

# Church of The Ascension

60<sup>TH</sup>  
ANNIVERSARY

Service of Celebration  
Sunday, Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>  
10:00 am



THE CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION  
*We are blessed*

2014 Annual  
Vestry Report



Bob Corrigan presenting the plans for the 'new' storage area at the Annual Vestry Meeting on February 2, 2014

**Church of the Ascension  
1476 Sparks Street  
Sudbury, Ontario**

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Dedication of Communion Set Memory of George Trimmer January 12, 2012

Anne Trimmer & family - Fr. Bob & Rev Anne

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## A Prayer As We Meet

God of the turning seasons,  
another year has come and gone and once again we gather for the Annual Meeting of this  
Congregation at the Church of the Ascension.

To this place we bring all the celebrations and hardships, the joys and the sorrows of the  
past 12 months; our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year.

Here we pause to remember those whose lives we have celebrated as we said the last fare-  
well of death.

### *Silence*

Here we remember the highlights of the year: Baptisms; Marriages, and welcoming new  
members into our parish family. We give thanks for our worship times and for the times we  
spent together learning and getting to know each other and sharing stories of our faith. We  
give thanks for the presence of children and youth in our midst, for Godly Play Vacation Bi-  
ble School and the Christmas pageant. We give thanks for opportunities for fellowship –  
Wednesday morning and Sunday evening study groups, Messy Church; the weekly gathering  
of women around quilts; the pancake supper, summer BBQ, Anniversary dinner/dance.

We thank you for giving us so many willing volunteers to become involved with our many  
outreach projects to local, national and international needs.

We thank you for the builders in our midst who planned and rebricked the front of the  
church and renovated the storage area.

We thank you for all those who served faithfully in our church last year; who gave their  
time and their talent and expected no reward for their efforts.

Here also we gather to look forward to what the coming years have in store.  
We know that they will not always be easy, that life will always have a mixture of easy and  
difficult.

As we meet and discuss the life and work of this part of your family we pray that you would  
be a part of our discussion.

May your Spirit move in our hearts, opening them to hear what each of us has to offer,  
bringing light to both possibilities and realities, drawing us always to consider what you  
would have us be and do in this time and place.

Remind us that we are called to be bearers of Christ's life, light, and love to all we meet.  
Help us to live in such a way that we draw closer to your vision for us and journey faithfully  
in your Way.

In this time together we celebrate the many gifts we all have to offer.  
Help us offer what we can to your service and your glory, mindful of our great giftedness in  
so many ways throughout our lives.

These things we pray in the name of Jesus of Nazareth, the one we call Christ, in whose  
name and hope we gather together as a community.

Amen.

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Dedication of cruets given in memory of Charles & Dorothy Germond  
by Colin & Anne Germond with Fr Bob, January 12, 2014

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**Church of the Ascension Annual Vestry Meeting**  
**Agenda**  
**Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 1pm.**

**Prayer before a meeting**

*God our Creator, when you speak there is light and life; when you act there is justice and love. Grant that your love may be present in our meeting so that what we do and what we say may be filled with your Holy Spirit. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**Prayer for the Mission of the Church**

*Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our Lord Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving Him in His mission in the world, and together witnessing to His love on every continent and island.*

1. Meeting called to order.
2. Election of Vestry Clerk.
3. Adoption of the minutes of the Annual Vestry Meeting held on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014.
4. Matters arising from the minutes of the February 2014 meeting.
5. Motion for the adoption of all published committee reports.
6. Presentation and adoption of the 2014 Financial Statements by the Treasurer.
7. Presentation of the 2015 budget by the treasurer.
8. Motion for the appointment of a treasurer/auditor for the 2014/ 2015 books.
9. Acceptance of the Nominating Committee's Report for the 2015 Board. Any new nominations should be entertained at this time.

*Motion from the January 2015 Board meeting regarding the number of 'members at large' on the church board, and explanation.*

*"That the number of members at large on the church board be limited to 8 people"*

*Explanation of the roles and responsibilities of Synod delegate. This is a two year term and Synod delegates immediately become members of the board and also of Deanery Council, which meets twice a year in the spring and fall. (Next meeting is April 11<sup>th</sup> 2015) The Synod of the Diocese of Algoma meets from May 6<sup>th</sup> to May 9<sup>th</sup> 2015 in Sault Ste. Marie.*

**Article 3: Lay Delegates to Synod**

qualifications:

1. (a) A Lay delegate shall be a person elected at the annual meeting or at any vestry meeting called for that purpose in the same year as a regularly scheduled synod, and who:

(i) has had the status of communicant at the time of the election; and

(ii) is at least 16 years old; (Amended 2011) and

(iii) does not hold the Bishop's licence as a deacon or priest. (Amended 1997) [formerly Article 3].

(b) All lay nominees, at the time of their nomination, shall signify their willingness to attend the Synod, if elected. No nomination shall be received without such signification. [formerly Article 6].

15.Voting

16.Vote of thanks to the Board members.

17.Renewal of Parochial Layreaders and Eucharistic Assistants (see Worship Report)

18.New business

19.Motion for the adjournment of the meeting.

20.Closing prayers

### **Rules concerning eligibility to vote at Vestry meeting**

All persons shall be entitled to a seat and a vote when the

- Are Baptized
- Are full 16 years of age.
- Are habitual attendees at divine worship
- Have contributed in the year immediately prior to the working expenses of the church.



Baptism of Heidi Stiller, January 12, 2014  
Rev Anne, Jen & Eric Stiller with Heidi.

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## Annual Vestry Meeting February 2, 2014

### Minutes

Meeting called to order at 1:04

Opened with prayers

There were 38 people present

Ven. Anne introduced new members that were in attendance and thanked everyone for submitting reports.

Vestry clerk is Ralph Mounter in his absence Cindy Caines agreed to take the minutes.

Minutes of the vestry meeting of January 27, 2013 were adopted as written.

Erma made the motion, seconded by Betty McLeod.

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

Jennifer Cawley-Caruso presented a plan to host a series of evenings for families and youth on behalf of the visioning committee. They would focus on youth mental health, addiction issues and youth sexuality. The will begin in April with the topic of mental health. Youth today experience stress and anxiety.

Motion for the adoption of all published committee reports as written was made by Jane Cox and seconded by Brent Leigh.

Cathy presented the financial statements and explained all the figures.

Motion to accept the 2014 actual and budgeted figures as presented was made by Cathy Dionne and seconded by Kath Greenidge.

Thanks was given to Cathy Dionne and Gladys Abigail for all their hard work. The counters were recognized. Having the electronic offering has made the job of the counters easier. As of January 2014 we have 27 using the electronic offering program.

Dave Fowler has agreed to review our books. Ven. Anne made the motion for Dave Fowler to take on the role of the external examiner of the books. Seconded by Bob Corrigan. Vote - all in favour.

Thanks was given to the nominating committee. There is no change in wardens. Erma Howe and Anne Trimmer both serving their 2nd year of a 5 year term.

Names of last year's youth synod delegates were read and we are hoping Heather Ames will attend this year.

Everyone was invited to attend the board meetings that usually last two hours.

Opportunity was given to everyone to sit on the board. Jennifer Ames was nominated by Erma Howe and seconded by Jane Cox.

Motion to approve the names listed - all in favour

Motion to approve all nominations- all in favour

Kath Greenidge mentioned we do need help with our website and we may need to look at getting a newer updated website. Currently our website manager is not answering calls or emails and we do pay over \$400 a year for this service.

Added Jane Cox as Green team leader to the list of other positions that do not require attendance at the meetings.

Thanks was given to each board member. It should be noted, we are a working board.

Eucharistic Assistants- added Thelma Smith to the list.

Beaumont Nelson nominated Brent Leigh as Eucharistic Assistant and Brent accepted.

Storage project presented by Bob Corrigan

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The cold storage area located behind the Sanctuary is pulling away from the wall. We have discussed the possibility of connecting the storage room off of the fellowship room with the 'cold storage' area having it heated and all at one level. This was presented to representatives of all the church groups and the board. All were in favour and liked the plan presented.

Bob explained the drawings and asked for suggestions.

- we will gain 60% more storage area. Each group will have their own area. There will be a closet for all the gowns that are currently stored in the upstairs room and hall closet going into the fellowship hall
- costed new vinyl siding
- want to start the project in May
- bricklayer can do both in May
- tear down cold storage will be led by Harley, who has youth to help
- will rent a bin to store everything until the job is done
- we will utilize most of what is in the storage areas and use for new area.
- Wayne Bonas will take over at the framing stage
- David and Rob Caines worked on the heating system, cost \$700

This will be completed following the guidelines of our green audit.

Total cost \$14,000 which includes 15% contingency

Brick on the front of the church would cost \$7000 to replace and this has already been approved. A sample photo of the brick selected was passed around.

There were no questions.

Bob Corrigan made the motion to approve the construction of the storage area for the coming year 2014, as presented. Seconded by Brent Leigh

Vote - all in favour.

Ven. Anne discussed her concern of using all the funds and leaving us low in funds if something unexpected was to happen. We could apply for a loan from the Archbishop Wright Building Fund (through the Diocese). We have a good credit rating with the Diocese. There is paperwork that would need to be completed as soon as possible.

Gary spoke and shared his thoughts. We have a plan A or plan B, do we appeal to our congregation?

There was a discussion regarding any other concerns with our building. Harley explained the only item would be a water leak and the need to caulk the J trim, which is not a big job. Cathy Dionne indicated we do not pay for the loan until we use it and suggested we apply for the loan and repay it as quickly as possible. We will fundraise within our church community and everyone will be invited to contribute.

Bob mentioned Del needs help with the work he does. Del shared that he no longer gets help from the John Howard Society. He needs help taking everything apart. People can bring in any metal, copper, brass, taps, sinks, plumbing, barbecues, air conditioners, electrical wire, cable and pop cans.

You can drop these items off at Dels's home, 465 Westmount Ave. It was also mentioned that we can give high school student volunteer hours to help.

Anne Trimmer made the motion to borrow \$10,000 from the Bishop Wright Memorial Building Fund.

Brent Leigh made the motion to amend the amount to \$14,000 and for it to be paid back as quickly as possible. Seconded by Marlene Moulton

Vote all in favour

Our Christmas Outreach Funds

How do we spend it? Suggestions were given: Samaritan Centre- Coldest night of the year walk, Jacqueline Villeneuve Orphanage, Hospice.

Cathy Dionne made a motion we give \$500 to the Jacqueline Villeneuve orphanage. Second-

ed by Erma Howe.

Betty McLeod made a motion we give \$500 to the Hospice.

Cathy Dionne made a motion we give \$300 to the Samaritan Centre.

Gary made a motion we amend the amount to \$500 to the Samaritan Centre.

The motions were seconded by Betty Bonas.

Vote all in favour.

2014 is our 60th anniversary, our jubilee year and we should celebrate!

Cindy shared she will be starting up a men's club.

Gary gave thanks for the warm welcome.

Ven Anne spoke about our outreach with Barrydowne College and shared a conversation she had with another church who knew us and the wonderful outreach we have with our neighbours.

We closed the meeting in prayer.

