



Mark This Word

The Parish Newsletter of St Mark the Evangelist, Ottawa
Anglican Church of Canada

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Grandparents' Sunday swells ranks ... with people and sheep

Grandparents in their 90s, grandchildren only a few months old, and all generations in between filled the pews on November 24, 2013, the Reign of Christ Sunday. St Mark's Membership Committee, led by Cynthia Greer, thought it was time to celebrate grandparents and their grandchildren. The Sunday readings of scattered sheep and Christ as King, presented appropriate themes for the occasion.

Stuffed toy sheep were placed around the church, and the children had special songs and crafts. They processed back in to church wearing crowns and singing, collected the lambs, and a joyous celebration was had by all.



written that, as the musicians played at her wedding, she 'sang in her heart' to the Lord. St Mark's has quite a few parishioners who also sing to the Lord from the heart, among them three dedicated choir members - Jenny Morphew, Ray Davidson and Bruce Lodge - who between them have more than 130 years of choral ministry in our choir.

All three choristers are grandparents, so it was very fitting to recognize them on Grandparents' Sunday, and some of their children and grandchildren were

at the service. All three sing with other choirs, but St Mark's has been the constant over the years.

Singing Grandparents ... 130 years!

Grandparents' Sunday was also the closest to November 22, the feast day for St Cecilia. She is the patron saint of musicians and church music, and it is



Bruce, Jenny and Ray with Choir President Kate Greer-Close and Choir Director Ariane Dind

Jenny Morphew joined the Church of England as a teenager. Following emigration to Canada, via Montreal, and in 1973, after her marriage to Brian, she came to St Mark's looking for a new church with a choir. She has sung in the choir ever since, and was later joined by her sons Graham and Andrew.

Bruce Lodge, another Brit, didn't start singing until his teens, when thanks to his piano teacher he joined a Methodist church choir in England. He met Margaret, emigrated, and joined St Mark's choir in 1971, by invitation from then choir director Fred Graham. St Mark's choir has also been a family choir for Bruce, with Margaret joining a few years later, and Sarah and Matthew joining as children.

Ray Davidson, our token Maritimer from a Baptist background, joined the Anglican church in 1941 as a boy soprano in the church of St John's - the Stone Church. The Saint John, NB church was designated a National Historic Site in 1989. Maybe we should do



Grandparents continued

the same with Ray, who has now become St Mark's longest serving chorister with nearly 50 years of choral service. Ray's daughter Helen was a chorister and used to bring her trumpet for special services.

Choir president Kate Greer-Close said "I am personally so thankful for their ministry, as I grew up singing with them, from age 9, and they are an important part of why I am still singing here today -

33 years later." She presented each of them with gifts from the choir. Bruce's gift was a new 'tuxedo' T-shirt, which he wore for his choir MC job at the 9:30pm carol singing on Christmas Eve.

Congratulations and thanks to Jenny, Ray and Bruce for their dedication and commitment to the choral ministry in our parish.

Margaret Lodge

More Grandparents ... Rummage Sales, Breakfasts & Pancakes

Lorne & Connie Bowerman honoured

The tireless and amazing work of long-time parishioners Lorne and Connie Bowerman was celebrated at St Mark's parish breakfast on January 26. Brian Harrison spoke about some of the work that they have done over the 25 years that he has known them. Father Brian Kauk commended their efforts during his ministry at St. Mark's, and attendees heard a warm message from Father Roger Steinke, describing their impact during his 11 years as Incumbent Priest.

Finally, Sheila Pitt presented the Bowermans with a plaque that read "To Lorne and Connie. In gratitude and deep appreciation for your faithful and loving service. From your many friends at St. Mark's. January 2014." The plaque also showed a lovely picture of our church. On a closing note, St Mark's choir presented their thanks in song to the special couple.

