



RENEWED HEARTS
RENEWED SPIRITS
RENEWED PEOPLE



St. Andrew's Anglican Church

Parish of Sidney Annual General Meeting

Reports of Parish Ministries 2016

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ABBEYFIELD HOUSE – St. Andrew’s

This past year has been one of some discoveries, changes and major upheavals.

The new House Manager, Jen Toth has taken over from Sister Mary Joseph who retired to England. Jen and family are living in the upper floor and husband Ryan has helped with many maintenance chores, and the two sons have been warmly accepted by the residents.



Three of the residents have moved on but their places have been taken by three new people. This has been most successful, and the House is now filled with a very happy complement of residents.

In the spring the carpets were replaced throughout the House, providing a fresh look. Unfortunately, a slip of a finishing tool cut into a water pipe in the rear hall, causing a chain of flooding, destruction and chaos. All residents remained cheerful in the face of hardships galore.

After what seemed a lifetime of noise, dust, humidity and generalized misery, things were put to right and peace now reigns. Much gratitude is due to Jen and Ryan Toth for their hard extra work. Board members, notably Trevor and Ruth, put in many hours of labour.

Three new members joined the Board this year, namely: Richard Taylor, with expertise in financial matters; Dr. Jim Clapperton, physician, who has agreed to assist in the selections and health supervision of residents, bringing a most welcome support and advice in matters medical; and we are very happy to have Paul Conkin, always willing to assist us. These three members are welcomed for their wealth of expertise and experience.

Our thanks to Gwen Fletcher for the sometime challenging task of keeping staff positions filled and happy.

Abbeyfield's profile continues to be raised with community activities – the SPAC Weavers group holding their show in the House in October. In June, Abbeyfield Week was celebrated with an information meeting on Scams, Jams & Safety Plans. The Fire Chief talked on fire prevention and RCMP Constable Phipps discussed avoiding scams. Our able PR member, Linda, is responsible for spearheading these events. We look forward to celebrating the 30th year for the House next spring.

Please keep us in your prayers as we continue to make the Abbeyfield a strong and stable home for our residents. If you are aware of any candidates for resident or relief staff please get in touch.

Terry Melville, Board member.

ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERY PROGRAM 2016



This will be the last annual report given by me on the Altar Flower Delivery program. I am retiring and Elsie Widdowson has agreed to take my place. Elsie has been delivering flowers for some time so is familiar with the routine. I have enjoyed working on this program and appreciate the co-operation of everyone.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Brand

ALTAR GUILD

Meetings were held in January, March, May, September and November with Ruth Moffoot presiding as President. Marina Emmond volunteered for secretary as Hella Irvine stepped down. Guild members totalled 22 and average 11 members present at meetings.

We welcomed our new priest in September and look forward to his leadership. The services at St. Andrew's church run smoothly because of the dedication of our members.

The flowers that are donated weekly are arranged and enjoyed by all, then taken to members by the flower delivery team. Our thanks for the donations of flowers, fruit and vegetables for our festivals making our church very beautiful.

If you are interested in joining the Guild, please let the office know. We are divided into four groups so once a month commitment of time and friendships grow.

Respectfully submitted,
Marina Emmond



BANNER MINISTRY

The Banner Ministry is responsible for changing the banners hanging in the church every couple of months and there is always a seasonal banner hanging to the right of the door in the middle of the church. We have acquired the banners from different sources which included a request some years ago for the different ministries to make a banner. They are stored in a cupboard next to the men's washroom.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Bradshaw

BOOK ROOM



First of all, I would like to thank all of the readers who generously donated books to the Book Room this year and bought books. You can always visit the Book Room through the office, Monday to Friday 9 am to 1 pm. I encourage you to do this as there are some good reads available.

Every Wednesday at Neighbours Soup Lunch, I put out books on a card table that are new to the Book Room that week (if any), or books I hope people will enjoy from the Book Room. This has been very successful.

I am pleased to report that the money from the Book Room has been able to buy extra Common Praise Hymnals for the Choir, extra Book of Alternative Services books, supplies for the soup kitchen and supplies for The Sunshine Lady. I am thankful for this ministry as all the ministries together make our church a wonderful place.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Holland

BURSARY COMMITTEE

The Keith Tucker Memorial Bursary award for a grade 12 graduate was awarded to;
Ms. Carena Stevens.