Meeting adjourned



Seniors luncheon April 29, 2014  
Our beloved May (RIP), Norma Mayo, Catherine Bird-Heuft  
Jean Aceti & Derold Balson

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Children's time with Rev Anne the funny (LOL) juggler! April 27, 2014



Preparing for Godly Play!

## Rector's Report to Vestry 2014

“Father of all, we pray to you for those we love but see no longer. Grant them your peace; let light perpetual shine upon them; and in your wisdom and almighty power, work in them the good purpose of your perfect will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen” (BAS pg. 602)

Let us remember these parishioners who died last year, and give thanks for their lives and our memories of them.

Elizabeth Gates  
 Shirley Fleming  
 Cecil Hindman  
 Audrey MacDonald  
 Ron MacDonald  
 May King  
 Ann Corrigan

Dear friends in Christ,

It gives me great pleasure to present my report for 2014 – my fourteenth as your rector. Now where did those years disappear to?! I can honestly say that there has not been one ordinary year at the Ascension since I became your rector in 2000 – every year has been an extraordinary one. It's not surprising really because I am blessed with an extraordinary congregation who go out of their way to do extraordinary things for their love of God and the Church.

As you peruse the pages of the Vestry booklet, you will see that this is true. You will read of people giving their time, talents, and treasures to help others grow in their faith as they shared in ministry at the Ascension.

If there is a word that captured last year for me, it would be ‘Thanksgiving’ –:

Thanksgiving for the joy I experience every time I walk through the doors of the church.

Thanksgiving for the dedication and commitment of the wardens, board members, honou-  
 raries, and other parish leaders.

Thanksgiving for each person who calls the Ascension their spiritual home, and for their participation in the life of our congregation.

Thanksgiving for those who make it possible for someone else to attend church by offering them a ride to church.

Thanksgiving for the way in which we helped to build the new storage unit – both through the work of our hands and the generosity of many who offered their time and money to make it possible.

Thanksgiving for the way in which members of the former “St. Mark's” congregation were welcomed into the Ascension, and for the way in which they became part of our life together.

Thanksgiving for ‘Godly Play’ and ‘Messy Church’, and for how important we see the spir-  
 itual formation of our children.

Thanksgiving for the way we reached out to the sick, bereaved, seniors and shut ins in our congregation so they did not feel forgotten when they were absent on Sundays.

Thanksgiving for the compassionate way we reached out beyond our doors to those who are in need.

Thanksgiving for our good relationships with our neighbouring churches.

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## 60th Anniversary Celebrations

What made last year different, and extra special, was that it was the 60th Anniversary of our life together as a faith community. The Ascension began in a New Sudbury school room, as 29 people met for worship on the 25th January 1954 all because they wanted to be a faith community in our area. They then met regularly for worship and to discuss the possibility of building their own church. Within four short years a church was built on Sparks Street and the vital vibrant congregation we are today, with more than 300 individuals and families on our parish list is a result of the faithfulness of clergy and laity for 60 years.

Last year was an opportunity to reflect on the past, celebrate the present and look forward to a hopeful future. And celebrate we did! From a neighbourhood BBQ lunch in the parking lot, to a children's party, to an evening of dining and dancing, culminating in a Service of Thanksgiving, it was a year to remember.

Although Bishop Stephen and Fawna were not able to join us for the Service of Thanksgiving, due to family circumstances, and were missed, we will look forward to their visit this year.

One of the most meaningful ways that we celebrated our 60th Anniversary was through a 'thank offering', the proceeds of which we directed to the Diocese of Tarime in Tanzania. It was our hope that the funds be used for a parish to take their first steps to their 60th Anniversary. It was wonderful to receive a letter of thanks for that gift from both Bishop Mwita and Bishop Stephen. The funds will go to the Rebu Church which has so far been built by funds solely raised by the congregation has one wall to complete before it will be ready for its roof. (the roof will be funded by monies raised by the Bishop).

In his letter to us, Bishop Mwita says that a completed church building with a roof will keep out the rain and the heat during worship, but that the church itself will be used for much more than just worship. Churches in Tanzania are also community centres of education during the week. Water, that very basic commodity, is harvested into huge barrels for drinking.

In his letter, Bishop Stephen writes – "I remember seeing the foundation of the Rebu Church and I recall the aspirations of many in the diocese that the church would be a centre of education for young girls. When we were there we heard how many young women from rural areas, upon completion of their elementary education at age 14 are unable to proceed to further education. The majority of these girls end up in early marriages where they acquiesce to a gender inequality that is degrading. The establishment of churches not only provides a place for Christians to worship, but a community institution rooted in gospel values that seek the betterment of all."

A tiny gift of money from Sudbury has the potential to transform lives in a very practical way.

## A Spirit Filled Church

As I was tidying up emails files recently I came across one entitled "A Spirit Filled Church". It was the recording of a message I received on the answering machine from Elizabeth Gates, shortly before she died. Elizabeth was one of our founding members, and wife to Del. She spent the last years of her life in a nursing home, but she continued to be a vital member of our congregation as she prayed for people, and shared her wit and wisdom when they visited her. Elizabeth's message started out with her reading a passage from the Book of Acts –

"Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had things in common. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home, and ate their food with glad and generous hearts. And day by day the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." Acts 2. 43-47

Elizabeth then went on to read a passage from a devotional book she kept beside her. She read, "A Spirit filled church is a going to be a supernatural church. By supernatural I mean that there will be things about the people in the church that can't be explained in human terms. If people don't see the transformation of others they will have no reason to listen to

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what is being preached. When the church shows itself to be a place of power, lives are being transformed, and the only legitimate explanation is that God is doing something.”

Elizabeth ended her message by saying she believed that this was a description of the Church of the Ascension, and that she was blessed to be a part of that church.

I agree with Elizabeth on all counts, including that I am blessed to be part of this congregation. What I have witnessed over the last several years is that God is doing something wonderful in our midst. Lives are being transformed, and being made into the image and likeness of God as people are taking their baptismal call seriously.

I will be bold enough to say that the real test of our success here is not what we have done, and all that we have achieved, but how we have done it. For the real measure of our extraordinariness as Christians is not our thoughtfulness, or our friendliness, or our busyness – but only how the gifts of the Holy Spirit flow from us and how the Holy Spirit’s fruits of love, joy, peace patience, kindness, goodness and self control are evident in and through us.

The real sign of our witness as Christ’s disciples is not how much we have accomplished but our own lightness and our own reflection of the bright God who has chosen us and lit us up and sent us into the world like candles in a dark room.

### **A Hopeful future**

At the January Board meeting the members of the board took another look at the Assessment summary that the Diocesan Congregational Development Officer Jay Koyle prepared for us, and which we received last year. You will recall that we did the Assessment in 2013. Jay made the following suggestions as to some possible actions we might take in the future.

Strengthen and increase ecumenical and community partnerships

Use flexible space to strengthen formation and mission – employ configurations that incorporate greater bodily movement as well as reflect and reinforce the character, values, and mission of the congregation

Foster small group ministry and shape channels for incorporating inquirers into the way of discipleship and the life of the faith community

Expand notions of hospitality beyond offering a welcome on Sundays and providing a friendly atmosphere – consider the place of mutuality and of embracing the stranger as integral to biblical notions of hospitality

Work toward adding additional paid pastoral/missional staff.

I am pleased to say that in the past couple of years we have strengthened our ecumenical and community partnerships and have a vital ministerial with our neighbouring churches, as well as a terrific partnership with Barrydowne College. It was exciting to see the small group ministry taking shape as we met to read and discuss Bonhoeffer’s “Life Together” with Father Bob.

In addition to these, we have also seen a greater focus on our young families and children’s ministry. This is due in no small work to the dedication of our Child and Youth Ministry team.

I was also delighted to see how many people came forward to offer their help with the various property jobs that are handled on a weekly basis at the Ascension, and which deputy warden Harley Moulton had mostly taken care of. They say that ‘many hands make light work’ – so true.

### **An extension of your ministry**

You know that as the Archdeacon I have additional responsibilities in our deanery and diocese. It is a privilege for me to be of assistance to Bishop Stephen as I visit other congregations in Sudbury/Manitoulin and render assistance as needed. 2014 was a very busy year in that respect as St. James Church went up for sale, as well as St. Mark’s in Garson. The people of St. James moved to a new location in the South Ridge Mall, and the people of St. Mark’s have joined other congregations. It is always sad to see a church building close, but

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we give thanks for the years of ministry that happened in both of those places and believe that God will continue to bless those who once worshipped in them.

In 2014 I visited St. Christopher's Church in Mac Gregor Bay during the summer, getting a good taste of life in a summer parish. In the fall I visited St. Thomas' on the French River.

I also serve as the Chaplain for the Greater Sudbury Police Services and I am often present at ceremonial functions or for a chat and coffee as needed by the sworn or civilian staff.

Sometimes both of these duties and responsibilities take me away from the parish. These are part of my calling to the wider church, and are important. In many ways I see these ministries as an extension of we who are at the Ascension – a compassionate people who see beyond our own needs, and who offer ourselves to others.

Thank you for supporting me in these ministries, and for all the ways in which you extend the hand of friendship to Colin, Caitlin and Richard. We are so grateful to be part of the Ascension family.

With gratitude and many blessings for the year that lies before us,

*Anne*

Rector: Church of the Ascension



Catherine Bird-Heuft installed as a Parochial Lay Reader May 18, 2014

In photo Fr. Bob, Rev Anne & Catherine.

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## Report of the Honorary Associate Priest

### The Rev. Dr. Robert Derrenbacher

Dear Ascension Friends, brothers and sisters in Christ:

It is hard to believe that another year has passed and the “Vestry Season” is upon us again! (I always have thought that the Church calendar goes as follows: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany and Vestry!)

Once again, it has been both an honour and a blessing to serve as your Honorary Associate Priest. I continue to enjoy assisting the Rector liturgically. It is particularly a real privilege to serve as Celebrant at the Eucharist, which Rev. Anne affords me so often.

This past year, in addition to my various liturgical and homiletical duties, I led a book study group in the weeks leading up to the Ascension’s anniversary celebrations. About 20 or so of us read through Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s book “Life Together,” a book that explores the nature of Christian community and our calling to live “Life Together” as disciples of Jesus. We had some excellent discussions (and at times friendly debate!). And what drove home for the group was that our congregation needs more opportunities like this – to explore, in depth and in a small group setting, a book of some sort, whether modern or Biblical. I am a teacher and a theologian. It would be my pleasure to lead another small group discussion, perhaps on a book of the Bible, in the coming year. I will discuss this with Rev. Anne and the Wardens of the church to begin to move this forward.

As I’ve said in the past, the Church of the Ascension is the friendliest and most giving congregation of which I have been a part. It is a privilege to be your Honorary Associate. I look forward to what God has in store for us as a community in the year to come!

Respectfully submitted,

*The Rev. Dr. Robert Derrenbacher*

Honorary Associate

## Report of Honourary Assistant

### The Rev. Rhonda Hirst

Dear Rev. Anne, Father Bob and Ascension brothers and sisters,

This past year, as clergy movement slowed down a bit in the Deanery of Sudbury/Manitoulin, I was so pleased to be able to spend some more time with all of you at the Church of the Ascension. Once again, as I reflect upon 2014 and our life at Ascension, I continue to give heartfelt thanks to God for the love and support that I have been blessed to receive as your Honorary Assistant. Each and every one of you is truly a gift from God in my life, and I look forward to the gift of more time together in the year to come.

