



St. George's Anglican Church



OUR VISION

**Generations of  
joy-filled, Gospel-  
shaped people  
proclaiming Jesus  
Christ with conviction,  
competence and  
confidence.**





OUR MISSION

**Receive, love and  
proclaim Jesus as our  
greatest treasure to  
the glory of God.**



# 2018

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## By the numbers.

### AVERAGE SUNDAY ATTENDANCE

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>142</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>208</b>



**86**  
ACTIVE VOLUNTEERS

**14**  
SMALL GROUPS

**106**  
PEOPLE IN SMALL GROUPS

### EASTER SUNDAY

2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>186</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>328</b>

### ONLINE

ARTICLES

**20**

WEBSITE VISITORS

**17,040**

YOUTUBE SERMON VIEWS

**6581**

IG POSTS

**312**

FACEBOOK REACH

**240,000**

YOUTUBE WATCH-TIME

**79,822**

(MINUTES)





## 3 Marks of a Gospel-Formed Life

R.D. GLENN, RECTOR

Have you ever thought about the characteristics of a Christian? A gospel-shaped life has particular qualities. Sinclair Ferguson, in his book *The Whole Christ*, refers to the gospel-shaped life as having a certain “tincture”. I like that.

**“The stakes of the gospel demand our deepest care.”**

Lately I have become convinced that there are at least three marks of a gospel-formed, Christian life. These three qualities set Christians apart from the world around them. It is in these same three areas where the gospel transforms us and grows us into full maturity in Christ. The three are conviction, competency, and confidence.

### CONVICTION

By conviction I mean that the stakes of the gospel demand our deepest care. True gospel conviction is borne out of the biblical truth that there is a hell to shun and a heaven to gain. This is what Paul has in mind in Colossians 1:13-14, “He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.” It is also why Paul says in 2 Corinthians 5:20, “Therefore, we are ambassadors for

Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.” In many other places he uses language of urging and struggling to make sure the gospel is clearly known to all people. In the first place, a gospel-shaped life is one that carries deep conviction. People are dead in trespasses and sin, living under the wrath and condemnation of a Holy God and the only remedy is the gospel of Jesus Christ. This coming year, I pray that we will become more and more convinced of Romans 1:16, that “[the gospel] is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes ...”

## **COMPETENCY**

The second mark of a life formed by the gospel is competency. While so much of the gospel at work in our lives is therapeutic, in that it brings healing to our sin and brokenness, the good news of Jesus does not stop there.

## **If we want to see our lives, families, and city transformed by the gospel we need to develop certain competencies and skills.**

For example, God has revealed himself in a book. The Bible shows us who God is in creation, in his dealings with people in the Old Testament and fully in the person of Jesus. If we want to know God, Christians need to develop competency in reading, understanding and applying the Bible to our lives. Consider Paul’s instruction to Timothy that he would ‘study to show himself approved.’ Jesus’ last words to his disciples before ascending into heaven charged them to “... teach them to observe all that I have commanded you ...” Surely skill in the scriptures is a mark of a Christian. The same is true for prayer. We must learn to meet with God in ongoing relationship through prayer, confessing our sin, being assured of our forgiveness in Christ, taking our needs to him, hearing his loving guidance and knowing his strong comfort. This year I pray that we develop competency in skills that grow us in Christ both individually and corporately.

## **CONFIDENCE**

The third mark is confidence. Growing in gospel conviction through the development of gospel competency results in a life marked by gospel confidence. To say it another way, convinced of the gospel you enjoy confidence in life and in death. Nothing can shake you. Your life is significant beyond measure because you were in the heart and mind of God from before time. You are loved beyond measure by the God who loved you and gave his life for you on the cross 2000 years ago. Your truest

self is hidden in Christ, who rose from death to new life. The sting of death has been removed.

The 16th century Reformers wrote catechisms. Catechisms are questions and answers to grow Christians in gospel clarity and confidence. The Heidelberg Catechism is one of my personal favourites.

Question one asks, “Question: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

Answer: “That I am not my own, but belong— body and soul, in life and in death— to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.”

May our lives be marked by that kind of gospel confidence.

#### **FORMED AND REFORMED BY THE GOSPEL**

Over the next year we will be focussing our preaching, prayer, and collective resources on developing and growing in these three key areas. In short we will be pressing into the gospel of Jesus. Remember that growth in the Christian life, growth in these three marks of the Christian life, doesn't mean accepting the gospel and then moving on from there. Growing in the Christian life means being daily formed and reformed by the grace. A gospel-shaped life is only grown by deepening our understanding of and love for the God who shows His love for us in the gospel of Jesus. We remember, return to, apply and appropriate the gospel of grace to our lives ... and then doing it all over again. Our lives will be marked by conviction, competency and confidence.

My dear brothers and sisters in Christ, Monica and I love you all. We often talk about you as our beloved family and pray for you. We count it a joy to serve the Lord with you.

**“It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace...” Philipians 1:7**



R.D. GLENN, RECTOR





## Grow & Sow

### RISK THE NEXT STEP

Grow & Sow was a new initiative we began in 2018. It is intended for those who are new to faith in Christ, or to those who have stalled out in their Christian walk. It was developed to help you take the next steps in your growth in Christ. None of it is rocket-science. It is simply the biblically-based model of how to grow in your walk with the Lord, and how to sow back into the gospel with your life. It will give you a framework to pinpoint where you are right now in your walk with the Lord, and it will also give you an idea of how to risk taking the next step.

### NEXT STEPS

These 'next steps' are meant to help you identify where you are in your journey of faith and show you how to risk growing deeper in Christ, but these steps are not for you to do alone. As a church-family we will help you along the way. Talk to a Pastor if you'd like to know how to take your next steps in growing and sowing in the Gospel.

### GROWING NEXT STEPS

Growth in the Christian life is something that only God brings (1 Cor 3:7), but it also requires some intentional decisions and effort on our part. Identify where you are on these steps and risk taking the next step in your Christian growth.

## **GROWING IN CHRIST**

- Make a personal decision to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Prioritize Sunday gatherings as a regular part of your life.
- Let Bible reading become a regular, trustworthy pattern.
- Daily make time to spend with the Lord in prayer.
- Commit to a small group of believers who meet regularly for fellowship, bible study and prayer.

## **GROWING IN COMMUNITY**

- Intentionally seek to build close friendships within your church-family.
- Invite church families or individuals to your house for a meal.
- Join a Small Group.
- Talk to a Pastor about finding a Christian Mentor.
- Lead a Small Group.
- Talk to pastor about becoming a Christian Mentor.

**“We  
are all  
sowing  
into  
some-  
thing.”**

## **SOWING NEXT STEPS**

We are all sowing into something with our lives. But are you intentionally sowing the resources God has entrusted you with into things that are eternal or into things that will fade away? Growth in Christ comes when we pay attention to where we are sowing. We have broken down sowing into 3 categories - Talent, Time, and Treasure. Our Talent is the God-given strengths the Lord has gifted each of us with. Time relates to how we spend and prioritize our free time. Our Treasure is our God-given financial resources.

## **SOWING TALENT**

- Identify your God-given strengths
- Meet with a pastor to pray about where you are using that talent
- Start using this talent to serve and cultivate your church-community

## **SOWING TIME**

- Spend time becoming more fluent in the Gospel message.
- Intentionally build relationships with people who don't know Jesus.
- Find opportunities to share the Gospel with them through word and deed.

## **SOWING TREASURE**

- Begin giving regularly to the church.
- Increase giving in a sacrificial way to support the Lord's work and to displace the idol of wealth.



# Free to Build

2 CHURCHES. 1 HEART.

## GULU, UGANDA

We firmly believe that the generosity of God seen in the Gospel makes us generous. It makes us generous with our neighbours, generous with our friends, generous with our family. And scripture teaches us that we, as Christians, have been adopted into a brand new family - the family and household of God. This family starts where we are - in Burlington, Ontario, and stretches and all across the globe.