While it is impossible to cover all the work they have done over so many years, here are some of the ways in which Lorne and Connie have given their time and talent to St. Mark's:

- ◆ Lorne's leadership in finance and fundraising
- ◆ His collaboration with Father Roger on the Residential Schools Settlement
- ◆ His tireless work looking after the church buildings and property
- ◆ His efforts in developing the St. Mark's website
- ◆ Connie's 40-plus years as Envelope Secretary
- ◆ Her hospitality as a smiling greeter
- ◆ Her work to beautify the church grounds with flowers and shrubs
- ◆ Their planning and serving parish breakfasts
- ◆ Coordinating and implementing important aspects of St. Mark's 50th anniversary celebration



- ◆ Running the pancake suppers and rummage sales
- ◆ Their service at the bazaars

Lorne and Connie are an inspiration to all of us and we are so grateful to have them in our midst. Thanks be to God for this wonderful couple.

Brian Harrison, the new Breakfast Co-ordinator

*Oh what a beautiful breakfast,
Oh what a beautiful day,
Oh how the Bowermans spoiled us,
All in their own special way.*

The choir's 'ditty' writer, MTW editor Brenda Zanin, took time from her westward trek and the bitter cold, somewhere near Houston, to pen these words, plus a couple of verses about hot-cross buns and pancakes ... and also to edit this issue of MTW.



Another example of dedication.



... and Grandchildren

Christmas Pageant is wholly family

There wasn't quite a cast of thousands, but the Christmas Pageant following the 10 am service on December 22, 2013 was still an epic production with limited time and available actors. Auditions generated some competition, but producer (in more ways than one) Cynthia Greer and director Kate Greer-Close didn't have to search too far, or even need the star to guide them. The nativity story -- complete with shepherds, angels, Joseph and Mary (plus a baby doll) was told in word and music by none other than the Family Greer - four Pilsons, three Closes and two Paganis - nine of the eleven Greer grandchildren. A truly family affair.

ML

Joe 'the Quartermaster' Savill

St Mark's lost an old soldier when Joe Savill died September 30, 2013. Joe was a member of 72nd Ottawa-St Mark's Group Committee.

He was known as 'the Quarter-master', and kept a very tight rein on all the equipment, everything stored away, and secured with a bunch of keys which never left his possession. Long before recycling became a daily word, the Scouts, under Joe's leadership, were involved in bottle drives, paper drives and fertilizer sales. In 1997 Joe was honoured by Scouts Canada for 40 years of dedication to 72nd Ottawa-St Mark's scouting program. In 2007 on Baden-Powell Sunday, St Mark's presented the first Joe Savill Award.



Lorne Bowerman and Scouter Don Flynn reminisced on Joe's life with St Mark's during a special Scouting service, Remembrance Sunday, November 10, 2013.

Scouter Don Flynn: "I know that you Cubs, Scouts and Venturers only know Joe Savill from the award that was created in his name [in 2007]. This award is given to a scouting youth who shows the 'true spirit of scouting'... Joe lived the 'true spirit of scouting' always thinking of what he could do for the scouts. Scouter Joe was a scrounger of the first order and we all knew that after the church's various

rummage sales we could look forward to walking in the scout locker and seeing a large collection of pots, pans, sleeping bags, tents and other items Joe thought we could use ... the things were very useful and saved money that could then be spent on camps and programs. ... He had an obsession about making sure the tents were dry before being put back in the locker... He was even known to turn up on a Sunday afternoon when we came back from a weekend of camping to see the tents were hung up for a day or two before being put away. Joe was always thinking of what he could do for the youth in our scouts. ... (he) was a wonderful friend to the 72nd St Marks Scout Group and he made a significant difference to the youth and leaders he worked with for many, many years."

Lorne Bowerman: "Joe Savill served in the RCAF from 1939 to 1945 as an electrician. After the war, he was resident electrician at the National Research Council on Sussex Drive. As a veteran, he built a house in the veteran's development of Carleton Heights on Ortona Ave. When the decision was made to establish an Anglican parish, Joe and his wife Dorothy became founding members of the Parish. Joe was a tireless worker for the things he loved and supported. St Mark's benefited greatly from his work for men's organizations, pancake suppers, rummage sales, weekend clean-up crews, and keeping the buildings in good repair. Even years after Joe had moved from the Parish, people would come to rummage sales and ask about "that very energetic salesman". Joe could sell anything to anybody. The electrical part of the four lights in the nave of the church were the work of Joe. That they have lasted almost 60 years is a tribute to his skills. St Mark's today remembers Joe Savill with much love and affection."