With much love and gratitude,

*Reverend Rhonda.*

Honourary Assistant

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## Wardens

Happy 60th Anniversary, Ascension! It has been a year of celebration, optimism, and rejoicing. We give thanks for 60 years of faithful servants who served, worshipped, committed time, energy and money to make Ascension the thriving place that it is: A sanctuary of God's love that spreads with vitality beyond our walls. We give thanks for your thanksgiving offering for the Ascension, where we collected \$1,600 from you to send to the Diocese of Tarime in Tanzania to help in their building of a church, helping them take steps towards their 60th!!

As the following reports will detail, there have been an abundance of activities in 2014. From worship, outreach, and parish life, these activities have strengthened our relationship with God and with each other.

We continued our service in our community to seniors, to the homeless and disadvantaged, and to youth at Barrydowne College. These relationships are ever deepening.

In terms of the physical building, our bills were paid, property maintained, and we continued to get things accomplished. This year, we built a storage addition. We rebricked the front of the parish building. We were able to do this from your continued generosity of money, labour, and time.

As part of Warden business in caring for our physical property, we did a detailed inventory of parish contents and an appraisal of the church building and rectory so our insurance coverage accurately reflects the value of our physical structures and contents.

We want to thank you for the generosity of each of you. We give thanks to God for the abundance and multitude of blessings.

Respectfully submitted,

*Anne Trimmer*

People's Warden

*Erma Howe*

Rector's Warden

*Harley Moulton*

Deputy Warden



Gerry Lougheed Jr. our MC for our 60th Anniversary Dinner/Dance on October 25, 2014 certainly entertained us with his 'Angelic' appearance & his 'gift of the gab'!

## Pastoral Care

*"I was sick and you took care of me." Matt. 25.36*

Pastoral visitations remain an integral part of life at the Ascension and they are made possible by a committed group of parishioners who visit those who live in nursing or retirement homes, or who are simply too frail to join us regularly for worship or other parish activities. Their visits are a blessing to these once active members of the congregation who feel connected with us through these visits. Prayers are always offered during these visits, and sometimes communion is given through the reserved sacrament. Often visitors bring homemade cookies, a magazine, or a card – and these small tokens of friendship are also greatly appreciated.

In 2014 parishioners at St. Gabriel's Villa in Chelmsford, the Westmount and Walford Retirement Residences, Finlandia, L'Arche Sudbury, as well as the Continuing Care Centre on South Bay Road were regularly visited. For some parishioners these were temporary residences as they recovered from illnesses, but for others these were their permanent homes.

Thank you to Marie Vitone, Paul and Sheila Murdock, Kath Greenidge, Bruce and Catherine Bird-Heuft, Dave and Noella Fowler, Kay and Ken Winfield, Cathy Jewell, Irene Gilchrist and Shannon Hengen for being part of this team.

There are also many parishioners who are friends with those who don't make it to church regularly, or who are bereaved – and their calls, cards, prayers, emails and visits are also appreciated.

Each pastoral visitor follows the Screening in Faith guidelines as set out by the diocese and is asked to obtain a police record check before taking on this ministry.

In addition to visits, care and concern for seniors and shut ins happens through our weekly intercessions; as the weekly bulletin and announcements are mailed to each person to ensure they are kept updated on what is happening in the parish (thank you Thelma), through the delivery of a plant and homemade cookies at Christmas and Easter to each of our seniors, along with a note of greeting. Thank you to the Outreach team

and Parish Life for organising these and to parishioners for your generous donation of cookies and treats.

Another important part of pastoral care and concern are the weekly and monthly worship services in neighbourhood retirement residences and nursing homes. Every Thursday morning for the last 25 years a team of volunteers assists with the service at Falconbridge Extencicare. Parishioners like Betty Bonas, Irene Ginson Fiss, Marlene Giblin, Daryl Keen, Marjorie Morton, and Thelma Smith faithfully ensured that residents were brought to the recreation room for a service. Due to the frailty of many residents, and the difficulty in finding volunteers to continue with this in an ongoing way, the volunteers ended this ministry in 2014.

The monthly services at the Westmount Residence continue. Worship leaders for these services are Rev. Anne, Rev. Stewart Walker from St. Stephen's on the Hill, and Rev. Erin Todd from Trinity United Church. There is a growing number of parishioners at the Westmount, and we look forward to continuing these services in 2015. We are thankful to Marjorie Morton for offering her gift of music, to Roz Jones, Betty Bonas, Thelma Smith, and Hazel Edwards for their presence and participation.

We are also very grateful to Rev. Rhonda, the Chaplain at Health Sciences North for the loving care she provides to so many parishioners who are hospitalized. She often drops by to visit, pray with, anoint, and offer wise counsel to family members as parishioners recover.

Visitations remain key to Rev. Anne's ministry and she brings communion to shut ins, and makes regular home and hospital visits to our seniors and the sick throughout the year. Her office door is always open for a visit and a time of prayer for anyone in need.

Faithfully submitted,

*The Ven. Anne Germond*

## Altar Guild Report

Here at the Church of the Ascension we have a dedicated group of ladies who do an outstanding job in preparing the altar and preparing the sanctuary for Sunday morning worship. This group of ladies also looks after

the altar duties in the chapel for Wednesday morning Eucharist. These same ladies look after setting up the altar for special occasions such as weddings, baptisms, and funerals. These ladies do a wonderful job. Being part of the Altar Guild is an amazing ministry within our parish.

Our group of ladies consists of Betty Bonas, Betty McLeod, Thelma Smith, Irene Gilchrist, Connie Lee, and myself. We are sorry to have Daryl Keen on a leave of absence at the moment. Daryl always did a wonderful job and we do miss her. Thank you very much for all that you all do. I greatly appreciate it.

Once again we give a special thank you to Rev. Anne for all of her guidance and support that she gives to the ladies. We are blessed to have her.

Thank you so much to all of the parishioners who have donated money for flowers during the past year. We thank you for your Easter and Christmas flower donations as well. We have once again put up a flower chart in the hallway to the Fellowship Hall. This will enable you to fill in the section for the Sunday that you would like to place flowers on the altar for your special occasions.

This year we were able to purchase fabric, make and embroider some new altar linens. These linens were dedicated and blessed at one of our Sunday services.

Thank you to Don McLeod who has picked up the plants for us at Easter and Christmas. We also thank Don, Dave and Noella Fowler who have come out to help us hang the Christmas lights and wreaths for the Christmas season. A special thank you to Harley Moulton who comes out to help me hand and change the wall hangings at the back of the church whenever I ask. Thank you all!

WE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR ADDITIONAL LADIES TO JOIN US IN THIS MINISTRY. PLEASE CONTACT ME AND I WILL BE HAPPY TO EXPLAIN WHAT IS INVOLVED.

Respectfully submitted

*Anne Trimmer*

## Children's Ministry

Over the past year we have seen one corner of our fellowship hall being transformed into

a beautiful sacred space for our children. In this space, the children have heard the following stories, told by our capable storyteller Jen Ames, and assisted by our children's ministry teaching team : The Ark and the Tent, the Ark and the Tabernacle, The Holy Baptism, The Church calendar, The Mystery of Easter, the faces of Easter, the crosses, Jesus and the twelve, The Good Shepherd and the world communion, circle of the Holy Eucharist, The mystery of Pentecost, The Holy Trinity, the circle of the church year, The holy family, Creation, The flood and the ark, the great family, the Exodus, The Ten Best Ways, The Exile and Return, The prophets, Advent and Epiphany. In this sacred corner children are building relation-



Marie Vitone & her love for children sharing a bible story in a very dramatic & fun loving way during Vacation Bible School (VBS) August 13, 2014.

ships, learning to pray together and showing their love for Jesus.

Our nursery aged children are feeling at home in the upstairs nursery room. Sometimes we will hear wee ones, crying and more recently loud giggles during the service. It truly is a blessing to have so many young families regularly attending our church.

Everyone enjoys our children led service and this year the children participated in sharing the story of the Great Flood to the congregation.

Our pageant was seen in the evening this year following a fabulous potluck. We hope to make this an annual event. We continue to host potluck family game nights, bowling for all children in the deanery, and messy

church.

We decided to commit to hosting Messy Church more regularly, so in 2015 you can experience messy church on the first Wednesday of each month, excluding July, August and September.

During the summer months we will offer our Vacation Bible School. We have seen lots of familiar faces and new ones attending Messy Church; coming to enjoy and also to help. Please add this to your list for 2015, if you haven't already done so.

We enjoyed organizing a yard sale and clothing swap. We welcome any suggestions and questions so please speak to me. Our children's ministry is exciting!

Thank you to the many people who have dedicated so much time to our children's ministry. We are blessed to have such capable volunteers who willingly give of their time.

Thank you to everyone for supporting our children's ministry by bringing your children and grandchildren to church so faithfully, and for helping us in our fundraising efforts. We are making this a priority in the parish.

*Cindy Caines*

Children's Ministry coordinator)



Harry Challis & Del Gates enjoying an ice cream bar at our 60th Anniversary Neighbourhood BBQ on August 24, 2014.

## **Eucharistic Assistants at the Church of the Ascension for 2015**

These members usually attend at 9am

Dave Fowler, Marie Vitone, Chris Cawte, Shannon Hengen, Thelma Smith.

These members usually attend at 11am

Gladys Abigail, Betty Bonas, Erma Howe, Anne Trimmer, Doug Frozel, Donna Barnes, Rachel Barnes, Cindy Derrenbacker, Kathryn Greenidge, Jennifer Cawley Caruso, Audrey Penn, Bruce Ward, Catherine Bird Heuft, Brent Leigh, Cathy Jewell, Connie Lee

Honourary life members who are no longer active: Del Gates, Roz Jones.

## **Layreaders at the Church of the Ascension for 2015**

Dave Fowler; Erma Howe; Shannon Hengen, Catherine Bird-Heuft.

Nominating: Cathy Jewell (Cathy served as a Layreader in her previous parish)

Layreaders in training

Thelma Smith

## **Home Communion**

Marie Vitone, Catherine Bird Heuft, Shannon Hengen, Dave Fowler, Kathryn Greenidge and Cathy Jewell are licensed to bring the Reserved Sacrament to the sick and those living in nursing homes or retirement residences in our congregation.

## **Property Report**

### **Church**

The hot water boiler was cleaned and inspected, and the chimney was inspected on October 2, 2014. Both are in good working order. A new spiral vent and some new bleeder valves were installed on the hot water heating system at a cost of \$ 400.

A new gas hot water tank was installed on December 17, 2014.

An emergency Comfort Kit was established

on February 5, 2014, checked and recorded monthly. It is stored on a shelf above the coat rack by the handicap wash room.

Weekly cleaning of the church and Fellowship Hall continued and are ongoing. All chairs in both were cleaned. All carpets were cleaned, all tile floors were stripped and waxed.

A new door handle and dead bolt were installed on the outside door of the Fellowship Hall.

