

# THE ANGLICAN PARISH of SALT SPRING ISLAND 2020 ANNUAL REPORT



All Saints by-the-Sea (est. 1994) as we left the church in March for lockdown



St. Mark's (est. 1892)



St. Mary's (est. 1894)

**ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING  
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21st, 2021 by ZOOM**

# The 2020 Annual Reports of the Anglican Parish of Salt Spring Island

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## Incumbent's Report—2020

The Rev'd. Gyllian Davies

This has been a year unlike any other. We have experienced fear and trepidation, kindness and generosity, loneliness, and community. These experiences have come to us in ways that have been a mix of overwhelming, startling, mystifying, and grace-filled. For many of us this has been (and continues to be!) a true pilgrimage. Like all pilgrims, we've been searching for the ways we can continue to find God along this unfamiliar route. Like all pilgrims we've been surprised by sudden insights, heartened by unexpected generousities, and brought low by painful obstacles. At times we might have questioned whether we knew where we were going or where we'd actually end up. Fortunately, we do have a 'map', something we know we can rely on:

*"Jesus said... 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life.*

*No one comes to the Father except through Me'." John 14:6*

And perhaps we've discovered in a whole new way that not where, but *how* we travel is the real call God lays on us. We've come to see more than ever before - open hearts and kind actions are what we want to depend on. We knew it all along, of course. We're following the one who taught his followers then and teaches us now:

*"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another:*

*just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.*

*By this all people will know that you are my disciples,*

*if you have love for one another." John 13:34-35*

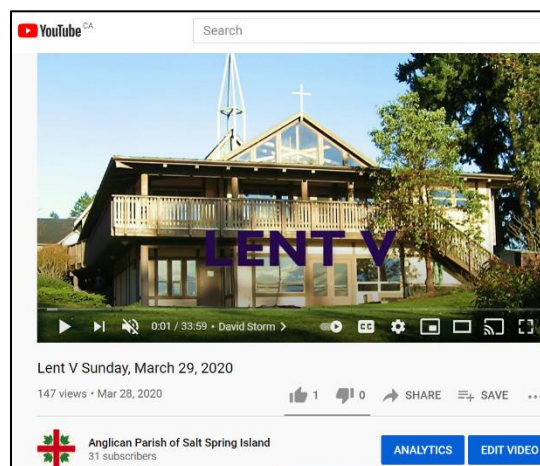
In a community besieged by loneliness, acts of kindness are huge, shining light in the darkest corners. So, blessings on all of you who've been shining the light wherever you can this year. We have a long list of these people who've lit up the path for us all!

David Storm and the 'tiny choir' have continued to shine the light, working with painstaking care to give us beautiful and inspiring music each week. Easter Sunday was spectacular as for the first time it felt like we were singing with the whole choir once again. Ron Dyck and Dale Storm have collaborated to clothe the music with beautiful images, clarifying words (the Closed Captions), and stitched it all together into one seamless whole. By all this ministry, we are all blessed.

Rev'd. Chas Belknap and I set up a team of people who have reached out via phone to try and make sure no one in our parish went without contact and conversation. Individuals provided a kind and caring taxi service to off-island medical appointments, shared garden produce, tutored one another in using computers to stay connected, and shared links to online concerts, workshops, and other interesting and meaningful events online. Houses were cleaned, gardens were weeded, homebound were watched over. The number of loving actions taking place was phenomenal. We may not have been gathering in a building, but we have not stopped; we have been the living church flourishing and thriving. We have continued to walk the path.

Meanwhile, your wardens, Walter Stewart, Dovenne Steele, and Judy Tyson, worked on behind the scenes, making sure the three buildings were cared for, watching over our roller-coaster finances, meeting with Parish Council on Zoom, and supporting your priest in making sure worship continued to happen, whether online or in person. They have all graced their roles with competency, vision, humour, and faithful loyalty to their ministry on behalf of the parish. We are deeply blessed by their service.

Soon after the beginning of the social distancing, we began to offer church services online via YouTube. Each week David and choir members recorded music, one person recorded the Prayers of the People, and I recorded various parts of our usual service and the sermon. These pieces were all electronically sent to Ron Dyck who then 'stitched' it all together, and then passed it back to me for proofing and to Dale for editing the Closed Captions. By Saturday the work was done and the service ready to post up online - to our own church YouTube account. This service has drawn unexpected numbers of people, more than would usually be attending church in pre-COVID times. Who are all these mysterious worshippers? We don't know, but when we are once again allowed to worship in person with a full choir, we need to make sure we don't leave them behind. We've been growing the church – it's amazing! Alleluia! We'll need to find ways to continue to minister to all of us, those visible and known and those invisible and unknown. We are all church. We all walk the path together.



In August we were able to resume in-person church. We anticipated it would be haunting and uncomfortable with no choir and so much empty space. Instead it was deeply moving, meditative, and satisfying as the community worshipping. Each week the altar guild set up the communion vessels and arranged flowers for us. Every Sunday 12 to 18 masked congregants showed up for this communion service. It was a sad day for all of us when once again we were closed down by rising COVID numbers.

Throughout the past year, your Parish Council and committees continued their work by Zoom. In Advent two weekly study groups took place on Zoom. One used the Advent Word programme, responded creatively to each day's word, and met weekly to share. The other group used daily Advent Meditations by Richard Rohr and met weekly to share on Zoom. A total of 14 people participated in these.



In April we said farewell to Bishop Logan by Zoom. And in September your Synod delegates and I participated in an Electoral Synod on Zoom where we elected Anna Greenwood-Lee as our new bishop. Bishop Anna was consecrated and installed as our 14<sup>th</sup> bishop on January 30, 2021. Throughout the year I participated in Clericus meetings, (all clergy in the diocese), Regional Clergy Meetings, and Ministerial meetings (all Salt Spring Island clergy) by Zoom.

