

**Annual Report
for the year 2002**

**Saint George's Round Church
Halifax, Nova Scotia**



23 FEBRUARY 2003

Agenda of Annual Meeting, 23 February 2003

1. Opening Prayer
2. Reading, correcting, approval of Minutes of 2002
3. Business arising from minutes
4. Communications
5. Financial Statements year end December 31, 2002
6. Rector's Report
7. Wardens' Report
8. Special property presentation
9. Committee and Organization Reports
10. Elections
11. Nominations to Diocesan Council and King's College Board
12. Motion for adjournment
13. Closing Prayers



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2. Minutes of Annual Meeting, 10 February 2002.

1. Approximately 60 parishioners were present. The meeting was opened with a prayer. Father Thorne welcomed all to the meeting, stressing especially the importance of welcoming newcomers to the Parish.
2. The minutes of the 2001 Annual General Meeting were read. Jan Connors noted slight corrections to the minutes. **Moved by Patricia Martinson and seconded by Lowell Perry that the minutes be accepted as distributed and amended. Carried.**
3. Business arising. None.
4. Communications. None.
5. Rector's report. Father Thorne noted that this year's Annual Report was evidence of a community constantly trying to do more than it can—struggling to present its body as a living sacrifice. He noted that the budget surplus reported therein was entirely unexpected, something for which we must be especially thankful. He thanked retiring Senior Warden Jane Mason-Browne for her service, noting especially the importance of her capacity for caring and compassion. In token of thanks he presented her with a gift: a framed passage from George Herbert's "The Parson with his Church Wardens".
6. Warden's report. Jane Mason-Browne presented the report. She noted the Parish's sounder financial position and its sounder position in the urban community, a result of increasing outreach. She stated that the business of the Parish was not maintaining a small congregation, but striving for growth. She expressed gratitude for the Parish, and thanked especially Stephen Blackwood and Anne Read for assuming positions as Wardens.
7. Property Committee report. Ian Tillard provided a review of property issues of present concern to the Parish: efforts to purchase lands adjacent to parish property, the establishment of a Property Review Committee, the possibility of developing a Columbarium, the underutilization of the Hall. He solicited the input of parishioners into these and other property-related concerns.

8. Stewardship report. Jan Connors reported encouraging growth both in the parish list and

attendance at St. George's, noting both the indefatigable nature of the historical (often Newfoundland-derived) core of the congregation and its increasing socio-economic diversity, reflected in the Parish's multi-directional stewardship. She too noted the Parish's efforts to "do too much", a tendency often tempered by a lack of resources. She noted especially Father Thorne's extraordinary efforts in simultaneously chairing three Standing Committees. She concluded by stressing the necessity of permanent staffing of the Parish Office as a prerequisite for the growth and financial security of the Parish.

9. Finance reports. Stuart Gray presented the Parish's Statement of Investments, Balance Sheet for 2001, Statement of Insurance, and Financial Statements. He noted that the approximately \$6000 in net income reported in the last was due largely to falling oil prices and deferred capital spending. **Moved by Stuart Gray and seconded by Lowell Perry that the Financial Statements be adopted as presented. Carried.**

10. Committee and Organization reports. **Moved by Vaila Mowat and seconded by John Hammond that the Committee Reports be adopted as presented. Carried. Moved by Janet Ross and seconded by Patricia Martinson that the Organization Reports be adopted as presented.**

11. Budget 2002. Debby Burlison distributed a comparison of 2001 and 2002 budgets, pointing out that the 2002 surplus resulted largely from deferred capital spending. She outlined several possible causes of increased expenditure in the coming year. She also noted the Parish's increasing acclimatization to year-end special appeals and the success of the "catch-up Sunday" concept. Patricia Martinson thanked Debby on behalf of the Parish for all her work and for her lucid presentation of this year's budget. **Moved by Debby Burlison and**

seconded by Anne West that the 2002 Budget be adopted as presented. Carried.

12. Nominations and Elections. All nominees put forward were elected. **Moved by Daniel Labrie and seconded by Patricia Martinson that Special Committees and Organizations be permitted to send official representation to Parish Council. Carried.**

13. **Moved by Lowell Perry and seconded by Patricia Martinson that the Annual General Meeting be adjourned. Carried.**

14. The Meeting was closed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Roger Marsters

3. General Reports

a. Rector's Report - Gary Thorne

This Annual Report outlines much activity of the Body of Church which is Saint George's Parish. In all of this activity recorded here, with our countless flaws, we have been joyful in our attempt by the grace of God to be a congregation in which the pure Word of God is preached, and the Sacraments are duly ministered according to Christ's command. In and through that Word and those Sacraments we seek to be faithful disciples. As your Rector I see constant demonstration of your Charity for one another in Christ, and every day I experience that Charity firsthand.

Thank you for praying me through my doctoral work. May 2003 be a year in which, by God's grace and through his Word and Sacrament, we enter more deeply into the divine life of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

b. Report of Brother David Martin, FOCD

St. Francis Day, Buckeystown, MD. It was at the Bishop Claggett Center, Buckeystown, MD that I took my final vows. It was my first chapter meeting and I became a servant of the Lord forever. I am a life-professed friar in the mixed gender Order of Celi De and Sisters of Brigit and Clare Religieuses. It is a

very stable feeling, this feeling of certainty in a world that seems to without that certainty.

Never-the-less, new levels of attainment bring with them new challenges. I am currently rallying our three Canadian members together on line in a weekly chat room.

In 1996, the Order launched our first chapter meeting. The number in attendance was four. In 1996, there were four. In 2002, there were 40+ I hope and pray that the not-too-distant future will bring that kind of growth into the fold.

I am to create a department in the Order for "companions" or associates. I must do this under the guidance of our minister general, Br. Nicholas Patrick. Our Canadian members, Sr. Brigit Anthony, Br. Chris McElvey, and me, Br. David Martin, will flourish.

I am enjoying an enriched and active spiritual life since retiring here at St. George's.

Thanks Be to God!

c. Report of the Music Director - David Buley

After seven years' absence from Halifax, I am delighted to have been able to return to the Parish of Saint George in late September and to be able to offer music regularly in our services of worship. My time 'away' in study has been so rewarding for me and I am thankful for that, as well as for the continuity and development that has taken place in the musical life of the Parish during that time.

I owe a tremendous 'thank-you' to Brian Start, our 'subbing' organist who so ably provided keyboard leadership during 2002 until my return. (Brian also helped to dismantle the Makin organ before its removal in October, and voluntarily offered extra help during the installation of the new pipe organ.) I am also so very grateful to Paula Philips for helping to oversee (assisted by Jackie Harmer & Peter Duinker) the operation of the choir through the year. Paula's professionalism and musicianship has been such an important asset to the worship life of Saint George's, and we certainly hope this can continue! The committee of Fr. Thorne, Susan Harris, Stephen Blackwood, Janet Ross and Peter Duinker also worked hard

in discerning the way forward for the Music Program and thanks is due to them as well. And finally, (the recently doctored!) Fr. Gary Thorne has offered his wise critique, advice and generosity as I have adjusted to life 'back home', and that has been so helpful.

The Choir of the Parish of Saint George continues to offer grace-filled contributions to the liturgies at Saint George's, typically on Sundays at the 10:30 am Choral Communion services as well as at the 9:00 p.m. offices of Choral Compline. The full choir rehearses on Thursday evenings – normally for two hours -- as well as on Sunday mornings, so singers undertake an enormous responsibility in their time and spiritual commitment when they agree to be part of the choir. In addition to the regular services the choir often sings at other events, including the Advent Service of Lessons and Carols and the Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols, Choral Evensong, and services of Choral Communion for feast days. During December members of the choir also journeyed to the Gordon B. Isnor, Northwood, and Sunrise Manors, as well as Victoria Hall to sing seasonal carols. This was very much appreciated by residents and visitors at those places. Each member of the choir deserves your thanks for the work of preparing so diligently and prayerfully for the worship experiences that the Saint George's family is so fortunate to have.

We were particularly pleased to welcome Sebastien Labrie and Nicholas Veltmeyer into the choir this fall. These two young gentlemen are establishing themselves as able additions to the choral sound at St. George's. Daniel Watson, Elizabeth Peirce, Andrew Killawee, Jan Buley and Brook Dufton have also joined the choir this year, and their presence continues to add to the overall sound the choir makes. New members are always welcome in the choir, and I am keen to listen to anyone interested in participating.

A new feature of the last Sunday of 2002 was a 'choir alumni' day – in which all former members of the Saint George's Choir were welcomed to sing at the Choral Communion service. It is so important to uphold the past work of the many folks who have been part of building the fine choral tradition that Saint George's enjoys, and I hope that such occasions

can foster that appreciation. Those contributions have been so important to maintaining and building on the continuity of choral music that has been present here since 1802!

