge and support this community in their work and ministry. Caroline Macdonald remains a figure of our institutional memory, guiding process and procedure, while participating in almost every event, and both monitoring and documenting all of the work completed on the physical plant. I also want to make special mention of the work and ministry of Joan Rutherford, who guides the ACW and spearheads almost all of our catering fund-raising events. To be honest, and if there were room, I would list each and every parishioner for the gifts they bring in the varied roles in this community. Each of you is important, valued, and loved in this place. Please know that I joyfully sign my name to the thanks and appreciations offered in the Wardens' Report!

I want to be sure to offer special thanks to our parish staff, a group of dedicated, committed, and extremely tolerant and hardworking people! They are generous with their time and gifts: Angela Mullins, our administrator, continues to attempt managing my varied schedule and tasks while simultaneously making sure office visitors are met with a warm welcome and good cheer! Jackie Feenstra works diligently to keep our finances in order and George Bailey works at all hours of the day and night to keep our home clean, well maintained, and ready for the numerous renters and programmes happening here in this busy place.

Financially, we are a very healthy community. Parishioners are generous and reliable in their offerings and are quick to support initiatives brought to you by the Corporation or committees such as Outreach. Special collections including Easter donations, Harvest offerings, and Christmas givings were very successful and helped lead us to a balanced budget at year's end. Our Finance Committee is offering you a moderately increased budget this year which we plan to easily balance with your continued support. We will continue to apply for grants where appropriate and many of our committees and groups have entertained conversations on how to keep our parish active and our community engaged while not overburdening or exhausting volunteers. It cannot be said enough that our future is in community and financial partnerships, both to honour our resources and our energies.

Finally, I must thank the wardens who have worked beside me this year with cheerfulness and creativity. They have been supportive and encouraging, and open and enthusiastic about new ideas and directions. Thank you to Dave Roberts, Janice Sheppard, Tammy Rutherford, and Walter Gosk. As Janice finishes her term on Corporation this year and I wish her many blessings for work well done! I'm also really happy that she will stay on managing our volunteers and consulting on issues of human resources and safe church practices.

Over the year we welcomed new parishioners and entertained all God's creatures in our Feast of St. Francis celebrations. We have gathered for community celebrations: bbqs, lunches, festive dinners, and both simple and grand receptions. We have studied together and prayed together and sung together and danced together. We have mourned as a community, we have said some wistful goodbyes, we have welcomed friends back, and we have had moments of deep rejoicing.

2019 has begun with vibrancy and energy in the air. Together we are living into the future, reimagining and redeveloping ourselves as the missional church that God calls us to be. We've kicked off the year with renewed vision about our Women's Community Lunch, about accessibility and comfort in the nave, and open hearts and minds towards new ministries in our community. I am so pleased to be your priest and to be with you all in our shared ministry.

*Submitted by Reverend Ann Turner, Rector*

## Wardens' Report

As we take this time to reflect back on 2018, we are thankful for a year with a permanent, full-time minister who has provided us with excellent leadership and guidance.

The Wardens have enjoyed working with Reverend Ann on Parish Council and Corporation during her first full year here at St. James. It was a year in which we have welcomed 20 new parishioners, celebrated milestone birthdays, and mourned the loss of some of our long-time parish members.

This year we received funding from the WOW Grant program and with the generous contributions from parishioners it allowed us to proceed with Project Welcome and hire a Summer Events Coordinator, a Student Summer Gardener, and obtain new signage welcoming people to enjoy the Butterfly Garden.

The Events Coordinator, Sarah Hennig, organized "Hello August!" programs in the Butterfly Garden with the goal of engaging with the community and increasing community awareness of St. James and the Butterfly Garden. "Hello August" included a Caffeine and Crafts family night, Outdoor Movie Night following the Highland Games Parade, Serenity Now was focused on health and wellness activities, Carnival themed events, and the last week of social activities wrapped up with a Picnic Basket event with a BBQ, ice cream sundae bar, and outdoor games.

Our Student Gardener, Casey Fraser, not only assisted with the gardening and maintenance around the church but also provided assistance to some of our parishioners with gardening tasks around their homes.

The new signage welcoming people to the Butterfly Garden has seen an increase in people having lunch or just sitting and enjoying the Garden.

Overall the hiring of the Events Coordinator and the Gardener were both well received and a great success. The plan is to continue these programs in 2019 to continue our exposure to the greater community. Once again, we will be applying for Canada Summer Jobs grant money.

Project Welcome has also seen the updating of the website as well as the creation of a weekly newsletter which is distributed electronically through email to parishioners and anyone else wishing to receive it. The newsletter has an information/educational section and then goes on to inform of services and programs at St. James. Thank you so much to Rev. Ann and Angela for the time they commit to this excellent communication tool.

This year at the end of April, after 10 years of service, we payed tribute and wished Bishop Michael Bird farewell and wished him well in his future endeavors. We then celebrated the Installation of the 12th Bishop of Niagara, the Right Reverend Susan Bell. We met and welcomed Susan in September with evensong and a wonderful roast beef dinner prepared by the ACW ladies in the Butterfly Garden.

We also celebrated with Janice Sheppard and her family, who was this year's recipient of the Order of Niagara.

We would also like to make special mention to Philip Sweet, who has now passed, but was the recipient of our St. Francis of Assisi Award.

A special thank you to Joe Brooks for his years of service maintaining the gardens at the front of the church. This was Joe's last summer but Pat Wilcox and Ted Vanderveen have volunteered for the job.

In October several of the Wardens and some of our parishioners along with Rev. Ann attended the Bishop's Company fundraising dinner in Hamilton. The Bishop's Company is both a community of members and a discretionary fund to assist Anglicans in need in the diocese with a primary emphasis on clergy and lay workers, and their families. The guest speaker was The Right Reverend Susan Bell. It was a very enjoyable and rewarding experience.

Again, this year we are flying The Canadian Native Flag in honour of Canada's Native heritage which was designed by Curtis Wilson. "Standing together in support of each other." Also, before each service Rev. Ann reads a "Territorial Acknowledgement" to help us to remember on a regular basis to be good stewards of this land and honour those who came before us.

This year during Parish Council meetings Rev. Ann facilitated the group through sessions making us think and asking that we reflect over the last 10 years and how we have changed and transitioned and how those changes have impacted individuals and our community. We also had a SWOT session in which we looked at and discussed our Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats. We also had a conversation regarding our Vision, Mission and Values and feel they continue to reflect this community of St. James.