Life has continued on in spite of COVID and during this time we bid farewell to several households who moved off-island, as well as to those who died. This has meant losses to both our hearts and our parish roster, while at the same time our numbers have been rising in e-worship attendance – those mystery guests! OR perhaps guests no longer but part of the family though still unknown. There has been the challenge of how to make burials or interments more meaningful in the absence of memorial services and funerals. I've invited the bereaved to choose psalms, bible readings, and additional prayers that were previously found only in the memorial services. With Dale's assistance beautiful memorial bulletins have been created so families would have something to remember the day by, even if there are only five or ten people present.



In August, Chas helped me set up a pastoral phone team to reach out to almost everyone in the parish. From this work new relationships have grown.

Ultimately - we have changed. In the past you could often hear people say, "The church will never change." (Sometimes spoken in great frustration!) It turns out we were wrong. Almost every church in our diocese has an online worshipping presence. Seniors in our congregation who first viewed Zoom Church and services on YouTube with alarm, hesitation, or outright resistance have learned new skills and joined the e-worshipping community. People are commenting how Zoom has become a more intimate way to engage with each other. Ironically, in this time of physical separation we are coming closer to each other in the heart.

On this pilgrimage, we have risen to the challenge and enriched ourselves in the process. We have come to know each other more intimately and in greater numbers. Dear People of the Way, we are, indeed, blessed. Thanks be to God who is the Source of all our joy and all our living!

## Churchwardens' Annual Report – 2020

Dovene Steele & Judy Tyson, Incumbent's Co-Wardens  
Walter Stewart, People's Warden



To say that 2020 was a difficult year stands as gold-plated understatement. But our troubles have been fewer than many have faced and our resources to meet them have proven resilient for which we thank God and many faithful people. Together we have shown that whether gathered or scattered, we are still a community of faith.

Among the things for which we thank God:

### **Our staff:**

- Gyllian Davies for splendidly adapting to conducting on-line services. It is not easy to preach and pray to a camera in an empty room, and to do it week after week is truly a great burden which has been very well-borne.
- Dale Storm and Eva Lam for keeping all the administrative aspects of our parish life functioning and ensuring we all got what we needed to discharge our own responsibilities. Dale has also been responsible for the closed-captioning of our e-service and has provided many of the fabulous photographs that have accompanied the music in our e-worship.
- David Storm for heroic, above-and-beyond work in providing us with an excellent e-church music experience.
- Bill Morrison and Gillian Pierson for keeping All Saints in very good condition and completely safe during the period we were able to be at least partially open.

### **Our Volunteers:**

There have been so many who have continued to support the life of the parish and to ensure that we are in the best possible shape to return to regular worship and other parish activities when that becomes possible. Parish Council members, our team of gardeners, those who have been calling parishioners on a regular basis, our cemetery co-ordinator, people who reached out to those in need, choir members who have turned out to record their parts of anthems and hymns, and many other faithful people who have risen to so many challenges.

We single out two volunteers for special mention:

Ron Dyck has spent hours each week compiling and editing video files received from Gyllian and David and Intercessors to produce beautiful e-services adorned with Dale's and his own photographs.

Jean McClure has been the consistent and constant voice throughout our e-music. Jean's voice has kept us rooted in who we are as a community.

### **Each Other:**

We wardens have found joy in working with each other and with Gyllian over this challenging year.

### **The Synod Office:**

We rarely recognize the contributions we receive from Diocesan headquarters. While those contributions are always invaluable, this year they have been truly extraordinary. Without Gail Gauthier, Director of Finance, and Gillian Astbury, Accountant, we would never have been able to navigate the application and management process for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit which has been critical to our on-going operations in this difficult year.

### **Essential Service Workers:**

We have all benefited from workers across the island who have continued at their posts, often at risk to themselves, to help us all sustain life in this difficult time. Health care workers, those in the grocery and other stores, social service personnel, personal support workers, postal workers, ferry crews, the police, fire, and ambulance services, hydro and other crews who have ensured our lights remained on and our vital communications' needs continued to be met. We owe them a great debt.

### **The Year to Come:**

The challenges are not over by any means, but with the promise of a vaccine available to all by September and hearts strengthened by faith, we look forward to a time when we can exchange the peace with each other once again in the flesh. In the meantime, as separate as we are in body, we are One in the Spirit.

***Alleluia. I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,  
in the company of the faithful and in the congregation.  
Psalm 133 v.1***

## Buildings & Grounds' Maintenance—2020

Walter Stewart

The installation of heat pumps at All Saints was completed in April. The installation took much longer than anticipated because Covid meant that only one trade at a time could be present. Because we remain shut down, it is not possible to be precise on savings. Our most recent hydro bill was less than half of the bill for the same period last year.

Bill Morrison and Gillian Pierson, our maintenance person and our cleaner, on reduced hours, ensure the building is in good condition.

Dal Brickenden, our Chair of the Building Committee, stepped down as he and Solveig left the parish. We thank him for his serious work over the last several years.

St. Mark's is inspected regularly to ensure all is well by Dale Storm, Gloria McEachern, and John Metzger. Walter Stewart inspects St. Mary's regularly for the same reason.



### All Saints' Garden

Lolla Devindisch

A team of gardeners led by Lolla Devindisch, Sharon Neufeld, and Ros Woolley met, weather permitting, on a weekly basis over the year to keep the garden looking at its best. We are grateful to Sue Savage, who headed the team as consultant and guided us with her knowledge and love of All Saints' garden.

Covid protocols, especially safe distancing, were maintained, and a great deal was accomplished by a happy band of workers who were pleased to be able to get out of the house and be outside with friends.