Gifts of motet scores and anthem collections have been made recently in thanks for the choir's singing at events such as weddings, funerals and memorial services. This is helping to build, and to replace damaged or missing copies in, the fairly good library of choral music that the Parish houses. Gifts in thanksgiving or in memory of loved ones are always welcome! The music library is now located on the upper landing in the Round Church, which has the advantage of being in a more dry and regular climate than in its former location in the Hall.

The arrival of the Létourneau Organ was indeed an exciting time for the Parish and its musicians. The assistance of so many hands and backs in the lifting and moving into the Round Church of the many small, large and often *extremely heavy* pieces of the organ was very much appreciated. The instrument is attractive in both looks and tone, and will certainly enhance the Parish's musical offerings for many decades to come. The organ is used at the main sung service each week, but can also be heard at Evensong each Sunday at 5:30. All are welcome to join the small group that assembles for this weekly service of worship.

I look forward to the time ahead, when some new initiatives will be explored, including a Lenten series of musical and artistic meditations offered by our Parish musicians and some guests. (Lenten Sundays at 4 pm.) I am also keen to have the church used for concerts and other arts events, and, as the recently seconded 'booking agent' for the building, will actively seek out performing ensembles that may wish to make use of the Round Church. Concerts sponsored by the *Saint Cecilia Concert Series*, *Halifax Camerata*, and the *Scotia Festival of Music* as well as recording events are already planned for the early part of 2003. In August, St. George's will also participate as a host in the Annual Conference of the Hymn Society of

United States and Canada, which this year (2003) includes the Hymn Society of Great Britain and Ireland, and Die Gemeinschaft für Hymnologie. (Watch for details of this exciting occasion, during which St. George's will host a splendid evening hymn-singing festival!)

An important concern in providing this beautiful building for concerts and recordings, however, is the viability of the space as a concert venue – both for accessibility and comfort. The issue of the acoustic ambience of the room (e.g. extra and unwanted noise of fans) is also of enormous concern, and one which I am very hopeful can be addressed this year. Consideration should also be given to the proper housing of the harpsichord which is kept in the Round Church. I hope that we can also investigate the possibility of placing a grand piano somewhere. This could be a great asset to potential performers.

Finally, please know how appreciative I am of your comments regarding your experience of the music at Saint George's. The choice, preparation and liturgical performance of our music attempts to reflect the spirit of the worship event in praise of God. As God is made known to humanity in many forms, so we may hope to glimpse a vision of God's glory through the music we offer, while ministering to ourselves and to others in that music. As we remain open to our neighbouring community, I hope we can continue to reflect on how our neighbours shape our musical offerings – as those offerings open our hearts to our central act as a community of faith. In thanks for your continued support, friendships, and concerns for the music at Saint George's I am

d. The Wardens' Report

Stephen Blackwood, Senior Warden

Like every year at Saint George's, 2002 was a full one. From your reading of this Annual Report we hope you will find yourself abreast of the diverse activities of the year. Most of the task of a warden is to see that parish life runs smoothly, to deal with challenges as they arise, and perhaps to anticipate others. In this report I recount a few of the moments of 2002 which might help shape your sense of how, and where, our Parish begins 2003.

One of the outstanding accomplishments of the parish this year was that our Choir continued to lead us in worship through a seven-month period without a Music Director. This was possible only through the combination of the choir's dedication to our worship with the extraordinary leadership of a few choristers who took turns planning rehearsal, conducting the choir, and one of whom regularly played the organ. On the one hand, as difficult as these months were, somehow the choir's perseverance in the absence of a director showed us that we are very aware of what our worship is, and are therefore not simply adrift without a director. On the other hand, as with all true moments of self-sacrifice, this period did not result in a sense of independence, a sense that perhaps we don't need a music director after all. Rather, the whole choir (indeed, the entire parish) breathed a huge sigh of relief when we heard David Buley had accepted the offer to be our Music Director once again. We are happy to have a Director who loves our Book of Common Prayer, and one with whom we share our hopes for a deeper praying of our traditional liturgy.

One of the difficult realizations of the year was that Debby Burleson would have to leave day to day parish life in order to pursue her discernment of a call to ordained ministry. Our worship and ministry fosters, in each of us, attention to God's calling; we are happy that many are awakened to hear the specific call to ordination. Debby's involvements in parish life were so deep and so diverse (baptism preparation, Friday noon Eucharist homiles, vast administrative tasks, to name only a few) the wardens and Rector met with her months in advance of her departure in order to make arrangements for it. Indeed, as the Rector pointed out at the time, life at Saint George's would be very different if those we have sent to the broader Church were with us week to week at Saint George's. As Debby's home parish, we will continue to support her as she pursues her vocation.

Another position we managed to fill this year was the position of YouthNet Director. Since August of 2001, YouthNet had been without a full-time director. After a year in a part-time administrative position, Barb Swanson signed on full-time as YouthNet Director in September of 2002. You

will know from her submission to this Annual Report what fruit her Directorship has already borne.

Another absence we felt especially keenly this year was that of our Rector when he was in Durham completing his Phd. We were really overwhelmed with the number of calls we received for urgent assistance. People faced with eviction, loss of house utilities, repossession of personal goods, another day without groceries or another day without that simple prescription for a painful skin infection (I think it was \$27) all called looking for Father Thorne, asking with dignity and all sure he would have helped them. And yet with our poor fund so meager against infinite requests, only Father Thorne knows well enough who we can help, and how. This is one aspect of Saint George's ministry that was recognized by the Jubilee medal awarded to Father Thorne.

In 2002 Father Thorne completed the requirements for his Phd from Durham University! We are proud of our Rector's formidable intellect, and all look forward to the publication of his thesis as an important contribution to scholarship. And yet, we are also so thankful that we have been able to journey with him these last several years he has been enrolled in the doctoral program. He has helped us to see that his intellectual effort is fundamentally an exercise of prayer, and therefore an essential aspect of his vocation as Christ's minister to us. Yet another way will share our priest with the wider community is in his upcoming six-month tour of duty in the Golan Heights as a Chaplain in the Canadian Military. His ministry is our ministry. With the help of Father Neish, we will remain faithful to our worship and hold Father Thorne very close in our thoughts and prayers.

2002 also saw the installation of a beautiful tracker organ, the final major stage of the restoration project, begun eight years ago. We rejoice with thankfulness that the Lord has given us to rebuild what He allowed to be nearly destroyed.

Upon reflection, the temporary absences of this year have taught us much about our liturgy and outreach. As 2003 will bring us to face urgent questions caused by the deterioration of our Church hall, we will need to know ourselves as one body to answer again His call.

4. Reports of Standing Committees

a. Spiritual Development

Neil Robertson, Chair

I became Chair of the Spiritual Development Committee in September, 2002. As a result, I will only be able to report on the activities of the committee for the last four months of the year.

The first business of the committee in September was to welcome the arrival of our new (and old) Music Director, David Buley. David's arrival coincided with the installation of the new organ, the final stage of the restoration project. The organ's installation and the completion of the restoration seemed to require an event to officially inaugurate the organ and to thank donors. A committee was established to do this, under David Buley's leadership. The result of this will already have taken place by the time you are reading this report: the concert of celebration and thanksgiving on February 1, 2003.

The committee also had presented to it a proposal that the Parish make an application to the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship for a Worship Renewal Grant that would allow us to pursue a project beyond the normal resources of the Parish. In particular, the committee met with both those spearheading this proposal and the deaf community as it was thought that a project involving the deaf community might be particularly suitable. However, the determination to make an application has been delayed for a year.

In fact, it should probably be mentioned that the deaf community's concerns have been placed under the umbrella of the Spiritual Development Committee. One of the pieces of work for the next year is to clarify the relationship of the parish to the deaf community – both the place of that community in our worship and their membership in our parish, but also the financial obligations and resources implied in that relationship.

The other reports gathered in this section of the annual report will outline some of the many activities and good works being carried out as part of the spiritual life of the Parish and by so many: the Altar Guild, the servers, the Sunday School, the Music programme, the work in

preparing parishioners for confirmation, the many things done for the great seasonal events such as Christmastide and so on. The spiritual life of this parish is a garment woven by many hands.

• **Music Director Search Committee**

Susan Harris

After the departure of Elizabeth Harwood in January, 2002, the Music Director Search Committee was reactivated. The membership consisted of Stephen Blackwood (warden), Peter Duinker, Janet Ross, Fr. Thorne and the Choir. We sent out advertisements and received many inquiries. From a number of applications, we selected three candidates to interview. The process reached a happy conclusion with the appointment, in September 2002, of David Buley as our Music Director. Mr. Buley holds the degrees of Master of Music and Conducting from Westminster Choir College, as well as a Masters from Drew University, at which university he is in the process of completing a PhD in Liturgical Studies. His most recent parochial appointment was as Music Director at All Saints' Anglican Church, Huntsville, Ontario. David and his wife, Jan, are well-known to parishioners of seven years standing or more, since he was our Music Director in the nineteen eighties and the first part of the nineteen nineties. I would like to express what I am sure is the thanks of the entire parish to the choir, who continued to provide beautiful music of a very high calibre during our time without a Music Director. A special word of thanks goes to Peter Duinker, Jackie Harmer, and Paula Phillips for directing the choir during the interim and to Janet Ross for much labour behind the scenes. We were also remarkably blessed to have Brian Start as our organist through most of this period. The work of all of these volunteers was a wonderful gift to the parish during our long search for a Music Director.