**Our Vision: To be a loving, joyful, Christ-centred community serving God and serving others.**

**Our Mission: Care for creation, passion for people, love for God.**

**Our Values: We welcome all to Christ's table, offering a positive space to individuals and families, open to all regardless of race, gender, age, ability, or creed.**

This year it was identified that some renovations to the kitchen were required to improve functionality and safety so a Committee was formed to discuss what improvements should be made. To date we have seen the installation of 2 new electric stoves and a hood in the kitchen replacing the gas stoves. A New Horizons Grant has been applied for but no word has been received to date as to whether or not grant money is available.

A very much needed air/heat pump system was installed for the 2 administrative offices and choir room. This new system will provide a more energy and cost efficient heating and cooling system and create a more comfortable work space for staff and volunteers.

As a positive indication how busy we are at St. James and how space is being used to the maximum we had a trial period this year of removing two rows of short pews and the modesty screen from the front of the church and replace them with chairs to create more space for church groups to meet, provide better seating/space for those with mobility issues, provide opportunities for smaller in-the-round worship and more room around the font during a Baptism service. The concept has been very well received and in 2019 new chairs will be purchased taking into account the needs expressed by the parishioners.

As more and more resources and programming are available online the decision was made this year to extend the Wi-Fi network to cover the whole of the church building. This will not only enhance our place for delivering programming but also as a more desirable rental space.

In closing, we wish to acknowledge the countless ways that each and every member of St. James continue to serve and support this church. As volunteers and organizers of so many groups and initiatives your support and enthusiasm and hard work are what makes St. James the open and caring community that it is.

We are thankful for your positive input and support but also thank you for taking time to speak about issues that concern you. Please know our ears are always open. We are grateful for the opportunity to help ensure that St. James continues to grow and thrive as a place open to the greater community of Centre Wellington and as a place of worship for future generations as it has been for the past 160 years.

Respectfully submitted by your Wardens,

Walter Gosk, Rector's Warden  
Janice Sheppard, People's Warden  
Joyce Sweeney, Deputy Rector's Warden  
Earl Macdonald, Deputy People's Warden

## From the Parish Register, 2018

### BAPTISMS

*Performed by Reverend Ann Turner*

Elias Edward Michalski  
Noah John Nicoll

### MARRIAGES

*Performed by Reverend Ann Turner*

Dean Wayne Dunbar and Beth Louise Rowat  
Matthew Jeffrey Kirk Vos and Brandy Lee Noseworthy  
Anthony Henry Stewart Carvalho and Nicole Marie Van Den Borre  
Derek Scott Irving and Rachelle Danette Cadwell  
Jonathan David Millett and Katreena Elizabeth Baker  
John Bernard Winger and Laurie Elizabeth Zirk

*Performed by Reverend Amy Cousineau*

Sean James Hunt and Laura Evelyn Cousineau  
Gerrit John Sepers and Karen Middleton-Meadham

### FUNERALS

*Performed by Reverend Ann Turner*

John Shaw  
Gladys Victoria Silvestro  
Eleanor Jean Pearce

*Performed by Reverend Amy Cousineau*

William James Maguire

# Synod

The 1st Session of the 144<sup>th</sup> Synod of the Diocese of Niagara was on Saturday, March 3rd at Cathedral Place in Hamilton, Ontario. Rev. Ann Turner, John Bolton and Caroline Macdonald attended. This special electoral Synod was presided over by Archbishop Colin Johnson. The purpose of this Synod was to elect a new Bishop following Bishop Michael Bird's announcement of his intention to retire. Our Priest, Ann Turner, was the Chair of the Electoral Synod Nominations and Planning Committee. There were 7 candidates for Bishop and on the 5<sup>th</sup> Ballot with 2 candidates remained: Canon Rob Fead and the Reverend Canon Susan Bell. Susan Bell was elected. Bishop Michael Bird walked to the front of the Cathedral with both candidates and their spouses. Archbishop Colin Johnson announced that a majority had been attained in both houses and announced that the Bishop-elect was the Reverend Canon Susan Bell. The place erupted in applause! Asking all of the candidates to come forward, Archbishop Johnson thanked them for the wonderful range of their gifts, stating that the Diocese is blessed. The Reverend Canon Rob Fead called for the unanimous acclamation of the Reverend Canon Susan Bell as Coadjutor Bishop of Niagara.

The 2nd Session of the 144<sup>th</sup> Synod was also one day Synod on November 3rd at Cathedral Place. Rev. Ann Turner, Caroline Macdonald and Alternate Delegate, Anne Warner, attended. It was the first Diocesan Synod chaired by the Right Reverend Susan Bell, Bishop of Niagara. The theme of Synod was "See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?"

There were many presentations throughout the day. A few of the items highlighted were:-

- Cathedral Place Revitalization Project – They will have to apply to close the cemetery that is under the parking lot behind the cathedral. The project cannot move forward until the graves are identified, removed and reinterred. They will also need to purchase the adjacent parking lot. They will try again with the new council to come to a reasonable price.
- P.W.R.D.F. (Primate World Relief & Development Fund) started 60 years ago after the mine disaster in Springhill, NS. They have 52 partners that are depicted in their new logo. Postcards were provided to be filled in and mailed to our Prime Minister asking that we do more for the 815 million people who go to bed hungry.
- Cuba – it has been 19 years since we entered companion diocese – a partnership in mission. One example is the Fresh Water Initiative for church communities – purification systems.
- Canterbury Hills – "Forever Memories Are Made Here"  
700 children a year attend – Registration is full in February. The camp is 50 years old which in itself translates into many needs such as volunteers, fundraising and workers. They lost a large number of trees infected with the emerald ash bore. The trees need to be replaced at a cost of \$35,000.00. If you can help in any of the ways mentioned, it would be appreciated.