The installation of a watering system for the rear garden was approved by council and saved many hours of volunteer labour to keep the shrubs and plants healthy. The rose garden still requires hand watering, and the responsibility is rotated.

Grass cutting and tree pruning were taken care of by a landscaping team (Fernwood Landscaping), who also cleared the fence line in the parking lot. We were pleased with their work and co-operation.

## Management of Cemeteries – 2020

Teresa Manuck

### **Breakdown of sales of burial plots and ash plots for 2020:**

#### Sale of full burial plots:

1. St. Mary's – 4
2. Purdy Cunningham – 23
3. St. Mark's Upper – 0

#### Sale of ash plots:

1. St. Mary's – 0
2. Purdy Cunningham – 2
3. St. Mark's Upper – 1

There was a trade for an ash plot from Purdy Cunningham to St. Mary's in July.

## Burials and ash interments for 2020

### Full burials:

1. St. Mary's – 0
2. Purdy Cunningham – 2
3. St. Mark's Upper – 0

### Ash interments:

1. St. Mary's – 4
2. Purdy Cunningham – 1
3. St. Mark's Upper – 4

### Marker installations:

1. St. Mary's – 2
2. Purdy Cunningham – 1
3. St. Mark's Upper – 3

James Leslie got off to a rocky start on cemetery maintenance. The grass was too high by the time he got the contract, and it rained constantly. It took a while, but he finally got everything onto a schedule that worked. He has done a tremendous amount of work on cleaning up Purdy Cunningham in all the spots and fence lines that had been let go, and piling debris from the storm damage.

I have great hopes for an eco-friendly burial, ash interment, and scattering area between the trees on the west side of the cemetery. It was cleared once but has been let go back to broom and brush. I would like to apply for some funds from the Cemetery Fund in Victoria to complete the work that needs to be done in order to seed the area to grass and clover; then it can be maintained on a regular schedule with the rest of the cemetery.

We are beginning to see the end of full burial plots at St. Mary's coming up, as the hill is not useable, nor is the bottom of the field area as it is now. It could be terraced in several rows, but I have no idea what that might cost at this point. Also, I must find out how close to the creek we are allowed to get. There is a berm of earth between the cemetery and the creek that is hidden by blackberries, and I think there must be some unused land on the other side of the creek. We would need to run the back line to know just what is there.

St. Mark's Lower is retired. St. Mark's Upper has many ash plot areas still in use. The cemetery could stand some extra maintenance.

I don't think we have a single gate between all the cemeteries that works properly. Purdy Cunningham upper gates are okay, but the lower gates are broken. All St. Mark's gates are non-functioning. St. Mary's gates could use some work, and it could use a load of gravel at the entrance to the cemetery.

## Finance Committee—2020

Walter Stewart, Acting-Chair

Finance Committee has met each month in the week prior to the Parish Council Meeting to review the parish finances and recommend any actions to Council. Close attention to income and expenditures has been particularly critical in this difficult year. On Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Finance Committee presented a recommendation to Parish Council for the budget for 2021. That budget will be presented to Vestry with Council's recommendation for approval. That budget will require a renewed commitment from all of us and open minds and open hearts on how we can do God's work in this place.

Members: Gyllian Davies, Doveene Steele, Walter Stewart, Judy Tyson, Elizabeth Van Akker.



## Transforming Futures

Walter Stewart

The Parish Transforming Futures Team completed a draft parish case in 2020 and secured the support of Parish Council for that case. Presenting the case to the parish as a whole has been delayed unavoidably by the Covid-19 shut-down. When circumstances permit us to return to church on a regular basis, the Team will review the case and recommend to Parish Council any changes that would seem appropriate given the passage of time since the case was developed and when it may become possible for the entire parish to engage in study and discernment.

The theme with which the Transforming Team has been working, in short, is: Transforming our space to be of greater service to our community. That theme is keeping with the original intention for All Saints when it was built in 1994 when the original St. George's was moved across the street and major community-oriented facilities were added to it.

Parish Transforming Futures Team: Rev. Gyllian Davies, Dal Brickenden, Joan Dickenson Carolyn Evans, John Metzger, Jim Smith, Walter Stewart.

## Fundraising—2020

### All Saints' Sunday Coffee Money

Ann King, Treasurer

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
INCOME: Feb 2 to Mar 8, 2020	\$130.65	\$ 847.01	\$1,091.16
EXPENSES: Ometepe coffee, tea, sugar, napkins	<u>-89.95</u>	<u>-497.30</u>	<u>-566.55</u>
Total profit (cheque submitted to parish in 2021)	\$ 40.70	\$ 350.61	\$ 566.55

This amount goes to the Outreach fund.

## Anglican Caterers

Marjorie Radford

The only two Tea à Tempo events were held on the first Wednesday of February and March. Thanks to those who provided tea and treats:

Wilma Haig & Kathy Darling in February  
Ruth Mills & Doreen Davidson in March

Total proceeds of \$231.05 were turned in to the church on June 23.

In November, I made a batch of green tomato mincemeat (11½ x 500 ml jars). Thanks to Don MacDougall for his green tomatoes. The mincemeat was all sold before it was made, but one batch was enough for me without use of the church kitchen because I had to process it outside on my barbecue!

Proceeds from the mincemeat were \$35.50 which were turned in to the church in November.

## Christmas Bazaar

Dovene Steele

Thankfully, Christmas itself was not actually "cancelled" in 2020 due to Covid-19, but many, many of our usual parish Christmas events unfortunately had to be. One of these was the Christmas bazaar.

As most of you know, our Christmas bazaar is a wonderful event in our parish. It brings together the talents and gifts of many of our parishioners to celebrate the beginning of the Christmas season and to share these with the wider community. This, of course, was not possible in the age of Covid.