• **Servers**

Scott Connors, Head Server

A few small things have happened with regards to the Servers this year mainly the loss and gain of members. I would like to thank Tamsyn Brennan, Matt Burley and Sebastien Labrie, who have all decided not to continue serving for various reasons, for their services. Also I would like to welcome

Nicholas Baker for coming on this year after being confirmed this time last year.

As well I would like to thank Blois Shatford, who is a member of the Deaf Community at Saint George's. He became involved initially by serving at the Friday afternoon Holy Communion service and has also decided this year to add Sunday mornings to that.

Usually we have the presentation of server's crosses along with a barbecue at the Rector's house in around Pentecost or the beginning of Trinity. At that time this year the Rector was away and things fell apart with regards to the organization of this event.

The following is a list of those currently serving at Saint George's: Nicholas Baker, Scott Connors, Nadine Gallant, Ryan Harnish, Rhys Kavanagh, Alex Purcell, Blois Shatford, Andrew Thorne, Nicholas Veltemeyer, David Wallace and Br. David Martin (Winters), who mainly serves at the 8:00 Holy Communion on Sunday mornings but occasionally fills in if the need arises.

In closing, I would like to make any adults or young people who are interested in serving aware that there are plenty of opportunities for you to become involved.

• **Altar guild (includes financial statement)**

Vaila Mowat

St. George's altar guild has had much hard work done by the members of the Altar Guild this past year. I want to thank all those who worked so hard to make the year a success. I also want to thank all the extra people who pitched in merrily on Holy Saturday to help make the church sparkle.

We had six teams this year who worked on a rotation system. Team one included Dorothy Coons, Nadine Gallant and Dianna Lowe. Team two was made up of Tracy Lenfesty, Mary MacLachlan, Lori Trenamen (when available) with Susan Harris as backup for Mary MacLachlan. Team three has Lora Harris, Sandra

Thorne and Nora Praught as its members. Team five has Debra Burleson (until later in the year), Anne Tilley and Dinah Savoury. Team Six had Vaila S. Mowat, Cathy Jewell, and occasionally Joyce McCulloch or Helen Johnson. We are continuing into the new year with the same personnel, although we may lose Lora Harris.

Last year Tilley Glover, after many, many years of washing and ironing the large linens for the guild, had to retire. The Guild wishes to take this opportunity of thanking her for all her years of service. We expressed our thanks with a fruit basket, and the church presented her with a plaque containing a crocheted cross made by Martha Kendall. Dinah Savoury has very kindly consented to take on the job of washing these large linens for us. Flo Grandy does the weekly job of washing the small linens. Helen Johnson continues to help with the flowers, and Anne Tilley has also contributed flower arrangements from time to time. We also thank David Winters for bringing all the supplies of candles, communion breads, etc. from the Diocesan Centre.

The complete financial statement is found below. The Guild took in a total of \$2698.26 during the year and spent \$2465.07 (including the allotment for 2001). As our balance at the end of 2001 was \$3284.37, we now show a balance of \$3517.56. The money was mainly spent on flowers, but we also bought two new cruets, and some small linens as well as cleaning materials. Unfortunately one of our altar cloths was damaged, but Dianna Lowe and Dinah Savoury have been able to bring another older cloth into service. There will probably be expenses down the road when new altar cloths are required.

The Altar Guild is a joy to work with.

Altar Guild Accounts for the Year Dec. 31, 2001 to Dec. 22, 2002

Income

St. George's Church	\$2357.90
Wedding Fees	\$ 340.00
Sub-total	\$2697.90
Interest	.36

Total	\$2698.26
Previous Balance (as of 12/21/2001)	\$3284.37

Sum of previous balance and last year's increment \$5982.63

Record of Spending

IRISES for flowers	\$1025.56
Strands for linens	\$ 238.98
Bertrand Boucher for cruets	\$ 72.16
St. George's, 2002 allotment	\$ 445.83
Superstore, Easter flowers	\$ 230.00
Other - including flowers, dried flowers and grasses, cleaning materials...	\$ 435.29
Bank charges	\$ 17.25
Sub-total	\$2465.07
Present balance then is \$5982.63 - 2465.07 =	\$3517.56

• Daily offices

Br. David Martin FOCD

It is interesting to note that Anglican Prayer Book Offices are almost nonexistent outside of St. George's Round Church. We have something special.

New parishioners realize this and turn up at the Offices and sometimes preside at these services. Such people as Vivien Hannon, Steve Harnish, and Gary McGonigall come to mind.

Any day, if in doubt, drop in at St. George's and be assured that the Daily Offices are alive and well and living at 2222 Brunswick St. i.e., morning, noon, and evening prayer services are said daily at the Round Church. To God Be the Glory!

• Nursery

Nora M. Praught

The nursery continues to be available for the 10:30 A.M. service on Sundays. We usually have 1 - 3 children. Since Anne Read left in Aug, Roseanne Reeve-Newson & Vaila Mowat have helped in the nursery. I thank them for their assistance.

• Sunday school

Cathy Keizer Harnish

In the early part of 2002 I was approached to take on the task of organizing teachers for Sunday school. After careful consideration I agreed to this. This year the curriculum focus has been Year III, Gods People in the Bible. We have had a steady increase in attendance of (about 10-12 each week) children. This provides an opportunity for the children to get to know different members of the parish.

For 2 years the children have been taking part in the worship prior to class beginning and return to either receive Holy Communion (for the confirmed) or a blessing; then remain in the church until the end of the service. The children are asking questions regarding the worship and thus learn what it is to be Anglican. The Sunday school room has undergone many changes this year. We have housecleaned, painted, changed flooring, and are preparing to make curtains. This could not have been possible without the generous efforts of many volunteers. Amongst the people who helped I would like to thank the Labrie family, Debra Burleson, Vaila Mowat, Lowell Perry and Ian Tillard.

I would especially like to thank our new teachers, as well as Diana Lowe, Lora Harris, Vaila Mowat and Kimberly Lickers who have helped during the very busy season of Advent and in finalizing the details for the Christmas Pageant. ("The Christmas Star", written by former parishioner, Mark deWolf).

I would like to thank Tracy Lenfesty for the guidance and support she has given me. I have found it to be an experience both rewarding and enlightening.

• Deaf Ministry

Reverend T. Keith Todd

This year has been extraordinary. It has been a 'linchpin' year of prayer, reflection and study leading to decisive action on behalf of the advisory team: Fr. Thorne, John Swaine, Susan Harris and me. In 1998 – Easter, four years ago, the thought of 'awakening' the Deaf ministry from its roots in the early 1920's came about when two members were baptized, making St. George's their home. Soon four others joined the congregation with Donald, our deaf/blind friend who not only uses an interpreter but also needs an intervenor. Mary Lou, also deaf/blind, attends once per month.

Outreach worship services and a regular Bible study in sign continue in Northwood Adult Community Centre, Manor Eight (a residential home for the deaf), and further afield in the Cathedral Church of St. Peter's, Charlottetown, PEI, and in King's Presbyterian Church in New Minas, under the guidance of the Reverend Tim Archibald, from time to time.

This year our bank balance had a credit of \$8,000 with donations from the U.K. A decision was made to hire a second interpreter and we now have the team of Laura Bartlett and Chris Racine, whom we warmly welcome to our church family. We are delighted that Laura's two children attend Sunday school when possible.

When the Deaf Ministry was 'awakened' it was on the understanding that St. George's would not have to provide financial support and this has been the case for the last four years. This year, parish council approved a budget line of \$1,000 for 2003 for the Deaf Ministry. It is hoped that council will approve an additional \$500 a year for the next ten years. To this end donations were offered from the U.K. in decreasing amounts over the next five years: 2003 - \$5,000, 2004 - \$4,000...until 2007 - \$1,000, for a total of \$15,000, which was received in January 2003 and will be allocated to the Deaf Ministry over the next 5 years. This exciting strategic vision shows a path of ownership and possible long-term financial support for the Deaf and Deaf/Blind congregation.

What of other deaf ministries? The Association of Deaf Catholics on Dutch Village Road continues to have over thirty deaf members with a deaf pastoral worker. The Atlantic (Inter Denominational) Ministry for the Deaf (AMD) continues bi-monthly Sunday afternoon worship services in the Pentecostal Faith Tabernacle building on Summit Street, Halifax. Our Anglican Diocese of NS and PEI contributes the annual budget line of \$15,000. The Reverend Waldo Grandy, co-ordinating chaplain, retired in 2002 and his position is still unrealized.

