

Valhalla Parish

Annual General Meeting

February 20, 2022



Produced by "Paperchase by Marian" — Marian Craft

Valhalla Parish—Digital AGM Agenda

February 20, 2022 | 10.30am Zoom

10.30am

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Appointment of Recording Secretary

- *See nominations document*

Determination and declaration of Voting Members present

Motion to adopt the agenda

Adoption of Minutes from AGM 2021

- *See attached document*

Receipt of 2021 Narrative Reports

Receipt and Consideration of 2021 Financial Reports

- *See financial package*

Presentation and Approval of 2022 Annual Budgets

- *See financial package*

Wardens' Appointments

- *See Nominations & Appointments on Separate Page*

Election of Lay Members to Synod

- *See Nominations & Appointments on Separate Page*

Appointment of Incumbent's Warden

- *See Nominations & Appointments on Separate Page*

Election of People's Warden and members of Parish Council.

- *See Nominations & Appointments on Separate Page*

Votes of Thanks

Closing Prayer

Adjournment

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Valhalla Parish in the Anglican Diocese of Kootenay
St David's, Castlegar and St Stephen's, New Denver
February 21, 2021

- 1. Opening Prayer and Welcome:** The meeting took place via zoom after Morning Prayer. Andrew Stephens–Rennie opened with a prayer and welcoming words.
- 2. Recording Secretary:** Eileen Akselson was appointed.
- 3. Certification of Electors:** There were 12 electors present plus the treasurer, Beryl Haigh and Missioner, Andrew Stephens-Rennie.
- 4. Motion to adopt agenda:** Wendy King/Marian Craft. Carried.
- 5. Adoption of minutes from February 9, 2020:** Lesley Killough/Marnie Pettit. *Carried.*
- 6. Parish Reports:** Karen Ruder/Art Lane to receive parish reports as in the AGM booklet. *Carried.*
- 7. Financial Reports:** Beryl Haigh presented the 2020 financial report for St David's. Chris D'Arcy/Wendy King moved the report be accepted. Carried. Beryl H. presented the 2020 financial report for St Stephen's. Chris D'Arcy/Wendy King moved the report be accepted. Carried.
- 8, Proposed 2021 budgets:** Marnie/Chris D that the 2021 budget for St David's, recommended by parish council at the meeting of January 13, 2021 be accepted. Carried. Wendy K./Marnie P. that the 2021 budget for St Stephen's, recommended by parish council at the meeting of January 13, 2021 be accepted. Carried.
- 9. Warden's appointments:** Lorraine Deans appointed Beryl Haigh to be treasurer. Lorraine appointed Karen Ruder to be envelope secretary.
- 10. Incumbent's appointment:** Andrew appointed Chris D'Arcy to be Incumbent's Warden.
- 11. Election of Members to Offices:**
 - **Lay delegate to Synod** – Art Lane will continue to be the Lay Delegate to Synod(3 yrs) and Marnie Pettit(1 yr) will continue as Alternate Lay Delegate.
 - **People's Warden** - Lorraine Deans will continue as People's Warden (4 yrs).
 - **Members at Large** – Nominations as follows: Eileen Akselson (3 yrs), Kay Ross(3 yrs), Daun Bate (2 yrs), Bonnie Thompson (new), Art Lane and Marnie Pettit (lay and alternate delegate to synod), Chris Hildebrand (St Stephen's), Eileen (PWRDF rep), Lorraine Deans (Sorrento Centre Rep), Lorraine D (VST rep). Lesley K/Wendy K the above nominations be on parish council. Carried.
- 12. Motion to adjourn:** Lori Collier/Marian Craft meeting be adjourned at 10:58 am.

Missioner's Report (2021)

Looking back on the last year, we have come through a lot, haven't we? As Anglican Christians in Valhalla Parish, this has been another year in which we have sought to love and serve our neighbours as best we can. In and of itself, this is not different from any other year—for this is the call to the church in every age. And yet, with an ever shifting public health environment, we have not always been able to lean on the practices that we usually rely on to do these things.