*Respectfully submitted by Caroline Macdonald*

## Worship Committee

**Mission Statement:** *To contribute to the designing of worship that is rooted in tradition, alive with creativity and inclusive of long-term parishioners, new visitors and people of all ages, from all backgrounds.*

We meet several times per year, usually to plan services for the different liturgical seasons throughout the church year. Some highlights from 2018 include:

- Inviting special Guest Speakers from different Outreach organizations during the Season of Lent to give a short overview of their important work in the community.
- Mardi Gras, The last Sunday before Lent, featuring music with Tim Moher and Rob Gellner
- Maundy Thursday Agape Meal in the Butterfly Hall, followed by Tenebrae and the stripping of the Altar.
- Good Friday Drama and blues telling the story of the day the sun stopped shining with the music of Stan Chang, pianist and Erick Bruck, drummer providing music.
- Parish Visit and Evensong with Bishop Susan Bell
- St. Francis Day Service and presenting Phil Sweet with the Award of St. Francis for his work in the field of agriculture and environment.
- Theme of Advent this year, "Hope Brings Us to Birth"
- The Quiet Day Retreat with Rev'd Dana Johnson during Advent
- The Hanging of the Greens service on the Fourth Sunday of Advent
- Christmas Eve services were well attended this year with over 100 in attendance at the 8:00 pm service and 26 on Christmas Day

The committee is open to comments and suggestions for ideas/improvements/concerns concerning our Worship at St. James. Please use the suggestion box at the back of the church for your written comments.

Members: Rev. Ann Turner, Helen Henderson, Carol Pederson, Debbie Shier, Cathy Sweeney and Anne Warner

## Taizé Services

Taizé services were held every month in 2018, except for July and August. The themes were: Friendship, Love in Action, Holiness, Prayer, The Feminine Face of God, Aboriginal Prayer, The Holy in Daily Life, Soul Wisdom in a Chaotic World, Waiting with Anticipation, and Celebration.

Attendance averaged 25, and we were very pleased to welcome many people who are not part of the St. James community. The Taizé group is becoming a community within the St. James community as we get to know many folks who are becoming "regulars" on the 4th Wednesday of the month.

Many thanks to Paula Stouffer Wilson, our pianist, and Rev. Ann Turner, our cantor, for their leadership; to Angela Mullins for publicity and preparation of the service booklets, and to those who set up and put away. Thanks also to the many people who volunteer to read during the services.

*Rev. Amy Cousineau, Honorary Assistant*

## Vacation Bible School

The Vacation Bible school was held July 30th to August 3rd at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church. Enthusiastic volunteers from both churches presented the programs to 28 children from our community and beyond.

They heard bible stories, learned songs, played games, and made crafts all related to the theme "Hero Central: discover your strength in God". A visit to a local nursing home wound up the week, as the children presented the residents with handmade crafts and sang some of the songs they had learned.

*Submitted by Helen Henderson*

# Music Ministry

## Choir

The 2018 core choir members: Barbara Clunes, Gloria Hopkins, June Ball, Cathy Sweeney, Christine Whitehead, Elsie Pickett, Debbie Shier, David Davies, Debbie Roberts, Anne Warner.

Members who joined on occasion throughout the year: Daphne Pickle, Sue Chester & Helen Henderson

The choir is a group of dedicated volunteers who work hard each week to grow and share their love of music ministry with the St. James community.

2018 was a year of continual growth and learning for our choir. They keep challenging themselves vocally and have pushed themselves out of their personal comfort zones as they become stronger more confident singers! I'm so proud to work with this group of wonderful, hardworking and fun individuals!

Some Music Ministry highlights from this year:

- Various choir anthems throughout the year
- Congregation members sharing their musical gifts with our community
- Mardi Gras themed Sunday with musical guests Tim Moher and Rob Gellner
- Good Friday service featuring Stan Chang and Erick Bruck
- Celebration of Pentecost
- Monthly Taizé services
- St. James Christmas Carol Sing
- St. James now has a YouTube Channel – various choir anthems are showcased there

The choir is blessed to have our amazing music assistant Anne Warner. She is such an asset for us all! She continues to provide invaluable knowledge of church music, plays and sings each Sunday, and adds her creative ideas during our weekly rehearsals. The choir and I are so grateful to have her on our team!

St. James' choir is always happy to welcome new singers to our group, anytime of year. The choir also welcomes those who can't commit to the whole year but are able to lend their voices for special times of year such as Easter and Christmas.



## Music Committee

The Music Committee meets each liturgical season to plan the upcoming musical needs (weekly worship, special services, anthems for the upcoming season). This committee continues to be of great value and it's a pleasure to share music ideas for our weekly church services as a team.

The committee members are: Rev'd Ann Turner, Music Director: Paula Stouffer Wilson, and Music Assistant: Anne Warner.

*Submitted by Paula Stouffer Wilson, Music Director*

## Pastoral Care Ministry

The Pastoral Care ministry remained active during 2018. This group continues to visit parishioners who are unable to leave their homes either temporarily or permanently because of illness or difficulties with mobility and while hospital in-patients.

The purpose of visits is to extend friendship, through conversation or reading where appropriate, so as to alleviate loneliness and reassure the visited that they are valued individuals who have not been forgotten. Continuing contact with the faith community includes taking the Sunday bulletin, printed sermon, and Newsletter to those visited. Birthdays are acknowledged by a visit, birthday card, and a small gift.

With agreement there are faith-based conversations, prayer and the Holy Eucharist is provided by Rev. Ann or an approved Lay person.

As part of a Roster generated by the local Ministerial Association this group participates in church services throughout the year in all Nursing Homes and Residencies of Fergus and Elora. These include music, prayer, readings from Scripture and a homily, some services include the Holy Eucharist. A service of the Holy Eucharist is provided every third Friday of each month at the Wellington Terrace Home. Initially started for Anglicans it is now attended by any resident who chooses to participate.

This group meets approximately every 6 weeks to support each other, confirm our schedule of visiting, recognize new needs for visits, and to enhance this ministry through intentional study. We currently use the deeply inspirational and encouraging book "The Compassionate Congregation" by Karen Mulder and Ginger Jurries.

This Ministry remains enjoyable and fulfilling. A warm welcome is extended to anyone who would like to explore or participate in this Ministry. Please contact any member of the group.

*Submitted by Barbara Clunes for the Pastoral Care Group*

*(Rev. Ann Turner, Helen Henderson, Carol Darrah, Jane Watson, Jane Douglas, Daphne Pickle, Carol Fleming, Elsie Pickett)*

## Christian Education – Living Faith Study Group

In 2018 this group completed a study of the Acts of the Apostles guided primarily by the book "The Message of Acts" edited by John W. Stott.

In this study we were grateful for this single account of the establishment of the early Church with its enviable confidence, enthusiasm, vision, and courage. Luke did not romanticize the early Church as he also pointed out the rivalries, hypocrisies, and conflicts which troubled the Church then as it does now.