We want to grow in what it means to be the family of God, by being generous with one another and with our brothers and sisters far off. Our desire is that God will use our generosity to bring freedom – freedom to build ministries, programs and relationships that will saturate this world with the good news of Jesus.

In a small town in Gulu, Uganda, a congregation of fellow Christians have been constructing a new church building, brick-by-brick, for the last 10 years. At great cost to themselves, they have finished the majority of the project, but until recently they have been worshipping on a dusty cow-dung floor. This year, we partnered with this church – St. Peter’s, to help finish their building. For \$12,000 we gave them the means to finish their floor with cement. Gulu is thousands of miles away, but they are our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, and we believe that the riches of God’s grace makes us generous.

Something just feels right about this. Our church, while still paying for our church building, considering the needs of another church on the other side of the world and helping to finish their church building.

God willing, this will be the beginning of a real, deep gospel partnership that includes regular video updates with sincere prayer for one-another and possibly even short-term mission trips.



## BURLINGTON, ONTARIO

4 years ago, God called us to build our new church home. He has faithfully provided for us every step of the way, and has given us the opportunity to make a real difference in our new community, but we still have a major mortgage that limits our ability to grow in ministry.

In 2018, we wanted to make an effort as a church-family to begin to pay off this mortgage on our building. Servicing the interest on our \$1.7 million mortgage costs over \$50,000 per year. Every dollar we pay down on the principle of the loan will set money free to be used to deepen our church family relationships and ministries.

Through Free to Build: Burlington we raised \$60,000 in 2018.

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## Breaking Bread

BY SCOTT HUNT, ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN THE APOSTLE MAGAZINE

I was sitting alone in the fellowship hall when I heard them around the corner. A father and two children were entering the church doors to use the restrooms.

“Okay, kids, here we go,” the father said, his voice full of drama and trepidation. “Something we never thought we’d ever do.... we’re going into a church.”

As they tip-toed to the bathrooms I could hear other families playing and laughing outside. Hundreds of them had come that evening from the neighbourhood and were strewn all over the church lawn and parking lot. Kids were playing street hockey and basketball. Parents were eating in lawn chairs and on tailgates. It was Thursday night and for many, even people who swore to never set foot in a church, that meant Breaking Bread food trucks at St. George’s Anglican Church in Burlington, Ontario.

“The idea for Breaking Bread came from meeting and getting to know the residents in the neighbourhood where our new building is located,” Stephanie Finn, the lead organizer of Breaking Bread, told me. “Our area is saturated with newcomers, primarily commuters, who have relocated from urban areas to raise families. So, isolation is a major issue.”

**“Isolation is a major issue.”**

“We are in an affluent area where people live harried, hurried lives, never really spending time with each other,” said Ray David Glenn, rector of St. George’s, which is why the church decided to organize and host food truck nights with gourmet-style food for their community.

“For us, surrounded by busy parents with young children and house values of over \$1 million, something like this just made sense,” Stephanie said.

“We have information out on the tables, but we didn’t want this to feel like a sales pitch because that was something that alienated us as seekers and new Christians,” Stephanie and her husband Rev. Len Finn told me. “We wanted to show our community how the generosity of the Gospel changes lives. We welcome total strangers onto our property, invite them to share a meal and break bread with us, and entertain their kids while they sit back and relax.”

“The gospel cuts against both isolation and earning with the good news of Jesus Christ who has freely given to us, though we didn’t earn it; inviting us into his kingdom, to his table, and into friendship with him,” Rev. Ray David said.

## **“Breaking Bread is our community rubbing up against the goodness of the gospel in tangible ways.”**





# A People of Longing

BRYAN HUNT, WORSHIP & MEDIA PASTOR

A few weeks ago, I had the joy of witnessing the birth of my fourth child - Harvest Marigold. Although she was born in 2019, most of her formation from a clump of a few cells to a full-fledged, soul-bearing human being took place in 2018. Emily had a difficult pregnancy. She suffered from intense morning (all day) sickness for the first few months and had a variety of other complications along the way. Throughout her pregnancy we could very much identify with the Apostle Paul's analogy in Romans 8:22-23,

**“For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.”**

In the same way that we longed for Emily's difficult pregnancy to come to completion, all of creation longs for the return of Christ, the revelation of the sons of God, and the final bodily redemption of the human race.

The church is a family that is united by a longing for a better day. A day that has been guaranteed by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. We are a people of longing. We are a people of hope. We are like a woman longing for the birth of her long-awaited child.

But we are also a people who have received the firstfruits of the promise of hope. We have received the Spirit of God to help us in our weakness and lead us into all truth.

## WORSHIP

Our worship is informed by this reality. As we worship, we get a taste of heaven and our hope shines brighter and clearer. As we gaze upon, sing to, and glorify Jesus, the object of our hope, we find voice to that longing deep inside us. We were made for Jesus. We are His own. One day we will bodily dwell with Him and every sad thing will come untrue. In the meantime, by His Spirit, we can experience His presence with us and in us. As C.S. Lewis said, “It is in the process of worship that God communicates His presence to men.” My prayer for 2019 is that our deep longing for a better day would lead us to a place of deep, intimate worship. That as we glorify Jesus, our Living Hope, we would encounter the reality of Christ in us. As a pregnant

woman, we would live lives of deep, yet confident longing for the coming of our Redeeming King.

## OUR SERVICES

At St. George's, we believe that God is always doing something new in His church and that we can always learn from what God has already done. This truth takes shape in our worship music. We embrace new music that seeks to find new voice to the glories of God, and we are enriched by singing the ancient truths of the hymns written by the saints over the centuries.

It is our desire to use music and liturgy to help people behold the glory of God, in a way that resounds in the hearts of every generation. We do our utmost to create a worship environment that can be accessed by every age group, from the little children – to our senior members. As we all prefer different styles, volume levels, and keys, this can be a challenge. I so appreciate the laying down of personal-preference that I see from many of you. This truly is a 'sacrifice of praise' and true worship of the King. Thank you.

**“We want to lead songs that speak of the whole spectrum of God’s character.”**

As worship pastor I take very seriously the words we are putting in the mouths of the saints. The lyrics we sing shape our theology and our very view of God Himself. If we only sing about God’s power and might, we may develop a theology of a strong, but impersonal God. If we only sing about God’s intimate love for us, then we may develop a theology of a loving, but not all-powerful God. We want to lead songs that speak of the whole spectrum of God’s character; loving, yet holy; merciful, yet just; intimate, yet fearsome. And most of all we want to lead people to the Gospel. In Christ we see the fullness of God on display; His whole character and his heart for His world. That is why we never tire of singing about the cross and the glory of the Risen Christ.

As an Anglican Church, we take the 39 articles of religion seriously, so we structure our Sunday worship with an emphasis on Word and sacrament (articles VI, XXV) and in a language easily understandable by the people (article XXIV). This is why we put God’s Word out in front of everything we do, and why we celebrate the Lord’s supper together every Sunday. And in all these things, our aim is to do them in a way that is easily understandable for the Christian and non-Christian alike.

## OUR TEAM

Each week I am grateful to play alongside such talented musicians, who love to create music that glorifies Jesus and serve His church.

Our worship music team consists of Scott Hunt (drums/percussion), Julia Selby (Piano/Vocals), Carny Biggar (Bass/Piano/Vocals), Scott Cates (Vocals/Guitar/Banjo/Mandolin/Anything else that has strings!), Shirantha Beddage (Piano), Jessica Underdown (Vocals), Len Finn (Bass), Gillian Fernie (Piano), Bristol Surajdeen (Guitar/Drums), Stephanie Finn (Vocals), and Richelle Hunt (Vocals). Debbie Dymment continues to faithfully serve on the piano at our 8:30am service. If you have been blessed by their playing in the last year, please take a moment one Sunday after the service and thank them. A little encouragement can mean a lot. Joe Biggar is our AV Team Leader and his team does a fantastic job operating our audio/visual equipment every week. Many thanks to this team of volunteers.