The John and Margaret Twining Memorial Bursary awards for continuing education were awarded to;

Ms. Jacqueline Gaby
Mr. Bryce Gunning
Ms. Gail Rodger
Ms. Georgina Stevens

There was also a discretionary grant from the Twining Memorial Bursary to Nicholas Hoadley to attend Camp Imadene.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Bergink,

on behalf of the committee,

Ruth Moffoot
Thirell Trottier

Sandra Bergink
Len Howland

COMFORT MINISTRY

The Comfort Ministry provided refreshment on nine occasions following Memorial services, allowing family members time to meet and comfort each other. The team is very grateful for the help and donations of food on these occasions, however, with the advice of the Rector, it has been decided that the format for the receptions will be modified – tea and coffee, soft drinks will be provided as before, and the tables set up with serviettes and small plates, but the families will be asked to take care of all the food required – the team will be responsible for laying it out and clearing away as before, and be on hand to refill tea & coffee, etc. The team appreciates all the donations and help over the past year and will continue to offer this service to our Parish family and others.

Respectfully submitted,
Audrey Waugh
Ruth Moffoot

ENVELOPE SECRETARY

For the year end 2016, we had 123 parishioners using the envelope system. Happily we have had 10 new participants, but we have also lost a number of large donors due to age and death. Our decrease in yearly giving is over \$60,000 in the last 3 years, a very worrying trend. I would like to thank those parishioners who have increased their contributions over the last year.

New parishioners wishing to become a member of the parish can find an information pamphlet in the narthex (by the sidespeople). Please complete the form and return it to the Sidesperson or to the Office. This will give you the option to receive our Weekly E-News and the option of receiving an envelope number. If you take part in envelope giving, you help to finance the work of our Parish and you will receive a yearly tax receipt for the charitable donations that you have made.

I encourage members to think about monthly direct deposits (pre-authorized donations). The steady flow of giving helps Parish Council to budget our resources. If you wish to sign on for direct deposits, there are forms in the narthex or you can contact the office, or me.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Howland
Envelope Secretary

St. Andrew's Church
SIDNEY, B.C.

WEEKLY BUDGET	\$ _____
MONTHLY MISSION	\$ _____
BUILDING FUND	\$ _____
OTHER GIVING (Please Specify) _____	\$ _____
	TOTAL \$ _____

"All things come of Thee O Lord, and of Thine own have we given Thee."

St. Andrew's Grandmother's to Grandmother's

Annual Report

Chair: Elsie Widdowson Treasurer: Ruth Howland Recorder: Elsie Widdowson

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Item	
2014 Activities	
1. Annual General Meeting	The Annual General Meeting of the St. Andrew's Grandmother's group was held in January.
2. Spring Tea and Fashion Show	The spring tea was cancelled due to lack of ticket sales
3. Bridge Afternoon	The Bridge afternoon was cancelled due to the flooding of the Church hall kitchen.
4. Bike Ride	The Victoria Grandmothers group held their bike ride from Campbell River to Victoria again in September of 2016. The St. Andrews Grandmothers provided lunch at Centennial Park for the riders and the support tea.
5. Membership	Membership in the group and attendance at meetings continues to drop. The ongoing viability of this group is in question.
6. Thank You	Many thanks from the Grandmother's to the parish of St. Andrew's for their continued support.

HOLY TRINITY CEMETERY REPORT

HOLY TRINITY CEMETERY BOARD Financial Statement for 2016

	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	TOTAL
Balance	13,839.35	13,719.35	13,719.35	13,719.35	12,685.63	12,917.70	13,332.70	13,345.20	13,093.20	12,967.20	12,967.20	12,589.20	
REVENUE													
Diocese													0.00
Investment Income													0.00
Savings Interest					300.00	1,150.00	800.00			1,400.00		600.00	0.00
Sale of Plots					310.00								4,250.00
Donations													310.00
													0.00
													0.00
Total Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	610.00	1,150.00	800.00	0.00	0.00	1,400.00	0.00	600.00	4,560.00
EXPENSES													
Maintenance Labour													
Equipment													
Open & Close Plots				1,033.72	377.93	745.00	787.50	252.00	126.00	1,400.00	378.00	525.00	4,591.43
Sexton													0.00
Miscellaneous and return of plots													0.00
Bank Charges		120.00											120.00
Total Expenses	0.00	120.00	0.00	1,033.72	377.93	745.00	787.50	252.00	126.00	1,400.00	378.00	525.00	4,711.43
Monthly Balance	0.00	-120.00	0.00	-1,033.72	232.07	405.00	12.50	-252.00	-126.00	0.00	-378.00	75.00	-151.43
Bank Balance YTD	13,839.35	13,719.35	13,719.35	12,685.63	12,917.70	13,322.70	13,345.20	13,093.20	12,967.20	12,967.20	12,589.20	12,664.20	

