

**VESTRY (AGM) MEETING  
FEBRUARY 16, 2020 (12AM)  
MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order – Attendance (att #1)**

At 12:02 pm Rev Alan Naylor welcomed everyone to the 2020 Vestry Meeting. The attendance list shows 44 parishioners present.

**2. Opening Prayer**

In his opening prayer Rev Naylor asked God to teach us to seek his glory, to guide us in what is right and to grant us courage to pursue it.

**3. Appointment of Vestry Clerk**

Kathy Coulthart-Dewey accepted the appointment as Vestry Clerk.

**4. Adoption of Agenda (att #2)**

*Moved by: Agnes Campbell Sec'd by: Tom Witty*

*That the Agenda be adopted as circulated.*

*Carried*

**5. Approval of Minutes – February 24, 2019 (att #3)**

*Moved by: Lynn Gray Sec'd by: Timothy Ray*

*That the Minutes be approved as circulated.*

*Carried*

**6. Business Arising from Minutes**

Rev Naylor clarified 3 statements in section X of the February 24, 2019 minutes regarding the search for a new Incumbent, namely:

- The Transition Team is responsible for preparing the Parish Profile, to be approved by the Bishop's Office;
- An Interim Priest cannot be appointed to the permanent Incumbent position; and
- The Transition Team will interview and recommend a candidate. The Bishop will appoint the Incumbent.

**7. Receipt of Reports (att #4)**

*Moved by: Anne Johnson Sec'd by: Linda McAnsh*

*That all 2020 Annual Vestry Reports be received as written and circulated.*

*Carried*

- a. Interim Priest Alan Naylor noted this is a time of high anxiety, excitement and prayer. St John's is a very busy parish and as Interim Priest he is grateful for the dedicated lay ministries; their ability and willingness to do so much. The work of the Transition Team,

though extremely important, is only part of the process of determining the future of this parish. He is happy to be here and to participate through the end of that process.

- b. Bishop's Warden Denise Ropp offered thanks for the opportunity to serve. This time of transition offers the opportunity to celebrate creation of a place in which to fulfil our vision: "Watch! God's love at work". We are working through the change process toward building an effective team and community.
- c. People's Warden Nancy Booth noted the loss of Rev Anthony Divinigracia in March of 2019 was both sad and exciting. Many church volunteers have pulled together to help in so many ways. Special thanks were offered to Peter Walker and the Musical Mosaics Committee, to Eric Macdonald and the Transition Team, to Rev Michael Booth, Rev Alan Naylor, Cary Davis, Ginny Alliston, Kathy and Timothy Ray for keeping everything running smoothly. Warden Booth also extended appreciation to today's nominees for election. Peter Walker added consistent advertising and appreciated performances means Musical Mosaics is now well known and received by the community.
- d. Other Committees – no further comments were offered.

**8. Treasurer's Report: Barb Neid**

a. 2019 Financial Statements and Examiner's Report (att #5)

Referring to the 2019 Financial Report received above, Barb Neid noted:

- Offerings were \$20,000 below 2018, after taking into consideration a \$5,500 donation by Ross Edgett for the parking project at St Andrew's Cemetery;
- Travel expenditures for an interim priest were not budgeted for and show an unusual amount;
- Once \$119,000 in bequests has been deleted, the actual surplus is \$26,000;
- The balance sheet showed a negative market change in 2018 and a positive market correction in 2019;
- Net equity is \$1.1 million, again partly due to bequests.

(All values are approximate)

Tom Witty reported on his review of the financial records for the fiscal year 2019, as undertaken at the request of the current Treasurer. He also noted his position as Treasurer for part of that year. His review of 3 sample-month files offered no evidence to question the integrity of the recordkeeping or safety of the financial assets. The December 31, 2019 Balance Sheet offers an accurate presentation of the church's financial standing. The "Unrealized Gains/Losses" increase of \$3,900 conforms to Diocesan accounting standards and the Willet bequest of \$117,000 is shown in net income. The intent is to keep some of those funds in the 2020 Budget. Direction from the Diocese has been sought and may require the transfer of some or all of these monies to a consolidated fund managed by the Diocese. In response to questions, Barb Neid confirmed the bequest was undirected by the family. The monies would be available to St John the Divine Courtenay only and expenditures would be governed by Parish Council, subject to Diocesan oversight.

*Moved by: Barb Neid and Sec'd by: Cary Davis*

*To approve the 2019 Financial Reports as presented in the 2020 Annual Vestry Reports and as examined by Tom Witty*

*Carried*

Appreciation was expressed to Tom Witty, former Treasurer and Examiner and Leslie Dojack, bookkeeper for their work in implementing new software and procedures.

b. 2020 Budget

Barb Neid advised the proposed 2020 budget is a conservative operating budget. In recognition of the transition period, the budget assumes a new Incumbent will be installed in September and \$25,000 (essentially the 2019 surplus) has been included for moving expenses. Income has been padded by \$10,000 on the assumption that all parishioners will continue to support the church at least at their current level and hopefully higher.

Peter Walker encouraged all to give just a little more each week. Tom Witty and Eric Macdonald supported use of electronic giving as a practical, consistent method of contribution.

Maureen Polard asked if a contingency for any extraordinary expenses falling out of the Rector's search had been included. Barb Neid pointed out that \$17,000 has been included for capital expenditures, with approximately \$7,000 expected for the choir loft railing. Specific allocation of the balance is yet undetermined.

In response to questions about the cost of a full-time Incumbent, it was noted \$101,000 is included in the 2020 budget for a part-time Interim Priest for 8 months and a full-time, 20-year ordained Incumbent for 4 months (including salary, benefits and housing). It was acknowledged that in 2021, a substantial increase in income may be required to accommodate a full-year, full-time Incumbency. Eric MacDonald noted the Transition Team is not yet ready to debate full-time versus part-time positions.

*Moved by: Barb Neid Sec'd by: Audrey Calvori*

*To approve the 2020 budget as presented in the 2020 Annual Vestry Report*

*Carried*

*Moved by: Barb Neid Sec'd by: Maureen Polard*

*To accept the following Charities be supported through proceeds from the Thanks Hat:*

<i>CV and Black Creek Food Banks (50/50)</i>	<i>CV SPCA</i>
<i>AIDS Vancouver Island</i>	<i>Sonshine Lunch Club</i>
<i>Precious Jewels Ministry</i>	<i>PWRDF</i>
<i>CV Coalition to End Homelessness</i>	<i>CV Therapeutic Riding Society</i>
<i>Wachiay Friendship Centre Society</i>	<i>CV Pregnancy Care Centre</i>
<i>Nine Moons Indigenous Prenatal Program</i>	<i>CV SPCA</i>

*Carried*

c. Election of Financial Examiner

*Moved by: Barb Neid Sec'd by: Lynn Gray*

*That the examiner for 2020 be appointed by Parish Council at the end of the fiscal year 2020 so that the review can be done before the AGM in 2021.*

*Carried*

9. Election of Officers (att #6)

Prior to opening nominations, Warden Nancy Booth congratulated and thanked out-going Parish Council Members Joan Anslow, Tom Witty, Maureen Polard, Linda McAnsh and presented them with a small token of the parishioners' appreciation.

Rev Naylor explained that all clergy licensed to the parish, namely himself and Rev Michael Booth, are ex officio members of Parish Council, as are both Wardens and the two Synod Delegates. Barb Neid was elected to Parish Council in 2019 and will continue in her 2-year term.

a. Bishop's Warden

Denise Ropp was appointed by Bishop Logan and has agreed to continue.

b. People's Warden

Rev Naylor noted the nomination of Nancy Booth and called for nominations from the floor a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> time. Hearing no further nominations Rev Naylor announced the acclamation of Nancy Booth as People's Warden.

c. Synod Delegates

Rev Naylor noted the nomination of Timothy Ray and Marcia Haley and called for nominations from the floor a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> time. Hearing no further nominations Rev Naylor announced the acclamation of Timothy Ray and Marcia Haley as Synod Delegates.

d. Parish Council Members

Parishioners may elect 3 to 12 Members-at-Large to Parish Council. Rev Naylor noted the nomination of Peggy Tribe, Doug Shantz and Chris Widner and called for nominations from the floor a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> time. Hearing no further nominations Rev Naylor announced the acclamation of Peggy Tribe, Doug Shantz and Chris Widner as Parish Council Members-at-Large.