Miscellaneous maintenance repairs were carried out.

Trees at the back of the lot were trimmed, trees and shrubs close to the front of the church were removed, the lawn graded and hydro-seeded. The back lawn was graded and hydro-seeded.

Some frost boils were dug out of the parking lot and filled with pit run gravel. The whole lot was then graded and gravelled with granular A. The back and west side of the parking lot were re-ditched so water would flow to the ditch at the front. The work was completed at a cost of approximately \$ 2,200.

Contracts were awarded to C. J.'s Services for grass cutting, trimming, and snow plowing.

An evacuation drill was carried out November 16, 2014, at both the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. services, and recorded, as required by law.

All smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, fire extinguishers, exit lights, emergency lights, and emergency exit doors were inspected and/or tested monthly, and the results recorded.

The annual fire extinguisher inspection and hydrostatic test were completed by Firechek  
**Protection Services.**

A webinar attended by about 25 persons was conducted in early summer to discuss the church's Green Audit, and a Green Audit walkabout was held in October to view and discuss the church's related progress and achievements.

The church inventory was completed.

### **Rectory**

Two 2.5 lb. ABC fire extinguishers were installed, one in the kitchen, one in the basement at the bottom of the stairs on Jan. 29, 2014.

A plumbing leak was repaired on a laundry tub drain.

The furnace and chimney were cleaned and inspected on October 2, 2014. Both are in good working order.

New shingles were installed on the storage shed.

Repairs were made to electrical and phone jacks.

New flooring was installed on the main floor hallway, back door landing, both sets of stairs, and the hallway to the family room. This was done at the tenant's expense.

### **Building Projects at the Church**

The old bricks were removed from the church-front and new brickwork installed at a cost of \$ 7,063.

New eaves trough was installed at the front of the church, and new heating cable was installed from the church front eave trough to the ditch.

The photocopy room was completely renovated, and new shelving and lighting were installed.

The old storage shed was demolished and a new, larger storage shed was constructed with a cement floor and footings. Walls and ceiling were insulated to specifications. Hot water heating and lighting were installed. The inside walls and ceiling were finished with drywall and painted, shelving and storage units were installed. The outside was finished with vinyl siding, aluminum fascia and soffit, and aluminum eaves trough. The total cost was approximately \$ 22,000.

Vinyl siding and aluminum fascia were installed on the back gable end of the church.

No money was borrowed to pay for the building projects.

We extend a great "THANK YOU" to the many parishioners who volunteered their time and talents for making all of the above projects and repairs possible.

Respectfully submitted

*Harley Moulton*



Brick work on front of church renovations  
April 18, 2014



Taking a break for a photo shoot! June 25, 2014  
Left to right - Wayne Bonas, Harley Moulton  
& Bob Corrigan



Tearing down the old 'cold storage' at the back of the church May 5, 2014

## Anglican Church Women

2014 has been a great year of fellowship among our Anglican Church Women. We have worshipped, laughed, and cried at our meetings.

Our two teas, the Snowflake and Strawberry, are our money making projects, both very successful events.

We support a foster child, Sleeping Children Around the World, the Primate's World Relief Fund, Youth Synod, Godly Play, the Bishop's

and Rev. Anne's discretionary funds, and Barrydowne College bursaries. Sadly we have catered several funerals this year, friends we will miss.

In 2015 there will be a changing of the guard so to speak as there will be a new executive after more than 10 years. I would like to thank all the ladies who helped me during this time and welcome Cathy Dionne as our new president.

Respectfully submitted

*Betty McLeod*



Working hard, but having fun at the Strawberry Tea June 5, 2014  
From left to right - Helen Wormington, Betty Bonas & Cathy Jewell



**A.C.W. 2014 Financial Report**

Expenses:	2014 Diocesan Apportionment	\$ 604.00	
	Bishop's Discretionary Fund	200.00	
	Hankinson Bursary	200.00	
	Strawberry Tea	177.21	
	Snowflake Tea	192.82	
	Catering	401.49	
	Calendars	135.00	
	Deanery Dues	10.00	
	2014 Diocesan Annual Travel	178.00	
	Sewing Machine Repairs	25.00	
	Outreach: P.W.R.D.F.	200.00	
	Foster Child	458.00	
	Barrydowne College Bursaries	500.00	
	Seniors' Luncheon	107.88	
	Mary Sherwood	50.00	
	Jail Christmas Candy	60.00	
	Church: Godly Play	300.00	
	Youth Pizza	58.17	
	Youth Synod	320.00	
	Family Life Cards	4.53	
	Care Bears	<u>120.00</u>	\$4,452.10
Income:	Snowflake Tea	\$2,765.75	
	Strawberry Tea	1,675.85	
	Catering	800.00	
	Sleeping Children Around the World	129.40	
	Calendars	100.00	
	Interest	<u>.01</u>	5,471.01
	Bank balance January 1, 2014	\$4,170.37	
	2014 Income	<u>5,471.01</u>	
	Total	9,641.38	
	2014 Expenses	<u>4,452.11</u>	
	Bank Balance December 31, 2014	\$5,189.27	

Respectfully Submitted

*Gladys Abigail*

## Outreach

Outreach at the Church of the Ascension is continually ongoing with many areas of dedicated parishioners working for many great and needy causes. I am always amazed at how many work towards trying to make life a little better for those not quite as fortunate as others.

As you know, one of our large contributions goes to the Elgin Street Mission in assisting them to remain open and assist in feeding the many guests who go through their facility daily. We provide them with a sum of money to get them started in the fall as well as amounts of food throughout the winter months such as veggies and ground beef. Our parishioners are still providing 35 to 40 loaves of sandwich bread and fixings to be served for lunches once a month. This is known as Sandwich Sunday in our church and occurs on the second Sunday of the month.

Our parish has once again participated in the Shoeboxes at Christmas for Operation Christmas Child. You have all been most generous.

We continue to support families in need, both in our parish and in the neighbourhood. We are grateful to be able to assist these families with food from our food bank and with food cards for grocery stores. At Christmas we were able to pack and deliver Christmas hampers to nine families. These baskets consist of a full Christmas dinner as well as numerous boxes of food for weeks later. After Christmas we were able to deliver a very large supply of food to the students at Cambrian College. They have a food bank that enables some of the students in need to use these supplies.

We have been a tremendous help and support to the students at Barrydowne College. We continually supply numerous boxes of food to the students on an ongoing process. We also send containers of clothing along with kitchen supplies for students trying to set up an apartment. At Christmas we provided 25 Christmas stockings for the students. We provide pizza days at the school and provided a hot lunch for the students here in our church. We have provided a large sum of money to help them with special events and also contributed to awards at their graduation at the end of June. (Please see Marie Vi-

tone's comments on Barrydowne). Marie is a great asset to us and to the students in seeing that the needs of the college are met. Thank you Marie.

We are still a part of the Out of the Cold Program, which provides a hot meal on Friday evenings from the beginning of November to the end of April. We cater to four diners over the season, and have a new team for the Out of the Cold Dinners. Stephanie Doveton and Matt Walchuk have taken on this



**Outreach - Preparing lunch for Barrydowne College students January 15, 2014**

**From left to right - Gladys Abigail, Irene Gilchrist, Stephanie Doveton, Jane Cox, Marie Vitone, Anne Trimmer & Marlene Moulton**

role and are doing a wonderful job. They have experimented with new ideas and new menus, and have been greatly successful. We thank all the parishioners who go out to help and contribute in so many ways to providing a healthy and joyful evening for those desperately in need.

Our outreach funds during the year 2014 enabled us to donate money to some different organizations. We were able to send a donation to the Zawadi Children's Home in Africa. This is an organization that was founded and is being looked after by a young woman from the Sudbury area. This young woman came to our church and spoke to us about the need for this worthwhile venture. Another donation was made to the Primate's World Relief Fund through the Anglican Church for the program "Have You Eaten Today?". We were also able to send a donation to the Maison Vale Inco

Hospice to assist them in their continuing palliative care program.

This year was the 60th Anniversary of our church. In celebration of this anniversary, we made a thank offering to a new and growing church in the Diocese of Tarime, Tanzania. Through this offering we were able to send a gift of \$ 1,600 to Tarime.

In November we were especially pleased to have a missionary, Mary Sherwood, visit us and bring us her news of the orphanages in Madagascar. Mary has been involved in these orphanages for many years. The open offering in church that morning was presented to Mary for the continued work in Madagascar. We were able to give her \$ 900 from our parish. Thank you all for your generosity.

Our ACW continued to make Friendship Quilts during 2014. We have a new supply of quilts to go out to a needy organization. The ACW is still collecting money for the Sleeping Children Around the World. This project supplies bedrolls, clothing, and hygiene products for children in Third World countries.

Thank you to all the parishioners here at the Ascension for all the donations of food, grocery cards, and money to the Anne Germond Fund that enable us to carry out all of the above. A special thank you to Rev. Anne for overseeing all that we do and for her contributions through the Anne Germond Fund. I sincerely thank you for all that you have done. We are certainly a very loving, caring and considerate parish.

Respectfully submitted

*Anne Trimmer*

### **Outreach: Barrydowne College**

We've had a busy year.

We served the students a warm lunch in January. About 30 students enjoyed the meal and were mixing in with parishioners. We delivered food for their food bank almost every three week provided by the members and friends of the parish. Pizza is supplied once a month by the Rev. Anne Germond Fund.

At the spring graduation, the church handed out 5 scholarships. These were paid by outreach and the Anglican Church Women. We also sponsored a scholarship in thanksgiving for Del and Elizabeth Gates, with monies from Elizabeth's memorial donations.

\$500.00 from the Christmas Songs and Story was donated to Barrydowne.

In December, students from Barrydowne College prepared the dessert for our first Out of the Cold supper. The students were proud of themselves and the dessert was a hit.

We prepared 25 Christmas socks for the students. That was well appreciated.

This outreach is helpful to the school.

Some students need volunteer hours for graduating. We will be calling on them in the new year.

Submitted by

*Marie Vitore*

### **Parish Life**

Parish Life is growing in Faith together!

Check out the Parish Life 'alphabet'!

- a) is for - Achieving, active, assisting, awesome
- b) is for - Believing, blessing, bonding, brainstorming
- c) is for -Caring, connecting, contributing, communicating
- d) is for -Devotion, discovering, discussing, dreaming
- e) is for - Enjoyment, embracing, excitement
- f) is for - Family, fellowship, friends
- g) is for - Giving, goals, good, gratifying
- h) is for - Happiness, heartfelt, helping, hope
- i) is for - Ideas, imagination, inspiring
- j) is for - Joining (together), joyful
- k) is for - Kindness, kinship
- l) is for - Laughter, listening, learning, loving
- m) is for - Motivating, mirroring
- n) is for - Need, note-worthy, nourishing
- o) is for - Outreach, obliging
- p) is for - Participating, partnership, productive

- q) is for – Quest
- r) is for – Reaching (out), receiving, rendering, rewarding
- s) is for – Serving, sharing, skills, supporting
- t) is for – Talents, thankfulness, team, togetherness
- u) is for – Understanding, unity, uplifting, useful
- v) is for – Volunteers, victorious, vigorous, vital
- w) is for – Well-being, willing, wonder, working (together)
- x) is for – X-static
- y) is for – Yielding
- z) is for – Zealous

...and so on and so on!!!