And so in 2020, we all missed the delicious baking, the festive decorating, the beautiful sewing and needlework, the sparkly "bling", the stollen, and handmade chocolates and the lovely and sometimes unusual treasures that the bazaar offered in years past, not to mention the scrumptious lunch which we all enjoyed. We talked briefly about the prospect of perhaps doing a virtual, on-line bazaar of some sort. This could be a good idea, but we just didn't have the time or wherewithal to organize it. This may still be something to consider in the future.

As well as missing all these "things", perhaps even greater was the fellowship and gathering of the community which is such an important and integral part of this event.

Stay safe and healthy and may we all be together again soon.

## Baking & Pies

Sarah Mathieson

We knew there would be no Christmas Bazaar in 2020 due to the COVID restrictions, however, we were still being asked for Christmas Puddings and fruit cakes. Claire Pickering made her delicious puddings, but we discovered later that there could not be large Christmas gatherings, so most of the puddings went into the freezer until next year. I contacted people who had bought cakes in past years and put a notice in the online service announcements, with encouraging results.

Knowing that I would not be asking for donations toward the purchase of the ingredients as had been done in previous years, a parishioner, who has asked to remain anonymous, became the Cake Benefactor. The generosity of this person, together with the sale of the cakes, enabled me to buy the ingredients needed for about 60 pounds of cake, reimburse myself for the costs, and submit a cheque to the parish for \$1,000.00. Since then, several more cakes have been sold with the proceeds being paid directly by cheque to the Anglican Parish of Salt Spring Island. It was a good project for these "staying close to home" times, and I was so grateful for the amazing support which made it possible.

## Country Grocer Save-a-Tape Program

Ronald Dyck

In 2020, the Parish received \$517.72 from Country Grocer, representing 1% of the grocery tape receipts placed into the Anglican Parish box #14 or dropped off at the church office before September 2020. Another \$302.22 will be received in early 2021 for grocery tapes received in Sep-Dec 2020.

Thank you to all who contributed! Thank you to Hu' and Ann King, who diligently tallied the tapes in past years. The task has been passed on to Ron Dyck.

[2019 = \$2,474.95; 2018=\$895; 2017=\$1,366; 2016=\$1,176; 2015=\$522]

## Quilters

Marjorie Radford

There are two quilts on two frames which we were working on when the pandemic caused us to stop! We were allowed back in the church for about three weeks in August, but it was not successful! Staying six feet apart and wearing masks meant we couldn't hear each other, and visiting is a large part of quilting!

Doreen Hewitt turned in \$20.00 for pillowcases, which she made and sold, and I missed the deadline!! It's in a safe place and will be turned in with the money for 2021! I made and sold about 25 masks, for a donation. All the proceeds (no expenses) were turned in to the church...about \$150.00. If I had realized how successful they would be, I would have counted the money, but I just asked people to put it in the plate or take it to the office so am not sure of the exact total.

We hope to be able to resume quilting at the church on Thursday mornings at 9:30, but like everyone else, we must wait! Meanwhile, we meet on Zoom Wednesday mornings.

If anyone is interested in purchasing or ordering a quilt or would just like to see some of our work, check out Salt Spring Exchange.

## Hall Rentals at All Saints

Dale Storm

What a different year this has been! Everything stopped on March 16<sup>th</sup> when the edict came from the BC Health Authority and the Diocese of BC for all the churches to close and isolate from the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. This report reflects the use of the halls before that date and their limited use in August, September, and October before the second wave required further closures.

Some of the groups missed their classes in January due to snowstorms, so not everyone was able to meet every week at that time. As for the re-opening of All Saints at the end of the summer, all groups were required to provide a Safety Plan, meet with Rev. Gyllian to go over safety protocols, and have their plans approved before commencing classes. This is a summary of how our faithful groups have fared in 2020:

The regular groups using the halls in 2020 were:

- four exercise and fitness groups:

- Barre Fitness with Tanja Akerman: Tanja started one class on Thursdays at the end of September. In November, she decided to have all participants wear face shields and masks, and to slow down the classes. By the end of November, Tanja suspended her classes until it is safe to resume; she holds online classes.
- Beanbag Bocce: Although this group began as a few parishioners using the church one evening a week several years ago, it will now be required for this group from the community to provide Liability Insurance along with a safety plan if they wish to continue.
- Fit for Life with Betty-Lou Lake & Minzie Anderson: After approval, classes started up in October. However, Betty-Lou cancelled after two classes; the protocols were too uncomfortable.
- NIA with Arleen Sadler: Arleen is offering online movement classes and will not return until it is safe to do so.

- five dancing groups:

- Belly Dance with Sarah Allen: In September, Sarah submitted her safety plan and it was approved. She held four classes in October before opting to take a break until 2021.

- Contact Improv Dance with Manuel: For obvious reasons of physical contact, we have not heard from them.
- 5 Rhythms Movement (aka Dance Your Ability) with Shauna Devlin: Shauna inquired about our re-opening in May and interested in starting up again mid-September. She sent her safety plan. After meeting with Rev. Gyllian, Shauna decided not to offer in-person weekly classes; she is holding online classes.
- Por Amor del Tango (Laura Klein): Because dance has not been encouraged, this group has not inquired about starting again.
- Scottish Country Dancing (John Gauld): In October, John inquired about when the upper hall could be rented again; they will be in touch again when Provincial Health regulations permit dancing.
- two Tai Chi classes:
  - Fung Loy Kok (Patti Field): Although Patti has inquired this fall, the group, which is part of the National Fung Loy Kok Tai Chi group, will not start again until it is safe to do so. Some members met outside during the summer. The organization now offers online classes.
  - Gordon Muir, Photographer & Independent Taiji Instructor: In August, Gordon submitted and had his safety plan approved. While we were open, Gordon used the hall for his personal Taiji practice.
- one painting group:
  - Drop-in Painting Group with Susan Wintrop: In June, Susan inquired about starting up, and again in August. Classes started in September after having her safety plan approved. By the end of November, Rev. Gyllian asked Susan's class to wear masks and maintain physical distancing, but by the end of the month, we were closed again.