10. New Business

a. Transition Team Update (att #7): Eric Macdonald

The first task of the Transition Team was to prepare a Parish Profile which was compiled through input from many. It offers a January 30, 2020 snapshot of the community and this parish. Bishop Logan has accepted the Profile and is preparing to distribute it as part of our Incumbent search. This initial circulation is expected to take 6 weeks. Next steps and the need to rethink the Profile, will be determined depending on the response. Peter Walker noted the Transition Team's work has only begun and will continue in an oversight capacity for a year after an Incumbent has been selected.

b. Building Community / Strategic Planning (att #8): Denise Ropp

At the Building Community sessions hosted before the Transition Team was formed participants identified fellowship and music as strong initiatives of this church. That background work was valuable to the Transition Team in describing the parish's past and present. The next step will be to dream about the future; dreams that will hopefully lead to a strategic plan which will carry us forward. This visioning work will aid the interview process and inform future parish decisions. Outside grant sources need to be explored as part of the process. The first of 3 Building Community meetings will be held Saturday February 29, 2020 (9-11am). All were invited to come and have fun; to share food and ideas.

c. Other Business

Cary Davis noted Men's Guild coffee to be held Monday morning February 24 and the Pancake Supper to be hosted on Shrove Tuesday February 25 at 5pm.

**11. Closing Prayer**

All stood and shared a prayer of fellowship.

**12. Adjournment**

On mutual consent the meeting adjourned at 1:05pm and all present thanked outgoing Council Members for providing the lunch.

*Adopted by motion dated:* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Rector*

## Annual Rector's Report February 2021

Dear St. John the Divine Church Family,

*"Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed by your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven"* ~Matthew 6:9-10

These familiar words from Jesus about prayer reminded his disciples then and remind us now that when we engage in prayer we're engaging in something radical. As the saying goes... "prayer changes things." Christians are simply people who have confidence in a loving God who is committed to seeing this earth restored to the way in which it was originally created. As a Church we are learning that during this pandemic our calling to be disciples remains; all across our diocese and country, the church is still being the church. We're just having to discern new ways and figure new approaches following in the footsteps of Christ. As we do so, lives and communities are blessed, and God's name is "hallowed."

Reflecting on these past few months of ministry at St. John the Divine, I've been encouraged by your faith, tenacity and commitment to be the church in our community. Deep down I know that this past year has been so difficult on so many levels. I have to confess that it's difficult to find the words to respond to the pain I'm sure we all feel. So many of us and our loved ones are alone and struggling, there's been so much loss, so much sacrifice; and yet, even in all of these trials we witness so much love, light and catch glimmers of hope.

From the bottom of my heart, I'm grateful for the opportunity to have been called to serve this parish and community. I thank you for your support and words of encouragement. I feel very welcome and at home here. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank a few specific people. Thanks to our wardens Denise and Nancy, for all of your hard work and support of my ministry and the parish. Thanks Nancy for organizing and keeping in touch with folks through the telephone tree. Thanks again to Eric and the Transition Team for your prayerful discernment and listening to the parish in the search for a new rector. Thanks' to Ginny for the work she does as Parish Admin in making my life much easier. Barb Neid has done so much amazing work as our parish treasurer. We are so blessed to have Dagmar's talents; I'm so grateful to her, the choir and our musicians who enrich our worship.

The AV team stepped up in spite of the pandemic and responded to the need to record services. Cary Davis does such a good job keep our church looking beautiful...thank-you. Jessie Scott does so much for the pastoral care of folks especially during this time of pandemic. Thanks to Chris Widner for your servant heart in all that you do for our property and facilities, as well as overseeing our church sign. Thanks so much to Kathy Coulthart-Dewey, for the many hours in helping to guide the church through our renovation project and helping us get set up properly with internet and phones (let's hope that we're not thrown too many more curve balls!). Thanks to Peggy Tribe and the Altar Guild, Rick Steel, and the greeters; looking forward to when we can meet in person again and be blessed by your ministry!

Thanks to Fr. Michael for your help and presence in our parish. To all of our amazing readers, and folks who lead the prayers of the people, and to Marion Edmundson and Joyce Bainbridge who organize the schedules...thank-you! Lastly, I want to thank the parish council for the wisdom, prayerful guidance and love that you bring to our faith community. If I've missed anyone, I do apologize.

Let us continue to be faithful to Christ's call to walk in his footsteps. Trusting in his grace, love and mercy to lead and direct us in 2021. Continue to pray for each other. Let us pray for Bishop Elect Anna. Continue to pray for our community. Continue to pray for greater justice and the healing of our planet. Continue to pray for those people who are hard to pray for. And please continue to pray for me, as I promise to continue to pray for you.

Gila'kasla! May Christ deeply bless you all in 2021!

Grace and Peace,

The Rev. Alastair Hunting  
Incumbent, St. John the Divine



St John the Divine  
2021 Vestry  
People's Warden Report

It has been my utmost delight and pleasure to hold the position of your People's Warden through a somewhat unique, challenging and changing year! My deepest thanks and appreciation to Rev Alan Naylor for his guidance, leadership, prayers and blessings as we made it through all the changes necessary to provide a new way to worship!

Our last time sharing a meal was the Pancake Supper in February 25, 2020 and it was truly a delightful time! Our thanks to the Men's Guild for the wonderful time! We invited the St Peter's parish to join us, along with many neighbours and friends. It was wonderful to open our doors to people struggling in this life, sharing a meal and yes, there were hugs!

Effective March 18<sup>th</sup>, our church was closed to "in person" services due to the Coronavirus pandemic. From the first weeks of the closure, your executive committee, under Rev. Alan's direction, initiated plans to ensure the following:

1. A thorough review of our services and implementation of online services. Initially, services were recorded by Alan in his home and as we were able, recording commenced in the nave and we were able to include others for reading, prayers of the people and to enjoy the offerings from our choir.
2. A top to bottom cleaning and sanitizing of our SJTD buildings was completed, removing all reading materials and paper from the pews. The church pews were relocated to ensure safe distancing and capacity ceilings for each area were determined. New cleaning protocols were implemented. My thanks to Kathy Coulthart-Dewey, Timothy Ray, Chris Widner and Cary Davis, for spearheading this initiative.
3. Completed an in-depth safety protocol plan, to ensure we complied with all standards established by the province and the Diocese, keeping the safety of our parishioners foremost, once "in person" services could recommence. Safety protocols and check lists are ready for allowing support groups to utilize our facilities during closures, as well as for reopening to outside renters, once approval has been received from the Diocese.
4. We established a "Telephone Tree" in order to stay in touch with all parishioners. What a joy this ministry has been! My thanks to Marcia Haley, Doug Shantz, Timothy Ray, Peggy Tribe, as well as Joan Anslow for taking on this challenge to ensure our messages were being received and to provide an ongoing contact point for any concerns or queries. I'm happy to note all parishioners either received phone calls or messages at least monthly!
5. Our thanks to Marion and David Erickson, who offered assistance to any parishioner, from transportation to appointments, prescription pickups and grocery shopping. They are just a call away!

Our Transition Team was extremely successful in their efforts to find our new Rector, Rev Alastair Hunting throughout the summer. My thanks and appreciation to Eric MacDonald and his team of Linda McAnsh, Chris Widner, Peter Walker, Lynn Gray and Denise Ropp for great teamwork! We were delighted to welcome both Alastair and Alison to our parish family November 1<sup>st</sup>. The transition team will remain in place for the short term, to provide support for Alastair and assist him in his new role.