As you read the ‘Parish Life’ report for the past year, you will find many of these words, if not all of them provided in this our Parish Life alphabet, are used not once or twice, but several times. This will depict that wonderful self-giving life shared within our church community. Why not have some fun here & underline these words as you read the report. Maybe even underline ones that have not been mentioned that clearly & descriptively relate to the many wonderful ways in which we serve at the Ascension ‘as one body in Christ’! Read how we united through outreach, worship, fundraising, our many events, meetings & more. It speaks of your contributions to the well-being of our church. Working together, sharing, willingly giving of your time & talents, you’ll hear how Ascension reaps the rewards through a very caring & life-giving community. As you give of yourself even in being simply a friend, know that you are serving our Lord. God works through each of us in different ways, He gives us choices & it is clearly seen as you read this report that Ascensionites are very caring within, around and outside our Parish each and every day & for this we give thanks.

### January

Our ‘outreach’ to Barrydowne College is on-going however on Wednesday, January 15th we hosted a ‘soup & sandwich’ luncheon. We welcomed 29 students & 3 teachers; this was a 100% turn out of students based on the attendance that day at the school. Our Fellowship Hall was a ‘buzz’ filled with friendly,

happy and appreciative neighbours. It was truly a very heart-warming time of fellowship with good connections between the students, teachers & our Ascension’s volunteers. The joy seen in those receiving was returned & felt by those who were serving and giving of their time. Special thanks to Jane Cox & Anne Trimmer for their organizational skills & planning in making this come together & be well received by our neighbours. There is no doubt that the LOVE of God was working in our midst!

### February

Although February was void of events in the Parish, know that Parish Life does not take a sabbatical! Our team continued to work together in the pre-planning of other upcoming events. Life in the Parish did not come to a standstill, & we were not on a retreat either! So have no fair; Parish Life is always there, here & everywhere!

### March

Shrove Tuesday, March 4th – Annual Pancake Supper

Did you know some of the other names for Shrove Tuesday are “Fat Tuesday” or “Mardi Gras”? In other countries these names are derived from feasting before fasting, it is the last ‘hurrah’/ a Carnival celebration, a prelude to Lent. The Ascension welcomes so many to this annually. We served approximately 120 guests which included guest from neighbouring churches. Apparently Ascension is the only church who continues faithfully to celebrate Shrove Tuesday with a pancake supper. We give gracious thanks to our ‘faithful’ kitchen team of pancake flippers, sausage cookers, and bake bean makers, servers etc. as without you this would not be that yearly successful event in our church. Our hostesses ensured all who attended had their fair share of ‘fats’!!! Our ‘free will offering’, less our expenses was \$522.62 & these funds were designated to our storage renovations building fund. Any left overs were delivered to the Elgin Street Mission & received with gracious thanks.

Ash Wednesday, March 5th – 7pm service was conducted by Rev. Steward Walker from St. Stephen’s on the Hill as Rev. Anne was away. Attendance was down & we only had 2 guests from St. Stephen’s on the Hill. A time of Fellowship followed hosted by ACW & Parish Life.

### April



Green Audit Open House evening held on October 8, 2014 ended with a climate change educational piece, facilitated by Scribe Erica Bota. Also pictured as Erica's assistant is Paul Murdock a willing volunteer!

Annually our shut-ins/seniors are remembered with the delivery of Easter lilies. Wednesday April 16th our Parish Life team & other volunteers delivered & visited 27 recipients. This small gesture of Easter plants to our shut-ins just reiterates that they are not forgotten & that they are still a vital part of our Church community. Our Parish Life team received several 'thank-you' cards expressing appreciation & some spoke of the joy that filled their hearts as they watched their Easter Lilly open its buds. Some too remarked of how they truly felt blessed by our visit. Special thanks to Anne Trimmer for taking on this outreach one again in our Parish.

Earth Day is the largest, most celebrated environmental event worldwide. It is always celebrated on April 22nd; however our participation took place on Sunday April 27th with a congregation wide collection of scrap metal, copper, steel, washers, dryers, BBQ's, small appliances, printers, computers, electrical wires, aluminium, pop cans, beer, wine, liquor bottles, & more. We even salvaged several recyclable items from the Sunday School Yard Sale. Del Gates, a long time parishioner, turned all of this 'scrap' collected to dollars for our 'new' storage. In 2014 alone he contributed over \$6000.00. (Please read more on this in our Green Report by Jane Cox.) This is an absolutely amazing feat that goes totally beyond comprehension? Many of you are aware that Del celebrated his 90th birthday in December. We give

thanks & blessings for his life, his unwavering support, & his long labouring hours spent in taking apart these items & carrying them to the recycle depot. His dedication & commitment is a true reflection of his love for his church. What a gift! – Green Fact: It takes 100 years for one aluminium can to decompose if not recycled!

Our annual Seniors Luncheon held on Thursday April 29th & hosted by ACW & Parish Life was once again a very festive & happy occasion. Keeping in mind that we were celebrating our 60th Anniversary in 2014 our 'open' invitation poster depicted this. It was our second year using the 'open' invitation with a sign-up sheet, & once again it proved to work well for us. We had a great turn out & served 58 guests which included parishioners from our neighbouring St. Stephen's on the Hill United Church. The Fellowship Hall looked magnificent; the food was delicious; the entertainment by Fr. Peter Moher from Holy Redeemer on the keyboard & in song was once again well received. The laughter & smiles seen in the faces of our guests made it a very uplifting. Our many volunteers both women & men were overjoyed by the positive feedback expressed. The small take home favours added a personal touch & were designed with the 60th Anniversary in mind so that they too would feel part of these celebrations. Recently it was learned that these extras (given each year) have become precious treasures! Fr. Peter was thanked & presented with an honorarium of \$50.00 from the church. ACW covered the expenses for the meal & Parish Life covered the cost of the favours. Thanks to everyone who helped in any way to make this another wonderful & caring event, it was a truly memorable occasion for our seniors in attendance.

### May

Another 'labour less' month in the Parish when it comes to events, however it was a time of active planning for our up-coming Auction Sale 'fun'draiser!

### June

Green Audit Webinar – June 6th – “Doing a Green Audit in a Church”. This webinar was a first for us at the Ascension & was hosted by The Venerable Anne Germond, Jane Cox, Harley Moulton & Kath Greenidge. For each of us it was a learning opportunity & was a great way to share what we had learned about having had a Green Audit. You can

read more about this in our 'Green Report' that immediately follows this as the Green Team is a subsidiary committee under Parish Life.

Hear Ye, Hear Ye!!! Going once, going twice, SOLD!

Ascension's Auction Sale 'FUN'Draiser was held in the Church sanctuary on Saturday, June 14th. It was a super awesome, ever enlightening evening & in spite of the beautiful early summer day which affected our numbers of attendees, this did not matter one bit as the importance was in the 'numbers' of \$\$\$ that our bidders so generously donated that made the difference! A small entrance fee of \$5.00pp was charged to come in. Funds from this were designated to the renovations of our storage area. Our auctioneer Dale Harnden's 'chant' was in itself very entertaining. Some of the tangible & intangible items auctioned off were...gift cards from Lougheeds Flower Shop, Toyota, Hyundai, & What to Wear; family photo collage; basket of preserves; an evening baby-sitting for a family; a house cleaning; paintings by artist Peter Giblin & Sheila Cole; 2 other large wall paintings; 2 handmade quilts; 3 hours yard care; 3 sets of home baked cakes; an evening summer gathering dinner for 8; a Bark Busters obedience dog training session; 2 South African home cooked dinners for 4; 3 nights at a cottage; Science North Passes; 10 Hours of White Pine Counselling; 4 hours of electrical work in your home; tennis racket, balls & court time at the Sudbury Tennis Club; Wolves signed hockey stick; area rugs from Mid-City Interiors; 4 home cooked soup dinners for a family, what great items! A door prize was kindly donated by Kitchen Bits, thank you Heather Scott-Mannella. Light refreshments were served & the (X)-ecstatic excitement heard in laughter & constant buzz of voices left the organizers with great joy over its success. Thanks for your kind & generous donations, we topped \$6000.00! As our advertising poster said 'attend & spend' you did just that. Bob Corrigan our 'in church' architect expressed his sincere thanks to the Parish Life committee for their vigorous energy & determined efforts in achieving such an unbelievable profit. He claimed his prayers were answered!

On June 16th, 17th & 18th in celebration of our 60th Anniversary many of us had our photos taken for the new parish photo directory. Thanks to Kay & Ken Winfield for organizing this.

**July** – stand-by!

**August** – a must!

On August 24th Parish Life organized a neighbourhood BBQ which was sponsored by Gerry Lougheed Jr. It was held immediately after our one service time in the summer of 10:00am. We were blessed with a beautiful summer day. It was set up in the church parking lot & was an awesome 'kickoff' to our 60th Anniversary celebrations! We welcomed neighbours & friends to an afternoon of fun & games. The biggest hit was having M & M's do the BBQ. The games for kids, the animal balloons, face painting & tattoos; the adult games of ring toss, & hammering a nail into a log – in how many whacks??? I do believe the Rev showed off her accuracy & proved champion! It was especially wonderful to see our young & old alike challenging each other in the board games & sharing that special time together! Music filled the air with a festive spirit! The vintage cars on display were certainly a great attraction. What a super way of bringing not only our 2 congregations together for a time of fun & fellowship, but in reaching out & meeting our neighbours. Overall a great turnout & kudos to everyone who gave a helping hand. Just think "Success belongs to those who dare to achieve it!" Parish Life did just that, they tried something 'new' & succeeded, so it is hoped we can make this an annual event every summer.

**September**

Back to Church Sunday (a.k.a. B2CS) was celebrated at both 9:00am & 11:00am services on September 28th. This is a not just a National event in Canada it is celebrated worldwide & is a time when we invite our friends, neighbours in the community to join us at church. In 2014 it was Ascension's 7th annual B2CS. Special invitations were created & distributed with 'cold call' walk around deliveries in various neighbourhoods. Invitations were also handed out to our own parishioners encouraging them to 'bring a friend' to church on B2CS. The church foyer displayed a welcome sign & colourful helium balloons were placed in the sanctuary. Reverend Anne expressed a warm welcome to our guests & her sermon spoke of "Being Imitators of Christ" based on the reading that day taken from Philippians 2:1-13. So keeping that in mind a small 'key tag' was created with those words on one side & our 60th Anniversary Logo on the other side with the

following quotations – “Owe no one anything except to love one another…” Romans 13:8 (NRSV) & “If we love one another, God dwells deeply within us…” 1 John 4:12 (The Message), these key tags were handed out after both services not only as a favor in appreciation for those that joined us for B2CS, but as a commemorative keepsake of our 60th Anniversary. (NB – If you did not get one please speak with Kath Greenidge as there are still some available.) Thanks to Stephanie Doveton & Jane Cox for tea/coffee & a light snack after the 9:00am service & to Gladys Abigail & her team, as well as the Parish Life committee, for lunch after the 11:00am service.