Opening balance January 1, 2016 \$13,893.35
 Closing balance December 31, 2016 \$12,664.20

CEMETERY TRUST

BOOK VALUE	UNITS
Book Value (BV) January 1, 2016 \$56,671.59	Opening Units January 1, 2016 5,482,449
Adjustment \$5.31	Reinvestment 158,859
Reinvestment \$2,161.83	Closing Units December 31, 2016 5,641,308
Closing BV December 31, 2016 \$58,838.73	
Fair Market Value December 31, 2016 \$81,122.01	

HOME GROUPS
Third Mile Home Group

The Third Mile Home Group, which had met regularly every Wednesday morning in members' homes since the late 1980's, reluctantly decided to disband at the end of August 2016.

From a high of 27 members, numbers had dwindled through ill-health and death to only 5 regular members, and when two of these died in early August, it seemed the right time to discontinue meetings. Eight members and friends met for a farewell lunch, and now we stay in touch through prayer and telephone calls, and we keep up our fellowship by having coffee together occasionally.

Respectfully submitted,
Freda Voysey

MORNING GROUP

This year the St. Andrew's Church Morning Group history book came to light after several years in hiding. We all were delighted!

The book contains the letter written by the Rev. Canon F. Vaughn-Birch to Joey Hopkins in September 1967 suggesting a morning group be formed. The group's purpose was for a wider support of the church by the relatively young mothers involved. Amazingly over time there were more than 60 members in the group.

Although the group's goals and objectives have changed over the years, we continue to support St. Andrew's in a positive manner. Some of our programme offerings this year were welcoming our new minister, the Rev. Eric Partridge, guest speakers Rebecca Vermeer on "Life in the Philippines", Chris and Catriona Harker giving a book talk on "The Call of the Katesh" and Pam Cloger, a botanical illustrator, showing her works.

We always enjoy our get together at Christmas and in June with the Sidney Serenader's Choir, as well as several in house programmes through the year.

We continue to meet on the first Tuesday of each month September through June at 9:45 a.m. in the church hall. Everyone is welcome.

Respectfully submitted,
Audrey Waugh
Chairperson



MUSIC MINISTRY



The Music Ministry continues to provide leadership at both the 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. services, under the leadership of our Music Director, Cameron Ashton.

We have been most fortunate to have members from our congregation that are willing to come and help us for Special Services. It was wonderful to have such a full choir for the Service of Lessons and Carols this past Christmas. Thanks to you all.

Special thanks goes out to our gifted Music Director. We couldn't do it without your encouragement. Thanks for sharing your gifts with us.

New members are always welcome to the Choir.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty-Rose Harrington

NEIGHBOUR'S LUNCH

Wow!! What a great, wonderful, world. God definitely had a plan for us. Wonderful team of volunteers flowing into wherever needed. Thanks to the leadership of Sandi DeLuca assisted by Ruth Howland, 3,300 bowls of soup were served, in 2016, even though there were many challenges. (76,339 bowls since start up in 2003)

New volunteers came forward to help when we lost Sylvia and Donna had to be off. Fortunately, Allison and Bruce saw that the buns and donations from Peninsula Co-op were in place. Also, they kept excellent accounting of donations and shopping for supplies from discount stores. Bags of ice and cookies are often donated from the customers. We could always count on being prepared for soup on Wednesdays with this protocol in place. Except when?? – THE FLOOD, our greatest challenge. We had to close for three months as you know there was literally 'no kitchen facilities and no hall available to serve.'



Christmas Lunch was our new start-up and what a turnout! Lots of volunteers taking care of over 150 enjoying the Annual Turkey Lunch. It was also great to see and be able to work, with many of the original team turning up to help. Thanks so much!!