We reopened for "in person" services in September, with extensive safety protocols in place. My thanks and appreciation are extended to Timothy Ray and Mary McArthur, who redefined the roles and responsibilities of our Greeter team of volunteers, to ensure we maintained the social distancing mandate and initiated new "sign in" procedures. We started with teams of 6 greeters for each service and reduced the coverage to 3 greeters, as all became comfortable with the new process for worship. Thanks to Chris Widner, a (temporary) projector screen was hung in the nave and we saw the introduction of our expanded Audio-Visual Team. My thanks and appreciation are also extended to Norm Cooke and Eric MacDonald for spearheading our transition from bulletins to screens, as well as implementing necessary procedures for our new methods of service.



In light of the new safety protocols, it was determined the office space for our Administrator was not a safe workplace (one exit only) and with the blessings your Parish Council, a three-phase renovation plan was initiated. The first adjustment was to provide our Administrator with a safe environment and relocate the office to the Rector's office, installing a "pass through" plexiglass window, prior to her return to work. We had initially set up a curtained workspace for Alan and have relocated all to the stage to set up a temporary office for Alastair, pending implementation of Phase 1 of the renovation plans. Of utmost priority is providing a conducive, secure, private office for our Rector, which will see the demise of St Mary's Hall for small meetings. but it is anticipated the renovations will provide better utilization of this space.

The unexpected receipt of the Ruth Willetts bequest provided the finances to initiate the renovation plans. The pandemic placed a higher priority and shorter timeline on our plans! Under the excellent direction of our Project Manager, Kathy Coulthart-Dewey, plans are underway to determine the professionals required, along with anticipated costs (per phase) and projected timelines. A complete presentation of the initial plans, inclusive of all three phases was provided at a church service in October, in additions to copies posted in the parish hall and online for parishioner review and input.

It was determined our Parish records required further authorization from the parishioners in light of our communications and services being "online", to ensure everyone's privacy is respected. We distributed a new Personal Information Form, via email and our website for all parishioners to complete. We have followed up to ensure we comply with all privacy rules in place. My thanks to Kathy Coulthart-Dewey and Ginny Alliston for their dedication to this project!

We said our farewells to Rev Alan and Diana Naylor as his interim period ended October 31<sup>st</sup>. We were under safety restrictions and therefore not able to socially gather, however our parishioners contributed greatly, providing a gift certificate at the Qualicum Beach Memorial Golf Course, which he enjoys immensely! In addition, a video of parishioner testimonials was compiled and our thanks to Eric MacDonald and Denise Ropp for initiating this wonderful gesture! Marcia Haley sent Alan and Diana off with a huge "firecracker" bang and a celebratory cake was presented for their enjoyment at home.

November 1<sup>st</sup> saw the introduction of our new Rector, the Reverend Alastair Hunting, relocating from Port Hardy and I am so delighted he and Alison have joined our wee church family! Such a breath of fresh air and new ideas!

And then of course, we were closed again and back to online services only!

The pandemic made Christmas a somewhat "muted" affair, with stay at home orders. My thanks to Alastair for the services online throughout the festive season, which were filled with hope, light and prayers.

As my tenure draws to a close and I reflect on the last 3 years, I have been so enriched by the love and support received from all parishioners. I've had opportunities to form new relationships and friendships from all corners of our parish! I've so enjoyed watching how our church family works together so effortlessly to share our relationship with God.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve God, our parish and you, our parishioners! I look forward to working with our new People's Warden as we transition to a new parish council.

Blessings!

Nancy Booth

## St John the Divine

### Bishop's Warden's Vestry Report 2020-21

2020 thru to date has been very busy where I (Denise Ropp), was continued to serve as Bishop's Warden.

#### **Faith in Action**

Parish Council - Over the course of the year I have attended Parish Council meetings on a regular basis. I have also attended meetings with the Incumbent Rector (Father Alan Naylor).

Pastoral Care - In this capacity, there were also communications the Incumbent and with the Synod office (after the retirement of Bishop Logan McMenamie) about parish members; their status and the stewardship of the parish.

In March 2020 the world suffered a pandemic that has lasted for the year and is likely to continue to affect the interactions of all persons. This greatly affected operations of the Parish, the fellowship of the parish members, and the search for a new incumbent pastor. For the majority of the year, in person services were disallowed.

This limitation lead to some very creative solutions to having a "virtual" presence for our parish community and for the community at large. An AV committee was formed that assisted Father Alan Naylor with the recording and editing of services so that they could be emailed out to the parish members and posted on our website. The online representation of the parish has expanded through our website, YouTube/Vimeo and Facebook. As well our weekly newsletter has become more important as a tool used for outreach to the parish members and the community.

The People's Warden headed up the "phone tree". A monthly call out to all members of the parish to ensure they are being kept in the know of the parish. This was a wonderful success!

#### **Faith in Foundation**

As a result of the pandemic, the parish community began meeting online through the use of ZOOM. Many of the committees were able to use this solution including the parish council, and the transition team. It is hoped that our use of technology and our presence will continue to be felt through the use of Live streaming of Services, and "Technology with Voice to Text" for the hearing, or technology impaired members of the parish.

Building Community – The meetings for the purposes were put off until after the development of the Parish Profile and the hiring of a new incumbent. There are discussions to revisit these in 2021.

Transition Committee – The Transition Committee were able to continue their activities and to recommend hiring Alastair Hunting for the position of Rector of St. John the Divine Courtenay. Alastair was in September and began working at St John's November 1, 2020.

The Transition Committee has committed to continuing for a full year past the start of Father Hunting's joining the church. There are regular meetings to discuss if there are items, or relationships, or ways that Father Hunting could be assisted into the community and parish at large.

I have worked with Father Alastair Hunting and assisted with the "settling-in" to the Incumbent position and assisting with questions and concerns around specific Ministry items.

Governance changes with Parish Council Meetings – The Pandemic has presented many challenges to parishes and how we interact. We are investigating and trialing a “consent agenda”. The intention of this is to allow us to spend more time in relationship and less time on the day to day operations. The structure of the consent agenda should also allow us to receive more reports from committees and groups within the parish that we normally wouldn't hear from.

Regional Warden's Meeting – A meeting was scheduled for March 2020. However, the Pandemic did stop any initiatives to move forward with this. This is not foreseen as an option until next year.

### **Living the Vision**

One of the known limitations of the parish that has become highlighted by the pandemic is the limitations of the current physical structure. Identified problems with the Administration office and the pandemic lead to the recognition that we needed to change the office configuration and to build a proper administrative office along with rector's office.

A large sum bequeathed from Ruth Willet from a former parishioner has been earmarked for the structural changes that the church needs. These are: a better administration office, a rector's office, an adjustment to St. Mary's hall and sacristy. As well, we are looking into adjustments to the choir loft and the addition of washroom to the Narthex along with a potential door that would provide another door to the large hall. We are moving ahead with these renovations.

Beyond these activities I have also participated in developing my own personal spiritual growth with participation in the online services, participating in the Prayer Chain, Regularly Reading for the online services and staying involved with the Reconciliation Committee.

Watch God's Love at Work!

Denise Ropp Rector's Warden

Kathy

St. John The Divine Altar Guild

2020 Annual Report

For Jan. & Feb. the Altar Guild had their normal activities, that is we went into the church on Sat. and got the church ready for the Sunday service. We also got everything ready for Sun. coffee time. When the church closed on March 11 we all had a holiday. Then when the church reopened the Altar Guild had to change the way they did their work, we don't go in on Sat. but go before the Sun. service so nothing is sitting around for any length of time. If there are flowers we arrange them. Normally we have two meetings a year, one before Easter and one before Christmas. Our Altar Guild members are ready to get back to work when the church reopens.