Sincere thanks to Michael White who revised our parish ‘welcome’ flyer, that which is given out to visitors & new comers. So please remember it is there in the foyer on the table in the corner & be sure to pass it on should you greet a visitor. Let us make everyone feel welcome with even just a simple introduction of oneself to them. Thanks.

## October

Our ‘Green Team’ headed up by Jane Cox hosted a Green Audit Open House public event on Wednesday, October 8th. Although we were disappointed that no one from outside the church attended this gathering, we were delighted with the response from our own parishioners. It was an evening of learning & discussion. Please read more about the success of this event in Jane’s ‘Green Report’ that follows this Parish Life one.

On Saturday, October 25th our 60th Anniversary celebrations were drawing to an end as many parishioners shared a time of fun partying until after midnight at what was an energetic evening for many of us including our very own Rev Anne! It turned out to be a wonderful & very entertaining dinner/dance. A Service of Thanksgiving followed on Sunday, October 26th. The congregation joined together at one service only at 10:00am. It was an absolutely beautiful way for us to conclude our commemorative events around our 60th year at the Ascension. In worship, united as one body in Christ, we gave thanks to God through the word, prayer & praise. The day marked an uplifting end to what had been a busy, yet fun-loving year of commemorative events in the life of our parish. Please read more about these 2 events as well as our many others in our 60th Anniversary report written by Pippa Howard.

## November

Parish Life is a very active committee so life in the parish never comes to a halt; however, the Parish Life team did get a bit of a reprieve during the month of November. However a number of us wear many hats in various other voluntary roles at the Ascension so we did not sit idle.

Under the ‘Outreach’ report you will read



**On October 19, 2014, Mary Sherwood a Missionary to Madagascar shared her story at both services during sermon time. Here Mary Sherwood is conversing with Jane Cox & Rev Anne.**

about the healthy lunch we provided on November 19th for the students at Barrydowne College. But just to add a comment here Parish Life is always open to ‘new’ ideas & this said lunch presented one of those fresh ideas which meant change to the usual sign-up sheet. Tags were made with the various lunch items needed, & these were pinned to our ‘Life in the Parish’ cork board. Parishioners then voluntarily removed a tag or two & on the day of the lunch they brought in their contributions of food items listed on the tag they had chosen for the lunch that day. What a terrific idea Jane, thanks always for your astute & forthcoming suggestions! Remember change is good!

The annual ACW Snowflake Tea was fast approaching as well as our annual ‘Gifts of Story & Song’ fundraiser so it was time to once again engage the help of many willing hands to make our 3D paper snowflakes. So on Wednesday, November 19th a group of cheerful ladies from the ACW & members of the Parish Life team got together to be creative! The end result was a total of at least 30

carefully hand crafted decorative snowflakes that adorned the church sanctuary & the Fellowship Hall for these events. It is not surprising that we get asked to share the pattern as each & every year we receive many complements on the attractive appearance they give. God bless each one of you who managed to come out on a snowy, blistery cold day to make these, much appreciated.

## December



Rev Anne celebrant, along with Rev Rhonda & Fr Bob at our 60th Anniversary Service of Thanksgiving on October 26, 2014.

Sunday, December 14th Ascension's 3rd annual "Gifts of Story & Song" event was absolutely amazing! We had 120 guests in attendance & many who came for the first time were awestruck by the beauty in the sanctuary as it was once again turned mystically into a "Wonderful Winter Wonderland"! Many too expressed high praise at the end & spoke of making this an annual event on their Christmas calendar! It has been said that this one was the best we have ever had...so consider joining us in 2015.

We give thanks to our many presenters who gave their time & talent through story or song! This year we welcomed three special guests outside of our Church Community, Markus Schwabe from CBC Radio, Maureen McNamara, Principal of Barrydowne College & James Wilson that 'God-gifted' voice that sang out "Five Stanley Cups" in 12 Days of Christmas Canadian Style - "A Porcupine in a Pine Tree"! The stories shared by the gifted readers who narrated them with such drama & enthusiasm; the songs selected & the

voices that truly uplifted our church sanctuary in the beauty of music & words sung; the splendid addition to having more audience participation in not just singing a chorus or in reciting, but through blended voices from our audience singing out with joyful praise & thanksgiving; all of this made for an ever exhilarating evening of laughter as we put the business of the season aside for an evening. But of course the evening would not have been complete without our exuberant MC, our very own Pastor, The Venerable Anne Germond who shared some very 'corny' Christmas jokes that even Markus Schwabe felt that they were well worth repeating on CBC radio! LOL!

Gerry Lougheed Jr. opened the show with a warm welcome to our guests. His closing remarks expressed sincere praise & thanks to our presenters on behalf of the Ascension. In appreciation each presenter was given a small gift of homemade candy cane flavoured chocolate bark & a handmade beaded Christmas Angel tree ornament. We give gracious thanks to all those who assisted in sharing their creative talents in the many different ways! There was a draw for a door prize which was given by Kitchen Bits, Heather Scott-Mannella. Thanks Heather again for your kind donation.

Laughter echoed throughout the evening, & a standing ovation ended the performance. So when all was said & done these were delightful signs of our attentive audience enjoying every wondrous moment. Following the presentation we served delicious squares & cookies & shared in a time of fellowship. Parish Life gives thanks to anyone who provided treats, or who volunteered their time helping in the kitchen, or in decorating & de-decorating!!! Just having everyone come together to put up & take down the decorations all in one day is a true representation of the wonderful caring community that exist at the Ascension. Our evening raised \$1090.00 before expenses & it was agreed that we would contribute a total of \$500.00 each to Barrydowne College & the Elgin Street Mission. Thanks for your contributions to this outreach.

In December several of us got together & packed 25 Christmas stockings for the Barrydowne College students. You may recall that a Christmas tree in the entrance of the church was covered in Christmas gift tags, requesting donations of various items to fill these stockings. Parish Life would like to ex-



press sincere thanks for your generosity in providing the items for the stockings so allowing this worthy cause come to fruition once again. Note - Two other churches were involved in this outreach & Maureen McNamara the principal reported that the stockings were thankfully received.

Our annual Senior Cookie Drop took place on Wednesday, December 17th. A total of 23 baskets were filled with not only your home baked cookies you so generously donated, but also with fruit cake, apples, oranges, jam, bags of candy & more. Each box was carefully wrapped & attached to each one was a small beaded Christmas ornament angel & a Christmas card from Rev. Anne. Volunteers who came out to put these together also took on the delivery & where possible a short visit was enjoyed with the recipients of our baskets. Once again we give thanks to you for sharing your baking with our seniors/shut-ins.

As you have now read 2014 was another busy, fun-filled & enlightening one in the life of our parish. Our time spent together as 'one body in Christ' reflects the unity of many gifted people at the Ascension who share & are bonded by the love we have for our Lord & for each other. May 2015 be filled with His grace that we may continue to serve Christ in all that we give & do.

1 Peter 4:10 (NRSV) - "Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received."

### Facebook

Did you know that we are on Facebook? In September we created a Facebook page for the Ascension & we are thrilled with the activity that takes place on a daily basis on our page. Jen Ames & I do the postings & our followers get to be kept up to date with the wonderful things that we at the Ascension carry out on a weekly basis. To give you one example of postings viewed, our "Gifts of Story & Song" poster received 372 views prior to the event. Unbelievable! Do 'like' us on Facebook & let us continue to grow in reaching the many that use this social media networking. We are linked to The Anglican Church of Canada, Bishop Stephen Andrews, The Diocese of Algoma, Camp Manitou & many more, a great way to keep up with news around the Anglican Community.

### Website

[www.churchoftheascensionsudbury.ca](http://www.churchoftheascensionsudbury.ca)

Exciting news, we have a 'new' & gorgeous website! Have you checked it out yet? If you haven't don't delay! Change is good!

Yes - "Change is good!" Let's start with a bit about our past & how we have come to where we are today. In September 2009 we launched a 'new' website which served us just short of 5 years. At that time it was the perfect answer in achieving our goal of being accessible in this fast moving 'web world' of technology. Immediately we were put right back on the 'worldwide web map' & we were now reaching beyond our doors & as the saying goes "to the ends of the earth" ... LOL! How great was that! Truly this was the perfect addition in the growth of our church.

So when we learned earlier in June this year that our present webhost was giving up this line of hosting websites, we needed to move rather quickly as we did not wish to be faced without having our 'cyberspace' connection to the wider world outside our 4 walls.

Rev Anne will agree that God was with us! For as we started to feel that tight timeline pressure which we now faced in finding a quick solution knowing full well that building a 'new' website was not going to happen overnight even if we found a host, it all takes time!

Our prayers were answered electronically! In our church email inbox we received a letter from Kerry Dixon (Web Design) introducing herself & presenting us with her attributes & line of business in building websites. Wow! As they say the rest is history!

Without delay we contacted Kerry & within weeks our 'new' website was up & running. We were online by the end of June that being our said cut-off from The Web Architect. Not only did we have a new & refreshed look on the internet, but we now had a more modern program (WordPress) which brought ease in loading updates as well as manoeuvring around on the site. We were also able to introduce an active year calendar which we did not have on the old site.

As we move forward the hope is to take a more active interest in our 'new' website & to include a parishioner faith story page; to add more photos on a regular basis; to possibly include the various church rosters for quick & easy reference making them accessible any time of day or night. Of course we

are open to your ideas also as to what you might like to see on our website?

So you see – “Change is good!” Today we have an absolutely beautiful & active website that is pleasing to the eye & easily accessible to the web surfer that might very well be looking for a ‘new’ church or an Anglican church in their neighbourhood etc.

Lastly as Webmaster, who also holds the position as Parish Life Chair, I appeal to you for assistance. It would be wonderful to have help in working towards improving our website that we may grow in this area of the vision for our church. You do not need to be a computer savvy wiz, (I certainly am not) of course some knowledge in this area would be a great asset. Remember that we learn something new every day. As mentioned earlier the (WordPress) program has made things a lot easier. Yes I am still learning, but one needs spare time to do that, so lightening the load would certainly open the door to achieving more in making our website the ‘talk of the town’! Please do speak with me if you feel you can be of assistance. Thanks for listening.

Faithfully submitted

*Kath Greenidge*

Parish Life Chair & Webmaster

### **Green Team**

On June 6th, 2014 Reverend Anne, Kath Greenidge and Jane Cox participated in a webinar for any interested individuals and churches. The purpose of the webinar was to share our church's experience with a Green Audit and encourage others to go down a similar path. We discussed protecting God's creation, Climate Change and justice issues. Clearly these all align with the Anglican Church's 5th Mark of Mission. Through power point slides, with pictures and captions, many small and a couple of large projects were shared.

The focus of the Ascension's Earth Day in April was on celebrating the long time work of Del Gates, who sells scrap metal recovered from appliances. This raised awareness within the congregation resulting in a re-

newed interest in bringing in used appliances. Multiple thousands of dollars has been given to the parish by Del over the years through his tireless and dedicated commitment to recycling also includes pop cans. The funds raised are designated to what is called ‘Special Projects’! Del contributed over \$6000 from scrap metal in 2014. Shocking and great!