Since that day, Sandi has been in the kitchen stirring the pots with a happy, dedicated team prepping for her. And the fellows on clean up – Where would we be without you? Bill Judge, you are sorely missed with your sense of humour and thanks for still coming in and giving us our hugs. Sandra Bergink (& Jan) takes the laundry home every week and brings it back fresh and folded. This used to be done by Allison and I taking weekly turns. Appreciated so much Sandra (& Jan), 17 aprons and many dishcloths each time.

Take out for the shut-in is still available and some smaller containers in the freezer for Lois to access when needed. There are complimentary coupons in the office if anyone needs free utensils, etc. from Beacon Community Services Thrift Shop.

Welcome to Eric Partridge our new Rector. Sharing time with this Ministry is really appreciated.

This is really a great Ministry, we get a great mix of the community and everyone is always friendly and happy. Especially our volunteers. You are wonderful!! Join us if you want to be part of the team or just come in for some soup and socializing.

Thanks and Blessings to all.
Respectfully submitted,
Donna Godwin

PARISH LIFE

Our activities this year were limited due to the hall repairs, but early in the year we did manage to enjoy:-

- Shrove Tuesday supper and egg decorating.
- Valentines Dance
- Grad dinner

The following months were spent wondering when we would have another large event in the hall. But the 'Wine & Appies' group kept us socializing in member's homes, truly a blessing to have that group organizing and running so smoothly – Thank You.

The Diocese planned to hold a Conference in our hall in October and had asked us to be the 'caterer'. The flood caused a very quick change of locations, and some rearranging of how the food would be cooked and served. The Diocese was able to secure the use of the hall at St. Stephen's, however they (St. Stephen's) were not able to organize the food, so we were asked to continue to be the 'caterer'. Many of our Parish Life team helped out and we worked alongside members of St. Stephens and St. Mary's – truly a shared deanery event. I want to thank you for stepping into the unknown with me.

By Christmas we were all finding the cramped 'standing room only' coffee between services limiting our ability to visit with each other and so, coffee and treats were arranged for the Evening Choral service on the 18 of December. That was a very eventful day for me personally as I abruptly stepped back from leadership in Parish Life, but I hear that the refreshments went ahead. I also missed the celebratory 'Pot Luck' that was held this January, but once again, the team stepped in and it ran very smoothly. Again, I say Thank You all.

I am forever grateful for the help of: Judy C, Tom & Sharon C, Sandra D, Susan D, Margeurite G, Suzanne G, Betty H, Ruth & Len H, Linda L, Tony P, Gail R, Marilyn S, David & Thirell T.

Gratefully, Janice Varga
Parish Life Co-ordinator

PASTORAL CARE REPORT

God has given to the pastoral care provider the responsibility to shepherd the flock. Paul says in Acts 20:28: "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which He has purchased with His own blood." Similarly, Peter wrote in 1 Peter 5:1-3, "The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for gain, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being examples to the flock."



As I joined the Pastoral Care team in September, I have only a truncated vision of the wonderful work that this group has provided all through the year- visiting the sick and shut-ins, attending on worship services in Resthaven Lodge and at Sidney Care Home, calling on members of our church family who are in need, and taking communion to others. The faithful and loving support of this small team of volunteers has been a source of great joy for me and, of course, for those they have visited.

I want to thank Greg Lynn who has led this group though the past year, as well as Betty-Rose Harrington, Wayne Hatt, Stephen Hives, Marg McAvity, Biddy Morey-Jones, Marg Nelson, Fran Stern and Janice Varga, all of whom have offered their time and care to our church family.

If you feel called to join this group in the coming year, I would be pleased hear from you so that we can talk about what is involved. You can offer as much or as little time as is possible for you and your efforts would be a great blessing to those you visit.

Please hold this team and the people they support in your prayers.

Respectfully submitted,
Eric +

PROPERTY & GROUNDS 2016

The year 2016 presented a number of challenges for the Property and Grounds Committee. The members of this committee are Len Howland and Wayne Hatt.

Photocopier

Early on in the year we were presented with an opportunity to upgrade our office photocopier. The previous photocopier was 5 years old and needed to be replaced. We had received a quote for a reconditioned machine, which had folder and stapler capabilities. The cost per copy would be 1.1 cents for black and white copy and 4.6 cents for colour copies. These costs will include both supplies and repairs (except paper). The replacement photocopier was purchased.