The reassuring and challenging theme strikingly emphasized throughout the Acts of the Apostles is that the Church was established and thrust out by the Holy Spirit to witness to the *good news of the Gospel* throughout the world. As a result the book is not yet complete as Christians today are called to continue Jesus' command Acts 1:8 "*You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth.*"

Under house arrest in Rome at the end of the Acts of the Apostles Paul gave to future generations a rich spiritual legacy through four letters written while a prisoner. It seemed appropriate to study one of these and the letter to the Colossians was selected.

Although Paul's authorship is debated the message of this letter is deeply spiritual and instructive. The author's view of Christ ie. "The Supremacy of Christ" Colossians 1:15-23 is an exceptional, profound and moving teaching and a blessing to the Christian faith. The letter also offers amazingly contemporary and relevant teaching on "The New Life in Christ" Colossians 3 especially verses 12-17.

Both studies were a powerful and exciting way to encounter God through the words of Holy Scripture.

*Submitted by Barbara Clunes*

## Servers

Servers actively participate in the liturgical functions and worship of the church. It is both a privilege and honour to be a server.

The following is a very general outline of what duties servers perform during a regular Sunday service;

Servers are responsible for lighting the Alter Candles prior to the service beginning. The Crucifer (Cross Bearer) and Torch Bearers lead the procession from the back to the front of the church during the opening hymn.

During the service the Crucifer and Torch Bearers process with the Priest to the center aisle of the church (Nave) for the reading of the Gospel.

A server receives the offering from the greeters during the offertory hymn and holds the offering while the Priest delivers the offertory prayer.

A server also assists at the Eucharist by receiving the Elements (bread and wine) brought forward by the people. They assist the Priest with the preparation of the Alter and then assist after the Eucharist with Ablutions (cleaning up and putting the dishes away). If required, one of the servers may also be asked to assist as a Chalice Bearer.

At the end of the service a server will extinguish the Alter Candles and the Crucifer will lead the Touch Bearers and sanctuary team to the back of the church during the recessional hymn.

Thank you to Rev. Ann for her patience and support with us while performing our duties.

Thank you to all the Servers for your dedication to this very special and important ministry.

Servers: Tammy Rutherford, Walter Gosk, Janice Sheppard, Hayden Douglas, Dean Dunbar, Dave Roberts, Eric Dunk, Doug Waechter, and Sue Chester

*Submitted by Janice Sheppard*

## Greeters

As Coordinator for the greeters at St. James, I would like to thank all of you for your tireless work and willingness to fill in whenever needed. You are all a great asset to our church in the enthusiastic way you welcome our congregation and visitors.

We have eight teams of greeters and if you would like to join us in this fun and rewarding Ministry, please contact the office or the Rector. We would be happy to welcome you to our group.

### Greeter Teams

Jack and Linda Webster, Gail Gammie

Kay Miller, Joan Trask, Dave Roberts

Joan Rutherford, Pat Kingdon, Tammy Rutherford

Eric and Helen Henderson, Roy Sproul

Rod and Diane Irving, Nancy Fletcher

Elsie Pickett, Jane Watson, Heather-Jane Maurice

Bill and Cookie Drury, Russ Hall

Janice Sheppard, Jane Douglas, Hayden Douglas

Spare: Caroline Macdonald

*Thanks to everyone and God Bless, Joan Nixon*

## A.C.W.

The A.C.W. usually meets every third Wednesday of the month at 10:30 in the Witcher room. We welcome anyone who would like to join us. We do need new energy!!

In January we provided squares and drinks for Rev. Ann's induction.

In January and February we made lunch for the Truth and Reconciliation group. We also made up some sandwiches for St. John's, Elora.

In February we set up for our Book Sale. If anyone has any books they would like to donate to us we would be more than happy to have them dropped off at the church. We find this is a great little money maker.

We made soup and served it with a bun to our Lenten Study group. We prepared and served lunch for John Shaw's funeral in February as well as preparing lunch for the congregation for our Vestry meeting.

In May we served approximately 100 people for the funeral of our dearly missed Eleanor Pearce.

We set up and held our Basement Sale in May and catered a lunch booth along with a bake sale table at the Miniature Show at the Sportsplex.

In June we made lunch to help celebrate Marguerite Ibbotson's 100th birthday. What a great event!

We also prepared a salad lunch for a group from New Hamburg. These folks came to see Ruth Sproul's lovely needle point work depicting "The Beauty of Creation." This is on display in the Narthex. Take a look if you haven't seen it yet!

We catered a food booth for 2 days at the Fergus Sportsplex for Quilts on the Grand.

In August Ted Arnott gave us the pleasure of serving snacks and drinks for his annual social event.

In September we served a roast beef dinner to welcome our new Bishop, The Right Rev'd Susan Bell. Everyone enjoyed this wonderful evening of good food and fellowship.

We also held the Harvest Tea along with St. John's Elora to raise funds for PWRDF.

Again this year, we spent a few hours making meat pies for our Christmas Market Place in December. This event was very successful due to all the helping hands to make it happen.

We sent Christmas cards to Anglicans in Nursing/Retirement Homes and Parishioners who are Shut-Ins.

Soup was prepared and served to those who attended the Advent Quiet Day this year.

We also served the Fergus Camera Club their annual turkey dinner which they are pleased to have.

We catered a lunch for Dale MacLean-Howard for her 80th Birthday. She was quite tickled.

This year we gave to CMHA-Teen Suicide Program-Centre Wellington; Groves Memorial Community Hospital; Mission to Seafarers, Southern Ontario; Highlands Youth for Christ - The Door; University of Guelph-Ecumenical Campus Ministry; Centre Wellington Food Bank; Guelph Wellington Women in Crisis-Fergus and the Church.

I want to give a special Thank You to everyone who helps and supports us in any way.

*Submitted by Joan Rutherford*

### Financial Statement

#### Income

Basement Sale	\$416.25
Book Sales	\$159.90
Calendar Sales	\$83.00
Catering	\$5,227.90
Christmas Bazaar	\$3,671.85
Coffee	\$728.70
Funerals	\$1,000.00
Sale of 2 Stoves	\$400.00

Total Income: \$11,687.60

#### Expenses

Calendars	\$67.63
Catering	\$865.53
Christmas Bazaar	\$124.18
Coffee	\$274.66
Funerals	\$109.17
Kitchen Supplies	\$159.57
Outreach/Donations	\$1,996.56

Total Expense: \$3,597.30

**Net Income: \$7,990.30**

*Submitted by Vickie Waechter*

## Outreach Committee

The Outreach Committee has functioned on behalf of St. James for the past 14 years by seeking and providing support where needed locally, to surrounding communities and beyond within Canada. Worldwide outreach includes financial response to natural and other crises and an active relationship with PWRDF. Many years of support of a sponsored child through World Vision was discontinued and not renewed when the last adopted child reached adulthood in 2018.