**'May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.'**  
**Romans 15:5-6**



# Media

## ONLINE

St. George's website is our primary home for news, events, and content, but, more and more, social media has become the means of which we deliver this content.

## WEBSITE

In 2018, we had 17,050 unique visitors come to our website from dozens of countries. People from around the globe listened to our sermons and read our online articles. For many people, our website will be their first introduction to our church and we have worked hard to make it a vibrant, easily navigable, attractive, and useful place to visit.

## FACEBOOK

St. George's Facebook Page experienced growth in 2018, with now 607 followers (up 10% from the previous year). Our Facebook posts reached approximately 240,000 people in the last year. We also created our private St. George's Community Group, which has 94 members and is great for prayer requests, news updates, discussions and other community building posts.

## INSTAGRAM

We also saw huge growth in our Instagram account with 608 followers (+319 from the previous year). We uploaded 312 posts in the last year, with an approximate reach of 200-1000 unique accounts per post. One of our posts went quite viral and ended up reaching 44,995 accounts and was liked 4.4k times. The goal of these posts is to remind people of the Gospel throughout their week, because we believe Christian growth is intimately tied to remembering and rehearsing the Gospel to our souls. The posts are typically images with scriptures or quotes pulled out from the previous Sunday's sermon.

## YOUTUBE

Every week we livestream the video from our 10:15am Sunday morning Service on YouTube. Many people from around the world have been able to join with us as we worship God together. In the last year, our service videos were viewed over 6581 times, with a watch time of 79,822 minutes.

**“In 2018,  
We had  
17,050  
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site.”**



## **TWITTER**

Our twitter account isn't as active, but we update it with all of the new posts from our website. We have 123 followers.

## **2019**

Our goal in 2019, is to continue to creatively use technology and media to saturate our lives and our community with the good news of the Gospel. Please pray for myself and all those who contribute in our media ministry, that we may have wisdom by the Holy Spirit to make Christ known.



**BRYAN HUNT, WORSHIP & MEDIA PASTOR**

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## **Always Greater**

**LEONARD FINN, ASSOCIATE PASTOR**

Every year around this time I get to reflect on what the Lord is doing at St. George's and be thankful that He has made me and my family a part of it all.

While it might seem lately that the Associate Pastor is chiefly charged with playing bass (truly, the Lord's redeeming of my long-haired, Led Zeppelin-filled, late teenage years), technically my primary responsibility is to support the rector and assist him in pastoring St. George's. In this capacity, I preach and officiate roughly half of the 8:30am services, support Ray David in the preaching and officiating of the 10:15am services, and meet pastorally with parishioners, as well as participate in and serve as staff liaison to a number of our ministries, particularly in the area of outreach.

In that regard, I am thankful for being involved in a number of new and exciting initiatives this year. One of these was an internal pilot Alpha Marriage Course program that my wife, Stephanie, and I organized in the fall. (Okay, so by "Stephanie and I" I really mean just Stephanie, but, hey, "one flesh"! ) We felt a need—both within our St. George's community and in the larger world of North Burlington—for a ministry that would strengthen families by nurturing the marriages they are grounded in. The Marriage Course—a seven-week dinner and guided discussion for married

couples to talk to each other about their marriage—seemed to fit the bill, and so beginning in September about fifteen St. George’s couples met each week to work on their marriages. We are hoping to have St. George’s host it again and, potentially, at some point open it up to the community at large, as well

**“There is a real hunger here for robust, biblically centred theological education.”**

The other development I am really excited about was the launching of our inaugural course for what we hope will be the beginning of St. George’s as a “southern campus” for Ryle Theological Seminary (Ottawa). With about a dozen folks either auditing or taking it for credit, I taught a 10-week masters-level course on the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Old Testament of the bible. (If you ever thought I preached on the long side, just think: those were three-hour classes! We all tended to look a little cross-eyed by the time 10pm rolled around, but miraculously no one fell asleep.) I was so encouraged by the excitement for God’s Word shown by everyone and it demonstrated to me that there is a real hunger here for robust, biblically-centred theological education. It is my hope that, God willing, that course proves to be just the beginning of something much bigger here at St. George’s.

Relatedly, as many of you know, I am finishing up (God willing, again!) a doctorate in Old Testament studies at the University of Toronto. I am currently in the thesis stage, about half-way through a study of the relationship between the book of Ecclesiastes and the story of Solomon in 1 Kings 1-11. (Basically, that means I spend the better part of any given day in my basement office huddled over my computer next to a whiteboard covered in a mix of English and Hebrew words with lines and arrows going everywhere, a scene that my wife says looks “pretty creepy.”) In any event, my hope and prayer is to finish it and defend by the end of 2019, which—as I take a peek at last year’s report—turns out to be exactly what I hoped and prayed for 2018. I guess we’ll try that again! As always, thank you to all of you who ask me how it is going and keeping me in your prayers.

**Finally, as 2019 gets underway, I am excited for the vision and plans we have for St. George’s, but however great those may be, I am confident that the Lord’s vision and plans for us are always greater.**

It is my prayer for all of us that we lean more and more into the ways in which the Holy Spirit is growing us and that we would be increasingly molded into the community of saints filled with the love of God and the confidence of the Gospel that North Burlington needs us to be.

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Len". The letters are fluid and connected, with a long horizontal stroke under the "n".

LEONARD FINN, ASSOCIATE PASTOR



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**You are God's choice possession. The cross shows you that you were deeply loved before you were even born. Before you had any opportunity to merit God's love, He loved you in Christ. Long after you have done so much to no longer deserve His love for you He still loves you in Christ. God doesn't love you because you are lovely; He loves you to make you lovely.**

R.D. GLENN





**But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.**



## Executive Council

JULIA SELBY, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBER

This year the Executive Council has been praying and involved in Strategic Planning for the church, specifically for a clear vision and mission for St. George's. Yes, God has called us to Alton Village - to be a Gospel Coalition church in Burlington and be an integral part of this community. Yes, God has called us to Grow and Sow - to grow in Christian faith to become more mature and confident in the gospel and in His Word. There is great clarity on these callings, but we also grappled with some tough questions including, are new people joining the church at the same rate that people are leaving? Do we have the right organizational structure to support the growth and breaking past the "200 Barrier"? What changes do we need to make and what do we need to protect and treasure? What resources are needed to support these changes? All of these questions come from our deep conviction that God is calling us to reach more people with His life-changing gospel and see our community redeemed for good by that same good news.

### THE 200 BARRIER

Statistically speaking, the "50 Barrier" is the only statistical growth restriction for many churches as over one third to one half of all churches have an average attendance of 50 and under. Statistics do not show a growth barrier in churches at 200, but there is a strong indication that a growth barrier prevents most churches from growing past 200; according to Bill M. Sullivan author of "Breaking the 200 Barrier". As we look at our average attendance over the past three years at St. George's - this definitely strikes a chord; especially when we see new people from the community

each week. This study also indicates that the church's organizational structure to support a church of greater than 200 is fundamentally different. This led us to do some work, earlier in the year, on organization structure and looking at various structures and models that are effective for churches that have an average Sunday attendance of 500 (two services of 250 each). This allowed us to ask some additional questions, such as, we place a high value on being a family focused church - how do we keep this? How do we not deplete and over-challenge the bandwidth of our Rector and many other core volunteers, leaders and staff? Do we have enough resources to support this plan? It became clear, that before moving forward...we needed to take a step back. We needed greater clarity on what is God's vision and mission for St. George's for 2019 and beyond. Through prayer, great facilitation and contemplation; a clear mission and vision for St. George's was created:

**“We needed greater clarity on what is God's vision and mission for St. George's for 2019 and beyond.”**

#### **VISION**

**Generations of joy-filled, gospel-shaped people proclaiming Jesus Christ with conviction, competence and confidence.**

#### **MISSION**

**Receive, love and proclaim Jesus as our greatest treasure to the glory of God.**

#### **FUTURE GROWTH**

We do believe that God is preparing us for future growth - not to become a mega church - but to grow as a gospel-centred, family-focused, multi-generational church to no more than 500 and then plant new churches. Until that time comes we need to actively and with urgency pursue our mission and vision.