In 2020, one new regular group started up in August before the second closure:

- Japanese Language Classes for children with Mana Nakata & Chigusa Saito: With the approval of their safety plan and paperwork completed by the beginning of November, classes began until the church closed at the end of November.

Two new groups have their paperwork underway for starting up once it is safe to do so:

- Friday Dance Movement with Vivian Nielsen: In October, Vivian sent in her safety plan. However, due to family illness and a close friend dying, she was unable to meet with Rev. Gyllian; and then we were closed again.
- Hula Dance Classes (Lisa Erck): In November, the Roland family inquired about using the hall for classes for about nine people as they had found a teacher who would teach them this sacred form of traditional hula dance. Before the paperwork was completed, the church was closed again.

Occasional use continued, until our closure on March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020, for meetings and concerts, and we hope to accommodate these fine groups in our community again:

- meetings (Brigid Devoe's Moonrise Project, Kingfisher Strata, SSI Community Services Seniors' Program, Viva Chorale! Society);
- concerts (Barry Tan, Kerry Graham);
- and the makers of Burns' night corsages.

Note that all groups require their own liability insurance as well as signing of an Acknowledgement Form indicating they understand the Diocesan Sexual Misconduct Policy. And while the pandemic is around, we will still need each group's safety plan approved by our Incumbent Gyllian.

## Hall Use Banking Summary December 31, 2020

Regular Hall Use:	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
Beanbag Bocce	\$ 210.00	\$ 682.60	\$ 600.00	\$ 688.00
Barre Fitness	895.00	3,795.00	3,355.00	1,230.00
Belly Dance	230.00	745.00	650.00	580.00
Contact Improv Dance	272.50	1,900.00	2,627.50	1,091.00
Creative Dance (no longer)	-	-	-	1,772.50
Dance Your Ability	140.00	840.00	-	-
Drop-in Painting	780.00	1,080.00	-	-
Feldenkrais movement	-	925.00	-	20.00
Fit for Life	627.00	2,565.00	2,052.00	2,365.50
Fung Loy Kok Taoist Tai Chi	2,470.00	10,063.00	10,440.50	10,564.00
Japanese Language Classes (new)	60.00	-	-	-
Music Together (no longer)	-	-	350.00	-
Nia	358.75	2,123.75	1,291.25	343.75
Por el Amor del Tango	460.00	3,020.00	2,860.00	1,860.00
Scottish Country Dancers	680.00	2,320.00	1,900.00	2,100.00
	<b>\$7,183.25</b>	<b>\$30,059.35</b>	<b>\$26,126.25</b>	<b>\$22,614.75</b>
Occasional Hall Use:				
Accommodation	\$ -	\$ 100.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 100.00
Community meetings	837.50	566.25	240.00	445.00
Concerts, Recitals, Rehearsals & Programs	1,240.00	1,940.00	2,170.00	4,027.00
Other Events, Dinners, Potlucks, Luncheons & Teas	-	412.50	525.00	495.00
	<b>\$1,040.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,018.75</b>	<b>\$ 3,135.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,067.00</b>
<b>TOTAL HALL USE INCOME</b>	<b><u>\$9,260.75</u></b>	<b><u>\$33,078.10</u></b>	<b><u>\$29,261.25</u></b>	<b><u>\$27,681.75</u></b>



## Music Makers

Lolla Devindisch

The Music Makers' team for 2020 continued to be comprised of Linda Floyd, Sarah and Duncan Mathieson, Anke Smeele, and Lolla Devindisch, with Alan Robertson as an honorary member.

The year's cancelled programming for Tea à Tempo, due to Covid-19, was as disappointing for our patrons as it was for the performers. Although we were grateful to have been able to present a concert in February and March, the full season, for which we were already fully booked, fell by the wayside.

Performers remained on standby as the situation developed, and we are grateful for their understanding. A Christmas card was sent out with a note of appreciation and the assurance that they are not forgotten.

The concert of Gospel and Folk music by Saskia and Darrel, booked for the spring, was also cancelled, as was the popular annual Carols for Christmastide led by All Saints' Choir.

God willing, we will once again be able to open our doors to music and song as soon as it is safe to do so.



Carolyn Hatch and students Nikoya Catry-Bauer, Ruby Egger-Lipsett, and Kieran Denny. February 2020

## Missions and Outreach—2020

Lynda Turner

To say that this has been a very unusual year is a huge understatement. Missions & Outreach (M&O) had two regular face-to-face meetings, and then with the technical help of Rev. Gyllian Davies, we went online with Zoom. Six monthly Zoom meetings were held.

Our Parish budget was \$7,500 but this was augmented by \$4,109.59 from the Over & Above Outreach Fund. This came from directed donations to M&O by parishioners for which the Committee is truly grateful. \$2,660.17 has been carried over to 2021.

### LOCAL

M&O continued to support the bi-weekly soup program at Family Place, the Salt Spring Foundation's Covid-19 relief fund, the Salt Spring Food Bank, and food cards for the six public schools. The Smile Card Project carried on from January to September when it was cancelled as many former recipients were receiving Government pandemic support. During these eight months, 300 cards were distributed. A further 17 - \$10 cards were given to Copper Kettle for their clients. This emptied the Smile Card Fund.