In the same way beer cans and liquor bottles continue to be dropped off by parishioners as even the ‘nickels and dimes’ that are collected, though small they may seem, (just under \$300.00 in 2014) do add up to growth in our church's wellbeing and contribute to the bigger picture of ‘Greening our Sacred Space’.

A community garden at Twin Forks Park was born in 2014! Some physical labour and a donation from the Rev. Anne Germond Fund will help really launch the garden in 2015.

In September 2014, the Parish Life Committee decluttered the church's cleaning/janitorial cupboard. After reviewing the report from a working group on cleaning from St. James Anglican Church in Niagara, non-toxic cleaning products have replaced all toxic products.

A Green Open House event was held on Oct 8th, 2014. Slides from the June Green Audit webinar, were shared in the church. Educational handouts were given to participants. Our 'tour guide' Harley Moulton, showcased many greening changes inside and outside of the church – some as a result of the 2013 Green Audit. These ran from small tasks such as caulking around the fan in the fellowship room, to large projects in the re-bricking of the front of the church, changes in landscaping and the building of a new storage unit. For a list of specific changes to the building and environs and their costs, please consult Harley Moulton or Jane Cox for a written report. 'Green, locally sourced' snacks fuelled our tourists post tour. Recipes and a display of homemade Green Cleaning Products were on hand. The evening ended with a climate change educational piece, facilitated by Scribe Erica Bota.

Respectfully

*Jane Cox*

## Worship

### Ordinary times and Celebrations

Sunday after Sunday throughout the year the Ascension is a lively place of worship. Young and old, newcomers and strangers all gather to give glory to God in our beautiful sanctuary. It is indeed a safe place for people to sing, pray, give thanks, laugh, share com-



A potluck & talk with Indigenous Bishop Mark MacDonald June 25, 2014

munion, and even shed a few tears. We are fortunate to be able to offer two services of worship on a Sunday at 9am and 11am. Usually we use the rite in the Book of Alternative Services, but it was decided that if there is a fifth Sunday in the month, that we will use the worship rite from the Book of Common Prayer.

It is said that liturgy is the 'work of the people' and this is true at the Church of the Ascension. We have very active participation in our services through our laity those who prepare the bulletins, prepare the altar for worship, read the Scriptures, lead the Prayers of the People, sing in the choir, lead contemporary music, serve as Eucharistic assistants, servers, crucifers, and as Lay Readers. Philip Balson continues to play the organ/piano at the 11am service, while Eleanor Connors joins us twice monthly at the 9am service. EK, our contemporary music group offers their music ministry once a month. During these services the service is projected on the screen, and this makes it so much

easier to follow along. Jeremy Mannella and Matt Walchuk enriched our services by canting the Psalm.

In 2014 we welcomed a number of families and individuals from St. Mark's Church in Garson after they made the decision as a congregation to close their church building. Within a short time they felt right at home in our midst and are involved in the life of the parish. We will be receiving a number of memorials from St. Mark's Garson which will find a special place at the Ascension. These include a stained glass window, a couple of wall hangings, a fret work of The Lord's Prayer, and a Christus Rex.

We love children in church and we are encouraged when we see young families arriving with children and other young people in their lives. Thank you to parents and grandparents for supporting your young people in their faith journey. Children enrich our lives and our worship. In 2014 we trained some new servers - Joshua Campbell and Jayna Martin; while Maggie Leigh and William Filiter joined the Sunday morning readers group.

Other new servers and crucifers included Kath Greenidge, Cathy Jewell, Bruce Heuft, while Catherine Bird-Heuft was installed as a lay reader. She joins Erma Howe, Dave Fowler and Shannon Hengen as faithful lay-readers in the parish. Brent Leigh, Connie Lee and Cathy Jewell became Eucharistic assistants.

Guests to the Ascension or regular attendees receive a warm welcome from greeters and sidespeople, as well as those they sit next to in church. Thank you one and all for your vital, faithful ministry during worship services, and to the congregation for their active, engaged participation.

Wednesday morning services of worship continue to be important in our community. Throughout the year a group of 10- 18 people gather to pray for the world, those in need, and each other, share communion, and reflect on the Word. In place of a homily there is often a time for people to share stories of faith. Following this service there is a time of fellowship, followed by the weekly Bible Study. Once again, we used the series Feasting on the Word, which is engaging, relevant to our daily lives and challenging to our faith.

Honourary Associate and Honourary Assis-

## tant and Guest Preachers

Last year Fr. Bob Derrenbacker and the Rev. Rhonda Hirst continued in their role as our Honourary Associate and Assistant. They are frequent celebrants at the Eucharist on Sunday mornings, preach occasionally throughout the year, and they are always available for pastoral emergencies or when Rev. Anne is away. We are thankful for the ministry they offer to us at the Ascension, as each of them have their own full time jobs.

In the fall of 2014, as part of our 60th anniversary celebrations, Fr. Bob lead a four week book study on Dietrich Bonhoeffer's book, "Life Together". We met in various parishioners homes on a Sunday evening and it was an excellent study and good to see different members of our congregation participating, as well as members of other congregations and denominations. Both Fr. Bob and Rev. Rhonda have offered themselves to other congregations in the deanery as the need arises.

In June the Ascension hosted a visit from Bishop Mark MacDonald, Canada's only national indigenous Bishop. Bishop Mark was teaching a course at Thorneloe University and following a potluck dinner we enjoyed his talk on Indigenous Spirituality and we shared in a BCP Compline.

In 2014 Gerry Lougheed Jr., an active lay preacher in our community preached one Sunday morning. His message was very well received.

## Celebrations

Throughout the church year, in addition to the two great festivals of Easter and Christmas, there are a number of other occasions for us to celebrate, and in 2014 we had a bumper year!

Baptisms are always a great celebration at the Ascension! It is wonderful to see family members and friends gathered around the font as we welcome the newly baptised into the fellowship of the church. Ahead of the baptism ceremony we love to hear parents reading a special letter that they write to their child, reminding them how much they are loved, and just what their baptism means to them. We welcomed several babies into our fellowship in the Sacrament of Baptism last year - Heidi Sarah Stiller, Reid Alan Scott Mannella, Kaitlyn Anne Belzile, Olivia Grace Lesny, Keygan John Tennis White-Cassells, Anna Chloe Lennox, Julianne Jean

Landry, William Matthew Walchuk. Once again the ACW gave each candidate for Baptism a 'Hope Bear' as a gift of welcome into our faith community. The Hope Bear is purchased through the Anglican Foundation and arrives wearing a baptismal gown. The proceeds from the sale of the Hope Bear is giv-



Messy Church - Passover Seder Meal  
March 10, 2014  
Brent Leigh & his daughter Victoria

en to children in Canada's north for outreach needs. Thank you to the women of the church for this great gift to our children.

Congratulations to Perry Kimacowich and Joanne Vaillant who exchanged marriage vows on August 23rd. Rev. Anne also participated in the 25th Wedding Anniversary celebration and renewal of vows of Charles and France Lavoie at the Legion.

Congratulations to Nick Ames, Paige Kadwell, Leah Kernan, McKayla Linton, Megan Trimmer, on your high school graduation. Each of these young people was presented with a 'Graduation Hope Bear' purchased by the church. It has been great to see these young people returning at Thanksgiving and during the Christmas break. We continue to remember them in our prayers.

One of the highlights of the year was the Service of Thanksgiving for our 60th Anniversary. It was held on Sunday October 26th at 10am. We invited Bishop Stephen Andrews to be present for this celebration, but due to a family emergency he was unable to join us. Rev. Anne, Fr. Bob and Rev. Rhonda celebrated the Eucharist and Rev. Anne preached. It was a day filled with memories

of those who faithfully served God in the church over the years, and a day of hope as we look ahead to the future with excitement and joy.

### **Funeral Services**

During 2014 we said farewell to several faithful and much loved parishioners in funeral liturgies and memorial services. May Elizabeth Gates, Shirley Fleming, Cecil Hindman, Audrey MacDonald, Edith Steele, May King, and Ann Corrigan rest in peace and rise in glory. These are always difficult, but the loving way in which our community offers their help in the services – through greeting, being sidespeople, serving and preparing the reception afterwards makes life just a little easier for grieving families. Thank you to the many men and women who reach out in these difficult times.

### **Ecumenical services**

The North Eastern Ministerial comprised of the clergy and some laity St. Stephen's on the Hill (UC), St. Andrew the Apostle (RC), St. John's Garson (RC) Holy Redeemer (RC), and Trinity Lutheran Church met regularly in 2014 to plan joint services of worship and outreach projects, and to enjoy fellowship, prayer and meals together. It was great to welcome the Rev. Stewart Walker as the new incumbent of St. Stephen's on the Hill to the group, as well as the Rev. Glenda Morrisette of Trinity Lutheran.

Worshipping together is an important expression and sign of the unity we share in Christ. And because we love to eat and visit, the time of fellowship following our joint services of worship is also important.

In 2014 we shared in a few joint services as well as our ongoing outreach projects to the students at Barrydowne College.

A prayer service was held for the Week of Christian Unity at Trinity United Church in Garson on January 19th. We shared the Ash Wednesday liturgy with our friends from St. Stephen's on Wednesday 5th March. Our Holy Week services were shared with St. Stephen's on the Hill, and the dramatic presentation on Good Friday was a truly memorable one.

Once Easter was over, the Ministerial group started preparing in earnest for the ELEVATE weekend of service, fellowship, and prayer. More than 50 churches across Greater Sudbury were involved in the ELEVATE

weekend to show our unity in the Holy Spirit. The idea was for each ministerial group to prepare an outreach project in their local community and then for us all to share in a service for Christians across Sudbury on Pentecost Sunday (June 6th).

ELEVATE was a wonderful opportunity for our congregations to get to know each other as we worked together on a service project in the community. Our ministerial group decided to prepare a soup and sandwich lunch for anyone in the neighbourhood. We had a lot of fun working on it and prepared enough soup for 100 people. When the day of the soup making and serving arrived we were ready to greet the crowds as they entered St. Andrew the Apostle on Barrydowne Rd. Unfortunately, we planned the lunch during the winter months when it was freezing...and June 5th was a hot, hot day. No one felt like eating soup! We stood on the sidewalk and held posters inviting people in, but in the end we sent most of the soup to the Mission. It remained an excellent day!

Throughout 2014 we continued to provide health lunches to the students at Barrydowne College – a high school that is housed in Cambrian College. Each month during the school year a different congregation prepared a delicious lunch for the students. These lunches were very well received and included sandwiches, juice, snacks and treats.

The North Eastern Ministerial members were invited to the Barrydowne College graduation ceremony in June. It was very special to see the joy and excitement in the faces of the students as they walked across the stage to receive their High School Diplomas. This year the Ascension – through the ACW, the Rev. Anne Germond Fund, and to honour Del and Elizabeth Gates, gave several bursaries to the students. Members of the Ascension congregation were on hand to present the awards.

During Advent, along with St. John's in Garson, and St. Stephen's on the Hill we participated in filling Christmas stockings with treats for 75 students at Barrydowne College, and on the 22nd December we were invited to share in "The Longest Night Service" at St. Stephen's. This is a prayer service for those who find the Christmas season difficult.