#### **SMALL GROUPS AND YOUTH**

Our existing Ministries, staff, volunteers are integral in supporting this vision and mission. Encouraging and inviting newcomers into active participation in these Ministries. Additionally there are two ministry areas we need to re-focus on and plan - Small Groups and Youth. We are praying about actively moving forward to support these two ministries in new ways; there is still work to be done and we look forward to sharing more information as we move into additional prayer and planning. The Lord is building a vibrant community with Gospel at its core!

## THANKFUL

We continue to be blessed to have a Ministry team, clergy and office staff who truly love the Lord, and search for His direction for our church and sacrificially give their time and talents wholeheartedly. We are so grateful for the Sunday School teachers and helpers that run the Children's Ministry, they put endless energy into Sunday mornings and plant lifelong seeds each and every week working with the children. We are so thankful for the many, many volunteers that so willingly lend a hand, organize events, prepare foods, make coffee, clean the building, administer donations and tithes, manage sound and multimedia, take part in committees and pray for one another. We are grateful for God's blessings granted to us and look forward to what he has in store as we pursue this new vision and mission and live out His great commission.

*Julia*

JULIA SELBY, EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBER





# Small Groups

JOE BIGGAR, *SMALL GROUPS CO-ORDINATOR*

This past year's small group growth has been slower than was hoped. Part of the problem is that we only have a few groups who have room in them. If we had more groups we would be able to match newcomers to groups that fit their availability and location. Obviously more groups require more leaders and hosts; this is our biggest need. We would be happy to have any church members become involved in leading and hosting a small group.

## CORE ELEMENTS

The core elements of a small group are fellowship, Bible study and prayer. Hosts and leaders are expected to provide these elements in a small group meeting. Hosts are expected to provide a comfortable and inviting space in their home (or elsewhere) for fellowship among small group members on a weekly or biweekly basis. As RD says, "if you are able to put on a pot of coffee you are ready to be a small group host". Being a leader requires a mature Christian who is willing to open up the Word and pray with the group together. These, along with the presence of God, are the simple ingredients to a successful small group meeting.

**"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them." Matthew 18:20**

## HOSTING

If you haven't hosted a small group before it can be a very rewarding experience. You are guaranteed to grow in your relationship with God and with each other.

## OUR GOAL

Our goal is to eventually have everyone in our church connected to a small group in some fashion. In the upcoming year we hope to start a new initiative for small groups and train some new leaders. If you are interested in becoming a leader please let me know: [smallgroups@stgeorgesonline.com](mailto:smallgroups@stgeorgesonline.com).



JOE BIGGAR, *SMALL GROUPS CO-ORDINATOR*

# Missions

CARNY BIGGAR, MISSIONS LEADER

In 2018, St. George's started partnering with Yonge Street Mission (YSM) in Toronto. The Bridges Program at YSM works with the "generationally poor" and provides community and fellowship twice a week, which includes a community meal. St. George's contributes to one of these community meals each month.

As in the previous year, St. George's continues not to have a specific budget line item for international missions but rather we respond to needs as they come up. This year, I am happy to report that the church has begun a partnership with St. Peter's Church in Gulu, Uganda. For twenty years since the mid-1980s, the cult terrorist group called the Lord's Resistance Army killed thousands of people in northern Uganda, and kidnapped many children to join their army. It has been 10 years since there has been peace in the land, and the people have been slowly but powerfully rebuilding their lives. However, there are many wounds to heal in the community, lots of orphans to care for, men and women with physical and emotional disabilities from the war to rehabilitate back into society.

St. Peter's Church is located in the midst of this context, but the building that they gathered in was incomplete, with dusty dirt floors and holes in the walls where there should be windows. The parishioners had been putting the church building together slowly over the past 15 years, one brick at a time as they raised the funds for it.

**In 2018, St. George's ran a specific fundraising campaign to raise money for finishing the floors of St. Peter's Church. I am happy to report that we raised over \$12,000 for this initiative and as a result, St. Peter's Church now has beautifully finished floors!**

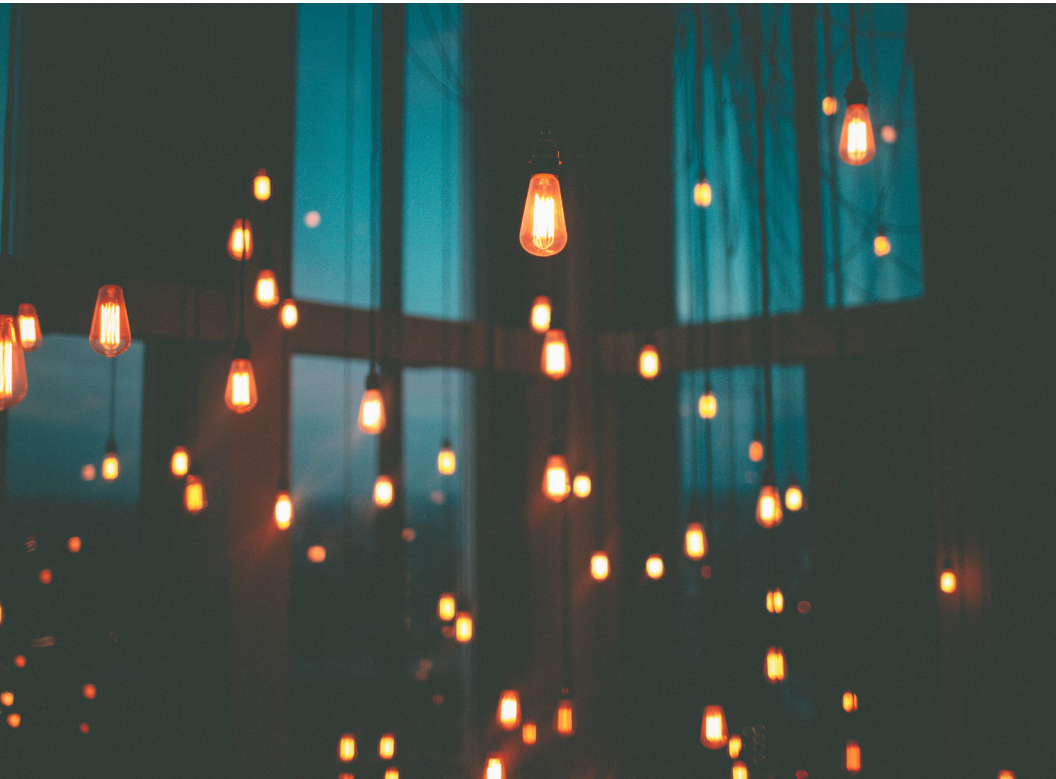
The vision is for this initiative to only be Phase 1 of our partnership with St. Peter's as we build a long term partnership with the church. We are looking into Phase 2, 3, etc. where we can contribute to finishing more of the church building and it can be used as a hub in the community. Perhaps in the future, we can send teams there and they can send teams here as we partner in the gospel, since there is a lot to learn both ways!