Respectfully Submitted

*Peggy Tribe*

Peggy Tribe

Altar Guild President

2020 Annual Report  
St. John The Divine Anglican Church Women

Executive for 2020-

President	Peggy Tribe
Vice President	Evelyn Bowers
Secretary	Vera Jensen
Treasurer	Peggy Tribe
Devotions	Victoria Perry
Education	Sophia Brown

During 2020 we held meetings in January and February then with COVID-19 the church closed. During our meetings we disbursed \$1,000.00 of our mission money to Precious Jewels, ACTS, Good Samaritan Fund and Giving With Grace. Two of our members are from St. Peter's Church in Comox and we enjoy our fellowship with them. I have been a member of the A.C.W. for twenty eight years and this is the first year we could not hold our Holly Tea and Bake Sale so we are hoping for better days in 2021. We continue to meet as an independent A.C.W. group and hope to get back to holding our meetings this year.

Respectfully Submitted

*Peggy Tribe*

Peggy Tribe

A.C.W. President

## **Audio Visual System Task Group: 2020 Vestry Report**

Given the current pandemic, recorded live streaming of our services has rapidly become the sole means by which many local churches have been able to continue to worship. With the reopening of public worship services last summer, our seating capacity was limited and has now been indefinitely shut down. Choral singers, are no longer able to safely project their voices and need to use distancing, masks and mics.

A task group was formed comprised of: Peter Walker, Eric Macdonald, Norm Cooke and Dagmar Kilian to design an audio visual system that would be capable of recording and internet streaming to assist our congregation and the wider community in accessing services virtually.

The deliverables for the task group were to:

- Assess our audio visual functional requirements
- Identify problems and limitations with the existing sound system
- Identify opportunities to enable audio visual live stream recording.
- Recommend a system design plan to Parish Council for implementation

In doing this work the task group was guided by the following principles:

- Preserving a welcoming space for all who enter
- Support for the liturgical worship
- Respect for the sanctuary as a spiritual space
- Security
- Safety
- Flexibility of use
- Audio and Visual quality
- Connection to the wider community
- Ease of operation and use by our volunteers
- Affordability (capital and operating)
- Recording quality

### **Progress to date:**

The task group prepared and costed a basic system topography using our existing sound system equipment and with a new lap top and two video cameras. Parish Council then approved a budget of \$3,300 and also upgraded the speed of our internet connection. The system was set up and, with the recent upgrade of our internet speed, is now capable of basic audio visual recording and live streaming. The sound system however, is quite limited and the audio recording quality needs improvement. It is recommended therefore, that we next obtain expert advice next on ways that the sound recording quality can be improved and estimate the cost of upgrading our current sound equipment.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eric Macdonald

## Saint John the Divine Blessing Box Report for 2020

The blessing box continues to be a well used source of food and supplies for the community. Shopping was usually done several times a month and the box was filled 3 or 4 times a week. This year because of the corona virus, we tried to stock it every other day as the box seemed to empty within hours of being filled.

The blessing box did suffer some damage to the window this year and it had to be repaired. Several community members came forward to ask if they could help repair it. The community seems to be supportive of this service.

Money from the Good Samaritan Fund is used to stock the blessing box. We spent a total of \$1113 for the year 2020. The box is also being noticeably stocked by members of the community and businesses in the area, as well as members of the parish.

The best items for the blessing box are non-perishable food items that are individually packaged, portable, easy to open without a can opener and can be eaten without heating. Last year we tried to provide foods with more nutritional value than just high carb/calorie snack foods.

Some of the items that the Blessing Box was stocked with:

Canned foods like ready to eat soup, tuna, salmon, chicken sausage, ravioli, chilli, spaghetti, and evaporated milk. Other items included Fruit cups, protein/breakfast drinks, fruit juice, water, pudding cups, fruit bars, small cereal packets, and individually wrapped Dad's oatmeal cookies. We also provided individual sized personal hygiene items like deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, and shampoo.

Going forward into 2021, Alastair has contacted several businesses to obtain some non-perishable food donations to help with provisions. We would also like to organize a blessing box team that will take turns on a rotational basis to shop and stock the blessing box. Please contact me if you are interested in helping with this ministry in 2021.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barb Neid

**CHURCH OF ST JOHN THE DIVINE, COURTENAY**

**VESTRY MEETING – FEBRUARY 2021**

**BOOK CLUB REPORT**

Participation in the Book Club is open and encouraged for all who share an interest in learning and reading. Current members include: myself (Karen Erickson), Joyce Bainbridge, Phyllis Douville, Lynn Gray, Linda McAnsh, Maureen Polard and Doug Shantz

As with many other activities, Book Club meetings were challenging to pandemic restrictions in 2020. A few meetings were attempted via Zoom but were not sustained. It is hoped that interest will be renewed in 2021.

Books shared by members of the book club were very interesting and a lot of information related to the books was shared as well. Great conversations were enjoyed by everyone on a number of social problems and other topics related to our reading.

Submitted by Karen Erickson



St. John the Divine  
2021 Vestry  
Building and Property Committee Report

Committee members, Chris Widner, Doug Hessel, Holly Sanders and Kathy Coulthart-Dewey (completed her tenure in this role September 2020) continue to ensure the buildings and grounds at St John the Divine Church (5<sup>th</sup> Street) and St Andrews Church and Cemetery (Dingwall Road) are welcoming, safe places for all who visit.

Many hours of volunteer labour are donated annually by your Property Committee members, most often in unnoticed tasks like repairing banging pipes, leaky toilets and kitchen fans or cleaning eaves. Other tasks are routine, yet few know how, who or when they were done, such as changing the exterior message board, retrieving, hanging and storing seasonal decorations, checking fire alarms, pulling weeds, cleaning windows and responding to other Committees' need for a bit of muscle. These are only examples of God's work in action.

Cary Davis and Blair Bentley have routinely checked both SJTD and ST A during the COVID closures. Annual renewal contracts are completed for both Blair Bentley and Cary Davis for this year.

It was determined we should take advantage of the church closure to address many shortfalls at the SJTD property.

St John the Divine:

The choir loft railing repairs were initiated and finished by Doug Hessel and Chris Widner, which greatly reduced the cost of these repairs. Modern Windows installed the glass.

Klass Construction reinforced the ceiling tiles in the nave of St John's as a number of tiles were starting to loosen and we viewed this as a safety risk as well.

Realizing some efficiencies, both projects were completed during the shut-down.

On discovering the organ speakers were not operating to their full capacity, a number of parishioners worked to narrow down the problems and engaged two contractors to repair not only the speakers but also an old power source problem inside the organ. To save money, two speakers were taken to Victoria, since parts were not available locally.

We cleaned the tile floors at SJTD, in conjunction with safety measures due to the pandemic, as well as sanitizing all surfaces, pews and touch points. We removed all reading materials from the church as well and installed a projection screen at the altar to facilitate our "in church" services.

Linda McAnsh researched window coverings on a few of the windows in the church, to remove the glare for performers and this was completed as well.

In light of implemented safety protocols, we relocated the Administration office into the old Rector's office and installed pass through window to ensure safety of our Administrator. Of utmost importance is the new Rector's office, included the current renovation plans.

A few plumbing issues occurred with a running toilet in the disabled washroom and we are currently dealing with a leak in the flush system on the men's urinal. We hope to have this repaired prior to resuming in person services.

The fire prevention system was inspected and the sensors (fire prevention detector sensors) were replaced and all smoke detectors are in working order.

Lawn cutting was partially covered by volunteers (Chris W., Holly S, Timothy Ray) and we paid for 8 grass cuttings by Mike. In the future, all costs associated with the maintenance and upkeep of our properties must be approved by this committee.

We worked with Blair Bentley to clean up the back-alley parking area and trimmed the hedge in the yard.

## St Andrews

We did not hold the Cemetery spring cleanup due to COVID and the uncertainty at the time but had 75 volunteers and parishioners for the fall cleanup in November. A great day, weather wise and hard workers all around. We were amazed with the response from the community, in light of the Cadets not being able to participate. We sent a public thank you through the local paper (Beef & Bouquets) to acknowledge their assistance, as well as the donation, from Canadian Tire, of eighty (80) yard waste collection bags. The leaves from the cemetery were utilized around the Gardens of St Andrews in an attempt to control weeds.