Grounds Work Party

A meeting and work party was arranged for Monday, February 29, 2016 at 9:30 a.m. We had a number of people come by and help clean the flowerbeds and along the sidewalks. The large cross, hanging on the outside wall of the church hall facing Fourth Street was removed by Terry Melville. Later on in March, Dennis Varga made a new cross and it was hung.

First-Aid Kit

The web site for the Canadian Safety Supplies was searched for a First-Aid Kit appropriate for the size of St. Andrew's. The kit is very lightweight and includes 3 blankets. St. Andrew's purchased a Level 1 First Kit to meet current standards. It is located just inside the south end double doors to the church, alongside the AED Machine.

Accident Report Form

An Accident Report Form was developed in line with the Diocese guidelines.

Ladies Washroom Toilets Replacement

Safety is one of our major concerns for our congregational members. It was brought to our attention that three of the four ladies toilets were too low to navigate for a number of our members. These toilets were replaced and we hope more comfortable to use.

The Overhead Screen

As you may remember, the overhead screen malfunctioned in the down position and remained so for a number of weeks. After some discussion, Council approved the purchase and replacement of the screen. This has been done and we are looking into the possibility of repairing the replaced screen for use in the church hall.

New Signage

The church signage on the north and south sides of the building needed to be upgraded desperately. It was decided to use the same format and fonts as those making up the hall sign on the outside of the west wall. This also gave us the opportunity to add Reverend Eric Partridge's name to the signs.

Gutter Cleaning

Gutter cleaning desperately needed to be done. The gutters and downspouts have been cleared of debris and have been cleaned outside. Moss was removed from the flat roofed portions of the church in order for the excess waters to reach the downspouts.

There is moss on the church roof; but it cannot be completely removed due to the steepness of the roof. Furthermore, any removal of the moss needs to wait until the spring or summer because of the rain.



Attic Stairs

It was noted that the attic stairs located overhead in the hallway between the church and the hall are not functioning well and are not seated properly due a malfunction of the stairs mechanism. New stairs have been purchased and are due to be replaced; but **we need help to do so.**

Lighted Step Nose

A lighted step nose has been installed to the step going into the church immediately upon entering the south door. This also serves as lighting when entering in the dark.

Flood Re-Construction Update

St. Andrew's has had a major flood in September 2016 and repairs have still not been completed. The work that has been completed was done professionally.

Completed

The following is simply a list of work done:

- a. The flooring for the hallways, mechanical room, pantry, storage room and bathrooms has been installed.
- b. The flooring for the kitchen has been installed. This flooring is a special order to ensure the safety of those of us working in the kitchen.
- c. Thanks to Ruth Howland and Janice Varga for helping to choose the colours and pattern.
- d. The kitchen cupboards have been returned to the kitchen, since we insisted they be removed to ensure minimal floor cover cutting in light of the possibility of changing the floor plans.

Incomplete

The floor covering in the main hall (gym area) could not be properly reviewed until all the storage boxes, etc. were removed. Once that was done, it was apparent to us the flooring needed some type of repair or replacement. We are currently in negotiations to determine the best solution.

Kitchen Countertops

The full kitchen countertops have been replaced. This was at our cost since it was not affected by the flooding. Thanks to Ruth Howland and Janice Varga for helping to choose the colours and design.

Kitchen Painting

Thanks to Michael Varga, we have a fresh coat of paint on the kitchen walls and ceiling. This was an opportunity not to miss, since the kitchen was empty. The work done here was at our own expense.

Kitchen Restoration

The volunteers working in the kitchen have been asking for a sink replacement for years. We took this opportunity to accommodate them with a 10" deep single sink with new faucet. Again, this is at our own expense.

Fire Suppression System

The use of the kitchen for such events as "Neighbours Lunch" could not commence until the Fire Suppression System was redesigned as per the Amended Building Code. Another expense that we had to pay for.

Fire Safety Plan

During the 2016 Fire Department inspection of the fire alarm system and the fire extinguishers, Len Howland was asked to see the binder containing the diagrams showing the details of where our sprinklers were. St. Andrew's has never had such a binder required by the Town of Sidney as per their by-laws. Len proceeded to produce a comprehensive set of documents outlining the layout of the church and hall, the sprinkler locations, fire extinguishers, fire suppression system amongst other items. These diagrams allow members of the Sidney Volunteer Fire Department to reference the layout of the building at anytime to help expedite the finding and extinguishing a fire. Thanks Len, this was a huge job well done.