Joe remained active in the parish until March 1999, when he and his wife Dorothy left Ottawa to be closer to their daughters Joan and Diane.

ML



MAP ... Ministry Assessment Process and Discernment

As noted in our last MTW newsletter in October 2013, St Mark's held an Open Parish Council meeting about MAP on October 9. From concerns raised at this meeting, St Mark's requested more time for the discernment process.

Since October, the MAP Leadership Team, including St Mark's members Fr Brian, Judy Darling and Georgia Roberts, has met a number of times and St Mark's concerns have been discussed there.

In November, the initial tri-parish leadership team expanded to include four new representatives from each parish. From St Mark's these were Audia Barnett, Karen Roberts, Penny Miller and Keith Wilkins. The task of the expanded group, called the Discernment Team, was to interpret the information collected on the viable options for the future proposed at the September open meeting, and, through facilitated conversation and prayer, to develop a recommendation for the three parishes to pursue. This group met three times for several hours in early November, in early December and finally in early January.

Two special Parish Meetings were called on November 19 and December 8, as recommended by Parish Council, to continue the conversation about MAP. The facilitator for these meetings was the Reverend Canon Allen Box. A report was produced by Canon Box and made available; it included a one-page summary of the December 1 Discernment Team meeting.

At the December Parish Council meeting, Parish Council asked the MAP team to address the questions by individuals that had been submitted to Parish Council. Some work has been done, and consolidation of the results is underway.

At the beginning of February, the Discernment Team released its report. Included in this report is the recommended goal for the three parishes to pursue –

“one parish, in one location” – along with the resolution to be voted on at a Vestry in each parish. The report also contains an explanation of why this goal has been discerned and the possible challenges that we will face in working towards it. While the report does not contain an implementation plan, it does propose what needs to be considered for implementation and for the interim period until a final decision is made in early 2015. The report, along with other MAP documents, is now available on our website at www.stmarksottawa.ca/MAP. Each household on the parish list will also receive a paper copy.

On January 27, Bishop Chapman invited the Discernment Team and Parish Council members from all three parishes to meet with him so that he might get a clear understanding of how the MAP process was progressing. After a two-hour conversation, the Bishop expressed how pleased he was that this is a grassroots initiative and that he will be very interested in how the future unrolls.

Throughout the fall, there were many opportunities for the three parishes to come together, including Pulpit exchanges, a joint Advent learning program and several social events.

St Mark's MAP Leadership Team

February 2 - Parish Town Hall meeting:

This was an opportunity to continue our discussions and ask our questions about MAP. It was held after the 10:00am service, facilitated by Archdeacon Chris Dunn. Nearly 50 people attended.

The next steps involving MAP for St Mark's are the following:

February 23 - Annual Vestry:

MAP will NOT be on the agenda at the Annual Vestry. The opportunity exists for a brief Q&A once the Vestry meeting is adjourned, but there will not be a facilitator present.

March 16 - Parish Town Hall meeting:

This will be another opportunity to continue our discussions about MAP. It will be held after the 10:00am service, facilitated by Archdeacon Chris Dunn.

Next Issue of MTW

***St Mark's Episcopal visit
with Bishop John Chapman***



Parish Nursing Ministry

November 2013 Seniors' Eucharist and Lunch

The Fall gathering for our seniors was held on November 18, with a special invitation to the senior parishioners at St Michael's and St Richards. Over 70 seniors attended.

Nordic Pole Walking (NPW) Our NPW clinic held January 15 was a huge success. Twenty people learned why this is such a healthy physical activity and then tried it out. If you missed out and want to start NPWing, contact Janet Crawford, Certified NPW Instructor e-mail: jcrawford6122@hotmail.com tel: (613) 736-0198. Stay tuned for information about another clinic this spring at Carleton Memorial United Church and the start-up of a NPW group.