### NATIONAL

Money went to the Building Blocks Food Bank in Port Hardy, large print Bibles for Indigenous Elders in Alert Bay, the PWRDF National Covid-relief Fund, the Open Doors program out of Port Alberni to assist Indigenous youth to start their own businesses, and the PWRDF National Indigenous pandemic response.

### INTERNATIONAL

Money went to The Food Pantry run by the North Side Community Church in Harare, Zimbabwe. Through the PWRDF, money purchased a whole farm (three goats, one turkey, one donkey, hydroponic training, an electric pump, and grain seeds for various countries), personal protective equipment for the Third World (through which Government support turned \$1 into \$7), and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank (where there is a 4:1 Government match).

Also, the Committee held the Second Annual Warm-Gear Sunday (held this year on a Thursday), when parishioners left socks and blankets for Copper Kettle and winter coats and sweaters for Salt Spring Community Services outside Lynda Turner's home. It was an outstanding success.

Great and warm thanks to Gyllian Davies for her wise guidance, parishioners for their continued support, and to members of the Committee for all their hard work.

M&O continues to look for new members to carry on this important aspect of God's work.

The M&O Team are: Rev'd. Gyllian Davies, Doreen Davidson, Elaine Hunt, Tim Hunt, Duncan Mathieson, Bridget Metzger, Lynda Turner (Chair), Joan Warren, and Nancy Wigen.

## Christmas Angel Tree

Dovene Steele

The Angel Tree programme has been an important aspect of our outreach at Christmas for several years now. We, as a parish, "sponsor" a family through Family Place, who might need a bit of a helping hand at Christmas. Usually, I would receive a "wish list" from the family which our congregation would try to fulfill by buying appropriate gifts.

However, as we all know, "Covid" forced us to change our plans. We still received a wish list from the family, but we could not shop or donate gifts as we had done in previous years or even drop them off at the church. After some consultation with Family Place, the decision was made that gift cards would be the most appropriate solution, and our parishioners did not disappoint. We had a wonderful and very generous response to this, and we thank everyone who participated.

Due to a family health issue, I had to step back from my responsibilities to this project. I am very thankful to Doreen Davidson, who very kindly offered to take on the job of making sure this project could continue. And it did go on thanks to her diligence, hard work and to your great generosity. The family received many and much-appreciated gifts. Thank you so much to everyone who participated and on a personal note, many thanks to Doreen for a helping hand. Hopefully, this ministry will continue for many years.

*Feedback from Family Place & Community Services: They were thrilled with the response. There have been health issues and surgeries with this family, which has made for a rough year. The family is very artistic and work well together as a unit.*

## Incumbent's Discretionary Fund

Shortly after lockdown in March, Parish Council, at the suggestion of Treasurer Andrew Peat, moved to increase the discretionary fund from \$2,000/year to \$5,000/year to help individuals suffering from a sudden lack of income as well as the usual needs that come up throughout the year.

In May, the Ministerial on Salt Spring discussed options to do something together for the community. After considering several options, the group decided to donate to Salt Spring Island Foundation and earmark the funds for the schools. Parish Council approved the donation of \$1,000 from the discretionary fund to SSI Foundation with the funds to be earmarked for Country Grocer gift cards for families with children in school.

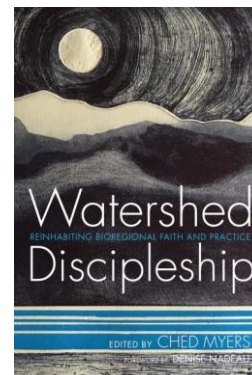
## Parish Life and Growth—2020

### Parish Studies and Activities

In January, we were invited to join in the diocesan-wide project of reading *Watershed Discipleship: Reinhabiting Bioregional Faith and Practice* edited by Ched Myers as a lead-in to explore and act on individual calls to be Christ's disciples.



During Lent, several members of the parish signed up for small groups of 'Breaking Bread Together'. However, once we were in lockdown, it was unwise to continue meeting as small groups, and the parish was encouraged to follow the resources offered by the Society of St. John the Evangelist (SSJE) as we have done most years.



Several suggestions and online programs were offered to the parish during Advent 2020:

1. Advent Reading & Prayer Group, co-led by Rev'd. Gyllian and John Metzger, using the book by Richard Rohr, *"Preparing for Christmas"*.
2. Advent Word, co-led by Rev'd. Gyllian and Lolla Devindisch, a word each day, offered by Virginia Theological Seminary.
3. Advent Wreaths, make your own wreath to join from home as we light the candles of our Advent wreath each Sunday. Resources suggested.
4. SSJD Oblate Advent Reflection Booklets, recommended by Canon Doreen Davidson and available by email from the Sisters.

### Earth Menders

Gloria McEachern

Our first meeting of this new committee was attended by 10 members on October 30, 2019. We began by doing some praying and visioning for what our purpose would be in having this committee, for our parish, our island, and the world. Our vision statement was taken from the 5<sup>th</sup> Mark of Mission with modifications to the last few words: "To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and recognize all people and all other beings in the planet's struggle." Our last meeting was held on February 27, 2020, and we energetically decided on quite a few items to put forward to the congregation on a weekly basis. Unfortunately, before we could implement any of these exciting ideas, Covid-19 brought about the closure of the church and all meetings were put on hold.

*Going Green – Elimination of Single-Use Plastics: In November, Parish Council moved that we adopt the criteria that anything we spend on capital should both consider its effect on operating costs and our environmental footprint.*

## Star of the Sea Centre for Spiritual Living and Practice

at St. Mary's Church, Fulford

Walter Stewart

Like much of the world, the Star of the Sea migrated its programs to Zoom in 2020 with considerable success. We have had sessions of sacred chant, sacred poetry, explorations of ancient approaches to spirituality, spiritual writing, and discussions on spiritual resources in a time of pandemic.