Lest We Forget

Len Howland spent hours during the summer trying to figure out how to free the belfry of a racoon family.



Conclusion

In conclusion, I would like to extend a heart-felt thank you for all who have helped during this past year. A special thank you to Len Howland for the dozens and dozens of hours (volunteer hours) that he dedicates to the parish of St. Andrew's Anglican Church.

Respectfully Submitted,
Wayne D. Hatt
Deputy People's Warden

SERVER'S GUILD

There are currently four Servers covering services once a month. David serves at the 7:45 a.m. service, Carenza and Brooke serve at the 9:00 a.m. service and Isaiah serves at the 11:00 a.m. service

Special occasions such as Easter and Christmas - important festivals in the church, and when the Bishop visits there are always servers covering these services.

We always welcome more volunteer servers, of all ages. Please contact Rev. Eric if you are interested in this worship ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Carenza Stevens



ST. ANDREW'S REFUGEE WORK 2016

In the autumn of 2015, our parish community agreed to work with 6 other churches and a number of individuals in Saanich to form a Refugee Sponsorship Group within our Diocese's Refugee Program. By this arrangement each church and individual agreed to raise funds and find volunteers to help do this work.

By early 2016 we had been accepted to take a family from Syria, then living in Turkey. It took a while to know who they were almost half of the year to await their arrival but on the 29th of June, the Kamalmaz family arrived at Victoria Airport and began their lives in Canada.

Ten of us in our parish have contributed time to help this family settle into their home and community, playing a large part in their language training. Many of us now count the family as friends. Our church raised close to \$10,000 for the project. And we received the family at an Open House in Sidney, a few months ago.

Ihsan, the father, is still trying to find full time employment. Sena, the mother, has made enormous strides in learning English. Hadeel, a grade 11 student at Stelly's School and working part time at Saanichton's Thrifty Food store, has adjusted well. Wesam, the youngest in the family is having the hardest time adjusting but we feel, with time, he will be just fine.

In addition to this family, our church has also responded with prayers and money to an appeal from Elizabeth May to help achieve a family reunification from Syria, with an older couple coming to join their son and family in Vancouver.

Our work with this Saanich group will continue into 2017, though formally the arrangement with the Kamalmaz family will end one year after their arrival.

We will keep you briefed on further developments. Thanks to so many for your sharing in this ministry.

Respectfully submitted,
Marks McAvity – parish link person to Sponsorship Group

SUNDAY SCHOOL



Sunday School started in fall of 2016 with about 5 children. It is a one room program with different age groups ranging from 2 yrs – 10 yrs old. Heather helps with the program every Sunday. We have had several children who have visited us and attend Sunday school.

We started off with stories from the Old Testament, followed by Thanksgiving and finishing the year with Advent and Christmas stories. The program is to encourage every child to grow in their faith and to feel they belong to the Church family. Crafts, games, music and various activities help the children understand the story better and gives them an opportunity to share their experience with their family.

This year we are using a flannel board with visuals to encourage the children to engage in an interactive story time.

We had about 15 participants at the Christmas pageant, the participants included the visiting children and adults. We got a very good feed-back from the congregation.

Moving into 2017, we have some new and creative ideas to encourage the children to participate at the Sunday service. We also have a Sunday School bulletin board featuring all the crafts and work done by the children every Sunday.

I take this opportunity in thanking the church family for the continued support and encouragement given to the Sunday school program.

Respectfully submitted,
Marlene Sunder Raj
Sunday School Teacher

WARM CLOTHING FOR THE HOMELESS

The parishioners of St. Andrew's have been very generous in 2015. Many warm coats blankets, and sundry other items of clothing, were donated by parishioners for the Mustard Seed Outreach Program. We made 4 trips to the Mustard Seed to drop off the loads of clothing and bedding.

When we arrive, usually on a Sunday afternoon, the Mustard Seed Street Church is just getting started. It is wonderful to see and hear people from all walks of life joined together in praise and worship of Our Lord. There are many willing hands to help us unload the car and pack the goods into the Outreach office. They are so appreciative of all you give! Two days a week the clothing is arranged on tables inside and those in need, people who live on the streets or with low income, are invited to choose items that they need, free of cost.



(Matthew 25:34-36 "...Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.")

May God bless you abundantly and replenish all that you have so generously given.

Respectfully submitted,
Lois Ainey