

“by George!”

Contents

1. Time is ...
2. Calendar...
4. Thought For ..
4. Your Parish Priest ...
6. Margaret Writes ...
7. Mission and ...
9. Parish Council...
10. Finance Report
12. Stewardship...
12. Prayer for First ...

The “by George!” connects all parishioners through electronic or hard copy distribution. It is normally published in September, November, January, March, and May. All articles are welcome; electronic submissions are appreciated.

The “by George!” would not be possible without the assistance of many parishioners. Thanks!

Ted Cotton, Editor
Home 488 3606
Work 360 5104
tedcotton@mymts.net

JANUARY 2013

WINTER EDITION

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE

Anticipating a new year and new beginnings, many individuals decide to make resolutions or commitments to goals, projects, or reforming a habit. The new buzzwords of ‘bucket list’ and ‘YOLO’ (you only live once) have also added focus. What is the value of our time? ‘Time is money’ doesn’t seem to fit, but the following quote resonates:

“To comprehend the value of one year, just ask the students who failed their entrance exams.

To comprehend the value of one month, just ask a mother who gave birth to a premature baby.

To comprehend the value of one week, just ask the editor of a weekly newspaper.

To comprehend the value of one hour, just ask the lovers who are waiting to meet.

To comprehend the value of one minute, just ask the people who missed their stop on the train.

To comprehend the value of one second, just ask the person who managed to avoid an accident just in time.

To comprehend the value of one tenth of a second, just ask the person who ended up with a silver medal at the Olympics.

The hands of the clock will continue ticking.

Therefore, treasure every moment you have.

And treat today as the upmost gift you’ll have.”

Fumie Mizuhashi Shinzuke Yamaoka

How will you spend your time with your family, your church family, and your global family?

Remember to come to the AGM on Sunday February 10.

Document your experiences and gather your thoughts during Lent. Please submit your articles by the March 10th deadline for the next “by George!”

Ted Cotton

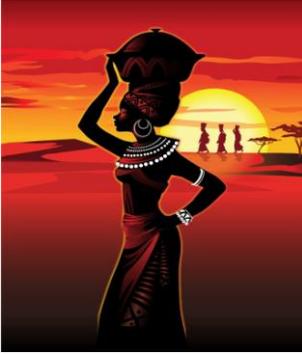
MARK YOUR CALENDARS WITH THESE UPCOMING DATES

Within our Parish Church of St. George, Crescentwood:

DAY	DATE	EVENT	TIME
Sun	03-Feb-13	The Fourth Sunday of the Epiphany	10:30 AM
Sat	09-Feb-13	"FootPrints in the Snow" Blue Grass & Gospel Concert - Parish Hall	8:00 PM
Sun	10-Feb-13	Transfiguration of the Lord worship service; AGM to follow	10:30 AM
Tue	12-Feb-13	SHROVE TUESDAY - Pancake Supper	5:00 PM
Tue	12-Feb-13	Worship Committee Meeting	8:00 PM
Wed	13-Feb-13	Ash Wednesday Service	12:15 PM and 7:30PM
Sat	16-Feb-13	Wedding in the Church	afternoon
Sun	17-Feb-13	The First Sunday in Lent	10:30AM
Mon	18-Feb-13	Louis Riel Day - Office & Building Closed	
Wed	20-Feb-13	Parish Council Meeting	7:15PM
Sun	24-Feb-13	The Second Sunday in Lent	10:30AM
Sun	3-Mar-13	The Third Sunday in Lent	10:30AM
Sun	3-Mar-13	St. John's Chamber Orchestra Concert	2:00 PM
Fri	8-Mar-13	Guides sleep over from 6pm to Noon on Sat	
Sun	10-Mar-13	The Fourth Sunday in Lent	10:30AM
Sun	10-Mar-13	Choral Evensong	4:00PM
Sun	10-Mar-13	Deadline for submissions to the next "by George!"	
Tue	12-Mar-13	Worship Committee Meeting	8:00PM
Wed	13-Mar-13	Mission & Ministry Committee Meeting	7:00PM
Sun	17-Mar-13	The Fifth Sunday in Lent	10:30AM
Sun	17-Mar-13	Meet & Greet - Laurence Wilmot Memorial Lectures in Theology	further info to follow
Mon	18-Mar-13	Lecture Series - Laurence Wilmot Memorial Lectures	further info to follow
Wed	20-Mar-13	Parish Council Meeting	7:15PM
Sun	24-Mar-13	PALM SUNDAY	10:30AM
Sun	24-Mar-13	"by George!" delivery today	
Thur	28-Mar-13	MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE	7:30PM
Fri	29-Mar-13	GOOD FRIDAY - Stations of the Cross	9:15AM
Fri	29-Mar-13	GOOD FRIDAY - Meditation on the Cross	10:30AM
Sun	31-Mar-13	EASTER DAY	10:30 AM
Sun	7-Apr-13	The Second Sunday of Easter	10:30AM
Tue	9-Apr-13	Worship Committee Meeting	8:00PM