Again, like much of the world, we long for the day to return to in-person programming. But the Star of the Sea is alive and well and grateful that we have been able to come together so successfully by electronic means. We encourage more parishioners to engage with us and spiritual seekers from many traditions in this our island home.

## Pastoral Ministry—2020

Monthly Communion services during January, February, and March were held at Lady Minto Hospital's Extended Care Unit (the first Thursday of the month) and at Greenwoods Eldercare Society (the second Thursday of the month). As well, a hymn-sing was held at Extended Care on the fourth Sunday of the month, led by volunteers, in January and February.

With the onset of the pandemic, we have been unable to attend at any of the care facilities on the island.

## Prayer Chain

Dale Storm

The Prayer Chain offers ongoing prayers by request; there are currently 19 individuals and clergy who offer these confidential, private prayers.

Currently, it is not a Diocesan requirement that members of the parish prayer chain have a Criminal Record Check. It is up to the parish to educate the members of the prayer chain about the requirements of the prayer chain i.e. confidentiality.

According to Diocesan policy, the prayer chain members are appointed by the Incumbent and Churchwardens and are not just open to anyone. If you are interested in this ministry, please contact the church office.

Requests for prayer may be made to the Incumbent or parish office: Gyllian at [gdavies@bc.anglican.ca](mailto:gdavies@bc.anglican.ca) or Dale at [admin@saltspringanglican.ca](mailto:admin@saltspringanglican.ca).



## Safe Church Liaison

Lynne Fraser

The Safe Church program ensures that our churches are places of safety from the harm of misconduct that can occur in situations when there is an imbalance of power.

Safe Church training is designed to:

1. Ensure our parishes are places of safety and wholeness for those who come to us seeking the love of Christ.
2. Ensure all our volunteers and employees are aware of their own personal safety and are equipped to manage their own personal risk.

The Safe Church Program and a Criminal Record Check are required for parish council members, paid staff (including clergy), organist and choir director, envelope secretary, children and youth workers, pastoral visitors, treasurer, all others who handle money, and volunteer staff including admin, grounds and janitorial.

In June, we applied for and were approved for doing Criminal Record Checks online. We provide you with a link and a code, you fill out the form, and in most instances, we receive the clearance within a week. We are presently looking at opportunities for presenting the Safe Church Training online.

## Worship & Music—2020

Claire Pickering

The Worship Committee met twice this year. In early February, we discussed and made plans for services during Lent and Easter. Little did we know that a pandemic was on the doorstep and our use of the church would be severely restricted. We were unable to use the church at all for services during the spring and fall but were able to hold Sunday morning services during the summer, practising social distancing, and without singing. In early November, plans for Advent and Christmas were made, realizing of course that these services would be attended only online. In addition to the meetings, Gyllian Davies and David Storm collaborated regularly regarding music.

We need to say a very large thank-you to Ron Dyck, Dale and David Storm, the choir, and of course, Gyllian Davies, for all the work that goes into the weekly online services. There has been positive feedback, and we encourage suggestions. Occasional after-church coffee parties, again by Zoom, seem to be a welcome addition to our Sunday fellowship. Thanks go to Walter Stewart for making this possible.

Committee Members: Doreen Davidson (Servers), Lolla Devindisch (Music), Lynne Fraser (Lectors), Claire Pickering, Denise Quarrington (Guild), Dovenne Steele, Walter Stewart and Judy Tyson (Churchwardens).



Zoom Coffee/Tea Party open to the congregation and former members – December 20, 2020

## Altar Guild – All Saints by-the-Sea

Denise Quarrington, President

From January until mid-March, we attended the altar in our customary way, working in pairs to prepare for Sunday service.

From mid-March until mid-August, we were unable to meet due to Covid protocols.

However, from mid-August to the end of November, under direction from our beloved priest, Gyllian Davies, we were able to assist her to provide Sunday service in a simplified form in keeping with recommendations from the Diocese.

From the end of November when churches were closed due to Covid until the present time, we are standing by, looking forward to the time when we can care for our altar in person again, to care for our beautiful linens and vessels, to do the flower arrangements, and to enjoy the company of one another as we go about our work. We look forward to seeing you all again in church, and in the meantime, we are all grateful to Gyllian, our priest, David Storm and the choir, Ron Dyck for his technical expertise, Dale Storm for her communications' skills, and all the readers for providing us with a beautiful Sunday service online.

The Altar Guild members are: Molly Cunningham, Doreen Davidson, Wilma Haig, Elaine Hunt, Sarah Mathieson, Denise Quarrington (President), and Judy Tyson.



## Organist & Choirmaster

David Storm

This is the year that I learned how to be a music producer. The year started relatively normally, but by the middle of March, we all knew that the world was changing and that we had no choice but to change with it. No more in-person services, what will we do? This first week I dusted off my Zoom 16-track digital recorder and recorded a prelude and postlude and two hymns that were



posted on our website. Then Ron Dyck got involved, and by the next week, we had a YouTube channel and the main structure of our online services became clear. We knew what we needed to do, but we didn't have the knowledge or skills yet, but we were on our way. This was a time of sadness and confusion but out of this turmoil came our very successful and very beautiful online services.



I decided early on that I wanted to keep a choral sound and not just move to a single voice singing the hymns or to try recording live services in empty churches as so many congregations did. So, with the support of our Parish Council, we worked at making our online services as beautiful and meaningful for our congregation (and others too!) as was possible. Since we could not sing together, this provided a challenge that technology was able to overcome. To record the hymns, I first had to record an organ track. Jean McClure helped me do that by singing while I played – this was to keep my playing be "real" and sound like an accompaniment rather than a solo. Early on, I discovered that I could not record a good backing track without Jean. I recorded the organ on the instrument

itself since it has a built-in recorder. It is that track that I would then play back and record on my Zoom. That is the first step.