How does our St. George's Anglican Deaf Ministry interface with the longstanding commitment our Diocese makes to AMD? We are not so much as being 'competitive' but work together in collegiality and harmony. We are giving the deaf a variety of different opportunities

not only to attend a Deaf taught Bible study at St. George's (one of a kind in NS) but to worship on different days of the week, in different location and at different times around Halifax and in PEI. We are also 'grounded' in an Anglican parish with weekly and regular interpreted service so that deaf and hearing people are connected to one another spiritually as member of the Body of Christ. We do not view deafness as a sickness or handicap. We view it as a gift from God, which has led to the creation of a unique language and culture, worth of respect and affirmation. Many thanks go to the preserving support of volunteers who assist the Deaf community.

• **Interpreters**

Laura Bartlett

When I began working at Saint George's Parish, I was very intimidated about the task ahead of me. I am delighted to say that I have found not only employment but I have found a wonderful community that I have become very attached to. As the interpreter, it is my job to facilitate the communication between Deaf and Hearing individuals. In the Parish, this means that a community of individuals who have traditionally been denied access, now have the opportunity to worship with their peers. This not only allows them to worship, but also to meet and grow with the people whom they have worshiped with. I know that I have been unconditionally welcomed into this wonderful Parish and I think that is communicated clearly to the community, which I serve. I also think there is more of commonality between the Deaf and Hearing congregation. I am thrilled that Brie-Anna and Ryan enjoy coming to Sunday school and the odd Friday service. This is something they were not comfortable doing in the past so that speaks volumes to me! I look forward to a great future at Saint George's and hope one day to get Father Thorne's sermon notes before I'm done!

• **Lay Readers**

John Swaine

This is a small but highly trained group of people who assist in the Sunday and Feast Day services. The Lay Readers undergo specialized training in church history, music, Bible study, and conducting worship. They are then licensed by the bishop to serve in our parish in a

variety of capacities. We are grateful for their faithful service.

Our ranks were increased by two in 2002: Nadine Gallant and Stephen Harnish. Welcome. They join Brother David Martin, Nadine Gallant, David Olding, Roseanne Reeve-Newson, Craig Savoury, Stephen Harnish, and John Swaine.

Three of our lay readers regularly conduct the service of Morning Prayer on Sunday mornings, and are licensed to administer the sacrament at the Eucharist. They often assist in that capacity as Sub deacons. They are: Nadine Gallant, Stephen Harnish, David Olding, Craig Savoury, Christopher Snook, and John Swaine.

The MC's are the people who organize and coordinate each liturgy. Behind the scenes before each service they are busy organizing the servers and clergy, assigning tasks, making sure that candles are lit, checking that the sanctuary is ready and that the service starts on time. During the service they stand near the celebrant to anticipate and assist him, and to unobtrusively provide cues and direction for the servers. The goal is for the liturgy to proceed smoothly and reverently. After the service they help the Altar Guild by clearing the sanctuary, putting away the vestments and keeping the Vestry tidy.

They are: Scott Connors (who is also Head Server), Nadine Gallant, Rhys Kavanaugh (in training), Craig Savoury, John Swaine and Chelsea Thorne.

b. **Pastoral Ministry** **YouthNet**

Barbara Swanson, YouthNet Director

Working with young people in our inner city neighbourhood is a privilege that many have shared this past year, including 40 parishioners, 70 King's students and 20 others. This broad-based support ensured the year's extensive and vibrant programming: Spring Science Camp at the Museum of Natural History, Spring and Summer Art Camps at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia, Summer Day Camp, gardening and Music Camp, Wilderness Camping and Kayaking, lunch-time drop-in, Scouting, Joseph Howe Breakfast Program, Culture club and after-school tutoring. It also revealed the deepening friendships

developing between volunteers, staff, community, church and youth. More and more, YouthNet is recognized as an important, fun and nurturing environment for youth in this community.

There were many moments of significant friendship and growth this year. In the summer, youth arrived at our camps with fears of other children but left with friends. In the fall, a lonely and troubled youth found happiness in a tutoring relationship. At our fourth annual St. Nick party, volunteers, parents and community members lingered together two hours after the party's end. So many moments are unforgettable: a mother exclaiming: "You have done great things with our kids" after the music show in the summer; 25 day camp kids rolling down Citadel Hill in delight and abandon.

There have also been struggles. This fall, a number of young boys in the community started dropping in on lunch program, bullying the young children and causing trouble around the church hall. Calls home and suspensions from the program were a start but not enough. After conversation with staff and parents of these kids, parishioners Steve Gibson and Duncan Neish started spending one-on-one time with these youth – enforcing accountability in the context of time together. Steve and Duncan now have three groups of older youth that make regular excursions outside the city. Trips foster valuable leadership and teamwork skills nurtured through Steve and Duncan's consistent and dedicated mentorship.

The year's projects have also included the development of a website entitled Church and Community (funded by Industry Canada). Thank you to Harold Godsoe and Allistair Fraser (a youth from Laing House gaining work experience in our office) as well as the many neighbourhood youth who chose photos, made drawings, and provided us with feedback. Be sure to check out the fruits of this collaborative effort, including a YouthNet page, at <http://collections.ic.gc.ca/churchandcommunity/>.

Group Revenue:

both	Coffee	\$ 370.51
	Parish / YouthNet/Plate	
2001/02	Donations	\$ 1,516.86
2001/02	St. George's Society	\$ 250.00
2001/02	Popcom	\$ 1,477.60
2001/02	Registration	\$ 60.00
2001/02	Scoutrees	\$ 205.26

This new website compliments the parish's existing site on which up-to-date information about the parish continues to be found.

This inspiring year of growth for YouthNet was only possible because of strong foundations in the community, dedicated and tireless staff, an ever devoted number of volunteers, and our financial supporters including the parish, the Diocesan Growth for Ministry Fund, Segelberg Trust, Exxon Mobil Canada, Industry Canada Digital Collections, Mountain Equipment Co-op, Edmonds Landscaping and Construction Service Ltd and many individuals. Support in all these forms makes so much possible for kids in our neighbourhood.

● **Group committee**
Jan Connors

The Group Committee had a good beginning under the care of its Chair, Jan Connors. The Group Committee has responsibility to oversee the functioning of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. It is responsible to ensure that the mission, goals and standards of Scouts Canada are maintained in all aspects of the programs. This includes recruitment and processing of leaders, advertising programs to children in area, and fund-raising. Again this year, because of the generosity of parishioners and a few individuals outside the parish, as well as a contribution from Saint George's Society, the registration fees of all children were paid so that no child was sent away because of an inability to pay. In September the Rector and Lowell Perry took over as co-chairs of the group committee.

Our heartfelt thanks go out to the twelve leaders who so wonderfully volunteer their energy and time to make scouting a memorable and positive experience in the lives of our youth.

\$ 3,880.23

Expenses:

2001/02	Beavers	\$ 75.50	
2002/03	Beavers	\$ 101.75	
2002/03	Cabin (including lease fee)	\$ 82.60	
2001/02	Closing BBQ	\$ 83.88	
2001/02	Group	\$ 135.10	
2002/03	Group	\$ 706.42	
2001/02	Police Record Checks	\$ 138.00	
2001/02	Popcorn	\$ 1,397.00	
2001/02	Registration	\$ 47.00	
2001/02	Scoutrees	\$ 82.10	
both	Service Charges & cheque costs	\$ 50.82	
2001/02	Troop	\$ 268.46	
2002/03	Troop	\$ 112.48	
2001/02	Uniforms	\$ 12.00	
			\$ 3,293.11
Net Income			\$ 587.12

Balance Sheet

Assets	bank balance	\$ 697.64	
Liabilities		\$ -	\$ 697.64
Net Income 2001	@ above	\$ 587.12	
Forwarded from 2001	from 2001 statement	\$ 110.52	\$ 697.64

• Soup kitchen (includes financial statement)

Karen Wheeler, Co-ordinator

On November 9th, 2002 we celebrated 17 years of operation. For this accomplishment we have many people to thank for their commitment over the years. In September of 2002, ATV presented Karen Wheeler with the award 'Maritimer of the Week' for her commitment in this community program. Each and every week we should have a team of 4 who are to come to do various jobs which are supervised by the following people: Mel Early, Dick Gallagher, Ada and Willis Grandy, Les Grandy, Gertie Moulton and Karen Wheeler. Once again, the same problem exists, our working teams made up of

mostly parishioners are not working. There are six teams of four people which means that you are only required to show up once every six weeks. These teams are expected to help with the set up and clean up each week. Since the beginning of this year these teams have been revised by new parishioners and there is still room for more.

We have some weeks that the food team is unable to come and we must still provide this meal so the food comes from the freezer or wherever I can get it from. This is another why the working team is so important.