Replaced smoke detectors in the rectory at St Andrews and the fence was repaired by the tenant, at no cost. We've been advised the hot water heater is on it's last legs and we need to be aware that if it goes, immediate replacement will be needed and costly.

We lost an oak tree in the cemetery in January which fortunately did not damage any graves or markers. The eaves troughs have been cleared of debris as per annual requirements.

Outstanding issues:

We will continue to monitor the aging status of the former Rectory and to suggest repairs at St Andrews Church, such as painting and drainage improvements to keep this unique structure viable and valuable to the mission of the parish.

In 2021 ongoing, as needed, seasonal and repetitive tasks will continue. The next major project to be undertaken will be proposed renovations in the Small Hall to provide a rector's office. A peer review of a contractor's proposal is underway as is the preparation of architectural / engineering drawings needed for the building permit. When approved, work is expected to start in the spring. Costs will be drawn from the Willet bequest and the Glebe fund.

Respectfully submitted

Chris Widner, Chair

## **CHURCH STREET REFUGEE SPONSORSHIP GROUP ( CSRSG) REPORT**

The Church Street Refugee Sponsorship Group ( CSRSG), under the amazing leadership of our chair Alison Walkley, is raising funds to sponsor three refugees to come to the Comox Valley. We are Comox Valley residents who are working with St. Peter's Anglican Church, Comox and the Anglican Diocese of BC to sponsor refugees under Canada's Private Refugee sponsorship program. Joan Anslow, Karen Erikson and Bev Worbets from St. John's are members of this committee.

The refugees are all relatives of a family living here in the Comox Valley. The refugees are currently in Ethiopia and Uganda. One is in her 20's and has a degree in Public health; another is in her 40's. The third is in his 30's and has a degree in Computer Engineering. And probably we will have a fourth as he plans to marry A.S.A.P.!

We are looking forward to meeting them and helping them settle here in the Comox Valley; but first we must raise \$75,000.00. We are very proud to report that to date, we have raised approximately \$40,000.00 in this past year; even with the challenges of co-vid restrictions!

CSRSG is grateful for all of St. John's, Courtenay, contributions to this worthy cause and we look forward and need continued support. An easy way for each person to help is use a Thrifty's Smile Card. If interested please contact Bev Worbets (250-339-7452), Joan Anslow (250-334-3975) or Karen Erikson (250-702-1095).

Respectfully submitted,

Bev Worbets (h) 250-339-7452 (c) 208-513-6123

St. John the Divine  
2021 Vestry Report  
Communications Report

Technology has been the “new normal” for St. John’s during the pandemic. The diocese timing with the switch of all parishes to office 365 in 2019 is perfect as it has allowed work to be done remotely. This helped with the first 6 months of the pandemic, as I was able to work from home. Our interim priest Rev. Alan Naylor was able to video tape Wednesday and Sunday devotions and email out to parishioners hoping to keep the connection with our parishioners. These services were posted under news after the service. We also created a facebook page for the church, hoping to connect to more people by posting the services there as well.

With the return to work in September and the return of in-person services briefly, the use of a screen and projector eliminated the need to print off bulletins as this was against Covid protocol. The service outline and hymns were displayed on screen although only the choir was allowed to sing. Once services were halted again, our services escalated to an even more professional level. Alastair created videos, mostly in an outside setting, for the Wednesday service and a production crew, working in shifts, created the Sunday service. These services are now posted on the website ahead of time under the On-line Worship tab as a simulated Live Stream service.

A new data collection form was created and distributed to all parishioners for completion. This form was created to follow all confidentiality rules concerning the sharing of parishioner's personal information. The forms were a little slow in returning, and for those that were returned, clarification of why we needed both partners to complete their own form and why boxes needed to be reviewed and selected if applicable. Almost all forms have been returned and it has been discovered that only about a half a dozen parishioners are not on email which makes staying in touch during this pandemic much easier.

Although nothing beats the in-person experience, we are doing our best to keep in touch with everyone with the technology available to us.

Respectfully submitted by



Ginny Alliston

St John the Divine  
2021 Vestry  
ENVELOPE SECRETARY'S REPORT

This is the year 2020. The year COVID struck. Our regular services suddenly ceased in mid-March. Wow. A bit of a shock – to completely stop the familiar and familial – and wonder, ominously, what was going to happen next. The regular rhythms of life had been hijacked.

In this same tsunami of change, all of our church's social activities were halted, including our annual fundraising plant sale and garage sale. Our wonderful musical mosaics, cancelled. Our hall rentals all disallowed.

Despite these drastic changes, Fr. Alan Naylor quickly learned how to prepare and email us an inspiring sermon each Sunday and Wednesday, including readings, sermon, hymns piano and guitar. And despite the lack of gathering in-person, our dear parishioners continued to support the church, bringing their offerings to the door with great regularity, or via electronic plate. Much gratitude to all.

Albeit we were able to resume in-church services in September, much effort was required by incumbent, wardens and volunteers to prepare and maintain the church for such. We said goodbye to Alan at the end of October and November we welcomed our new fulltime rector, Alastair. Then we were shut down again.

Our usually very busy Christmas season dwindled down to a few lovely services – emailed – to be viewed on YouTube. Still, our wonderful church family has continued to support the church bringing their generous offerings to the mail slot.

Now, as we enter 2021, we hope you have all received your 2021 Offering Envelopes. Thank you for maintaining our fine church and supporting our new rector, Alastair, as he continues to prepare and send us comforting messages of Jesus' teachings.

Thank you, dear parishioners, for your ongoing support of St John the Divine in these curious times of lock-down and online church. Our offerings are paramount for maintaining our church building and for paying the salaries of our rector, organist and secretary.

Keep the home fires burning...

Sincerely,

Marcia Haley

Joan James

**2021 VESTRY**  
**Annual Offertory Comparison Chart**

	2020	2019	2018
<b>St John the Divine</b>			
Weekly Open Offerings	\$ 658	\$ 3,125	\$ 4,000
Weekly Offerings	\$ 75,000	\$ 82,966	\$ 89,000
Electronic Offerings	\$ 14,840	\$ 19,600	\$ 32,000
Memorial Fund	\$ 410	\$ 1,423	
Hall Rentals	\$ 1,968	\$ 9,731	
Musical Mosaics	\$ 1,633	\$ 5,565	
Plant Sale	\$ -	\$ 1,000	
Garage Sale	\$ -	\$ 1,000	
<b>Outreach</b>			
Thanks Hat	\$ 1,450	\$ 2,132	
Sonshine Lunch Club	\$ 720	\$ 450	
Lent/Missions	\$ 470	\$ 355	
PWRDF	\$ 780	\$ 345	

**NOTES:** 2020 Weekly Offerings does not include \$3,500 by donation for AV.  
2020 does not include income through Canada Helps

First Nation Bible College  
AGM Report  
St John the Divine

This is not a parish group or recognised by the Diocese or the Anglican Church of Canada but some members of the congregation are involved in it.

This prayer was read out at all St John the Divine Church services from March 04-March 12 2020 then the teen camp was cancelled due to Covid 19

Prayers for The Young Eagles camp Spring Break 2020

Heavenly Father, we ask you to raise up The First Nation Teen camp "Young Eagles". We pray that the presence of the Holy Spirit be upon us leaders, teachers, preachers, volunteers and mostly the youth. We ask for your protection around the camp . To protect the coming and going from camp as those are traveling from Holmolico and Nanaimo. Heavenly Father we also ask that your grace and mercy be upon the First Nations Bible college students, "Andrea, Cary and Corina "grant them the wisdom to prepare the gospel for the youth. May there be loads of fun, love and new experience in our Lord Christ Jesus. Amen.

We are a Christian mission orientated group committed to showing the Love of God to the first nations people. Students are studying theology with a missionary intent. This year saw the passing of Pastor Randy Barnettson our Teacher and Director.