For the most current calendar and more information about St. George's, please visit:

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



Ethiopian/Somali Dinner

Enjoy an authentic home cooked meal on Saturday January 26 at St. George's Crescentwood.

The Crossed Hands Refugee Committee, sponsored by St. Matthew's and St. Paul's Fort Garry Churches, and St. George's Crescentwood Refugee Committee are organizing a fundraising dinner in support of two recent Crossed Hands Sponsorships. A total experience of African food and entertainment is planned along with an auction of special desserts. The offering of Ethiopian/Somali food will contain both mild and moderately spiced dishes as well as vegetarian dishes. Dinner will start at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$30 and will be available after Church from Cathy Purchase or from the Church Office.

Shrove Tuesday

Come to our Pancake Supper on Tuesday, February 12 starting at 5:00 p.m.

Adults \$6, Children (5-12yrs) \$3, and Children under 5 are free. Don't be shy and volunteer to share your talents for an enjoyable evening. If you are available to assist for set-up and clean-up, please let the Church Office know. Proceeds will go to the Norquay School Bus Pass Project. Be generous – it would be most appreciated.

Foot Prints in the Snow



Come out to St. George's Parish Hall on Saturday, February 9 at 8:00 p.m. and enjoy an evening of blue grass and gospel music. Foot tapping, hand clapping, and joyful music will have you moving in your seats or if the spirit moves you, dancing midst the crowd.

Entertainment will be Uptown Grass, Cathers, Sawatky, Inc (CSI), and The Squirrel Creek Ramblers. Tickets are \$15 and are available by calling 453-5642 or Bill Owen (204 475-1848)

Proceeds will go to TEBLO for building a school in Nicaragua. Those who wish to donate directly to this cause in addition to/instead of buying tickets to the concert may do so by accessing the following website www.teblo.ca.

In the Broader Community:

January 20 to 27: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity – various locations

February 16 to 18: Lutheran/Anglican Youth Gathering – Russell MB

March 10: Diocesan Mothering Sunday Service – St. John’s Cathedral

March 17 to 20: Laurence Wilmot Lectures in Theology – various locations

March 24: Bishop visits St. George, Crescentwood

Visit the Diocese of Rupert’s Land website for the most current calendar:

<http://www.rupertsland.ca/category/events/>

THOUGHT FOR THIS EDITION

The greatest wealth is health of body and mind.

**YOUR PARISH PRIEST WRITES ...**

Is Lent Relevant Today?

The wind whistled through the thin walls of our 45’ residential trailer. The baseboard heaters couldn’t keep up with the chill outside. (-10 was considered balmy just like here in Winnipeg!) The first parish I served in was in Mutton Bay, Quebec. I was fresh out of seminary and I went straight to the ‘last remaining out-port on the Lower North Shore,’ at least that’s how the archdeacon described. I’ve often joked that it wasn’t the snow or the cold, it wasn’t the culture shock or the isolation, that finally made Chris and I decide that we couldn’t remain there for too long. It was actually that we had eaten all of the ice cream in Mutton Bay and Tabatiere (the second point in our three-point mission) and it was only the end of February. The first boat wasn’t due until at least April, maybe May!