The kitchen runs strictly from donations and not from our church budget. If you would like to donate funds to help us you may do so by using your Missions envelope clearly marked "Soup Kitchen". Also as stated above, if you

would be interested in joining please contact Karen at 471-2332 after 6pm or weekends.

I am in the process of printing a brochure with statistics and more details of how this mission runs.

**Financial Statement St. George's Soup Kitchen
For the year ending December 31, 2002**

Balance as of December 31, 2002		\$1,495.08
Revenue		
Donations and Interest		\$3,968.17
Expenses:		
Atlantic Cash & Carry	\$1,783.08	
Weekly groceries/equipment	\$2,460.34	\$4,243.42
Balance as of December 31, 2002		\$1,219.83

• Christmas family outreach

Judy Baker

The Christmas Outreach 2002 was successful due to the support of parishioners and three outside sponsors. Thirteen families (with a total of 32 children) received assistance. The majority of these families live in the community and their names were obtained from the local schools, through the efforts of YouthNet. Assisting in our Outreach endeavor this year were three students who applied their volunteer hours toward community service courses they are participating in at their high schools. They (along with some members of the congregation) helped with the shopping, wrapping, packing and delivering of the food/gift parcels and their input was a huge part of the success of the program. Thank you to all who participated. A special thank you to Cheryl Lemke, who agreed to co-chair Christmas Outreach 2002, Steven Blackwood, who dealt with church support logistics and Barb Swanson who liaised with school staff.

MONIES ALOTTED TO CHRISTMAS

OUTREACH 2002:	\$2800.00
(all receipts submitted)	
 GIFTS	 \$1600.00
 FOOD	 \$1300.00
(amount spent on food was enhanced by the donations of 10 turkeys)	

• Stepping Stone

Lorna Wallace (board member)

Whatever our moral views on prostitution it is reasonable to suppose that as long as a demand exists it will be supplied. Our neighbours at Stepping Stone strive to control the damage being done in our community by the sex-trade. The service is funded by United Way, Community Services, private donations, and last year a contribution from the Youth Foundation. Stepping Stone has two mandates:

1. To try to prevent youth at risk from becoming involved in prostitution. Information about the dangerous effects and likely outcomes is given in local schools. Qualified social workers walk the streets at night to provide counseling.
2. To support those already involved in the Trade. The drop-in provides a safe place to rest, shower, eat and find counseling if needed. On average five to ten people use the service, more in the recent cold spell. The Metro food bank makes a daily delivery.

A drug recovery programme once a week provides an important step towards helping users break addictions so that they have a better chance of gaining alternative work. Weekly Bingo is popular and offers prizes of hygiene items which many cannot afford. It is hoped that the monthly visit from a nurse practitioner will return to being fortnightly.

Jeannine McNeil is the new director. There are at present three full time staff and three weekend relief workers.

St. Georges has for the last number of years hosted a Christmas Party for the Stepping Stone users and their children. We provide a meal, crafts and entertainment and a donation towards gifts for all. Both the staff and families greatly appreciate this event.

• Missions to Seafarers

Lynn.R.Stevenson

This year the Parish prepared 36 boxes. The collection of items for the boxes went very well. The contributions, as usual were very generous and each completed box was full with a warm hat, sox or gloves, personal care items, notepaper and pens, hard candy and a souvenir. The first 21 boxes were packed by the Sunday school children, and each child completed a card to include in the box. Some children also wrote beautiful letters to the recipient, and we included the church address so hopefully, we will hear from some of the merchant sailors. Thanks to everyone who participated in this special outreach.

• Christmas baskets

Margherita Mendel and Helen Johnson

Thank you to all the people who contributed items for these very special baskets for some of our special Parishioners this year. Over 38 thoughtfully put together baskets went out via a wonderful team of Parish Visitors just before Christmas. Thanks for all the helping hands and hearts that made this project possible.

• PWRDF

Brian Mann

As I was preparing this report I scanned the PWRDF website. (PWRDF stands for 'Primate's World Relief and Development Fund'.) The current headlines are "Canadian Churches Oppose an Attack on Iraq". Surely this is the direst catastrophe Iraq and the rest of the world is facing presently. Let us all be in fervent prayer that it does not come to pass. Our church recognized the work of PWRDF at a church meal in November. I gave a short talk after the meal during which we welcomed the 'Shining

Lights' choir. I have included a portion of my talk below:

- PWRDF began in 1958 in Springhill NS when 167 miners were trapped and Anglicans and others responded to the crisis to send funds to the families
- in 1969 it was decided that a percentage of the fund would be set aside for grants to Canada's indigenous peoples, especially for land claims, self-determination, and aboriginal rights
- in 1984 a refugee subcommittee was established
- in 1997 a full-time staff person was established to foster community development initiatives in aboriginal communities across Canada
- in 1999 a full-time youth co-ordinator was hired
- there are PWRDF Parish Representatives in over 900 parishes across Canada

Your giving to PWRDF will benefit the food crisis facing many African countries. The following is a quote from the website on Dec. 10th- "The food crisis in Africa has reached an alarming stage with 10 countries needing urgent food aid to avert famine and . In southern Africa where the crisis first came to light, the emergency is compounded by the HIV/AIDS pandemic."

I would mention the passing of Rev. Doug Woodhams. He died this month after a brief illness. He has been providing parishioners with organically fed poultry and eggs for the past 3 years. His ministry has been greatly appreciated by a number of St. George's parishioners

Total giving for the year for PWRDF is roughly \$1300 and comes from 3 sources:

- regular congregational giving
- Christmas card sales
- The church envelopes are purchased from PWRDF

• Confirmation preparation

Christopher Snook

As always, it was a joy to be involved this year in the preparation of candidates for confirmation. With the assistance of Fr. Thorne and Stephen Harnish, four young people from St George's were prepared for confirmation: Emily Harnish, Elliot Kavanagh, Robert Purcell and Gillian Tillard. All of these youth also received their first communion this year. There were three adults from the parish prepared as well: Elizabeth Haigh, Kimberly Lickers, and Daniel Watson.

The regional confirmation took place January 12 at St. James. Due to illness, Elliot was unable to attend the confirmation service at St. James. The Bishop graciously agreed to confirm him at St. George's the following Sunday. Confirmation is a very significant event in the life of a parish - it is a sign both of an increased conversion in the hearts of those seeking confirmation, and of God's grace perfecting them more and more through the laying on of hands with prayer.

Given the significance of confirmation in the Christian life, it is worth reflecting on the recently instituted practice of regional confirmations. The positive side of these large, centralized services is that they bring together multiple parishes for a time of worship. The questionable side is that they take children and parishioners away from the community in which they have been nurtured and raised, and remove them from the liturgical life in which they have learned to pray. Though it is no doubt difficult for the Bishop to confirm in parishes given the demands on his time, it is worth addressing the possibility of returning to the practice of in-parish confirmations for the future. May God bless all those who have been confirmed this year.

• The Web Page

Sarah Stevenson

The current version of the St George's website (<http://users.eastlink.ca/~stgeorge/>) began with a small meeting in May of 2000 to discuss the need for a parish presence on the Web, possible user groups of such a website, as well as layout and design issues. Principally, it was undertaken to create a website taking into consideration who might use a parish

website (parishioners, those looking for a new parish, visitors to the area) and what information they may be seeking. A very small sample of people representing each of these potential user groups was contacted and asked why they might visit to a parish website, and what information they would hope to find there. Using this feedback, the work unfolded slowly over the next two years with the site finally 'going live' during Holy Week 2002.

Many parishioners contributed to the content on the site. I am grateful to all who submitted material for posting, and to Fr Thorne and Susan Harris for editing the submissions. *Many thanks also go to friends of the parish who have provided technical assistance along the way: Kelly Campbell (Internet Development Officer for the Nova Scotia Department of Education), Stuart Boon (Sheffield University School of Library and Information Studies), Judy Dunn (Dalhousie University School of Library and Information Studies), Fran Nowakowski (Webmaster - Dalhousie University Libraries). I'm not sure about this part in italics - I certainly couldn't have done this without these people, especially Kelly & Stuart, but is it appropriate? Edit as you see fit please.*

I am also most grateful to those who provide updated information for the pages, and those who point out corrections. Now that the website is in place, the greatest challenge lies in keeping it current.

c. Stewardship

Jan Connors

Throughout 2002 we continued our focus on the stewardship of time and talent. This is undertaken through the efforts of several teams. Each team has been asked to provide a brief report within this annual report. They include: Baptismal Preparation Team, Greeters, Newcomers Welcome Team, Young Families Contact & Fellowship, Parish Youth Ministry Team, University Students, Sunday Lunch Hospitality Team, Sick & Shut-in Visitation Team, and Parish Sponsor Team for Hospital Visiting. We hope, as you read the reports of the team leaders you will see a place where you might be led to participate in the fellowship and ministry of the Parish.