**“I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now...” Philippians 1:3-5**

Your sister in Christ,

*Carny*

CARNY BIGGAR, MISSIONS LEADER



# Take a Moment

ELEA HOFMAN, TAM LEADER

Take a Moment continues to meet monthly and promote the formation of deeper friendships amongst the women of St. George's. Over the last year we've seen a lot of new women attend, both regular church attendees and women who are new to the church. TAM offers a great way to be intentional about getting to know new women and inviting them into relationship as well as staying connected prayerfully and practically to women in the church. Monthly meetings create a space where women are served and have time and space to truly get to know one another at a depth that leads to spiritual, emotional and practical support.

Over the course of the year TAM has served approximately 70 different women with attendance at individual gatherings ranging on average from 15-30 women. We continue to see women connecting from a wide range of ages and demographics. The private Facebook group has grown to 66 members. This acts as an online space for women to encourage each other, share immediate needs and keep others up to date on what's happening in their lives. Those who do not use Facebook are updated through email and bulletin announcements.

As we look to the future, Take a Moment will continue to have monthly gatherings and invest in the lives of St. George's women. We have started a 9-week book study that 15 women received books for and approximately 9 women attend weekly gatherings to discuss. We look forward to attending the Harvest women's conference as a group in June.

**“Women share their life challenges and pray through struggles and joy.”**

The response and impact of Take a Moment has been significant. Women have shared they feel connected and refreshed by the monthly gatherings. Women who wouldn't normally have cause to meet or talk on a Sunday are building relationships at the monthly gatherings. It is a special time to draw closer to God and experience moments of openness where women share their life challenges and pray through struggles and joy. Overall this ministry is blessing women and helping to integrate visitors into the St. George's family.



ELEA HOFMAN, TAM LEADER





## Sunday School

ANGELA HUNT, SUNDAY SCHOOL COORDINATOR

St. Georges Sunday School continues to be a super busy place every Sunday morning. We average 30/35 children on any Sunday morning split between 3 classes. (54 children registered) This does not include Nursery children or the Youth program. We have a rotating team of 16 class leaders and 5 helpers who prepare and execute our Scripture Union curriculum which we are currently following. This curriculum follows the Christian calendar and each class works on the same goal/bible verses/theme but at a level suitable to their age group. Leaders never miss a teachable moment when they spring up in the classroom!

This past year we saw 64 children come out on Easter Sunday where we made Resurrection Eggs to take home to share with our families. During our summer months, we continued with the same 3 classes, led by our regular teachers with some fill-ins by dear friends during vacations. September saw a need to split our Climbers into 2 groups and a fourth class was immediately set up splitting these children into Junior Climbers and Senior Climbers class. The Trail Blazers kindly moved into the Family room which gave them lots of wiggle room!

Our Fall Mission was called “St. George’s Snack Express” with a lead train made by William. The children filled the train carriage’s (decorated shoe boxes) with easy snacks suitable for car trips, lunch box fillers and treats. 72 boxes were presented to a group in our Community assisting families with extra needs due to ongoing medical needs.

Christmas saw the children minister to their church family during the Service of Lessons and Carols. Thank you Emily for taking the lead, It was precious! A Family craft was enjoyed at the Christmas Eve 4pm service with 60 children taking home an extra gift to share as they opened family gifts at home.

As I round out my 40 years of coordinating Sunday schools (34 at St. Georges) I am so excited to have worked alongside of Emily the past few months as she prepares to take over the lead. I am still going to teach and help out with special projects where needed. This is God’s plan for the both of us and it is an truly an exciting time.

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## Reaching Our Community

STEPHANIE FINN, *EVENTS COORDINATOR*

### Our 3 priorities in reaching out to our surrounding community are:



**To demonstrate Christ's love and generosity to our neighbours by meeting them where they are.**



**To create a space for community and fellowship, a harbour for those who are isolated or forgotten.**



**To provide opportunities for our congregation to practice service and loving our neighbours.**

## **EASTER EGG HUNT**

On Palm Sunday, we hosted our 3rd annual community Easter Egg Hunt, which welcomes around 450 Burlington children and their families for egg hunting, lunch, pony rides, crafts, and face painting. One of our most popular events, our Easter Egg Hunt was facilitated by 30 church volunteers and received enthusiastic thanks on social media afterward. Walker's Chocolates donated 500 goody bags of chocolate and candy, and lunch was donated by Panago Pizza and other local businesses.

## **BREAKING BREAD: FOOD TRUCKS & FRIENDS**

Breaking Bread: Food Trucks & Friends was held for a 3rd and last year, building community by gathering local families for a community picnic each Thursday evening from May 24 through August 30. We hosted around 250-400 people each week and provided free crafts and sports activities. Most weeks, local organizations came out to "take over" our free craft or sports zone, and we were visited a few times by fire fighters and police officers who allowed children to tour their vehicles. Due to several reasons, including rising food prices, an increase in brick-and-mortar restaurants in Burlington over the last 3 years, high daily fees paid by the trucks to the city, and the toll it takes on our small volunteer team, we have decided to discontinue Breaking Bread and shift our focus in 2019.

## **LEGO CAMP**

Mark Jurgens initiated and led a week-long, half-day Lego Camp this summer to reach out to grade 2-3 children and teach them aspects of the Gospel through science, technology, engineering, and math learning.

## **THE MARRIAGE COURSE**

This fall, we organized a test run of The Marriage Course, to try out the video course (produced by Alpha) and dinner format before offering it to the community. The course's focus is to strengthen marriages by improving communication and conflict resolution, and we were thrilled that 15 couples participated from our congregation. Our incredible volunteers facilitated catering and childcare for 10-15 children so their parents could enjoy a weekly date night. We have interest in a 2019 repeat and hope to offer this to those outside our church, as well.

## **ST. GEORGE'S NIGHT MARKET**

The St. George's Night Market raised nearly \$2000 and has helped offset nearly all of our 2018 budget. With wine, a food truck, and 28 handmade vendors, we welcomed several hundred visitors to the church and helped over two dozen small business owners earn some holiday income!

Our hope in 2019 is to continue to review our community's needs and our strengths in meeting them. With Breaking Bread ending, we will have more opportunities for new ideas, and we welcome your participation. Thank you to all of our amazing volunteers, and please let me know if you'd like to join our Outreach team.



STEPHANIE FINN, EVENTS COORDINATOR

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## For the Harvest

SYNOD 2018, REPORT

The theme of the 11th annual Synod, “For the Harvest”, was based on Matthew 9:35 - 38. Bishop Charlie’s official opening message focused on the need to not only reach the people in the harvest, but also for labourers to bring in the harvest. Bishops Andy Lines, Todd Atkinson, and Trevor Walters led morning worship, and Bishop Andy Lines closed the conference with a thoughtful sermon.

Bishop Charlie, referencing Romans 10: 14-15, noted that

**“The way the gospel is meant to work - the plan for reaching the nations - is through the multiplication of labourers who will reach more, who will become labourers who will reach more, who will become labourers, etc.”**

Prayer and bible teachings were centred around preparing for the harvest. Workshops on reaching the saved and lost - children, youth, millenials, baby boomers, seniors, and the dying - were geared to equip both the laity and clergy to lead and support gospel-shaped ministries.

The “Beyond the Lifeboat” proposal was presented, but since the plan in its current form was not unanimously supported by all parishes, a decision was made to select a task force to develop a strategy for the church to reach peoples of all cultures.



A motion to sponsor Bishop Todd Atkinson and Via Apostolica in an application for them to become a missionary district of the ACNA was passed.

Synod concluded with Bishop Andy Lines' sermon highlighting the surety of Christ's return and judgement. He reminded us that God has provided us with the Spirit of Christ who equips us with all we need to labour for the harvest in preparation for his return.