You see, along the Lower North Shore of the Gulf of the St. Lawrence, there are no roads. In the winter you can travel the coast by snowmobile. There are inland trails and, from January – March, the sea-ice freezes four miles out and four feet thick. There’s lots of movement on the shore in the winter, people visiting relatives up and down the coast, but supplies must come by plane – very expensive! People order in big bags (50 lbs!) of potatoes, carrots and turnip on the last boat before the freeze-up and hope they will last until the second boat in the spring – the first boat is a semi-ice breaker that only carries beer – just in case it doesn’t make it all the way up the coast on the first try! Foods will spoil, but beer can wait until the next week. So, ice cream, well it might not even be on the second boat – time to move!

Remembering that very different lifestyle makes me wonder about the origins of Lent. You see, in the northern hemisphere, Lent takes place as we wait for Spring. Lent is the lengthening of days when we know Spring is coming because the light is coming back. But, at the same time, the supplies used to run out. There was a time when March was the 'lean month' because there wasn't much left in the cold cellar to make even a thin soup. My parents told me stories of eating molasses on bread while growing up in Newfoundland. We know many people in Manitoba would have perished many generations ago if it weren't for the support of the indigenous peoples. We know of many indigenous and non-indigenous peoples still going hungry today in Winnipeg. I wonder whether the fasting of Lent was originally a spiritual discipline or whether the spiritual discipline was developed to give meaning to this 'lean time'?

Theological reflection – and liturgical theology – at their best, begin with 'the way things are'. We live our lives, we describe our lives, we reflect on the meaning inherent in our experience. And that is what I suspect happened with Lent. During the 'lean time,' with the days lengthening, people reflected on hardship and hope.

Well, in these days when the majority of people (at least in the 'developed world') live in cities, it is hard to relate to the cycles of harvest and hunger. Superstore's, Sobeys and Safeway's shelves are well-stocked year-round. The quality and the selection may change slightly, but there is always an abundance. Scarcity comes not because there isn't enough in the store but because some have no money to buy the food that is so readily available. Around the world a similar plight is shared by all. There is lots of food to go around but how can we manage to share it?

The sharing of resources is one dilemma that we face as a society. There are others. This Lent, rather than giving up chocolate, or desserts (although giving up these things could be very good for our health), I invite you to take on a Lenten discipline. I invite you to make a new commitment to reflect theologically on our lives – on our experience – on the issues that lurk in the shadows which we so seldom take time to really contemplate. What is lacking in our world and how is the Sacred Spirit, the Divine Life of God helping us to find ways to fulfill these needs?

As a way to get our theological gears working I invite you to read one of the Gospels. You can finish one of the gospels by taking about 10 minutes and reading a chapter each day. And I invite you to join me as we focus on the last week of Jesus' earthly life by reading together and discussing "The Last Week: What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus' Final Days in Jerusalem" by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. We'll read a chapter or two each week and come together to discuss.

Dates: FIRST SESSION will be ASH WED, FEB 13TH AFTER THE 7:30pm EUCHARIST for 45 minutes & THEN SUNDAYS, FEB 17th to MAR 17th Time: 12-12:45PM (Bring a snack if you can't wait for lunch) (Please read the preface and Chapter 1 for the Ash Wednesday session.)

Place: GUILD ROOM, St. George's Crescentwood, 168 Wilton Street

GET THE BOOK ASAP!: You can order it through McNally Robinson at <http://www.mcnallyrobinson.com/9780060872601/marcus-j-borg-john-dominic->

crossan/last-week?bInBKM=1 or at www.Amazon.ca . Please call the office at 204-453-5642 or email office@stgeorges.mb.ca to let us know you will be attending.