Some Highlights of 2020

January meeting with The director of religious activities St Joseph's hospital

Church services the Views Bishop David presiding Cary Davis Assistant, Andrea Davis Reader

February mission meeting to discuss 2020 activities

Meeting in the Victory Church Nanaimo Reserve planning young eagles spring leadership camp

Church services the Views Bishop David presiding Cary Davis Assistant, Corina Grossmann Reader

March 17 2020 Bishop Logan order the closure of all Churches in the Diocese of British Columbia

March 19, 2020 Bishop David says the Hospital has closed the Views chapel and stopped all outside visitation.

Wednesday April 08-July 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 Rang the bell Wednesday at 7pm at St Andrews in support of frontline workers Students Cary Davis, Andrea Davis and Corina Grossmann bell Ringers as well as a guest Chief Samantha Christiansen Hawaith of Ami in Kyuquot.



Students met monthly to pray and decided to resume there studies as a group in the Davis Family home in July

Hosted Annual Meeting with Korean Presbyterian Seminary Students from Vancouver

“Chong shin Theological College & Seminary In Canada”.

August saw the restart of Saturday Kids Club attended by 12 first nations Youth

September Mission trip to DownTown eastside Vancouver street Church and ministry.

October Students from Vancouver came here for a missions trip

October students organized a memorial service for Pastor Randy Barnettson at Four Square NorthGate Gospel church

A normal year would see regularly hosting missionaries from around the world, sharing testimonies praying together and learning from visiting professors. We host an Annual 5 day teen camp with a mixture of Korean and First Nations youth, A winter and spring Leadership retreat for teen leaders as well saturday teen club and occasional fill in Adult Bible study. Pastor Gloria Song leads a women's Bible Study Pastor Paul Lee leads the mens.

We are supported by the Korean Onnari Church in Vancouver, The Victory Church in Nanaimo, The Courtenay Foursquare Gospel Church, Chong shin Theological College & Seminary In Canada, First Nations Bible College, Street Church and St John the Divine courtenay.

This is just some of what we do.

Cary Davis

Mentor Vancouver Island Group

FNBC

## Friends of St Andrew's Church

Friends of St Andrew's Church had two productive half day work parties in 2020. As well, a major contribution to beautification and structure was made with the addition of two tiers of ties at the front of the Church and a Gary Oak Meadow at the back of the Cemetery.

The spring work party was well attended cleaning the gardens for the summer and spraying areas for weeds in areas safe to do so. We applied a layer of bark mulch to the flat beds with the thought of applying Gary Oak mulch to the steeper areas in the Autumn. In the summer, those volunteers with specific areas to maintain did a great job on their own time. In the Autumn, folks got together to put the area to bed for the winter months. Gary Oak leaves were spread at the front and north side of the church and netting placed over them to help keep them in place. We are also helping to nurture the Gary Oak Meadow.

Total costs for 2020 amounted to \$692.91 most of which was donated back to the Church by the Friends of St Andrew's.

If you think you would like to participate with the Friends of St Andrew's Church garden group we would very much appreciate having you with us.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda McAnsh

St John's Garden Appreciation Club  
2020 Annual Report

The Garden Appreciation Club had some good times together despite the challenges of the past year. We normally meet on the third Tuesday of the month but had to cancel several meetings as well as the annual plant sale due to the pandemic. We had one Zoom meeting. We enjoyed meeting outside at the lovely McLaughlin Gardens and a retired sheep farm. A few members met at Anderton Gardens in the summer. Some of the topics discussed were: deer proofing, growing microgreens, rhododendrons, cyclamen, and potatoes in a container. We shared seeds, seed catalogues and a lot of gardening information. In October we ordered four Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes on line.

Thank you to all the members for willingly sharing their gardening failures and successes. We all learn and grow together as we renew our pledge to protect, preserve and beautify the very special world God has given us.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan James

**St. John the Divine  
2021 Vestry Report  
Greeters**

As of December 31, 2020 we have 14 active greeters.

Members of our committee are as follows:

Joyce Bainbridge

Kathy Coulthart-Dewery

Linda McAnsh

Timothy Ray

Bev Worbets

Nancy Booth

Lynn Gray

Barbara Nerd

Tony Rider

Bob Worbets

Evelyn Bowers

Mary McArthur

Connie Paget

Doug Shantz

At this time I would like to thank Tim, Nancy and Alan Naylor for working with scheduling, duties and procedures of the virus lock down. Then arranging a group meeting of volunteers on the changes which were to be happening.

Thank you for a good job on the work with the procedures and operations to ensure the church would stay open until another lock down was ordered.

Respectfully submitted by;

*Mary J. McArthur*

Mary McArthur  
Greeter Coordinator.

St John the Divine  
2021 Vestry  
Lectern Series Report

The schedule of lectors currently includes 9 volunteers who read the Bible readings and psalms for the 10:00 AM Sunday services. When a person is not able to read on their designated Sunday, they exchange spots among themselves. Additionally, Nancy Booth offers her services as a “spare” and can be called on as needed.

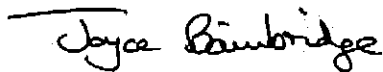
The system works well, and since March 2020 readers have video-recorded the readings during the week prior to the service. We are grateful to Alan Naylor and Alastair Hunting for facilitating the recordings and for organizing the technology for us. Through their efforts, our regular roster of readers has been able to continue to serve the church throughout the pandemic and its resulting church closures.

Volunteers are:

Kathy Coulthart-Dewey, Anne Johnson, Timothy Ray, Crystal Monteiro, Chris Widner, Doug Shantz, Lynn Gray, Denise Ropp, Joyce Bainbridge and Nancy Booth.

My thanks to each of them for their continued commitment and dedication to this important ministry.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joyce Bainbridge". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line above the first few letters.

Joyce Bainbridge,

Co-ordinator

St John the Divine  
Men's Guild  
AGM Report  
January 14,2021

Well 2020 Started out well with a men's breakfast meeting in January with 8 people in attendance. The men organized the February Shrove Tuesday dinner which was well attended by both St John's and St Peters. There was some indication St Peter's might organize the 2021 Dinner. This event was a parish event so many members of the congregation helped make this Dinner a success. Reverend Alan Naylor threw in a curve ball by actually advertising which in the past we hadn't. February also saw a mens coffee meeting attended by 6 people,

March Covid 19 closure put a stop to men's guild activities for 2020

The Men's Guild organized the Coffee hour on the 2nd Sunday of the month this activity allowed the men of the parish a chance to volunteer and give the women a break, The men of the parish were invovled in cleans up at both St Johns and St Andrews as well as the Cemetery. The Guild did not organize these events but we participated. The men are committed to cutting the lawn, digging snow or helping out where needed.

Christian Talks or Study 2020 saw the end of a four part talk on the Holy Spirit.

The Men were meeting on the last Monday of the month except during Lent or Christmas Prayer, Fellowship, Men's issues and Christian Discussion are the focus of our meetings.

Respectfully Submitted  
Cary Davis  
Guild President

## Music Report 2020

2020 Music ministry started out relaxed, normal and enjoyable...moved to extra caution, sanitizing keyboards, and then came to an abrupt halt.

After the initial shock we carefully proceeded to record the services. For a number of months it was a solitary experience...Alan, myself, Marci and empty pews.

I recorded some additional service music at home on my new laptop and sent it to Alan.

On June 25th the choir did manage to have an outdoor social distance practice and lunch at my place. Lots of fun! I accompanied inside with the windows open....definitely distanced... but it sure was a relief to be together again.

By the end of the summer we were slowly adding choir members and Eric again. Also Karen Erickson joined us which was lovely.

It was wonderful to be able to do in person services again while it lasted.....at least we could all say farewell to Alan and welcome Alastair!

And then it was back to recording services.....

The choir works very hard in these sessions, we practice and then record in the same afternoon. The Christmas Services were marathons but we thoroughly enjoyed them!

Unfortunately the organ had some major issues this fall...It also abruptly stopped....