*Clair*

CLAIR DIRKER, SYNOD DELEGATE





# The Greeting Team

NAOMI NEEB, GREETING COORDINATOR

The Greeting team is available to greet and welcome the congregation (new, visitor, young, and adult), as they enter the church and to act as host/hostess for the congregation during worship services. They distribute service leaflets, collect and present the offering, and guide the congregation during Holy Communion helping to ensure that services function smoothly. They then tidy the church after the congregation has been dismissed.

## THE TEAM

- Grant & Barbara Dickinson
- Ed & Dyanna Lewis
- Manuel Sobrinho
- Karen & Stephen Swallow
- David Neeb, Stewart Teasel
- Betty Pristol
- Dave Shantz, Terry Wilcox
- Ryan & Vicky Wilson

I want to thank them for their faithfulness to this Ministry this year. My thanks and gratitude are also extended to Jim Dimanis, Marjory Masters and Shaun Horricks who also served with this Ministry during the past year.

Thanks also to Donna Rigo, Margaret Hunt, Dave & Camille MacLean. They faithfully minister at the close of the service as hosts to visitors. This is a section of the welcoming ministry and hopefully in 2019 will be expanded. I look forward to its development.

**If you think you might be interested in joining the Greeters please speak to me or call the church office.**



NAOMI NEEB, GREETING COORDINATOR

HE REMAINS

Faithful

STGCHURCH





## In Touch

SENIOR'S MINISTRY, REPORT

This is an “old” ministry with a “new” name, serving our Senior Parishioners who are in need of a phone call or friendly visitor. The ministry was “reinstated” this year when several needs arose and were met by members of the congregation who felt called to serve in this capacity. There was a request for other parishioners that felt led by the Lord to join the team and it currently consists of: Clair Dirker, Gord & Dianne Franklin, Margot Hickling, Angela Hunt, Susan Johnson, Donna Rigo, Simon & Louise Toyne, and Kelly Wolfe.

**“This is  
an ‘old’  
minis-  
try with  
a ‘new’  
name”**

Each team member has received a copy of Donald Peel’s book, *The Ministry of Listening (Team Visiting in Hospital and Home)* as a valuable resource. In January we received some training and wisdom imparted by Rev. Peter Parent who served in the capacity of Chaplain in a Nursing Home and Long Term Care facility for many years. I have also met with our parishioner, Kathy Powell, who served our seniors for many years and is a wealth of knowledge in this regard. Kathy has passed on her resource material to us as well as a book “*Comfort and Caring through CHRIST*” which she wrote to train others for Lay Ministry.

We continue to minister in the name of Jesus and by the words of Jesus:

**“I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.”....”truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.” Matthew 25: 31-40**

A police check is required for all those serving in this ministry and will be on file in the office.

If you felt called to serve with this Ministry please contact me. If you know of a senior parishioner in need, please contact me as well.

In Christ,



DONNA RIGO, *IN-TOUCH COORDINATOR*

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## The Prayer Chain

DORIS SCHICHT, *PRAYER CHAIN COORDINATOR*

Our role as prayer chain members is to pray in confidence for parishioners, families and friends. Updates are provided for the members of the prayer chain if the individual requesting prayer has provided the details. We encourage individuals to reach out to the prayer chain for intercessory prayer. We are sensitive to their situation and led by the Holy Spirit in our prayers. Generally we would pray daily for the individual requesting the prayers for two weeks. I would be thrilled if more individuals sought the prayer chain for support. I would encourage that the prayer chain be mentioned more often in the morning announcements. Even, perhaps a prayer rail at the front of the church after the 10:30 service. I know how much having this prayer team at the front of the church supported Andy and I when we first started coming to Saint George's. This could be an extension of the prayer chain.

As the leader of the prayer chain; I forward the emails received to the nine members of our team. I will provide follow-up prayer and praise if provided by the individuals requesting prayer. I will also provide scriptures if placed on my heart from our Lord.

Emails are sent to [prayer@stgeorgesonline.com](mailto:prayer@stgeorgesonline.com), Gillian then forwards them to me and I will forward to the nine other team members.

It may be encouraging to record the prayer in a book with the date of the prayer request, then record how Jesus answers those prayers. This is encouraging for all members to see the Lord at work.

Lately, I have been reading scripture and meditating on how Satan tries to discourage us from talking with Jesus and cast doubt on our relationship with Jesus. This is why it is critical to protect yourself mind body and soul; (Ephesians 6 10:18) with prayers to Jesus.

- The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy (John 10:10).
- My purpose is to give life in all its fullness (Luke 22 31:32, 1 Peter 5 8:1)
- Don't worry about anything; instead pray about everything. (Philippians 4:6)
- For I can do everything with the help of Christ who gives me the strength I need. (Philippians 4:13)

I look forward to serving another year. I suggest perhaps a meeting with the prayer team members for suggestions and feedback.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Doris". The script is fluid and cursive, with the "D" being particularly large and stylized.

DORIS SCHICHT, PRAYER CHAIN COORDINATOR





## Our Littlest Ones

EMILY HUNT, *NURSERY COORDINATOR*

Over the course of 2018 the nursery has continued to love and serve the youngest people of our church family. Our regular families find a loving and familiar place to leave their little ones, while new families find friendly welcoming faces to first introduce them to our church family. We always strive to have our guests feel at home and that they have a place at St. George's. Parents find a place to receive support and encouragement as well as build relationships with one another. Children in care of the nursery staff are read stories, played with, and encouraged to build friendships with one another. At the end of 2018 Jessica Dymant stepped down as one of the nursery coordinators as she and her family have moved away. We are so thankful for all of the time and energy she spent developing how our nursery runs and even more so the love she gave to the children and their caregivers.

EMILY HUNT, *NURSERY COORDINATOR*

“

**“Foster a love for God’s word. God has given us this valuable, cherished treasure and we spend most of our lives letting it sit on our shelves gathering dust. The God of the Universe has chosen to reveal Himself in a book, a book that has been carefully compiled under His supervision for millennia, a book that has been carefully transmitted throughout the generations to safeguard God’s revelation of who He is. You and I have this book and we spend most of our lives with it sitting collecting dust. Friends, don’t squander one of the greatest gifts that God could ever give you. Build a desire to meet God regularly in the Bible.”**

R.D. GLENN



## Storing Up God's Word

SCRIPTURE MEMORY, NEW CHURCH INITIATIVE

God's word is alive and active (Heb 4:12). It is breathed out by God himself (2 Tim 3:16). It feeds our souls (Matt 4:4), and lights our way (Psalm 119:105). Throughout the scriptures, we are instructed to hide God's word in our hearts (Psa 119:11); to cling to it (Psa 119:31); to delight in it (Psa 119:14). In the words of Martin Luther, "The soul can do without everything except the word of God, without which none at all of its wants are provided for."

Scripture itself instructs us to store God's Word up in our hearts (Psa 119:11) like a great treasure that is better than gold and silver (Psa 119:72). We are told to memorize it and talk about it at all times (Deut 6:7).

So in 2018, as a church-family, we decided to put a renewed emphasis on memorizing scripture. Every Sunday we handpicked a scripture from our sermon passage for memorization. Our prayer is that through storing up God's Word in our hearts it would -

- **Help us fight against sin (Psa 119:11)**
- **Equip us for everyday life (2 Tim 3:17)**
- **Supply us with Godly counsel to share with loved ones (Pro 25:11)**
- **Give us the words to communicate and internalize the Gospel (1 Pet 3:15)**
- **Arm us against the evil one (Eph 6:17)**
- **Allow us to meditate on God's promises anywhere (Psa 1:2)**

# Healing Services

RAY SMITH, HONOURARY ASSISTANT

By God's grace we have been blessed with people who feel called to help with the Healing service. They include: Kevin Loveless, Keith Stodart, Terry Wilcox, Doris Schicht, Simon Toyne and myself. The service attendance has consistently been 15-20 people, for the three services we held this past year. The service is designed to be a simple realization of the direction in James 5:14-15a.