Lent is a time for taking note of the reality of our day. Good Friday is a time for lamenting the darkness – the barrenness – the failures of ourselves and our society. It is a time for acknowledging the longing that pulls us deep into the reality of our existence. And, having experienced and acknowledged the depths of that longing, we are ready to greet Easter morning with hope. The days are lengthening – there is the promise of hope in this new light. The promise of Easter is new life out of death, new light out of darkness, new hope for the world. Let us take the time this Lent to face the scarcity, the longing, the issues and people in our world, that we may celebrate at Easter our commitment and work towards the promise of a better world being birthed in our midst! We are the ones who make Lent relevant in our lives by using it as a time to reflect and discern the true impact of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Day on our lives, our relationships and our world.

Let us all keep a Holy Lent.

Peace,

Lyndon TSSF

MARGARET WRITES ...

The Prayer Request Box

On a table at the back of the church is a small wooden box, along with a supply of prayer request forms. If you are concerned about the health and/or well being of any of your friends or relatives, you are invited to fill out one of the forms and deposit it in the box. The box is carried to the front of the church at the beginning of every service, and is placed on the altar, and during the intercessions prayers are offered for all those whose names have been placed in the box.

In addition to this, there are now three Prayer Quads in the parish. Each Quad is composed of four people who offer daily prayers in their homes for those for whom prayers have been requested. The Prayer Quad members are: Barbara Aldous, Jacquelyn Barker, Eileen Baxter, Mary Carpenter, Mary and Bill Duff, Peter Flynn, Agripina V. Quiaoit, Louise Shaw, Betty Smith, Darby Spafford and Carole Trimble. Ray and Mabel Simmons and Shirlee Anne Smith also participate in this ministry, and Lyndon receives the prayers each week as well. I am now the coordinator of the box, and am responsible for distributing the prayer lists each week to all concerned, and for contacting those who have requested prayers in order to keep current with those on the prayer list.

This is an extremely important ministry, and I urge you to take advantage of the opportunity to submit your concerns to us. All information is kept confidential. Please be sure to sign your request forms, as we cannot follow up on unsigned requests.

Thanks you!

Margaret Owen

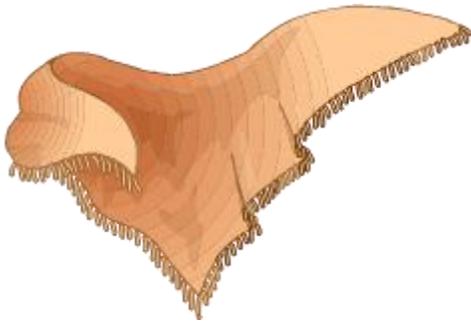
MISSION AND MINISTRY

Need a Rest ?

Put your Feet Up !

Listen to some Music !!

Knit a Prayer Shawl !!!



West Broadway Community Ministry

During the winter months, Mission and Ministry will be collecting new and gently used, warm hats, mittens, scarves and socks. Donations can be left in the basket near the Mission and Ministry bulletin board located in the parish hall.

Ndoddo Orphanage Sunrise Project

A few weeks ago, Rev. Kafeero sent Gordon Spafford this very interesting message about the Ndoddo Orphanage Sunrise Project in which our sister parish, All Martyrs Ndoddo is involved.

Dear brother Gordon, Praise Jesus the Son of God.

I hope this message will find you in good life and all the parishioners of St. George. We thank you so much for all the prayers which enabled us go through the retreat successfully. We were Priestly ordained last sunday and it was so wonderfull. May God bless you so much.

Thank you once again for appreciating **The Ndoddo orphanage sunrise project**. As I had shared with you, before this project started as a call for the ministry among orphan children in our area who are being affected by HIV-AIDS scourge, wars and poverty leaving many young children as orphans.

Just a brief Testimony. Even me I lost my Dad when I was too young and my mother who could have nurtured me and my young brother, she became mentally sick because of witchcraft done on her by my step mother, and we were left helpless. I was picked by a samaritan man who took care of me until i completed primary seven. Life wasnt easy at all and i used to cry every day whenever I could remember my Dad who passed away. Little did i knew that God was to open for me an-opportunity to come out of tears. The Church picked me under the leadership of Rev. Mulindwa, and nurtured me as a lay Reader and from there God is lifting me from one level to onother. So, am what I am because of the grace of God which picked me from dust to now the pulpit.

