## St. John's Anglican Church, Parish of Horton 160 Main Street Wolfville, N.S. B4P 1C1



Celebrating our Past, Trusting in our Future

These words have been quilted on to our 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary banner and in many ways they summarize this past year as we reflect on all that we have been able to do with your support and generosity, and by the grace of God. Here are some highlights:

We continued to reach out to others by upholding the ministries of the Wolfville Area Inter Church Council. That included: providing ongoing assistance for two Syrian families in Wolfville; donating volunteer time, food and money to the Wolfville Area Food Bank; contributing to Christmas food hampers for 150 families; collecting funds for school supplies or fees for students in need; and leading or attending study programs and ecumenical worship services throughout the year.

With other churches in the region we also reached out to youth at the Waterville Detention Centre by collecting Christmas stocking items, the only gifts some of them will have received. Our ACW prepared 12 Christmas Shoeboxes with gifts for seafarers visiting the Port of Halifax over the Christmas season, and supported other charitable organizations as well as our own Parish. We collected funds for PWRDF for youth suicide prevention in the North and generously supported other campaigns that respond to human need around the world.

We joyfully participated in the Grand Opening of the new L'Arche Homefires Centre (which was hard to recognize as our former Parish Hall) and fulfilled our commitment for the second year of our five-year pledge to the "Building our Dream" campaign. We joined in the *Light it Up Blue* Campaign by shining blue lights on the Church and Rectory on World Autism Awareness Day in April.

We also invited people in to the Church and the Rectory for *A Very Historical Christmas* during our Christmas Home Tour, hosted special concerts and events in the Church, and shared our space with community groups. As the world became more fearful, we asked: "Who is My Neighbour?" during Bible study, and discussed what the Bible teaches about loving our neighbour. Our Sunday School children created a Holy Week garden on Palm Sunday as we shared the story of the last week of our Lord's life on earth, and we shared a moving evening Tenebrae service on Good Friday, led by our choir and student musicians, as we recalled our Lord's death. We offered Christian meditation almost every Friday morning throughout the year, calming our hearts and minds in the quiet presence of Christ. We sang and prayed, shared our gifts and learned about God as we broke bread together Sunday after Sunday.

We also "left the building" to Walk with the Cross through the streets of Wolfville on Good Friday; to share in prayer and reflection as we officially opened the new Quiet Garden at Kent Lodge; to learn new ways to pray through a series of Pray 'n Play sessions led by our Student Minister; and to explore The Spirit of Photography (and just recently, The Spirit of Songwriting), a series of discussions we're hosting in community spaces, like The Horton Ridge Malt House and Just Us! Coffee House.

In all of these events and activities, we have been blessed by our rich Anglican heritage and by the Spirit's continual nudging to embrace new ways of being the church in this time and place. As we celebrate the bicentennial year of St. John's Anglican Church giving thanks for all that has been, we also look forward, trusting in our future and praying that the Holy Spirit will continue to guide and equip us to serve God faithfully in the years ahead.

Thank you for your generous and faithful support as parishioners and friends of St. John's. It's because of your dedication and generosity that we are able to carry out these ministries with confidence in a vibrant future.

With gratitude,

The Rev'd Sandra Fyfe, Rector



## Trinity Anglican Church

321 Main Avenue Halifax, NS B3S OB5

February 2018

" .... the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

Dear Friends,

Along with your charitable tax receipt (2017) a word of thanks is extended for the support you have given Trinity Church this past year. Due to your generousity, Trinity has grown stronger both spiritually and financially. Trinity is forecasting a balanced budget for the coming year allowing us to pay all our bills, support the Diocese and practice our ministry, while growing in faith and, at the same time, extending our ministry and a welcome to others in our neighbourhood. It was only with your support and generousity that Trinity was able to grow to this point and I pray for your continued support and generousity to permit Trinity Church to persist in its efforts to extend God's love through faithful service within and beyond our congregation.

Yours in Christ.

The Rev. David Dellapinna

Priest-in-Charge - Trinity Church

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Like us on Facebook at All Saints Anglican Church Bedford NS

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I write to you with great joy in expressing my sincere gratitude and thankfulness for YOU! The community of All Saints is an exciting place to be, offering vibrant and engaging ministries and I feel so blessed to be part of this ministry! Thank you for your generosity in supporting the ministries we offer to our community and the broader community of Bedford.

Through your gracious and thoughtful donations in 2017 you have helped All Saints carry out the Mission of God. We have made known the love of God to the world; we have shown the abundance of God's generosity; we have offer hope in the time of despair and need; and we have nurtured and sustained Christ's disciples. In short we have spread the God News of God in Christ!

It is through your generous donations that we are able to offer enriching ministries such as our music/choir program, as well as, spiritually empowering and nurturing worship. Through your sacrificial giving we could offer to our youth and young families Sunday School, Messy Church, and Vacation Bible School. For adults, it enabled us to offer Adult Christian Education, Monday Coffee and Conversation, Tuesday Nights-out, and a weekly study program. Your selfless giving allowed us to offer the Gift of God's hospitality by being able to provide a home or venue for various groups and organizations that offer positive transformational experiences, such as the Bedford Players, AA, Scouting, music lessons, and Diocesan Conferences and gatherings. Your generosity supported, or enabled us to partner with other groups, to reach out beyond the walls of our building so that we could share the unconditional love of God and be beacons of Hope and comfort to those in need. This past year we have reached out to the community through pastoral care, home communions offered by our Lay-Readers-in-Training, a card ministry, Saint George's dinner, donations to Beacon House, Adsum House, Metro Turning Point (shelter for men in Halifax), ARK (providing care/support/meals/shelter for at risk youth in Halifax).

THANK YOU! **Thank you for helping to make a difference in people's lives**. Thank you for sharing the transformational power of God's grace and mercy. Thank you for taking part in the Missio Dei, the Mission of God! Thank you for the generosity you have shown in your weekly contributions and special offerings. Your gracious gifts are a reflection of the abundance of God's generosity and are blessings to many.

With sincere gratitude and appreciation for all that you do to support and offer the ministries of Christ, I am

Yours in Christ

The Rev. Trevor Lightfoot

Rector

Dear Rev IIsa Vaughn ~

We have attached your 2017 tax receipt for the monetary portion of your contribution to St. Thomas church for the year 2017.

During the year, you have contributed many other ways: time, talent, preparing food and other tasks that were asked of you, and we did not want you to feel these have gone unnoticed.

St. Thomas would not be the same without parishioners like you. While we can not always recognize these great deeds, we want you to know that others have benefited in so many ways because of your contributions.

God has called each of us to be missionaries in all that we do and your contributions are helping all of us to do this.

As Wardens of St. Thomas, we wanted to take this opportunity to say THANK YOU. It is great to know that with you, the spirit here in St. Thomas is alive. We look forward to another great year together.

May God Bless you and your family in 2018.

Linda Chapman

Warden

St. Thomas Church

Bruce Caldwell

Warden

St. Thomas Church