My report this year does not focus on the things we haven't been able to do, but rather on those that, by God's grace, we have been able to do. There have been so many beautiful moments throughout this year, and for this I say "thanks be to God!"

When I think about these things—and I do often—I am incredibly proud of this parish community for the ways in which we have adapted to serve God and Neighbour in the ebbs and flows of life. While we anticipate ways of deepening our ministry in the days ahead, it is so vitally important to pause in gratitude to celebrate God's faithfulness. It is also good to pay attention to the many ways in which we have served faithfully in response to God's invitation.

I am often reminded by parishioners and members of the broader community of the ways in which St. David's is known: as partners with the Community Harvest Food Bank and generous volunteers at the St. David's Thrift Shop. So too am I reminded of the ways in which St. Stephen's is known and loved as an important community resource in New Denver.

Over the last year of serving amongst you, I have heard from many that these three ministries are sources of great delight. These are ways in which the wider community knows Valhalla Parish. And yet, I wonder what you would say are some of the meaningful ways in which this faithful community has sought to embody the gospel this year. Here are a few of my thoughts:

- Through offering prayer for one another in times of hardship, struggle, and loss
- Through the extension of hospitality to one another and the wider community
- Through the offer of running errands for others in times of illness or injury
- Through weekly Zoom Coffee Hour gatherings
- Through our Wednesday and Thursday mid-week worship services
- Through opportunities for Study and Learning, including our Revive: Lent series
- Through our Sunday worship, whether in-person (indoors and outdoors) or on Zoom
- Through the many ways members of this parish live out their baptismal identity and calling by contributing to many other good causes and organizations
- Through the work of the altar guild and those who decorate the church at important feasts
- Through offering time and energy and money to support the renewal of our rectory
- Through those coming together to clean the church, to maintain the property, and to lead the charge in replacing aging windows and doors
- Through our various opportunities for outreach during Advent, including donations of warm clothing and sleeping bags
- Through the dedicated work of parish council and our representatives to Synod

I'm sure you can think of many more! Looking back on this last year, I am so grateful for each and every one who contributes to the life and vitality of our parish community. I'm grateful for the opportunity we have to minister together to the wider community, and to both proclaim and embody the reality of God's deep love for us and for all of creation.

Andrew Stephens-Rennie
Valhalla Parish Missioner

Wardens' Report 2021

This past year has once again been a time of transformation for the Valhalla Parish Family.

The pandemic continues to impact all our lives in so many ways. We continue to be in the midst of a worldwide pandemic as this virus evolves and changes. We have been blessed by the leadership of our Parish Missioner, Andrew Stephens-Rennie.

With anticipation may we move forward in hope as the spirit calls and leads us to evolve and change. We look forward to exploring our options on how to best be a viable church presence in our Valhalla Parish communities.

We appreciate and give thanks:

- for all who worked tirelessly to prepare the rectory for the arrival of its new family.
- for all who took part in our spring clean up
- for all who continue to support our Valhalla Parish family in so many diverse and varied ways e.g., from participating in and leading worship to cleaning our building
- for all who so willingly adapted to the many changes in our worship patterns
- for being able to support and provide a space for The Community Harvest Food Bank
- for all who support and volunteer at St. David's Thrift Shop

We appreciate and give thanks to Beryl Haigh for her guidance as our treasurer and bookkeeper for many years. Marnie Pettit will take on the role of treasurer and Beryl will continue as our bookkeeper.

In February (2021) the extensive renovations of the rectory were completed. This February, new doors are being installed in the church and undercroft for security concerns. New windows are being installed in the undercroft.

Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and future."

Respectfully submitted,

Chris D'Arcy
Rector's Warden

Lorraine Deans
People's Warden

2021 St. David's Thrift Shop Annual Report

This has been a challenging year. We have lost several of our volunteers due to COVID-19 and we are only open half days. In spite of the shorter hours, we are thankful for the continued support of our community, which is reflected in the bottom line. Our cash register was stolen during a robbery, but a new cash register was donated by Jean Schwan. We received cash donations and good wishes from many of our clients.