After all that struggle ,God put this burden on my heart, and I feel bad about the suffering orphans of whom many times lack social needs, like good food, clothings and lack of education, and even they want to be loved.

When I shared this with Rev. Mulindwa by then, He told me that God was calling me for the ministry of younger people. we started by having orphanage cells where we share with them the love of God, and many other social issues on sundays and after that, we distribute them in different local schools, and we organise for them retreats and wait for them during holiday camps at the church.

To our supprise, the number is growing higher from 50 to over 200 children in different schools. We thank HeadMasters who have been so parental to accept these children in there schools without penalising them.

The challenge now is, the number of children is growing and because of financial crisis some schools have started asking for full payements which we can not afford.

These are some Idears we can share.

1. We would want to buy a piece of Land where we can construct an orphanage Center for orphan children project rehabilitation. and it is to be named The Ndoddo Orphanage Sunrise project.
2. Constructing a Health unit on that very piece of land where these children could go and access health facilities. This is due to the fact that, we have lost some children who stay with their grandparents because of lack of health facilities.
3. At that very sight, we would also construct a primary school and later a vocational institute. so that they can know how to read and write and learn some skills for their future life.
4. we would love to see that each one of these children can get at least a friend from our sister parish st. George.

That is how brief I can share with you this Godly called ministry.

We shall continue to pray for you and the entire economy which has shrunk so that God can cause a way where seems to be no way.

Warm Christian greetings to all the brethren of St. George. Psalms 23.
Rev. Kafeero Andrew
Central Buganda Diocece.

Footprints

Ah Human,
how hard you work
at destroying the earth God gave you.
Keep at it and,
all too soon
you will destroy yourself, not earth.
But, by God,
You will have left your mark.

Ah Human,
how hard you work
at bare survival on the earth God gave you.
This destruction is not yours but,
all too soon
this same madness can destroy you too.
Can you, or God forgive humans
for what they do?

Gordon Spafford
2012/11/27

**PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

From the December 19th Parish Council meeting:

- The status of the Parish Plan was reviewed. Priorities for 2013 will be discussed at the AGM in February.
- The November 2012 Finance Report was discussed (see more details in this “by George!”).
- The Stewardship Committee plans to contact various segments of the Parish about the fall 2013 Stewardship campaign.
- Worship Committee is looking at relocating the organ console to the centre of the choir loft, a mid-week service, and choir participation in various events.
- Adult Christian Education was well-attended before Christmas and another series will be run by Lent.

- Pastoral Care reported Christmas communions are nearing completion, and Shirlee Anne Smith is stepping down as Prayer Quad Co-Ordinator and is being succeeded by Margaret Owen.
- The calendar of Diocesan events was reviewed.
- Property Committee reported the ceiling lights were replaced before Nine Lessons and Carols.
- Mission and Ministry reported on the ten Christmas Cheer Board hampers, Health Sciences Centre activity bags, and a \$2000 donation to the Nassau Street Churches Refugee Committee.
- Refugee Group reported on the January 26th Ethiopian/Somali Dinner.
- St John's College Orchestra concert will be Sunday afternoon March 3rd.
- Courtesies were give to Judith Flynn and Marion Jagger for receiving Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medals, the decorations in the church, the Ministry of Fun for the Christmas Dinner, and the Kirk and Corby families for the Wassail.

The next Parish Council meeting, the annual draft Budget discussion, is January 23rd.



FINANCE REPORT

St. George's Church – January to November 2012

	Actual 2012	Actual 2011	Budget 2012
Revenue	\$254 001.91	\$272 603.63	\$246 802.69
Expense	\$252 264.56	\$258 359.24	\$273 659.64
Net Income (Loss)	\$1737.35	\$14 244.39	(\$26 856.95)

Here are the highlights:

The 2012 Net Income to the end of November is \$1737. This is favourable to Budget but unfavourable to last year.