Caring for Each Other A congregational discussion was held Sunday January 19. Approximately 20 people offered input, ideas and perspectives. Notes of this meeting are available on the Parish Nurse website: www.stmarksottawa.ca/parish_nurse/parishnurse1.html under Pastoral Care, or hard copy upon request.

A number of initiatives / actions are moving forward.

What we still need:

- ◆ People to volunteer and get involved.
- ◆ Stewardship offering of time and talents.
- ◆ Friendly phone calling,
- ◆ Friendly visiting
- ◆ Transportation (drive to church).

If you have time to support any of these Caring ministries please contact me.

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January: Alzheimer Awareness Visit the web:
www.alzheimerottawa.ca/we-can-help/

February: Heart Health Visit the web:
www.heartandstroke.com

Janet Helmer, Parish Nurse



St Mark's Seniors' Eucharist, November 2013

Ladies' Groups in the parish



St Mark's Mothers' Union, aka Membership Committee, invited 'new-to-St Mark's' ladies to their English Tea Party at Billings Estate in July



Circle 2 members enjoy Christmas fellowship as they celebrate another successful fundraising year with the Art Show and Christmas puddings sales.

Treasurer's Report ... a cautious "Well Done!"

Well done! St Mark's ended 2013 with a surplus of approximately \$13,000. This offsets our accumulated deficit and gives us about \$7,000 we can put toward our projected deficit of \$15,000 for 2014. While this end of year is heartwarming and satisfying, it comes as the result of unique circumstances. While our collections income was up slightly, the majority of the surplus came from our staffing situation. We realized significant savings in 2013 because our organist was on leave for most of the year, our interim organist left sooner than expected and we then engaged a weekly replacement. There were also minimal music costs over the summer. There has been an increase in rental income, but we can't count on it. In summary, while it was a very satisfying year financially speaking, the long term forecast remains unchanged.

Joy Bowerman



Sikri Altarpiece

On January 19, parishioners at St Mark's got a glimpse into life in Sikri, Kenya, thanks to the presentation by the Reverend Judy Oatway, formerly of the PWRDF. She brought with her an altarpiece that was created to tell the story of this rural village in the Diocese of Southern Nyanza, in western Kenya near Lake Victoria. The creation of this altarpiece was a journey of self-discovery, allowing villagers to work through the traumas of poverty and loss due to HIV and AIDS, as interpreted through the Gospel narrative. Using colour, thread and bead to tell the story, they laid their pain to rest. They reached out to one another, discovered many new talents, and began building a safe and healthy community. The central, angled panels of the altarpiece express the belief of the people of Sikri that, as they journey down the road to resurrection, they will meet Christ and experience God.

A year of celebrations



It has been quite a year for Joan Knight and her family ... Joan turned 90 last February, daughter-in-law Beth defended her Doctorate on March 7, then gave birth to daughter Tamar less than 48 hours later, granddaughter Evelyn was married in the summer, and in January son Will successfully defended his Doctorate ... all this in less than a year.

Calendar of Events

Annual Vestry February 23	following the 10:00 am service
	Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper March 4 from 5:00 – 7:00 pm \$7.50 adults children with an adult Free
Ash Wednesday March 5	Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes 10:00 am and 7:00 pm
World Day of Prayer – Egypt March 7	7:00 pm joint service at St Mark's with St Mark & St Monica's Coptic Orthodox Church
Parish Breakfast March 9	8:50 am following the 8:00 am service
Tri-parish Lenten Study	Wednesday evenings in Lent 7:00 pm at St Michael and All Angels - details TBA
MAP Town Hall Meeting or possible Special Vestry March 16	following the 10:00 am service
Mothering Sunday March 30	
Special Vestry for MAP April 6	following the 10:00 am service
	St Mark's Annual Art Show April 12 10:30 am – 3:00 pm original works by local artists

St Mark's Roll Call	
Baptism	Claire Elizabeth Richards
Deaths	Bill Slaughter, Milfred Chapman



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The Parish Magazine of the Diocese of Southern Nyanza

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