In 2018 a distinct effort was made to redefine the work/mandate of the committee and to encourage active engagement by the congregation. This was guided and initiated by Rev. Ann Turner and Henriette Thompson who led "A Call to Ministry and Action" seminar in April 2017 and later led by Rev. Fred Monteith who met with the St. James congregation after the Sunday service on May 27th 2018 at Rev. Ann's invitation.

The meeting with Rev. Monteith was especially beneficial in raising awareness of the breadth and depth of the existing Outreach Commitments by St. James including the work of the Outreach Committee and multiple other Outreach initiatives. In addition it provided a forum for enthusiastic engagement, insight, suggestions, and an expression of preferred Outreach focus from the congregation.

The priorities for Outreach were identified as ministries engaged with youth, women and children in crisis, food security, approved programmes, and people-based giving that has a direct impact on people's lives.

A list of questions or "qualifiers" were recommended in choosing the services that we support i.e.

- Accountability (what do we expect from the recipients in terms of reporting?)
- Need indication or other local support.
- Alignment with Anglican values and theology.
- Govt. compliance as a charity (ie. T3010 submissions)
- Financials that indicate that a large % of \$ is dedicated to programme.

**Funding** in support of the work of the Outreach Comm. was derived from an allocation of \$7,500.0 from the Church's 2018 operating budget and from 2 fundraising events, the Summer BBQ and the Pasta lunch in November.

**A budget** was established in September 2018 based on the above guiding principles and funding was allocated and paid as shown in the accompanying end of year Financial report.

**Other activities of the Outreach Committee** include the "Gifts for the Christ Child" collection at Christmas, donated to the Rural Women's shelter, contact with this organization for additional needs, and shopping and donating for four families through the Centre Wellington Food Bank and the Children's Foundation of Guelph and Wellington, for the Adopt-a-Family at Christmas programme. The Committee also responded with a gift of \$300.00 to an urgent appeal by the Centre Wellington Food Bank for funding for gift cards for groceries at Christmas.

There are many other Outreach activities that are not sponsored directly by the Outreach Committee. These include support of the Centre Wellington Food Bank throughout the year by donations of food and a generous response to a special drive at Christmas, the Butterfly Hall is a venue for monthly community dinners, the Community Garden, use of the building for Al-Anon, Narcotics Anonymous and annual donations from the work of the ACW. There are several members of our congregation who are dedicated volunteers in various places in this Community.

The Outreach Committee is deeply appreciative of the generosity and financial support from St. James in reaching out to those beyond our walls who are in desperate need of assistance. The Committee also looks forward to continued engagement with the work of this Committee from the congregation.

*Submitted by Barbara Clunes for the Outreach Committee  
(Rev. Ann Turner, Jane Douglas, Nancy Fletcher, Dave Roberts, Rod. Irving, Brian Dowling)*

## St. James Outreach Budget 2018

As of December 31 3018

Revenues	2018 Budget Revenues	2018 Designated Budget	2018 Expenses Budget	2018 Actual
Operating Account	\$ 7,500.00	The Door	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,800.00
Outreach BBQ	\$ 516.00	Christmas Adopt-a-Child	\$ 2,577.00	\$ 2,255.00
Pasta Lunch	\$ 1,061.00	CW Mental Health YouthTalk	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
		Rural Women's Shelter	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
		St. Matthew's House	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
		PWRDF	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
		CW Food Bank	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
		Women's Community Lunch	\$ 200.00	
		Clergy Discretionary Fund	\$ 500.00	
		<b>DESIGNATED TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 7,277.00</b>	
		<b>Non Designated</b>	<b>\$ 1,800.00</b>	
		PWRDF Microcredit Loans		\$ 500.00
		Dunrobin Tornado (Red Cross)		\$ 500.00
		UNNCR Rohingya Crisis		\$ 500.00
		Food Bank		\$ 300.00
		<b>NON DESIGNATED TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,800.00</b>	
<b>REVENUE TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 9,077.00</b>	<b>EXPENSE TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 9,077.00</b>	<b>\$ 8,355.00</b>

## Prayer Shawl Ministry

In 2018, our group delivered 37 Prayers Shawls to members of our parish, local community and beyond; since January 2012, the total is 303. (This does not include the many hundreds of Pocket Prayer Shawls that have been taken on trips to Swaziland). Two Prayer Shawl blessings were held on Sunday, February 4th and Sunday, September 23rd; included at this blessing were not only shawls, but donations of hats, mitts, gloves and scarves for the Mission to Seafarers. This initiative was sparked after listening to a special guest speaker.

On Sunday, February 18th, 2018, as part of our Lenten series of speakers on the theme of Outreach, we welcomed Rev. Janice Maloney-Brooks. Janice is the Volunteer Coordinator for the Mission to Seafarers, Southern Ontario. This mission cares for seafarers who arrive from all over the world in the ports of Hamilton, Toronto and Oshawa; in 2013 these three cities joined together to better serve the needs of hundreds of men and women working in the Great Lakes. The many different services that this mission provides were outlined during her sermon which include: providing a home away from home, hot meals, a place to call family and friends, connect through internet access (these two services are very popular!), connect to medical services and the list just goes on.

One particular service and need that spoke to my heart was a cupboard filled with hats, mittens, gloves and scarves given to seafarers as our Ontario weather changes in the fall and winter months. On this Sunday, Janice stated that this cupboard was almost bare. After the service, as I was speaking to Janice, I told her about our Prayer Shawl Ministry and that we would help to fill up this cupboard with our handwork. This challenge was also advertised to everyone in the parish. Christine Whitehead took up this challenge and knit 100 toques toward our donation! Rev. Janice was present on September 23rd to receive the result of our time and talent which will then be passed on to the dedicated seafarers travelling the world to bring us the many goods which we all enjoy. The Prayer Shawl members decided that this will be a continuous project with a special blessing every September for the foreseeable future!