Variances of \$700 or more to Budget are:

- Fundraising is \$2672 unfavourable. This is less Special Events.
- Total Interest Earned is \$6522 favourable. This is due to timing and higher returns on preferred shares.
- PWRDF Outreach Offerings is \$766 unfavourable. This is offset by PWRDF Remittances.
- Special & Designated is \$3912 favourable. This is due to generous funeral and wedding donations.
- Identified Giving is \$2400 unfavourable and \$15000 unfavourable to last year.
- Sundry Rentals is \$1113 favourable. This is more unscheduled events.
- Advertising is \$836 favourable. This is timing.
- Altar Guild is \$905 favourable. This is timing.

- Allowance Boys and Girls if \$920 favourable. There may be a small favourable balance at year end.
- Music Honorarium is \$783 unfavourable. This is unbudgeted and offset by Special & Designated.
- Organ Maintenance is \$1411 favourable. This is timing.
- Music Director is \$789 favourable. This is timing.
- General Maintenance is \$1543 favourable. This is timing as bills are coming.
- Utilities - Electricity and Natural Gas are \$1740 and \$9036 favourable to Budget partly due to timing. Natural Gas is also due to warm weather and lower rates.

While the **Net Income (Loss)** shows how we are doing this year, the **Summary Balance Sheet** shows what we have accumulated over the life of the church:

Summary Balance Sheet				
As at November 30				
		2012	2011	change
		Actual	Actual	
Current Assets (chequing, cash)	\$	26 075.71	41 406.47	(15 330.76)
Fixed Assets (building at cost)		785 030.20	785 030.20	0
Other Assets (investments)		456 972.04	449 819.03	7 153.01
Total Assets	\$	1 268 077.95	1 276 255.70	(8 177.75)
Current Liabilities (designated)	\$	228 010.68	227 189.25	821.43
Long Term Liabilities (trusts)		7 260.26	7 260.26	0
Equity		1 032 807.01	1 041 806.19	(8 999.18)
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$	1 268 077.95	1 276 255.70	(8 177.75)

The chequing account is reconciled to the end of November.

Designated Funds

Our Balance Sheet includes about 32 Designated Funds. These Funds range in size from less than \$100 to over \$100 000. The key aspect of each Fund is the money can only be spent on what the money was donated or raised for. For example, the Designated Fund – Christmas Cheer can only be used for the Christmas Cheer. Some Funds have ongoing activity and some don't.

Changes to Designated Funds > \$500:

- Flowers - +\$574 from net of donations > purchases
- Garage Sale - +\$5299 from net of Tea and Closet Sale > Duxton Windows (offices)
- Refuge - -\$2000 from donation to Nassau Street Refugee Group

If you need anything further, please let me know.

Ted Cotton

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship Committee thanks parishioners for returning the Financial Pledge forms and Time & Talent cards. Your information is being used to help prepare the 2013 Budget and Committee activities.

If you want to start the Electronic Offering Program or change your monthly electronic donation during the year, the form and instructions are always available on the church web site at [Preauthorized Donation Registration/Amendment Form](#) .

If you have any questions, please contact any member of the Stewardship Committee.

St. George's Stewardship Committee

Allan Silk (Chair)

Ted Cotton

Roger Dennis

Sue Hollingsworth

The Rev. Lyndon Hutchison-Hounsell

Karl Purchase



PRAYER FOR THE FIRST NATIONS PEOPLES

God our Creator, Canada has long needed
 a new and just relationship with the First Nations Peoples.
 Fill our hearts and minds with a desire
 re-commit to the promising future
 in the framework of the treaties,
 Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,
 in our God-given obligations and responsibilities
 to serve the well-being and rights of all humanity.
 May we find truth and reconciliation
 as we build a new relationship of promise.
 Give us the grace and vision that will bring us
 towards reconciled and just relationships.
 All these things we ask in the name of Jesus Christ
 who shows us the way to live and love,
 now and forever. Amen.

to
 presented
 the UN
 and

Peace, Lyndon