**“Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord” (NKJ)**

The service is primarily a time where those who desire healing come up to the front to be anointed with oil and then prayed over for God's healing. Those who do the praying do not have any magical power but are there in faith to be conduits of God's healing. It is ultimately God's work and not ours. It is his prerogative how to respond to our requests. Some he heals miraculously others through conventional means and to some he says “My Grace is sufficient for you; my power is made perfect in weakness.” as he said to the apostle Paul. Though physical healing is the focus of these services the ultimate desire is for spiritual growth and an increased dependence on God in faith. This life is but temporary, what is eternal is of true value.

**“The most remarkable healing we've seen thus far is the full remission from Pancreatic Cancer experienced by Terry Wilcox.”**

As we reflect on last year, we have seen God at work miraculously in many people's lives, some with regards to healing. The most remarkable healing we've seen thus far is the full remission from Pancreatic Cancer experienced by Terry Wilcox. Terry joined the Healing Service Team to share with others what was freely given to her by God's grace. Terry is not alone being healed, many people who've attended the service have reported an improvement in their condition. GOD HEALS! We offer the healing service at St Georges as a space for focused prayer to take place where we call out for God's Grace and Mercy. God's healing is certainly not confined to our Church in Burlington, we encourage our parishioners to pray with each other during times of despair. Jesus said “for where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them. (Matthew 18:20 ESV)

The team is happy to visit parishioners in their homes and pray with them for healing. Please feel free to contact the office to arrange a visit through Gillian Fernie.

May God be glorified through it all!



RAY SMITH, HONOURARY ASSISTANT

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## Home Fellowship

KELVIN LOVELESS, LEADER

The monthly home fellowship meets one evening a month, excluding the summer break, at the Loveless residence about 10 minutes north of the church. We have an attendance from 20 to 36 each month. Our gatherings start with a potluck dinner with lots of good food. During this time we have opportunity to get to know one another better and get connected in our church community. We are always open to new people joining us, it is a great way to connect with others in St. George's, especially if you are not plugged in yet.

Following our feast there is a time of sharing by one or two people. This includes personal faith stories and God's work in our lives. We had a combination of our members sharing and guest speakers. This past January Kevin and Julia Garrett, the two Canadian held in prison in China, shared their amazing story and how God sustained them through that time. This sharing about journeys is an encouragement as we see God at work and moving in each of our lives through our own challenges and struggles. Evidence of the hand of God at work. This group is like an extended family that enjoys being together and sharing. At the end of each program there is a time for sharing prayer requests and followed up in prayer. It continues to be a pleasure for Shelley and I to share our home and host this gathering. We would love to have some more join us this year.



KELVIN LOVELESS

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GOD CREATES  
SOMETHING

BEAUTIFUL

OUT OF  
CHAOS.



STGCHURCH

# Finance Committee

ED LEWIS, MEMBER

The Finance Committee, as required, provides advise to the Executive Council on policy and longer-term financial issues.

The Committee consists of the Treasurer Dan Coverdale, Tim Wilson, Elias Hadaya and Ed Lewis.

The committee met once this year to draft a policy on “Management of Offerings and other cash funds”. The policy was designed to protect the integrity of the parishioners’ givings as well as those managing the givings.

The Committee developed the policy and forwarded the policy to the Executive Council for approval. After some amendments, the Council approved the policy with the right to implement some or all of the recommendations at this time.

Members of the Committee also reviewed present-year to last-year weekly givings and prepared an analysis of the distribution of our offerings by givings amount compared to last year.



ED LEWIS, FOR THE COMMITTEE

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## Newcomers

CATHERINE NEAL, CO-ORDINATOR

We are a recently formed group looking at ways we can welcome, connect and integrate newcomers into our church family. We are just getting started so please stay tuned for our upcoming initiatives. In the meantime, if you have any ideas or suggestions as to how we can welcome newcomers we would love to hear from you!



CATHERINE NEAL, NEWCOMERS CO-ORDINATOR

# Afternoon Women's Fellowship

MARGARET HUNT, GROUP LEADER

The Afternoon Women's Fellowship continued to meet in 2018 providing fellowship to the women of our parish. In March we invited the men of St. Georges to join us for an excellent presentation by the Halton Police Fraud Squad about protecting ourselves from common forms of fraud. In April we watched the movie *Risen* - the story of the Resurrection.

**“Our meetings have ranged from 20-30 women and usually consist of worship, prayer, sharing, fellowship and refreshments.”**

In May we had our annual visit with Doraine Ross and Faith Liyena from Faith's Orphan Fund to update us on their ministry in Zambia. Several of our women had sown beautiful dresses and shirts for the orphans and others had donated colourful T-shirts that were very much appreciated by Faith. In June we had our annual Potluck lunch. We didn't meet during the summer so our next meeting was in October and Oryce Shantz shared with us her faith journey and it encouraged and blessed many women. In November Mary Sherwood updated us on the new ministries and new buildings at the Madagascar Mission that we have supported for many years.

Then in December we all enjoyed our annual Christmas Potluck Lunch which we were able to share with the group of women artists that have been meeting at our building every Tuesday morning. Our meetings have ranged from 20-30 women and usually consist of worship, prayer, sharing, fellowship and refreshments. They have been planned and carried out by our leadership team of Margaret Hunt, Louise LePage,

Stephanie Sobrinho, Norma Jolly, Dyanna Lewis, Naomi Neeb and Diane Franklin. Margaret Hunt is the coordinator of the team. We look forward to our fellowship together in 2019. We warmly welcome any women from St. George's and their friends to join us at our meetings.

If you have any questions about this report, please feel free to contact me, by email at [margaret@huntimages.com](mailto:margaret@huntimages.com) or by phone at 905-854-0233.



MARGARET HUNT, AWF LEADER

# Keith Stodart

HONOURARY ASSISTANT, *REPORT*

The role of an honorary assistant priest is to carry out priestly duties as required by the Rector of the Parish, the Archdeacon, or the Diocesan Bishop.

## **IN THIS ROLE, I**

- Continued to conduct mid-week services of BCP Holy Communion and Bible study/discussion group at St. George's, except for the time from May to the end of June when I was on leave. Completed the preaching and study series on the Gospel of St. John.
- Attended the "Being Clear About the Gospel" teaching seminar in Vancouver in March.
- Attended GAFCon 2018 in Israel in June.
- Led 0830 am Sunday services occasionally as required.
- Led service at St. Hilda's once.
- Took Holy Communion to shut-in parishioners.
- Made hospital and home visits as directed by our Rector.
- Attended staff meetings and clergy events, including Clergy Fellowship meetings, retreats, and revival prayer gatherings.
- Attended the 2018 Synod at Abbotsford BC.
- Attended Bible study meetings.
- Conducted, or assisted at, two funerals

I look forward to continuing to serve the Parish in these ways in 2019. Our mid-week services will continue to focus on preaching series on various books of the Bible; and the post-service discussions are normally around the passage preached. My thanks to those who faithfully prepare tea and coffee for our fellowship time and those who clear up the Communion Table after these services.

Submitted in Christ's love,



KEITH STODART, *HONOURARY ASSISTANT*



*R* THE  
*E* UNREACHED  
*A* PEOPLE  
*C* OF YOUR  
*H* WORLD.



# The Friends of St. George's

ANGELA HUNT, REPORT

Friends of St. Georges.

You, the “Friends”, were part of two wedding and two funeral receptions assisting with food preparations and serving to the guests. Many different hands helped and we are honoured to be asked to share and serve on these occasions.