Another project that our group has agreed to tackle is the Annual Prayer Shawl Gathering on Tuesday, June 11th, 2019. In the past, this gathering has been hosted by parishes in the Kitchener/Waterloo/Elmira area. More details will be available in the near future about this exciting event.

Do you know of anyone who would welcome receiving a Prayer Shawl? Shawls are appropriate for anyone for a variety of reasons or situations along their life journey. Currently, there are many blessed shawls ready to be delivered on display in the cupboard at the back of the church. We would love to spread the joy of God's love by the hands that created through prayer these special gifts. Please speak to any member of our group listed below

We meet on the first Thursday of each month at 10:00 am in the Witcher Room. If you are not able to attend our meetings, you can still be a part of our group, creating shawls at home as we all do between meetings. Members of our group include:

Linda Austin  
Dorothy Dennis  
Thelma Eastwood  
Helen Henderson  
Pat Kingdon  
Elsie Picket  
Debbie Roberts  
Joyce Sweeney  
Jane Watson  
Pat Wilcox

*Submitted by Anne Warner*

# Quilting Bees

This year we quilted four queen size quilts, one double quilt and one single quilt. We contributed to the Challenge Factor Program, paying one Union Gas bill for \$218.

St. James Quilters:

Marguerite Ibbotson	Diane Irving	Elsie Pickett	Sharon Roche
Sandra Nixon	Joan Nixon	Gloria Hopkins	
Judy Bagnell	Carole Darrah	Joan Cochrane	

If anyone is interested in quilting or would just like to come and observe what we do, you are welcome. Please join us on Tuesdays from 9:30am to 2:30pm. Bring along your lunch.

## Financial Report

Balance as of December 31/2017            \$1,753.03

### Income

Quilts – 4 Queen, 1 Double, 1 Single

Donation - \$8.00                            \$690.00

Total Dec 2017 balance/2018 Income    \$2,443.03

**Balance as of 31 December 31 2018    \$2,225.03**

### Expenses

Union Gas Bill                            \$218.00

Total Expenses                        -\$218.00

*Submitted by Diane Irving*

## Book Club

The Book Club is a new group that was introduced in the spring of 2016 and is open to any and all who wish to join. Our reading list is composed primarily of works of fiction that are more than a story; or a story with deeper life meaning or teaching that helps us to learn more about ourselves, about others and about our world.

Our gatherings, usually once a month, are held outside of the church hosted at the home one of our members. This is a more welcoming space to encourage anyone within our congregation or friends/family members from the community to participate in our discussions over a cup of coffee or tea.

Our book list for 2018 included:

*What the Psychic Told the Pilgrim: A Mid-life Misadventure on Spain's Camino de Santiago* by Jane Christmas  
*Girl Runner* by Carrie Snyder

*Highest Duty, My Search for What Really Matters* by Capt. Chesley "Scully" Sullenberger with Jeffrey Zaslow

*The Inconvenient Indian* by Tom King

*Somewhere in France* by Jennifer Robinson

*The 100 Year Old Man Who Climbed Out the Window* by Jonas Jonasson

*The Day the World Came to Town: 9/11 in Gander, Newfoundland* by Jim Defede

*Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult

At our gathering in November, we decided to select our reading list for the whole year of 2019. This will assist members in reserving books from our area libraries if needed. Also, each month the leader begins our discussion with a short biography of the author, an overview of the selected book and their personal thoughts after reading the novel. Some of our selections also include a reader's guide with questions/topics to assist in our discussions.

If you would be interested in a copy of the 2019 reading list, please speak to any member of the Book Club: Helen Henderson, Diane Irving, Pat Kingdon, Carol Peterson, Debbie Shier.

*Submitted by Anne Warner*

## Property Manager's Report

The role of the Property Managers is to assist the Corporation in all matters pertaining to the church property, both inside the building and outside. Only areas affected during 2018 are mentioned for the purpose of this Report. Those areas of the property were assessed and repairs or projects were completed as follows:

BELL TOWER: Bell Tower was inspected on September 23rd by Rod Irving and Earl Macdonald. The repairs done in 2013 by Rod and Eric Henderson are holding up well. The structure holding the bell is solid with no movement.

FLAGS: \*\*D & E changed the Anglican Church flag to the Aboriginal flag for the summer months. November 10th the flags were lowered to half-mast and the Aboriginal flag was changed back to the Anglican flag - Earl.

FURNACES & WATER HEATER: Upper Grand Refrigeration serviced the A/C and 3 Furnaces twice a year under contract. January 6th Service call for the church furnace. We knew the problem, but didn't have the right tool. There was a ball of ice in the intake vent. We believe we now have the required tool to correct this issue. December 20th Upper Grand install a \*Heat Pump System for the Church Office and Choir Room.

BUTTERFLY GARDEN:

May	Repairs to deck and walkway completed.
May 15th	Crane came to place the top on the tent with team of volunteers.
May 15th	**D & E installed speakers and lights in the tent.
May 17th	200 white plastic chairs from the chapel were washed by volunteers.
May 22nd	**D & E met Yard Weasels for irrigation start-up. Leak identified and parts ordered.
May 24th	Our Student Gardener, Casey Fraser, started in the Butterfly Garden.
May 24th	Butterfly Garden cleaned-up, trimmed the hedge and swept the parking lot.
May 24th	Trees trimmed by Walter Gosk.
May 30th	Hanging Baskets and Annuals were purchased and planted.
May 28th	Earl Macdonald pressure-washed the concrete pad.
May 29th	Earl Macdonald installed the twinkle lights in the tent.
May 29th	Casey reapplied the caution paint on steps at church and in the garden.
June 1st	Corporation hired Dudley Foster to maintain the Butterfly Gardens for the Season.
July	Casey painted the Muskoka chairs in a variety of bright, cheerful colours.
July	Yard Weasel repaired leak in the sprinkler system.
July 20th	Earl Macdonald pressure-washed the concrete pad and the stone tops.
September 3rd	Earl Macdonald pressure-washed the concrete pad.
September 12th	Bishop Susan Bell visited our Butterfly Garden for a parish dinner.
October 3rd	Crane came to remove tent top with the help of a group of volunteers.
October 12th	**D & E met Yard Weasel to winterize the irrigation system.
October 22nd	Dudley Foster completed the Fall clean-up of the Butterfly Gardens.

COMMUNITY GARDENS: Tammy Rutherford will issue a separate report.