Thank you Kathy, Norman and Chris for the many hours spent narrowing down the problem.

Thank you Kathy for your patience and for arranging for a technician from Calgary to come and fix it. Organ technicians are sparse. It sounds lovely!

I also would like to thank Peter Walker, Tim Ray and Eric Macdonald for their musical gifts.

We are so lucky to have you!

I am so grateful to the choir! Anne, Georgie, Joan, Karen, Marcie and Phyllis for always being there and working so hard! You are awesome!

Gillian and Gail I miss you and hope in the near future you can join us again.

Sincerely,  
Dagmar Killian

St. John the Divine  
2021 VESTRY

MUSICAL MOSAICS 2020 - LOOKING FORWARD

What a year! It is very heart-warming to realize that, despite the present challenges, our group remains intact, ready to swing into action once the restrictions are lifted. Also, it is gratifying to realize that we live amongst talented persons who continue to advance their craft despite challenges, and are more than ready to perform when restrictions are lifted.

Tentatively, for this year we have 3 recitals on tap, ready to go. All we need is permission to proceed.

1. Concertos - with Dagmar Killian and Peter Walker. Ludwig van Beethoven, and Robert Schumann.
2. Flute Recital - with superbly talented flautist, Ms. Tracy Canil.
3. An all-Chopin recital with guest concert pianist, Allen Reiser, from Calgary.
4. Other events, as we are able: e.g. A Palm Court Tea with music - with chamber music (courtesy: Marcia Haley)

I would to say a word of tribute to our committee: Bev Worbets, Linda Nugent (from St. Peter's), Ann Johnson, and Linda McAnsh. These folks divide up the work to be done for each recital and see to it that all necessary preparations are made. Much more goes into these recitals than just the individual performances. If things seem to have "gone smoothly" at each performance, it is because this committee has - "made it so!"

Our venue for these performances remains the nave of our beautiful church. We enjoyed an enhancement of our performing area when the south windows beside the piano were skilfully tinted. Glare through these windows was a considerable problem until the tinting was completed. Once again, thanks to the committee. Finally, the work done for us by our Peoples' Warden, Nancy Booth, has been very inspirational and valuable to us.

Let's look forward to an adventurous new season.

Respectfully submitted:

Peter Walker, Chair.



St John the Divine  
2021 Vestry Report  
Pastoral Care Team

We started the year, under the direction of Jessie Scott and Joan Anslow, now co-chairing the team. We introduced Barbara Neid and Maureen Polard to the team this year.

We are hopeful for the end of the pandemic and will continue to stay in touch as best we can. Our team members would normally meet bimonthly to discuss the parishioners requesting pastoral care, and are as follows:

Jessie Scott  
Bev Worbets

Joan Anslow  
Nancy Booth

Maureen Polard  
Barbara Neid

We held only one meeting (Jan 27<sup>th</sup>), and approximately 4 pastoral care visits were completed that month. Our meetings were postponed thereafter, due to the Coronavirus and the health of our (homebound) parishioners. The team has attempted to stay in contact (telephone) throughout the year.

This is a vibrant and rewarding ministry and our visits and phone calls are well received and appreciated.

Our thanks extend to Rev. Alan Naylor who provided great leadership and was a pleasure to work with.

Respectfully submitted

Jessie Scott

Joan Anslow

St John the Divine  
2021 Vestry  
Prayers of the People Report

In January 2020, Alan offered a “prayer workshop” for those interested in joining this ministry. There were approximately twelve (12) people, in attendance, which garnered three new volunteers.

Most weekly prayers from January to March were provided by Fr Michael Booth, Eric MacDonald and Audrey Calvori. Due to the coronavirus and subsequent closure of our “in person” services, Fr Alan Naylor provided prayers for online services and as restrictions were somewhat eased, our team of Marion Edmondson, Fr. Michael Booth, Eric MacDonald, Timothy Ray and Nancy Booth were called on assist. Unfortunately, due to the pandemic (and spinal surgery), I was unable to participate.

My thanks and appreciation for the scheduling as well as delivering heartfelt prayers.

Marion Edmondson hosted a “Prayers of the People” workshop via Zoom on January 27<sup>th</sup>, so we are hopeful for an increase in volunteers for this most rewarding ministry. If you are comfortable speaking publicly, this could be your calling!

My thanks and appreciation to Marion Edmondson for coordinating this ministry on my behalf.

Respectfully submitted

Audrey Calvori

St John the Divine  
2021 Vestry  
Prayer Chain Ministry Report

We have a very active prayer chain at St. John the Divine! At the moment, we are praying for twenty six (26) members and families needing prayer.

The members of the prayer chain are:

Joan Anslow

Karen Erickson

Lynn Gray

Peggy Tribe

Bev Worbets

Denise Ropp

Wishing to extend our thanks and appreciation to the above team for their dedication to this important ministry. It is a pleasure working with this committed team!

Respectively submitted

Joan Anslow & Karen Erickson

St John the Divine  
2021 Vestry  
Primates World Relief and Development

There's not much to report except that I have been in touch with Geoff Strong, from PWRDF Victoria and due to COVID he was unable to visit and provide a presentation on their ministry during 2020. We are waiting for a safe time to arrange his visit once we are back to socializing and in person service.

This is a very important ministry and we provided \$780 throughout 2020 for their outreach efforts. Our thanks to everyone who donated either through SJTD or directly to PWRDF.

Although things were crazy this year, our only ways of providing information on this valuable ministry was through our website and newsletter. My thanks to Ginny Alliston for her assistance with all PWRDF communication.

I look forward to being your representative for PWRDF for this year and am hopeful to provide more insight to their ministry as we return to some semblance of order!

Respectfully submitted

Audrey Calvori

St. John the Divine  
2021 Vestry  
Reconciliation Matters Report

**Reconciliation and Beyond** is the area of our work where our congregation is empowered to continue an ongoing shared journey with First Nations and people of all nations and cultures, especially those who feel hurt or abandoned by the church.

- In its third year as a committee, this SJTD team falls under guidance of one of the *three vision areas of focus* in **FAITH IN ACTION**.
- The team's ultimate goal is to foster learning about and awareness of the reality and legacy of residential schools and the negative impact of such teachings as the *Doctrine of Discovery* with new ways forward.
- At SJTD we continue to implement #49 and #59 of the "Truth & Reconciliation: 94 Calls to Action" pertinent to the church.
- #49: "*We call upon all religious denominations and faith groups who have not already done so to repudiate concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous lands and peoples, such as the Doctrine of Discovery and terra nullius.*"
- #59: "*We call upon church parties to the Settlement Agreement (2006 - IRSSA Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement ) to develop ongoing education strategies to ensure that their respective congregations learn about their church's role in colonization, the history and legacy of residential schools, and why apologies to former residential school students, their families, and communities were necessary*".
- **\*The Anglican Church of Canada and the Diocese of British Columbia have met these two "Calls to Action" and provide monthly newsletters, print media and film resources to empower members of SJTD.**
- Offering a *land acknowledgement* has become a symbol of reconciliation and is almost standard protocol for public gatherings in the Comox Valley. It is always featured in our weekly Bulletin, and by Father Alastair at each service.
- During the pandemic in 2020, we held two Committee meetings: one virtual on-line and one socially distanced outside. We were also been given the opportunity to participate in 3 virtual webinars/conferences in the past year:
- Dec 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020 **Chief Dr. Robert Joseph** (*in collaboration with Courtenay Rotary Club*) \*Hereditary Chief of Gwawaenuk First Nation, honorary witness to T & R Commission, Ambassador for Reconciliation Canada, formerly exec. Director of the Indian Residential School Survivors Society \* Offered to Parish Council & Reconciliation Matters Committee
- Jan 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021. **Dr. Rev. Martin Brokenleg** (*in collaboration with Lutheran Church of the Cross. Theme = Cultural Healing and Resilience*) \* He is an enrolled member of Rosebud Sioux Tribe, South Dakota, 30 years Prof. at Augustana University, 5 years as Prof. & Director of the Native Ministries Program at Vanc. School of Theology. \*Offered to the entire Parish.
- Jan 16,17,18<sup>th</sup>, 2021 **Indigenous Ministries Winter Talk 2021** (*hosted by the Episcopal Church USA*) \*Notable virtual speakers were current Bishop and Primate Michael Curry, Canon Stephanie Spellers, Rev. Dr. Bradley Hauff, and a dozen other Bishops from Hawaii and Alaska as well. Offered to Reconciliation Matters Committee.