Then, back home in my studio, Jean would then record her soprano track. This is the track that all the singers listen to when they record their tracks. I can't overstate the importance of Jean's beautiful and accurate singing in this process. There wasn't a singer that didn't comment often on how lovely it was to 'sing with Jean'. Dale, Jean, and I recorded our tracks in our studio at home, but the other singers, Paul and Alison McManus, Anke Smeele, Lolla Devindisch, and Ron Dyck (starting in August), all recorded separately, following Covid protocols, at

the church. The sanctuary became a recording studio from Thursday to Sunday.



I would then take all the files – 10 vocal tracks all told as Alison sung alto as well as soprano as did Dale, and Paul recorded two separate bass tracks – and mixed them into the hymns you hear on Sunday. I won't go into that process because it gets quite complicated and what I do is constantly changing as I'm learning more and more. I can't tell you how many instructional YouTube videos I have watched as I've learned how



to use Cubase Pro 10.5 (my digital audio workstation where all the mixing and processing takes place) and Melodyne (a vocal-tuning program).

Much thanks are due to the seven singers that have worked tirelessly over the past year to record the beautiful music we listen to on Sunday. And special thanks go to Ron Dyck, who not only sings tenor but puts all the videos together, a very time-consuming job. This has been such a different year, full of unexpected challenges but also of great successes as well. While we will have to continue online for quite a while longer, that will not mean we will suffer from a lack of beautiful, meaningful worship services.



## Servers' Guild

Doreen Davidson

The Servers' Guild members functioned for the first 10 weeks of 2020 and then have been on hiatus due to the Covid pandemic. Continuing members were Dave Phillips, Elaine Hunt, Debbi Toole, and Doreen Davidson. A special thank-you goes to Mark du Plessis and Letitia Lane for their years of service, and we wish them both well in their moves to Vancouver Island.

Lolla Devindisch and Dave Phillips continued as Servers for the BCP service held at All Saints until February.

A Servers' Training was presented by Gyllian over three Fridays in February. Several people have expressed interest in being Servers, including Gloria McEachern, Brad White, and Judy Tyson. Hopefully, we will soon be back to church!

Due to Covid restrictions, when church resumed for a short while during the summer, Gyllian had to function without the aid of a Server.

## Parish Website—2020

This year, we have made the best use of our website to date, now offering online services each week, advertizing online courses that we offer as well as what the diocese offers, and basically keeping everyone up to date with news in our parish announcements. It is a great resource for those who use it.

To assist and enhance maintenance of the website, and because our computers have become quite outdated, two new computers were purchased late in the year. With the support of the diocesan Vision Fund, we received a one-time grant of \$500 towards the purchase of this new equipment.

## Parish Council—2020 (12)

Incumbent & Chair

Gyllian Davies

Incumbent's Co-Wardens

Dovene Steele, Synod Delegate

Judy Tyson

People's Warden

Walter Stewart, Synod Delegate

Members at Large

Anne Clapham (1 year)

Doreen Davidson, Retiring Warden (1 year)

Elaine Hunt (1 year)

Sue Savage, Alternate Synod Delegate (1 year)

John Metzger (2 years)

Jim Smith (2 years)

Joan Dickenson (3 years)

Gloria McEachern (3 years)

Elizabeth van Akker (3 years)



Secretaries: Dale Storm & Eva Lam

## Baptisms—2020 (0)

## Confirmations—2020 (0)

## Weddings—2020 (0)

## Funeral & Memorial Services—2020 (1)

February 22, 2020

Joseph Victor Fellner 1981-2020 (38)



## Burials & Interments—2020 (12)

March 14, 2020 – St. Mary's	Mitchell Raymond Fleming 1962-2001 (39)
March 14, 2020 – St. Mary's	Robin Cheryl Lee Fleming 1960-2020 (60)
May 7, 2020 – Purdy Cunningham	Ronald Albert Slegg 1949-2020 (70)
July 24, 2020 – St. Mark's II	Elizabeth Mary Dosco 1929-2008 (78)
August 9, 2020 – St. Mary's	Carolyn Edith McIntyre 1920-2018 (98)
August 20, 2020 – Purdy Cunningham	Alan Bellamy Wooldridge 1934-2020 (86)
September 19, 2020 – Purdy Cunningham	Terence Byron 1922-2020 (98)
September 19, 2020 – St. Mark's II	Thomas Robert Beales 1952-2018 (66)
September 19, 2020 – St. Mark's II	Donald Lynn Watt 1927-2019 (92)
September 19, 2020 – St. Mark's II	Valerie Ann Watt 1928-2019 (91)
November 8, 2020 – St. Mary's	Valerie Jean Hughes 1942-2019 (77)
November 14, 2020 – Central Cemetery	Lillian "Ling" Weston 1933-2020 (86)

## Blessing of Ashes – 2020 (1)

March 7, 2020	Anthony Charles John Desbottes 1964-2020 (55)
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## Other Deaths in the Parish (5)

January 21, 2020	Patricia M. Gould 1925-2020 (94)
March 11, 2020	Evelyn Margaret Lee 1919-2020 (101)
June 3, 2020	Linda Dell Overholt 1941-2020 (79)
July 2020	Margaret Claire Niven 1939-2020 (80)
August 4, 2020	Gale Hingston 1950-2020 (70)



## Mission Statement

We are a family of Anglican churches on Salt Spring Island  
who gather in faith to praise God and care for one another,  
the wider community and the world  
through prayer and service.

We welcome all people to join with us in hope,  
being open to experiencing  
the transforming power of God.

We appreciate that we live in this world  
to share the good news of a loving and peaceful way of life  
as shown to us in Jesus.



Photo by G Thomas Muir, Photography