OTHER GARDENS: Joe Brooks maintained the front gardens as well as those alongside the parking lot.

- WINDBREAK: The windbreak at the parking lot entrance was severely damaged in a wind and ice storm early in the year. It was repaired by Phil Sweet who built it for us originally.
- INSPECTIONS: Our Lift is inspected on a regular basis annually. In 2018 we had 1 service call. Kettle Mechanical completed the Annual Back-Flow Test on January 31st. Johnson Controls inspected the Fire Alarm & Emergency Lighting system on June 1st. This resulted in the requirement of 2 new \*12V back-up batteries.  
\*\*D & E Maintenance attended.  
Johnson Controls came on August 2nd to verify that the back-up batteries had in fact been purchased and installed. Earl Macdonald was present for this appointment.
- KITCHEN: In July we purchased 2 – \*30” Electric Stoves to replace the gas stoves as a safety measure. July 17th – The custom made \*Range Hood Fan & Light from Gross Welding was installed over the new stoves by D & E Maintenance. What a huge improvement!  
October 26th – Joan Rutherford and Earl Macdonald attended the Inspection of the kitchen by Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health. We passed with no outstanding issues.  
December 28th – We received an upright freezer donated to us by the Centre-Wellington Food Bank. It was moved to our storeroom by Paul and Angela Mullins, Dave Roberts and Earl Macdonald. The Mullins then took our small chest freezer, with its cracked liner, to the landfill. Thank you Angela for arranging and coordinating this move.
- MAINTENANCE: April 10th – Roof heat cables disconnected by Earl Macdonald.  
May 31st – Masonry repairs were made to the window sills at the back of the church, the pillar bases at the parking lot entrance, the sides of the steps to the church entrance and the church tower. This work was done by Doug Waechter who rented a sky-jack to complete final task on this list.
- PLUMBING: George Bailey cleaned the fat accumulation from the sewage pump. Not a nice job!
- FURNISHINGS: November 26th – The first 2 rows of pews and privacy walls on both sides of the church were removed by Walter Gosk, Ted Vanderveen and Earl Macdonald. They were replaced with chairs for a trial period in anticipation of possibly purchasing permanent chairs to be used in this area. These chairs will give more flexibility of seating for meetings and small intimate services such as Taize.

\* Items replaced or installed in 2018

\*\* Duane Pickle & Earl Macdonald a.k.a. D & E Maintenance

*Respectfully submitted by Caroline Macdonald*

## Community Garden

The St James Community Garden was established in 2012 and is located on the east side of our property. It consists of 16 plots, two rain water storage containers, two compost bins, and a storage shed. We have a wheel chair accessible picnic table and a bench, both situated under the shade of a tree, for use by our gardeners as well as passersby. We welcome gardeners from within our congregation and the wider community, such as the Centre Wellington Food Bank. We were especially pleased this year to welcome gardeners from GrandABILITIES. (GrandABILITIES is a service designed to provide social, recreational, educational and life skill opportunities for adults with developmental differences living in the Centre Wellington area.)

### Activity in 2018:

- March 11      Attended the Centre Wellington Community Garden Network "season opener" meeting at Bungalow 55 in Elora.
- April 28      All of our gardeners were invited and encouraged to attend a free "How To Grow Vegetables" workshop led by Daisy Moore at the Aboyne Hall, hosted by the CW Community Garden Network.
- May 27      Picked up four Ben Sarak currant bushes and two Sea Buckthorns (1 male and 1 female) ordered last fall from Whiffletree Farm and paid for through a grant from Feeding Fresh! Sysco Community Garden Program, administered by the Ontario Association of Food Banks. The Centre Wellington Food Bank held the funds, and the CW Social Justice Group organized the Community Garden Network and the purchase of the plants.
- June          Installation of a wheel chair accessible maintenance free picnic table that was purchased in late May, the majority of which was generously contributed by a parishioner.
- June 26      Attended "Faith & Earth" - 3 thought provoking talks and a discussion at the Aboyne Hall, hosted by the CW Community Garden Network...and featuring our Rector, Ann Turner, as one of the guest speakers!
- Nov 5        Attended the Centre Wellington Community Garden Network "end of season" supper meeting at Bungalow 55 in Elora.

### Special thanks to:

- Earl MacDonald, Duane Pickle, Eric Henderson and Ted Vanderveen for picking up and assembling our new wheel chair accessible maintenance free picnic table.
- Our summer student Casey Fraser for keeping the rain storage containers filled with tap water in times of drought, for turning our compost bins, and for helping to keep the pathways clear of weeds.
- Earl MacDonald for cleaning and winterizing our rain storage containers.

If you, or anyone you know is interested in planting, maintaining and harvesting your own vegetables, fruit or flowers this year - please contact Tammy Rutherford to "adopt" a plot in The St James Community Garden. email: [trutherford111574@hotmail.com](mailto:trutherford111574@hotmail.com) or phone 519-820-2532.

For more information on the Centre Wellington Community Garden Network visit: [CWGoodFood.ca](http://CWGoodFood.ca)

## Call To Action 2018

A motion was passed at our 2017 Vestry meeting that “the parish of St. James commit to hosting an educational workshop/program series on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in its community in 2017 and that parish leaders of St. James will engage its mayor and municipal leaders about the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and encourage the local council to establish a process to review and endorse the Declaration if it has not already done so.”

During 2017 we experienced the story of Indigenous People since First Contact with Colonial Europeans through The Blanket Exercise Service on Sunday, March 12th and a community KAIROS Blanket Exercise on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> but our work had only just begun. Starting in January of 2018, a monthly series of “Lunch and Learn” gatherings began following the 10:30 am service.

January – We reviewed and watched a video on the contents of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Canada’s response to this document and how this document would help to mend the relationship between Indigenous Peoples and Settlers. We then discussed MP Romeo Saganash’s Private Members Bill C-262, “An Act to ensure that the laws of Canada are in harmony with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

February – Further discussion on Bill C-262 by learning the procedure of a Private’s Members Bill in parliament, the results of the vote on Second reading of the bill on February 1, 2018 and our next plan of action.

March – Decision made to proceed with a personal letter writing campaign hand addressed to all MP’s according to how they voted on Second reading of Bill C-262. A letter was prepared for “yes”, and “no” votes and also for MP’s who did not vote.”