- We will continue our support of initiatives in healing, language and cultural revitalization, education and relationship building as we work towards decolonizing our church.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Gray

St John the Divine  
2021 Vestry  
Restaurantours Report

The Restaurantours met at the Griffin Pub on January 26, 2020, and this was the last meeting held for the year, due to the Corona Virus.

There will be no meetings until safety protocols and restrictions from both the province and the diocese are relaxed.

We would normally have had an average of 12 members for any planned outings. In winter we would normally meet on the last Sunday of the month for lunch, and in the summer, we would normally meet for dinner at 5:30 on a Thursday.

We are also responsible for kitchen duty every 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday, and we are ready to continue this service once restrictions are removed!

Some popular venue choices are Roy's Town Pub in Royston and the ever popular, White Spot. We have also gone to Fluid's, The Avenue, The Comox Golf Course, The Waverly Hotel, Boston Pizza, Matches (Casino) and Local's in the past. In the summer we usually venture to Cumberland, for a change of scenery.

We look forward to continuing our luncheons, once it is safe to do so.

Respectfully submitted

Maureen Polard

St John the Divine  
2021 Vestry Report  
Safe Church Liaison Report

Safe Church is a Diocesan Resource that ***“provides in-person training to ensure our churches are places of safety from the harm of misconduct that can occur in situations where there is an imbalance of power. It involves both clergy and lay volunteers (wardens, treasurers, youth workers, musicians and Sunday School teachers).”*** All training is on hold during the pandemic.

Criminal Record Checks (CRC) are a requirement in the Diocese of British Columbia for clergy and lay volunteers. We accept certified copies of CRC's from other organizations. Only one CRC was completed this past year, in 2020 to bring everyone into compliance. Recertification and Criminal Record Check updates are required every five years (beginning 2017). Those with Pre-2017 Training must re-certify after three years and will be subject to the five-year program going forward.

Safe Church training is designed to:

- ensure our parish is a place of safety and wholeness for those who come to us seeking the love of Christ
- ensure all of our volunteers and employees are aware of their own personal safety and are equipped to manage their own personal risk

Topic specific training is also available, including, but not limited to:

- child sex abuse, elder abuse, risk management and self care

Training is provided for:

- parish council members, wardens, paid staff (including clergy), organist, choir director, envelope secretary, children and youth workers, pastoral visitors, refugee volunteers, treasurers and others who handle money, volunteer staff including admin., grounds and janitorial

Volunteers and employees with current CRC's who have participated in Safe Church training follow the diocesan safe church policy. Parishes are required to comply with Safe Church and to report to the synod annually on their Safe Church Program.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Gray



St John the Divine  
2021 Vestry Report  
St Andrew's Cemetery Trustees'

Well 2020 was a year like no other! Due to the coronavirus pandemic, we did not hold our Spring cemetery cleanup, as volunteers were leery of gathering and the Air Cadets (strong young men) were not available. All services at the cemetery were postponed throughout the year with a few exceptions.

We were able to schedule the fall cleanup (Nov 7<sup>th</sup>) and had an excellent turnout of approximately 30 parishioners and a number of volunteers from the general public to assist. Leaves collected were then distributed among the gardens around St Andrew's church to protect the gardens and reduce the number of weeds. Our thanks to Chris Widner and his team for a remarkable job!

Our thanks and appreciation to Ginny Alliston for her administration of the cemetery plots and services. Our thanks also are extended to Rick Steel, who, as our Verger, is instrumental in the services we provide the bereaved. Both Ginny and Rick are very dedicated to this ministry.

There was only one memorial service and interment for our greatly missed Jean Walker on September 3, 2020. A total of 2 cremation plots were sold throughout the year and currently, there are a further 106 interment plots available for purchase.

We were contacted by Veteran's Affairs in early 2020, as they advised it is our time to have the monuments cleaned for those which they are responsible. Unfortunately, this was not possible this year and will be brought forward in 2021 for follow up. It is our intention to have the Men's Guild be on hand for the cleaning, (observation and training), in order to implement plans to clean other monuments, as time permits.

Our thanks and appreciation to Chris Widner and the Building & Properties Committee, as well as Blair Bentley and his company, for the work completed in and around the cemetery.

Thank you for your continued commitment to St Andrew's Cemetery.

Respectfully submitted

Nancy Booth  
Cemetery Trustee

Denise Ropp  
Cemetery Trustee

## Sonshine Lunch Club 2020 Report

At the beginning of this New Year, we want to look back and thank many people and organizations who have assisted and supported the Sunshine Lunch Club.

Due to the outbreak of Covid 19, the Sunshine Lunch Club prepared bag lunches and served our guests on the lawn of St. George's beginning March 19 2020. We give thanks to Lush Valley Food Share Program who, on April 6, delivered our first order of seventy 500 gram containers of hot, nourishing meals. They continued providing these meals on a weekly basis through 2020 until just prior to Christmas. This was a good supplement to our menu.

On December 24th, we served a hot turkey lunch to our guests, and Santa with his helpers gave out gift bags to those who attended. We extend a warm thank you to St. John's congregation for donations of cash, gifts in kind, and their time. We offer a special thank you to Lynn Gray and the Rotary Club who donated a number of used books that were placed into the gift bags.

In November we called for volunteers. We are thankful for the people who answered the call.

Looking forward, we are hoping to do a drive throughout the year for blankets and other necessities that are always needed by our guests.

Connie Paget



**ST JOHN THE DIVINE TRANSITION TEAM**  
**Vestry Report 2020**

In September 2019, Bishop Logan asked our Parish Council to establish an advisory committee to assist with the selection of a new incumbent rector for our parish. The following persons were appointed to serve on this committee which was named the "Transition Team"

Eric Macdonald (Lead)  
Nancy Booth (People's Warden)  
Denise Ropp (Bishop's Warden)  
Peter Walker  
Lynn Gray  
Chris Widner  
Linda McAnsh

The Bishop assigned three tasks to our Transition Team:

1. Describe, in the format of a written Parish Profile, who we are and who we aspire to become as a parish.
2. Vet and interview interested applicants for the position of incumbent rector at St John the Divine and recommend a proponent to the Bishop.
3. Following arrival of the new incumbent and over a twelve-month period, to provide support as they take up their new role and ministry among us.

The first two of these tasks were completed at the end of May, 2020 followed by the appointment of Alastair Hunting as our Incumbent rector. Since Alistair's arrival in November, the team has focused its attention on the third and final stage of our work which is the task of welcoming and supporting Alastair as he settles into his new role and ministry.

Today we find ourselves living in a challenging time of accelerated uncertainty and change and the need for the Peace of Christ and love for one another is paramount. Our team has been meeting with Alastair over zoom once a month to explore practical and meaningful ways to support him and his ministry in this challenging year ahead. The team's mandate and role will continue to the fall of 2021. Ways that our team is providing support include:

1. Introducing Alastair to the congregation and wider community
2. Being a listening post for Alistair as he forms his ministry priorities
3. Affirming Alastair's guidance and leadership
4. Listening to the congregation and to one another
5. Discerning and praying for the Spirit's guidance
6. Offering practical assistance if called upon by Parish Council and/or Alastair
7. Updating the congregation from time to time on the team's activities
8. Offering advice if we perceive a need or trend in the parish

So, on behalf of our congregation and with thankful hearts, we say to Alastair "Welcome- Gilakas'la!"

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Macdonald  
Transition Team Lead