We give thanks for our good relationships with our friends in other denominations and

look forward to what 2015 will bring us. At the time of writing we are planning our Service of Christian Unity for January 25th, 2015. There will be more than 10 local congregations joining us for this service of worship!

### **Memorial Donations and Dedications in 2014**

In accordance with an old tradition in our church, any items that are used in the sacred space are consecrated for that use. In 2014 we received with joy and gladness the following gifts as thank offerings or memorial donations. We pray that these gifts will proclaim the love of God, minister grace and joy to those who use them, and benefit the church.

A home communion set given to the glory of God and in loving memory of George Trimmer. New purificators were also given in George's memory. This gift was purchased by donations given in George's memory.

Glass cruets given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Charles and Dorothy Germond, by the Germond family.

A wooden Noah's Ark, for use in the Godly Play program, was given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Julie Binder-Nelson; by her loving husband Beaumont Nelson.

A new Paschal candle reflecting: "The Good Shepherd" was given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ron Bonas and Christina Polifroni, by Betty Bonas.

A gift of money for a scholarship to a student at Barrydowne College in memory of Elizabeth Gates and in thanksgiving for Del Gates ministry in our congregation.

Flowers on the altar, which beautify our sacred space, are given weekly in memory of loved ones, or as a thank offering. Thank you to the many donors for these gifts which remind us of the people in our lives who we

love and miss. Thank you also to the members of the Altar Guild for the way in which you arrange the flowers.

### **Messy Church Worship**

'Messy worship' is different from the very structured liturgy to which we are accustomed. It is less formal and the clergy do not wear vestments. Messy worship is theme based and the readings and songs chosen for the day are relevant to the Messy Church theme. During 2014 we learned a great deal by participating in a Messy "Passover" celebration during Lent. The hall was filled with participants and it was a joyful time of learning, and celebrating that ancient feast. In Advent we started monthly Messy Church evenings with a Messy Advent. During the worship/story time Kath Greenidge and Cathy Jewell did a great skit on a conversation between John the Baptist and Santa Claus. These monthly Messy Church events will continue through 2015.

### **Spiritual Direction**

A little known activity takes place at the Ascension in the Chapel on a monthly basis. Two Spiritual Directors – Eva Black from North Bay, and Shannon Hengen from the Ascension meet with directees to talk about their spiritual lives and to grow in their faith. Of the Chapel space, Eva Black says, "I am so thankful for that little chapel. What a sacred space it is! Always I sense the Holy Spirit with me when I am there."

These words sum up worship at the Ascension. It is a special, sacred time, and we always sense the Holy Spirit in our midst.

Faithfully submitted

*The Ven. Anne Germond*

## Envelope Secretary

A comparative statement for 2013 and 2014 is as follows:

	2013	2014
0 - 100	20	20
101 - 200	17	13
201 - 300	13	11
301 - 400	13	5
401 - 500	15	9
501 - 600	6	8
601 - 700	6	5
701 - 800	6	6
801 - 900	7	6
901 - 1000	5	10
1001 - 1500	14	10
1501 - 2000	11	14
2001 - 2500	3	8
2501 - 3000	4	2
3001 - 3500	2	0
3501 - 4000	0	2
over 4000	6	5
	148	134
Envelope Holders	80	70
Equal Donation Program	13	15
Electronic Donation Program	27	27
Occasional over \$100.00	28	22
	148	134

291 official receipts were issued in 2014, compared with 321 in 2013. This covered donations for the envelope holders, Equal Donation Program, the Electronic Donation Program, the Christmas and Easter special offerings, donations to the Rev. Anne Germond Fund, the Memorial Fund, Messy Church and Godly Play.

Respectfully Submitted

*Gladys Abigail*

Envelope Secretary

## Visioning

The Committee was less active this year as attention in the parish moved to 60th Anniversary planning.

Two presentations were held to provide a safe space for youth and their families to be informed and have discussions. The topics chosen reflected issues that youth and families in this parish are experiencing.

In May, Kevin McPhee, a family psychotherapist and social worker from Health Sciences North, presented on the topic of Anxiety and Depression, identifying symptoms and providing information on how to help our youth. The event was well attended. The information was relevant, important and well received. What was emphasized was how our relationships, sincere listening and participating in the lives of our youth, decrease mental health risks that they face.

In June, Gaston Cotnoir, from Access Network gave us a talk on Sexual Diversity, providing language, information and understanding of sexual expression and orientation. Participants were led in a frank discussion to help us shed biases and think inclusively.

In 2015, we hope to continue the series with a talk on Addiction and Cyberbullying.

Respectfully submitted

*Erma Howe*

## 60th Anniversary

Walking Together in Faith, Hope and Love

2014 marked the 60th Anniversary of our congregation and we celebrated throughout the year. A committee was formed to coordinate the various events though the year.

The first task was to come up with a motto which would sum up what our parish has accomplished and what we hope for in the future. We concluded that "walking together in Faith, Hope and Love" encompassed everything that this anniversary symbolizes. A beautiful logo was designed around this motto by Kath Greenidge. This logo was used by Betty McLeod to create a beautiful quilted banner which was proudly displayed at events and on the pulpit. The logo was print-

ed on posters, decorations and keepsakes.

We kicked off the celebrations with a community barbeque on a beautiful hot August day. This successful event included games, food and classic cars and was a wonderful opportunity to connect with our neighbours. All the food from M and M's was donated by a generous parishioner.

Next up was a Coffee House, presented by Electric Kazoo. The church was transformed into a funky, fabulous coffee house and everyone present enjoyed to talents of the EK.

The annual seniors' luncheon did duel duty this year as the anniversary was celebrated by all attendants.

The children of our parish were the next to celebrate this milestone with a good, old fashioned birthday party! A group of over 20 kids had a blast, playing games, having their faces painted and, of course, blowing out the candles on the birthday cake!

Following this was Back to Church Sunday, where we shared our joy with guests and handed out keepsake key tags commemorating the anniversary year.

Finally, the celebrations wound up with a joyous weekend in October. A Gala dinner dance was held and clergy, parishioners and friends danced the night away! The hall at the Howard Johnson was transformed into a blue and silver wonderland with balloons, ribbons and lovely floral centrepieces (generously donated by Gerry Lougheed Jr.) Gerry Lougheed Jr. was a big hit and 'Harold the Angel' and led the crowd in singing an Ascension version of his signature carol. Guests included Canon and Mrs. Hankinson, Bishop Tom Corston, and local clergy. It was a wonderful evening.

The following morning a Service of Thanksgiving was celebrated and was attended by 128 parishioners. Bishop Stephen Andrews was unable to attend and was missed, however, he sent a heartfelt message (below) which was read during the service. Many found the Eucharist to be especially moving as Reverend Anne, Father Bob and Reverend Rhonda stood together at the altar and all participated in the prayer. It was a moment which truly captured the spirit of unity which was a common thread through all the events in the year. All attendants received a commemorative bookmark. Following the service was a time of fellowship, culminating with birthday cake!



In true Ascension style, it was felt that, as we have been blessed with a vibrant and active parish for 60 years, we should share this blessing. At the Service of Thanksgiving, a special collection was taken for the Diocese of Tarime in Tanzania. The congregation gave generously to help a new congregation grow.

In addition to the events, we added to the churches archives with a new parish photo director. A booklet was also created by Erma Howe which recorded the history of our congregation and letters of congratulations and memories of their time at the Ascension

sent by past clergy. We also had a lovely article published in the Sudbury Star.

It was a full and fulfilling year of celebration and we look forward to the next milestone!

Submitted by

*Pippa Howard*

on behalf of  
the 60th Anniversary Committee  
(Erma Howe, Beaumont Nelson,  
Betty McLeod, Kath Greenidge,  
Jen Ames, and Rev. Anne)



Our 60th Anniversary Dinner/Dance on October 25, 2014 included a joyous rendition of a song written by Gerry Loughheed Jr. called "Hark the Ascension Angels Sing"! It set the tone for a great celebration of fun & laughter.

From Left to right - Kath Greenidge, Phillip Balson, Cora Felbel, Erma Howe (partially hidden) Michael White & Jessica Walchuk.



Dedication of Noah's Ark for Godly Play, donated by Beaumont Nelson  
May 25, 2014



Jen Ames our Godly Play story teller telling the story of Noah's Ark with the  
11:00am congregation on May 25, 2014

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## Nominating Committee

### The Church of the Ascension Board 2015

Rector's Warden (Appointed)	Erma Howe
Peoples' Warden	Anne Trimmer
Deputy Warden	Harley Moulton
Ex- Officio (Appointed)	
Treasurer	Cathy Dionne
Envelope Secretary	Gladys Abigail
Vestry Clerk	Ralph Mounter

### Lay Delegates to Synod

2015 is a Synod Year. Diocesan Synod will be held in Sault Ste. Marie from May 6th – 9th, 2015. Synod delegates are automatically members of the church board and they also become members of Deanery Council which meets twice a year in the spring and fall. The Ascension will send two delegates to Synod. We will also have an alternate in the event that one of the candidates is unable to attend.

### Nominees:

Marie Vitone	Jen Ames
Cathy Jewell	Kathryn Greenidge

### Representatives of Church Groups

ACW	Cathy Dionne
Mission and Outreach	Anne Trimmer
Property	Wardens
Child and Youth Ministry	Cindy Caines
Worship and Pastoral Care	Rev. Anne
Parish Life	Kathryn Greenidge
YouthRep	David Caines

### Members at Large (Nominated)

Dave Fowler	Noella Fowler
Matt Walchuk	Doug Frozel
Pippa Howard	Jen Ames
Michael Sheppard	Brent Leigh
Don McLeod	Chris Cawte
Cathy Jewell	Marie Vitone

### Other positions that do not require attendance at meetings

Bulletin Editor	Glenn Lloyd
PWRDF Rep.	Pippa Howard
Webmaster	Kath Greenidge
Parish Auditor	Dave Fowler

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Connie Lee, Linda Hindman & Gladys Taylor hanging out at the Strawberry Tea craft table June 5, 2014



Enjoying an evening at the Strawberry Tea on June 5, 2014  
Bruce & Daryl Keen with Rev Anne.

## **From Our Registers**

### **Marriages at the Ascension**

“May their home be a haven of blessing and peace” (BAS pg. 548)

Perry Victor Kimakowich and Joanne Helene Maria Vaillant

Renewal of Marriage Vows on a 25th Wedding Anniversary

Charles Anthony Lavoie and France Madeleine Lavoie

### **Funeral and Burials**

“Receive them into the arms of your mercy” (BAS pg. 580)

Elizabeth Delphia Gates

Shirley Joyce Fleming

Edward Clayton Stewart

Edith Steele

Ryker Scott Mackay (infant)

Audrey Elizabeth Gene MacDonald

May King

Ann Ellen Corrigan

### **Baptisms**

“Give them an inquiring and discerning heart.” (BAS pg. 160)

Heidi Sarah Stiller

Olivia Grace Lesny

Kaitlyn Anne Belzile

Keygan John Tennis White Cassell

Reid Alan Scott Mannella

Anna Chloe Lennox Fryd

Julianne Jean Landry

William Matthew Walchuk

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Diocese of Algoma Mission to Tarime

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