• **Baptismal Preparation Team**

Lynn R. Stevenson

Debra Burleson was joined by Lynn Stevenson (member-in-training) in 2002, and Lynn took over when Debra was released from her duties in the Parish and assigned by the Bishop to St. Peter's Parish. The team met with parents requesting Baptism for their infants and children, to prepare the parents, help answer their questions and to get to know each another. This contact with the family and also with the Godparents has helped to make the Baptism more personal and meaningful. We have assisted the families before and during the Baptism, and encouraged new families to participate in all aspects of our Parish life.

• **Sick & Shut-in Visitation Team**

Jan Connors

This 'team ministry' is one way we minister one to another within our parish family. To say that regular visits from a friendly parishioner are significant to a shut-in parishioner is an understatement; but perhaps you have never considered the joy such visits can bring to the visitor as well.

We have gained several more visitors this year, but as the team of visitors grows, the number of long-term sick and/or shut-in grows. There remains much opportunity for those interested in this type of stewardship.

Many thanks to Debby Burleson, Steven Gibson, Margherita Mendel, Lorna Wallace, Kathleen Jaeger, Br. David Martin, Fr. Eldie Richard, Cheryl Lemke, and Heather Jensen who have been making these on-going visits along with myself.

There is a list of individuals that we seek to keep in-touch with, to whom we send weekly bulletins so they know we are thinking of them. Thanks to Kathleen who regularly puts these in the mail.

• **Parish Sponsor Team for Hospital Visiting**

Sheila Jackson

For just over a year St. George's has had a team of volunteers set up to visit any members of the parish who have been admitted to the QE II Group of Hospitals. This was done to try and assist the clergy

and to strengthen the bonds of fellowship in our parish.

There are now three people, Vivien Hannon, Gladys Perry and Tricia Robertson, who consistently check the hospital admission sheets through the week. They then notify me as to where the Patients are in the complex and when they were admitted. To these three, my sincere thanks.

I have no formal training in hospital visiting (though I seem to remember being a registered nurse in the dim and distant past). I had an interview with Canon Ed Fiander, then Chaplain of the Hospitals, now retired, when he gave me some excellent advice, and I read such books as "The Ministry of Listening" by Donald Peel and "Where is God When It Hurts" by Philip Yancy. I was duly passed by the Security Department of the QE II and promptly fell and broke my arm and knee. I was, myself, hospitalized and received further "on the job" training! I have found that the "Listening Ministry" to be a very rewarding programme. It has strengthened and affirmed my own faith and, I hope, been of some comfort to others.

Some former patients are now in care, these people I usually only visit once a week. Others, who are critically ill, I visit every few days. The length of the visits may be only twenty or thirty minutes, or, in the case of the long term patients, they may last up to an hour. Time flies when you are having fun! The circumstances dictate the length of the visit. The visits are sometimes purely social, between friends, but a moment or two in prayer is a comforting way for us both to end. At Canon Fiander's suggestion, the offer for prayer and reading is made and the patient accepts or not, as they feel inclined.

I would recommend this ministry to any member of the parish who has some time to give. It need not be on a regular basis. In fact until recently the parish was blessed with a very healthy congregation! There have been some weeks when there is no one at the QE II. It would be an advantage to have more than one visitor. As in the case of personal illness or absence on vacation. Anyone interested in sharing this experience and wishing to know more, should contact Father Thorne.

• Greeters

Dianna Lowe

There are 16 people on the roster, most are on Parish Council, but some are from the congregation at large. If anyone wishes to be a greeter at 10:10am Sunday mornings, all that is required is a friendly smile, a cheery welcome and to invite and escort visitors to the coffee hour. If you are interested in joining us, please call me at 883-7165.

• New Family Contact & Fellowship Team

Cathy Keizer Harnish

We are a small group of parishioners with young families or our own. We meet informally and maintain contact with other members of the team so that new parishioners are aware of the ministry that we offer at St. George's. In 2002, we planned a parish skate at Dalplex. It was a fun afternoon that was attended by young families as well as families with older children. It is our hope to make the transition into parish life a positive experience for new families.

• Youth Ministry Team

Christopher Snook

Youth ministry has been largely *conflated* with confirmation preparation this past year. This is not an ideal situation, and there is a distinct need to improve the supports in the parish available to our young people. It is urgent that they feel confident in identifying themselves as children of our parish, and that they grow in the tradition of worship and service exemplified by St. George's. Youth Ministry is in need of just a few people who feel called to its work and to assist in the care and spiritual development of our parish's youth. Should you be interested in this ministry, please contact me.

• University Student Ministry Team

Sarah Stevenson

The purpose of this team is to help the students in our congregation find in St George's a parish home away from home. Last year a small steering group met on a couple of occasions to discuss what the needs the student may have and how to best fill those needs. To

this end, an e-mail list has been created (additions to the list are welcome!) to keep students informed of upcoming special events, extra services, study groups, quiet days, and opportunities to become more involved in the parish. The bulk of the work of this committee is in communication, both through the e-mail list and at Sunday coffee hour. The highlights last year were an Easter dinner (including the Thornes as guests of honour) for 17 students who were away from home Easter Sunday, and a welcome back barbecue for approximately three dozen students and young adults in September at the Rector's home.

• Sunday Lunch Hospitality

Lynn R. Stevenson

Gai Thomas established a schedule for the 6 teams who ensured that we had sandwiches and sweets each Sunday following the 10:30 service. The teams (a total of about 24 people) have done an excellent job. Karen Wheeler provided tea and coffee, setting up and clean-up each Sunday. Thanks to all the participants for your contribution.

• Newcomer Welcoming Team

Jim and Irma Brown

With direction from Fr. Thorne and Jan Connors this team initially consisting of Jim and Irma Brown got off to a great start this fall. St. George's is seeing a steady growth in membership from those wishing to make St. George's their home church. The prime role is to extend a welcome of friendliness to those newcomers who indicate a desire to receive information of this Church, the services, music/choir, interesting architecture/history, activities in the church, YouthNet and other outreach programs, the Soup Kitchen, dinners, annual yard sale, and they noted the full participation of the congregation in singing and prayers with fondness for the liturgy having an excellent bulletin in hand. Newcomers see the service led by their able/likeable Fr. Thorne assisted by others at the altar and the sanctuary

with many youthful servers. From the greeters and sidesmen inward is seen a church building friendliness. Those newcomers agreeable to a visit have one arranged in their home where information is mutually shared. Having over 12 newcomers to welcome an offer to host a luncheon after out thanks to the Jenson's for making all welcomed for an enjoyable time. Following church services and in the hall we extend friendship as the newcomers are introduced to other congregational members. Speak to us if you want to help in a formal way, in this manner of service to your church.

d. Property

Ian Tillard

1) The Property Committee had some additions in membership during the course of the year. Present members of the Property Committee are presently Ian Tillard (Chair), Patricia Martinson, Lowell Perry, Kathleen Jaeger, and Anna Paton (ret). Many thanks are due to the members of this committee who contribute in many different ways.

2) Other than a few clean up items, last year saw the completion of the Restoration and Preservation committee's work in the Round Church with the addition of the organ. During the early part of 2003, the maintenance and repair of the Round Church will become a matter under the Property Committee's jurisdiction. During the year a few minor projects were undertaken to try and quieten the heating system and these have carried on into 2003. It would appear that we are making headway.

3) The Sexton Cottage was demolished in the summer. As rent income was very sporadic and with the addition of some rental parking spaces, the overall effect by the demolition of this building on the Parish finances has been minimal.

4) The Rectory tenancy was stable this year. Minor maintenance work was carried out this year which included a complete re-painting of the interior. As the tenant agreed to eliminate the third floor as a sleeping quarters, it was decided to not proceed with the fire escape. As noted below there are some other by-law issues that have arisen during the year that will be addressed in 2003. The building condition was stable (fair) and there are some deferred repairs still on the books.

5) The Hall has been maintained on an as required basis only. The heating system has become a major problem and we have been notified that the service company will not service these units in the fall of 2003. This is due to the very poor and increasing risky condition of the furnaces. Significant deterioration is evident in many areas of the Hall and this appears to be happening at an increasingly rapid rate. See below for comments regarding planning for the future however in the meantime the any repairs will be made on an as-required basis only.

6) A major benefit to the Parish was accomplished this year in the purchase of the HRM/CMHC property along the north side of the Parish land. Thanks particularly to Lowell Perry for managing this purchase. This is an area of approximately 30 feet by 200 feet and will be vital in helping with any future development of the Parish properties.

7) Another significant event is the looming development of the property on the old Alexandra School site. We have supported the developer in their efforts as the development is appropriate for this area and will enhance the neighborhood aspect of our area of HRM. It appears that construction may start this year. This has a significant impact on our parking situation.