St. David's is proud to support the Castlegar Community Services, The Way Out Homeless Shelter, and the Red Cross Society. Blankets and towels are donated to the West Kootenay Animal Shelter. Some of our volunteers make cloth bags, which are given to our customers to help reduce the use of plastic grocery bags.

Bonnie Thompson stepped down in June, after four grueling years with floods, thefts, and COVID. She did an amazing job. In late September, my husband passed away, and unfortunately, I was not able to do much for a few months. I am thankful for the vice-president, Joyce Munden, and the executive team for ably taking over in my absence. Val Thompson, Treasurer, will provide the financial report.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jean Rainbow
President

2021 Community Harvest Food Bank Report

The last year has certainly challenged all of us. Frustration, sadness, fear, uncertainty and most noticeably a disconnect with our clientele. The benefits of a Drop-In of course is the social aspect of it, comradery, and community connections are so important. Not having the opportunity to sit with our people and discuss the issues that they are facing has been challenging to say the least.

The extreme weather has posed a challenge as well, from heat, smoke, and the cold snaps. Our homeless population suffers the most. There are those who do not want to stay indoors at the shelter for safety reasons. There are still no sufficient outdoor facilities for these folks to use for personal hygiene nor are there bathroom facilities. We are also seeing more women sleeping in their cars, sometimes with children. Current housing options are simply not in their reach.

Homelessness is not going away, in fact, you will be seeing a significant rise as there is no affordable housing stock. The cost-of-living weighs heavy on those with little income. So many of our housed clientele fear the cost of turning up their furnaces or using extra power in the heat of summer. Community connections and social gatherings are now more important than ever before.

We have been providing sleeping bags, tents, warm winter gear to those in need along with gift cards, lunches, and food hampers. Our lunch numbers run between 85 and 110 lunches, three times a week. We have really felt the extra costs of having to prepackage all the lunches for delivery and pick up, it has added at least an extra \$5000.00 plus to our costs. Food costs have gone up, and on average we spend \$100,000. 00 on groceries/lunches a year.

We continue to offer our small shelter to people. Due to COVID, we have had to limit the capacity to one person at a time. We housed people over the 2021 year in Motels and Hotels. We have been spending \$40,000.00 per year on housing. We continue to help our clients with gas, rent, utilities, medical, and other necessities when funds allow.

Harm reduction continues to be a large part of the work we do. We can supply clean safe supplies to those that use in a respectful and non-judgemental space.

We are so grateful to St David's for allowing us to use their space and for your tolerance. We also appreciate Andrew's words of wisdom, his calming demeanor, and his willingness to listen. We thank all who have donated to us over the years. Community Harvest Food Bank is humbled to have the trust of our community. We look forward to better days ahead. From our homes to yours, have a safe and healthy 2022

Cheers,

Deb McIntosh
on behalf of the Food Bank's Board, Volunteers, and Clients

Valhalla Parish Leadership Positions (2022-2023)
Nominations and Appointments

Appointments for Vestry 2022

Position	Name
Recording Secretary	Eileen Akselson

Wardens' Appointments

Position	Name
Treasurer	Marnie Pettit
Envelope Secretary	Karen Ruder

Nominations for Diocesan Positions

Position	Name
Lay Delegate to Synod #1	Art Lane
Lay Delegate to Synod #2	Chris Hildebrand
Alternate Delegate to Synod	Lorraine Deans

Incumbent's Appointment

Position	Name
Missioner's Warden	Chris D'Arcy

Nominations for Parish Positions

Position	Name
People's Warden	Lorraine Deans
Parish Council	Chris Hildebrand
Parish Council	Kay Ross
Parish Council	Bonnie Thompson
Parish Council	Wendy King
Parish Council	Daun Bate
PWRDF Rep	Eileen Akselson
Sorrento Centre Rep	Lorraine Deans
VST Rep	Lorraine Deans