After a successful Fellowship luncheon in December 2017, we continued with a shared meal on the third Sunday of each month with a break during the summer months when Breaking Bread was in full swing. We are averaging 110 family members sitting down together each luncheon. A core team, with many extra helping hands each month, are helping to pull these luncheons together very efficiently! It is an adventure each month, causing many a kitchen laugh as some days we could serve dessert to all of Alton Park and another Sunday we counted 15 casseroles and only some cookies for dessert! However, the main reason of sharing and getting to know each other around a meal is proving a wonderful time.

The coming year we are partnering with the Newcomers Team to introduce some new and not-so-new family members. Thank you for your continued support of our Fellowship Luncheons.



ANGELA HUNT, FRIENDS CO-ORDINATOR

**Want to get involved?  
Just step up with your helping hands and hearts during a meal or contact Angela to serve at any other church events.**



# Giving

SHANNON DIMANIS, GIVING CO-ORDINATOR

The Giving Coordinator is a Volunteer position that records all receiptable financial gifts received by St. George's, generates giving statements on request, issues annual tax receipts for Income Tax purposes, and assists with all requests relating to the act of giving. Additionally, while always protecting the giver's privacy, weekly reports are produced to provide high level giving summaries to our Executive Committee, Finance Committee as well as our Bookkeeper so financial statements can be prepared.

**The work of the Giving Coordinator would not be possible without the help of our:**

**“In 2018, we transitioned to a new church management software called Planning Center.”**

*Counters* (Manuel & Stephanie Sobrinho, Ed & Dyanna Lewis, Dave Neeb & Stewart Teasell,) who literally count what comes in via the offering plate, and

*Banker* (Naomi Neeb) who deposits cash and cheques received each week.

In 2018, we transitioned to a new church management software called Planning Center. This new software offers new giving options (text-to-give, and one-time or reoccurring online giving), and allows the giver to have online secure access to their own profile and giving history.

In 2019, we will communicate and roll out new features Planning Center has launched that provide you with more functionality related to the act of giving:

- “*Join Donors*” feature will allow household giving information to be shared (once authorized) so that others who give with you as part of your household, will be able to access the donor profile too.
- “*Church Center App*” for iOS and Android portable devices will allow you to access your online profile without requesting and waiting for a valid link from Planning Center.

If you partner with us financially, thank you for supporting the operations and various needs of St. George’s Anglican Church. It is these financial gifts that keep our lights on, heat our building, pay our mortgage, provide a wage to our MinistZry Team, and so on. If you have put giving on hold or haven’t partnered with us financially yet, would you prayerfully consider (re)starting to help sustain and grow our ministry?



SHANNON DIMANIS, GIVING CO-ORDINATOR

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## The Chancel Guild

NAOMI NEEB, CHANCEL GUILD CO-ORDINATOR

Chancel and Guild are old church words.

### Chan•cel

DEFINITION

1. : The Chancel is the space around the Communion Table.

### Guild \ *Gild*

DEFINITION

1. : A Guild was an organized group who oversaw the practice of their craft/trade in a particular area and whose membership of the group was voluntary.

**“The Chancel Guild is a group of volunteers who glorify God by caring by preparing the Communion Table.”**

Thus, the Chancel Guild is a group of volunteers who glorify God by caring by preparing the Communion Table for our Sunday celebration of Holy Communion.

The Guild workers are a “behind the scenes” group that set up and take away the usual furnishings of the Table but also enjoy each other’s company as our gift to God and all who come to worship here. They are partners in making the worship life of the parish run smoothly.

Members are also responsible for the removal, cleaning and carefully putting away of the communion vessels and the care of the linens used in the service.

While the time commitment is minimal (½ hour before and after each 10:15 service) it plays an important role in the ministry of our church.

I want to thank Barb George, Deb Johnson, Holly Horricks, Catherine Neal, Beryl Schindel and Stephanie Sobrinho for their devotion to the task assigned, for their faithfulness in attendance and for being flexible to changes when necessary.

There is an early service at 8:30am on Sunday mornings.

The form of service alternates between Morning Prayer and Communion. I thank the Celebrants at that service. They set the Table thus relieving the Guild of an early morning schedule.

If you would be interested in being part of this ministry please speak to me or call the church office.



NAOMI NEEB, CHANCEL GUILD CO-ORDINATOR



## Building Maintenance

TEAM, REPORT

The Maintenance group (Brian Duke, David Neeb, John Billis, Rich Dirker, and Ed Lewis) continue to oversee the maintenance activities at the church ably assisted by many others when needed. Gillian Fernie does much of the liaison with contractors for repairs and landscaping and snow removal.

Although now 4 years old, the church continues to look new. There has been only very minor settling and few cracks inside the church although there are some larger ones on the sidewalk outside. There have been numerous paint nicks primarily from chair backs which are touched up as they occur.

Compulsory annual inspections for the fire alarm system, fire extinguishers, intrusion alarm system, water backflow system, and storm water systems were arranged for and supervised. A meeting was held with Chubb and ADT after the annual inspections. Monthly fire alarm tests were carried out as well as monthly inspection of the fire extinguishers and emergency lighting system. The Fire Safety Plan was reviewed and updated. Repairs were arranged for the fire alarm and intrusion alarm systems.



Previous problems with high humidity in the summer have largely been resolved but there are continuing problems with the heating system particularly during high snow periods. We are working on solutions.

There were continuing problems with the front door not latching which have now been fixed. The doors to the Nave were adjusted due to some minor settling.

Although it has been a continuous battle to keep the storage room accessible and usable as some tend to abandon their leftovers there, the installation of some new shelving has largely resolved the problem. The groups continues to monitor this area to allow for easy access to the tables and chairs stored there.

Amongst many other tasks, a leak was repaired in the kitchen ceiling, shelves were installed in the nursery bathroom, cupboards were repaired in the Sunday school classroom, after a break-in a security plate was installed on the outside of the electrical room, and bugs were sprayed for, the vent in the office was adjusted in the hope of preventing false alarms, and the seating in the nave is continually adjusted due to usage.

A stylized, handwritten signature of the name "Brian" in black ink.

**BRIAN DUKE, BUILDING MAINTENANCE TEAM**

EVERYTHING IN THIS WORLD,  
AND IN YOUR LIFE IS ABOUT THE

**GLORY  
OF GOD.**



STGCHURCH

# Nominations

## Executive Council

### DIRECTORS

Rector  
Rector's Warden  
Rector's Warden  
People's Warden  
People's Warden

### NAMES

Ray David Glenn  
Clair Dirker  
Julia Selby  
Kelvin Loveless  
Mark Jurgens

## Officers

C. E. O.  
Treasurer C. F. O  
Secretary

Ray David Glenn  
Dan Coverdale  
Gillian Fernie

## Parish Council

### APPOINTED

Rector  
Rector's Warden  
Rector's Warden  
People's Warden  
People's Warden  
Chair of PC

Ray David Glenn  
Clair Dirker\*  
Julia Selby  
Kelvin Loveless  
Mark Jurgens  
Joe Biggar\*

### ELECTED

Member at Large  
Member at Large  
Member at Large  
Member at Large  
Member at Large  
Synod Delegate  
Synod Delegate  
Synod Delegate  
Alt Synod Delegate  
Youth Synod Delegate

Bryan Hunt  
Naomi Neeb  
Tim Wilson  
Ed Lewis  
Noah Hicks  
Shannon Dimanis  
Ryan Wilson  
Simon Toyne\*  
Nimasha Munaweera\*  
Stewart Teasell\*  
George Billis

\* New appointments



**You lose the urgency of the gospel when you have a concept of grace without the hardwood of the cross; when you have a concept of resurrection without an empty tomb. If we want to recover our sense of urgency in the Gospel we need to return back to a historic Christian Faith - a belief in a personal God who acts in history to redeem His people and to adopt them into a new family.**

R.D. GLENN