8) Efforts are continuing on overall property planning and development. Early in 2003 we expanded the Property Committee to bring in more help in examining the options and bring these in front of the Parish in an efficient and quick manner. Some of the drivers that are pushing this along are:

a. The Hall heating system is in need of replacement. We will not be able to use the present systems next heating season and so are faced with either a major cost or reduced usage of the Hall.

b. The condition and the energy cost of operation of the Hall. There is considerable evidence of wood rot in the sills, roof and walls amongst other things.

c. HRM has introduced a new by-law whereby "boarding houses" are now defined with a strict set of regulations for their operation and

licensing. We are examining the impact that this as well as the land use by-laws have on our ability to use the Rectory as a rental property.

d. Reduction in our parking availability in the neighborhood. This may be an opportunity for us in that developing our on parking may also give us the ability to rent out spaces to the community during weekdays.

e. General well-being and health of the Parish. For a healthy Parish we need a clean, efficient and attractive fellowship Hall.

We are in the process of examining the current situation from the technical and financial aspects. The Property Committee has been expanded in order to do a comprehensive examination of the options in front of us and ultimately engage the Parish in a decision of what should be done. This review includes looking, in general terms, at all options from keeping the status quo, to renovation of the Hall and possibly the Rectory to looking at new structures.

The process will be to gather all of the facts and figures and then engage in an open discussion with those in the Parish who wish to participate. We expect that this will be an iterative process. This will start with a presentation at the AGM of the key issues which will hopefully start people thinking. However the intent is to do this in the short term as we do have some major decisions to make with respect to the Hall, starting with the heating system. Stay tuned.

•List of all properties, buildings and insurance coverage

St. George's Church

Building \$5,500,000.00

Contents \$ 100,000.00

St. George's Hall

Building \$1,200,000.00

Contents \$ 100,000.00

Little Dutch Church

Building \$80,000.00

Contents \$ 1,000.00

Rectory

Building \$248,000.00

Contents \$ 2,000.00

General

Comprehensive General Liability

Comprehensive Crime Coverage

Directors/Officers Liability

•Little Dutch Church Management Committee

Anne West

During 2002, the committee maintained a watching brief on the church and carried out minor repairs only. The daily offices were said in the church throughout the summer and were extended into the late fall because of the organ installation at the Round Church. The German-Canadian Association of Nova Scotia held very well attended Easter and Christmas services and one concert took place. A schedule of restoration work is planned for 2003. The committee would like to express appreciation for Vaila Mowat's loving care for this precious little building, which extends from house cleaning to picking up sacks of disgusting rubbish from the burying ground.

Finances:

Unsolicited donations totalling \$2,681.55 were received during 2002 and no expenses were charged to the church's account. The balance in the Little Dutch Church Preservation Fund is \$13,042.95.

• Restoration

Anne West

The installation of the organ in November 2002 and completion of some minor carpentry and electrical work during December brought to an end the Modified Restoration Program approved by Parish Council in January, 1999. Following the settlement of accounts (including final payment for the organ) a recommendation will be made to Parish Council for disbandment of the Restoration and Preservation Committee and transfer of responsibility for ongoing maintenance of the Round Church to the Property Committee. A Preservation Fund has been established for this purpose and it is expected that additional monies can be raised in future years through specific donations. Maintenance of a satisfactory level of building integrity is required under the Parish's agreement with the Department of Canadian Heritage,

which gave \$1 million towards the cost of restoration through its National Cost-Sharing Program. The Restoration and Preservation Committee recommends that consideration be given to the implementation of a planned maintenance program to ensure that this commitment is met

Fundraising Campaign

A total of \$66,156 was received during 2002, primarily from outstanding pledges, although some new donations arrived and the electronic organ purchased after the fire was sold to Saint Luke's Anglican Church, Hubbards. All the pledges have now been completed and we wish to express gratitude to the many people inside and outside the parish who have been so faithful in fulfilling their commitments. The total amount raised for the restoration of Saint George's now stands at \$4,746,138.

e. Finance

Mary Martin, Interim Chair

Ablly chaired by Debra Burleson until she left the parish to pursue her studies at AST, the Finance Committee overcame a number of unexpected challenges in 2002. Among them were the substantial increases in insurance payments exceeding even the significant budgeted amount, and the loss of rental income from the sexton's cottage, demolished in the summer?

The fact that the parish ended the year without a deficit is due to three things: the vigilance of the Finance Committee over all expenditures, the addition of new revenue such as parking fees and the extraordinary generosity of parishioners who, once again, responded enthusiastically to the year-end plea for special donations.

As interim chair, I want to express my thanks to the members of the Committee: John Hammond, recently retired after many years of yeoman service as coordinator of the counters; treasurer Stuart Gray; parking coordinator Barrie Jackson; envelope secretary Janet Ross; members Leslie Jaeger, Tracy Lenfesty, Anna Paton, Anne West and the Rector. We owe our gratitude to all of them and, of course, to Debbie who served the parish so unstintingly in so many capacities.

Finally, thanks must go to all members of the parish for their prayerful and sacrificial giving over the course of the year.

• Budget Committee

Mary Martin, Chair

Constituted in October, the Budget Committee included the Rector and Wardens and chairs or representatives from each parish council committee. Members were: Stephen Blackwood, David Buley, Jan Connors, Leslie Jaeger, Tracy Lenfesty, Mary Martin, Anna Paton, Neil Robertson, and the Rector.

The Committee held two lengthy meetings and communicated frequently by e-mail to develop the budget included in this report.

Preparing the budget for Saint George's is never easy, requiring as it does difficult decisions about which proposed expenses, all of which are worthy and desirable, can be included and which deferred or eliminated. This can be a tense and divisive task and I thank the members of this year's Committee for their collegiality, creativity and good will.

5. Reports of other organization/groups

a. Gabriel Guild

K.A. Wheeler and Gertie Moulton

Although the Gabriel Guild does not have regular meetings any more we are still very active. For those of you who do not know, the age of our membership ranges from 57 to 90.

We continued with our annual events, Pancake and Card Social, Penny Auction, Red Rose Dinner, Turkey Dinner. In addition we had many funeral receptions, anniversary and birthday functions and special church services. In September we were delighted to celebrate with our oldest member, Martha Kendall, her 90th birthday.

The Smith and Miles families together with James Rawding have come forward to help us with the pantry and fancy work tables. Thank you so much for your commitments. Marilyn Warner (Karen's sister) continues to launder all of the tablecloths and dish towels weekly. Les and Willis Grandy, thank you for your much appreciated help in the

kitchen before, during and after the dinner. Flo Grandy sells the tickets. Great job, Flo. Cleanup team, under the leaderships of Paul McCulloch and Stephen Burns, so important to make sure that our good china and new silverware is all accounted for before it is stored for our next event. To Lo Hickey, thank you so much for being

so willing to help us with all of the above events and just a great person to work with. Thank you all!

To everyone else, thank you for your help in baking for the bake table, waiting on tables, cutting pies, washing dishes, or just coming to eat. Your support is much appreciated.

**Gabriel Guild
Financial Statements for the Year 2002**

Balance as of December 31, 2001		\$583.88
Revenue:		
Catering	Funeral receptions and workshops	\$ 275.00
	Calendar sales	\$ 438.00
Parish Events	Pancake supper/social	\$ 585.00
	Penny Auction	\$ 212.00
	Red Rose dinner	\$1,756.81
	Turkey dinner	\$2,603.15
Total Revenue:		\$5,870.46
Expenses:		
	St. Peter's publications	\$ 423.50
	Groceries/Equipment & Supplies	\$1,983.15
	Guild Annual dinner & gifts	
	St. George's Church	
Total Expenses:		\$2,406.65
Balance as of December 31, 2002		\$4,047.69

b. Parish Historian

Henry Roper

We all know that the Church does not simply consist of those who are members now; we are also part of that mind-bending concept, the Church Triumphant. We can grasp this difficult idea in a simple way, perhaps, in our own parishes. We are fortunate that St. George's is an old parish; the works of our forefathers are all around us, and more than we perhaps know, we are influenced by them. This is why in the year 2000 we had our lecture series on the history of St. George's, Church and Community: Loving God and Neighbour. Two of these lectures, one given by me on "Church and Community: Saint George's, 1756-1827" and that by Brian Cuthbertson on "Robert Fitzgerald Uniacke and Elizabeth Uniacke at Saint George's Church: Evangelical Fervour and Good Works, 1825-1870," either are, or soon will be, available to be read on the St. George's website. Those who don't have a computer can still obtain copies of the booklet containing these

lectures plus that given by Canon Thorne, on Saint George's at the beginning of the 21st century, by speaking to me or the Wardens.

Every Sunday we gather in the hall after the 10:30 service. Like the church, this building too has a history. As I drink coffee (or sip sherry when it's available), I look around wonder about the many events that have taken place there for the hall has played an important role in the life of the parish for over one hundred years.