April – A working session – we stuffed 340 hand written envelopes with the appropriate letter for each MP. Included with each envelope was a photocopy list of signatures of 42 parishioners who supported Bill C-262. These letters were taken to MP Michael Chong’s office to be added to the weekly mail courier to Parliament Hill.

May – Follow-up on letter writing campaign, personal responses from several MP’s, the passing of Bill C-262 on May 30, 2018 on Third reading. A discussion on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada and viewing two videos, one with Commissioner Dr. Marie Wilson and another on the topic of reconciliation with Senator Murray Sinclair, Chair of the Commission.

October – Review of the next step for Bill C-262 moving to The Senate and a discussion on the importance to Indigenous Peoples of territory or land acknowledgment. MP Lloyd Longfield from Guelph will be invited to attend our next gathering – a letter was received from our letter writing campaign that he would be pleased to come and speak with our group.

November – An interesting discussion with MP Lloyd Longfield about Liberal support of the UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, acknowledging traditional territories and water issues in First Nation communities across Canada. Mr. Longfield has been personally involved in helping to eliminate drinking water advisories in many communities and to ensure that people in these communities are trained on equipment to maintain safe water.

In the words of Senator Murray Sinclair, education is the key word for reconciliation within our country.

*Submitted by Anne Warner*

## **PWRDF**

2018 Celebrated 60 years of PWRDF's inception after the Springhill mining disaster. We as Anglicans should be proud of their achievements that have transpired in Canada and World Wide.

Thank you for your generous donation of \$3472.00 during 2018. Our 8th annual Harvest Tea raised \$1325.05 for Microcredit Loan for Indigenous Youth in Canada.

God is truly working in us all.

*Respectfully submitted by Joan Cochrane, Nancy Fletcher and Jane Douglas*

## **Women's Community Lunch**

- Average weekly attendance 18-25 women.
- Occasional programs have included: Elora Puppeteers, Therapeutic Touch, Bell's Let's Talk, and local author.
- Volunteers: 1 person sets up; 2 volunteers shop for groceries; up to 6 kitchen volunteers; 2-3 other volunteers to help with clean up
- At present there is one paid position: our chef, Peter Skoggard.
- We have a helping hand from the Food Bank with cooking and supplying turkeys for Thanksgiving and Christmas and other items occasionally.

## **Food Bank & Community Dinners**

Thanks to generous community response we are supplied. Our community dinners have welcomed between sixty and seventy community members.

In addition to issues of food security, the Food Bank monitors issues of housing and general well-being for those at financial risk, including un- and under-employed citizens.

Our clients are finding it much harder to find affordable housing in Centre Wellington. Gentrification has hit Fergus!

As we are all aware, Provincial policies have changed regarding programmes for the less advantaged in our community and the Food Bank is feeling the pain and challenge of these changes.

*Submitted by Brian Dowling*

## Envelope Secretary's Report

We now have 47 Direct Deposit donors.

This year's report only shows Envelope and Direct Deposit donations. Other donated funds are not shown.

Thank you for your continued support.

### Donations by Category: January 1 to December 31, 2018

<u>Category</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u># Donations</u>	<u># Donors</u>
Altar Guild	\$1,343.37	39	28
Challenge Factor	\$17,359.00	105	49
Christmas	\$2,025.00	47	46
Coin Bins	\$156.50	4	2
Designated Funds	\$1,827.69	11	10
Direct Deposit	\$57,377.00	568	39
Donation	\$1,175.00	14	14
Easter	\$1,645.00	50	48
Fundraising	\$85.00	4	4
Initial	\$205.00	20	19
Memorial Fund	\$1,900.00	41	22
Outreach	\$2,916.73	56	33
PWRDF	\$3,502.00	165	25
Regular	\$67,156.03	1,205	62
Thanksgiving	\$1,505.00	36	36
TOTALS	\$160,178.32	2,365	

Total Distinct Donors across all Categories: 94

*Submitted by Doug Waechter*

## Altar Guild

Financial Statement as of December 31, 2018

Bank Balance January 1, 2018		\$1,413.17
Receipts during 2018		
Donations to Altar Guild		\$1,798.37
Expenses during 2018		
Flowers	\$929.68	
Supplies	\$124.28	
Altar Scarves	\$1,290.00	
Entry Reversal re Aspergillum	(\$135.60)	
	\$2,208.36	(\$2,208.36)
<b>Bank Balance December 31, 2018</b>		<b>\$1,003.18</b>

*Submitted by Ruth Sproul*

## Motion for 2019 Vestry Meeting

**Whereas** our baptismal promises inspire us to respect the dignity of every human being while striving for justice and peace among all people;

**And Whereas** our Church is confronting the ways in which it has both embodied colonial attitudes and not lived into this baptismal commitment with respect to Indigenous peoples;

**And Whereas** our church has begun a journey of reconciliation with Indigenous peoples through a formal apology by the Primate in 1993 for its involvement in running 26 residential schools, establishing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and repudiating the Doctrine of Discovery, among other acts of healing and reconciliation;

**And Whereas** the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada held in 2010 endorsed the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples that was adopted by the UN General Assembly and encouraged parishes to urge their municipalities to endorse the Declaration;

**And Whereas** the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada was released in 2015 with 94 Calls to Action;

**And Whereas** Call to Action 48 calls upon “federal, provisional, territorial, and municipal governments to fully adopt and implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as the framework for reconciliation”;

**And Whereas** Call to Action 48 calls upon churches to engage “in ongoing public dialogue and actions to support the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples”;

**And Whereas** the Report of the Primate’s Commission on Doctrine of Discovery, Reconciliation and Justice recommended that the Anglican Church of Canada acknowledge the traditional territory where the churches sit before each gathering and in their signage,

**And Whereas** Valerie Kerr, Archdeacon for Truth, Reconciliation and Indigenous Ministry for the Diocese of Niagara stated, “that Territorial Acknowledgement is not to antagonize, but to show respect and to spur meaningful conversations and greater understanding and to also express the relationship Indigenous Peoples had – and continue to have – with the land, the idea of the land as lying at the heart of their lives and spirituality.”

**Be It Resolved That** the parish of St. James endorse the reading of the Territorial Acknowledgement as provided by the Anglican Diocese of Niagara before all church related activities and that signage of this written statement be visible in the Butterfly Hall, the Witcher Room, the Choir Room, the Memorial Gate for Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women, and in the Butterfly Garden.

*Moved by Anne Warner, seconded by Caroline Macdonald*