Construction on the hall began in 1887 as a result of a decision taken by the annual meeting of the parishioners on the 11 April of that year. It was originally envisaged, according to the minutes of the Vestry, as a school house to replace the Sunday school building which was at the foot of Uniacke Street near the Little Dutch Church. Obviously, at that time there was no notion of children's talks in the Sanctuary before Sunday

school began. The new building apparently cost slightly over \$4,000, of course a large sum for the time, although costs were kept down by building in wood rather than brick. The building was dedicated on the 27 January, 1888, in the name of St. George's Hall and the Sunday school met for the first time in it on Sunday the 29th.

To return to my musings as I sip my sherry, it is evident that that hall was added to at least once. Next year I hope that I can tell you when the addition or additions were constructed and perhaps say something about why it was thought these additions were needed. I hope that during the coming year we will be able to make progress in organizing the records of the Church that have accumulated since our records were moved to the Public Archives of Nova Scotia in the 1960s. Sarah Stevenson and I are beginning to work on this and we hope that by next year we will be able to report that progress has been made, but I don't want to say more at the moment as our investigation of the records question is still at the preliminary stages. But we must do something about our records, which are not simply "dry as dust" to use Carlyle's phrase, but the conduit by which we can grasp the unity of our past and present.

c. Saint George's Restoration Quilters

Lynn R. Stevenson

A steady group of about 10 met each week in the Guild Room to work on either a large group quilt, or an individual child's crib quilt (a Linus comfort quilt). We have completed one large quilt (commissioned), and it was presented to its new owner at St. George's. We have now begun a new "old" quilt. This quilt top is 100% cotton cloth. All pieced by hand in an old pattern known as "Hugs and Kisses" (or 'X's and 'O's). We are hand-quilting it in a traditional "in the ditch" method, and the bars between the pattern squares will be quilted in a box-on-it's side pattern. This double bed size quilt was pieced by Mrs. Edna Race of Brockville, Ontario, before 1960 and donated to us by her granddaughter, Joyce Saunders of Halifax. This quilt will be sold when completed. A second quilt is in the wings, this one is a commissioned piece, a dramatic pattern of Nautilus shells in wonderful colours, and it will be quilted in a wave pattern.

We enjoy tea and friendship with some regular guests (Vaila, Karen, and Harold and Alasdair from YouthNet, and of course Hannah the Hall cat). The Quilters look forward to Gai Thomas's return to our group feeling well and strong following her recent medical treatment.

d. Julian Gatherings

Jan Connors

Our Julian Gather continues on a weekly basis all year long. The first Monday of Lent will mark the beginning of a fourth year. We are a small prayer group but not a closed group. All are welcome to join us, on either a casual or regular basis. We come together at 7pm for said Compline, hear a short (2-5 minute) reading, and sit or kneel in the darkened church for 30 minutes in silent prayer. Here is what the Order of Julian of Norwich says of contemplative "Still Prayer": "... At its simplest, it is a form of prayer in which the individual seeks to be aware that s/he is in the Presence of God, and to remain in that Presence silently, attentively, and lovingly. Words are not only unnecessary, but they often get in the way. As the old peasant explained, when asked what he did sitting in the back of the church hour after hour: 'I look at Him, and He looks at me.'..."

e. Inner City Initiative

Derek Mitchell

The Halifax Inner City Initiative is a faith based non-profit organization, sponsored by the North End Council of Churches, whose mission is advocacy and facilitation for income growth, employability and well being in our inner city community.

During 2002 the Halifax Inner City Initiative continued to develop its presence in our inner city community in both advocacy and through fostering broad multi-sector collaboration among a wide range of government departments, civil society service organizations, private sector corporations and citizens to improve lives in our community.

A number of programs and activities were supported by Halifax Inner City Initiative in 2002 including:

HIPPY - Home Improvement Project for Parents and Youth, which now supports over 95 families in our community with in-home reading and education, life skills development and mentoring for both parents and pre- school children.

Employment and Skills Training in partnership with the Parker Street Food Bank with over 65

persons completing training and qualification in an industry recognized retail and warehouse job training program, with over a 60% success factor in job placements.

Construction of a Parent Resource Center in Uniacke Square, in partnership with the Metropolitan Housing Authority which also trained and qualified over 6 community members in construction trades.

Conducting a Community Engagement dialogue with community residents to identify community issues. The report will be part of a new Strategic Plan for the Initiative which is currently in development.

Responding to the violence and shootings in our community by coordinating an Emergency Response Team Meetings with youth, the Department of Justice, other civil society service organizations and the Metropolitan Housing Authority which has led to a Youth Cooperative Project for 2003.

The creation of community action committees on Employability and Learning, Health, Well Being and Celebration and Youth which seeks to engage all those living, working or studying in our community in all aspects of community development.

Participating in pan-Canadian learning opportunities as part of the Tamarack Institute's Vibrant Communities Initiative which seeks to share community development learning among over a dozen communities across Canada.

Developing collaborative employability and job generation programs and projects with the such community civil society organizations as; the African Canadian Employment Clinic, the Black Business Initiative, the Community YMCA Enterprise Center, the provincial Department of Community Services, Team Work and Work Bridge.

The initiation of a of Business and Private Sector engagement process as part of the Halifax Inner City Initiative's multi-sector strategy to improve lives in our community. It is hoped that this will lead to Business Summit in 2003 to examine the ways the private sector can take a stronger role in our community's development.

The commissioning of a community focused research project, The General Progress Index, which seeks to assess community well being on measurement variables which the community itself sets and measures itself, rather than the usual approach of implementing a

research study which are pre-determined by "outside" agencies or other lobby groups.

In looking ahead to the remainder of 2003, the Halifax Inner City Initiative will continue to build on these and develop new initiatives which seek to bring about real positive improvements in personal and community development, here in our neighborhood. The prayers and support of St. George has made and will continue to make difference.

6. Baptisms, burials, marriages, confirmations

HOLY BAPTISMS

January 20	Gwyneth Glenn Rebecca Fountain
February 3	Faith Adara-Lynn King-Bine
March 31	Kimberley Lickers Owen Neville Browne Kavanagh Trevor Michael Hannon
July 7	Stacy Nigel MacLeod Candace Judith Farcey Jayleigh Marie Bryan
August 25	David Graham Harris Ethan Spencer Marshall-Harris
September 18	Alenne Elizabeth Kayla Adekayode
October 19	Andrew Frederick Smith
December 1	Madeline Elizabeth Hiltz
December 8	Edmund Anthony Bates Brianna Joy Anderson

CONFIRMATIONS

January 27 Nicholas Donald Linwood Baker

MARRIAGES

March 16	Kevin John Dunn and Tammy Deanna Bryan
May 25	Gregory Nicholas Joseph Bucci and Deborah Anne Keating
June 29	Dana Robert Deamel and Lesley Charlene Praught
August 15	Paul Raymond Burk and Jaymie Leigh Warren
August 31	Michael Gordon Pick and Daragh Danielle Catherine Russell
November 9	Christopher Aaron Snook and Barbara Dianne Swanson

FUNERAL RITES

January 4 Raymond A. Lirette
January 22 The Reverend Canon Karl
Harrington Tufts

April 1
 July 28
 August 29

David Harold Gritton
 Stephen William Richardson
 Dorothy Elizabeth Connors

November 15
 November 29
 December 13

Ella Mary Rose
 Malcolm MacKenzie Ross
 Kai Hugh Bøggild

7. Nominations Committee

Nominations – Year 2003

Position	Returning	Nominated
Senior Warden	Tracy Lenfesty (2 of 3)	
Junior Warden		Susan Harris (1 year)
Property Warden		John Swaine (3 years)
Treasurer		Stuart Gray
Treasurer-in-training		
Secretary	Roger Marsters	
Synod Delegates (3)		1. Neil Robertson 2. Gary McGonagill 3. Sarah Stevenson
Synod Youth Delegate (1)		1. Rhys Kavanagh
Synod Alternate Delegate*		Nadine Gallant Tricia Robertson
Synod Alternate Youth Delegate*		Aniko Lewton-Brain
Members-at-large (12 maximum; 3-year terms)	1. Jim Brown (3 of 3) 2. Lowell Perry (3 of 3) * *	8. Daniel Watson (1 of 3) 9. Ian Tillard (1 of 3)
	3. Sheila Jackson (3 of 3) 4. Kathleen Jaeger (2 of 3)	10. Cathy Hamish (1 of 3) * 11. Patrick Hannon (1 of 3) *
	5. Christopher Snook (2 of 3) 6. Br. David Winters (2 of 3)	12. Nadine Gallant (1 of 3)
	7. Stephen Blackwood (2 of 3)	
Special Committees:		
Little Dutch Church Management Committee		
Organizations:		
Gabriel Guild Choir		Karen *
Regional Council Delegates*	Wardens, Synod Delegates	
Communications Officer		leave vacant & Brian Mann
PWRDF*	Loma Wallace	
Auditor*		
Diocesan Times*		

* not a Parish Council position

8. Parish Financial Statements for 2002

see attached

9. Statement of current investments, short term and long term funds

see attached

10. Budget 2003

see attached