



Michael's Messenger

ST. MICHAEL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

12996-60th Avenue Surrey, BC, V3X 2L5 TEL: 604-591-8323
E-Mail: saintmichaels@telus.net Web: www.stmichaelschurch.ca

Thank you, St. Michael's:

*Next deadline for
submissions for next
issue:*

Dec. 29, 2019

*Donations towards
publishing costs are
greatly appreciated. A
tax receipt will be
issued for donations
ten dollars and over*

*Michael's Messenger
is distributed to
parishioners of St.
Michael's Church and
interested people*

It is my pleasure and privilege to have this opportunity to thank everyone at St. Michael's Church for all of the help, support, care and prayers that I have received over the many years that I have been a member. Many people have come and gone since I attended my first service on Easter Sunday, 1989, but consistently there has been an atmosphere of spirituality, friendliness, hospitality and the feeling of a wonderful, loving family.

Through illness, health, celebratory occasions and special times, my church family has been a very special blessing for me.

The past year and a half has been particularly difficult with the progressive illness of my husband, George, who struggled with the effects of asbestosis. I would especially like to thank Rev. Louie, Andy & Coleen Whitmore, the Wardens and members of Church Council as well as three very special ACW ladies – Kathi Dale, Mary Kneale and Judith Pomerleau, who made George's "Service of Remembrance" such a special and meaningful experience for me, my family, our friends, and everyone who attended the service.

May God Bless each and every one who supports, participates in and takes pride in being a member of the very special place called St. Michael's Anglican Church, Surrey!

Most Sincerely,

Val Hampton

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH COUNCIL 2019

Rector's Warden: Jeddy James 778-997-7617

People's Warden: Clark Norman 604-901-7849

Associate Warden: Tim Novak 604-271-8586

Secretary: Sasha Abraham 778-707-2863

Treasurer: Rod Yetman 604-596-2946

ACW: Kathi Dale 604-596-2946

Communications: Natasha Kaweski 604-597-6799

Synod Delegate: Tony Picher 778-695-7991; Corri
Kaweski 604-597-6799

Trustee: Leo Golden 604-591-3269

Member-at-large: Dave Reynolds 604-585-0660;
Andrew Kaweski 604-597-6799

Music: Coleen and Andy Whitmore 604-590-3997

**Priest: Ven.
Louie Engnan
604-585-6835**

ACW Collects:

Used postage stamps (not prepaid postage envelopes): are trimmed, sorted and sold to support Theological training in the arctic

Pop can tabs: are recycled to raise money for Parklands School to send children to Dialysis camp

Travel Soap and Shampoo: These small items are provided in most hotels and motels. Those you do not use can be collected and used for either women and children in transition homes or be given to homeless shelters for use by the homeless people who come in for a warm shower.

Bales to the North: The Major outreach initiative of the Anglican Church Women Diocese Of New Westminster

Good used clothing, children's and household goods, are collected from Parishes in our Diocese and are packed in bales and sent to Diocese of the Yukon parishes. This supports the church in the North in various ways. Firstly, it supplies clothing and household goods to people in remote areas where there are no or few stores. Secondly, it supplies much need financial assistance to the parishes as these items are often sold in their thrift stores. Thirdly, it offers an opportunity for the church to reach out to the greater community, offering friendship and assistance where needed. We have been doing this for many years and have received many compliments for the service from those who rely on the help. A list of what might be available is sent to discover current needs. Approx. twenty bales are sent three times a year.

DID YOU KNOW?

All women who attend an Anglican Church are automatically members of the Anglican Church Women (ACW), whether or not they attend meetings and/or participate in any activities.

St. Michael's ACW usually meets on the second Wednesday of each month except for July and August. At present, although the group is small, fund-raising events are held during the year, the profits of which are mainly donated to the church for specific projects as well as to well-chosen non-profit organizations. A fellowship/sharing time is held at the closing of each meeting, when members support one another through celebrations and difficulties.

Anyone who is interested in participating in any of the ACW activities, at any time, will be most welcome and appreciated!

Val Hampton,

Secretary

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Guild really appreciates donations of flowers and/or money for flowers to be placed in the wall vases for the Sunday worship services. Money for donations can be put in your offering envelope with a note to say what it is for. When donating, it is most helpful if you could place your name on the flower chart at the back of the church and notify Natasha Kaweski with the information you wish to have printed in the bulletin. Flowers may be given in memory of a loved one, in thanksgiving for a special event, or for any other reason. It's also helpful for the team on duty for your particular Sunday to know approximately how much money they can spend and also any specific types of flowers which might be meaningful to you.

Many thanks to all of the Altar Guild members who carry out their duties so faithfully and to everyone who donates flowers and/or money!

Submitted by Anne MacLean and Val Hampton



The Value of Prayer

If God already knows our needs, why do we need to pray? [... Imagine a huge building filled with thousands of rooms. Inside those rooms are all the good possibilities for your future—job opportunities, provision of every kind, guidance, and wisdom to make right decisions. The problem is all the doors are locked and you can't get in. But suppose someone puts a supernatural key in your hand that will open every door. You can choose to use the key or not use it. If you don't use the key, the doors won't open for you. That's a picture of how prayer works. God won't automatically do everything for us. Instead, He has given us a key to use, which is prayer. **Prayer is a privilege** God gives us where He lets us participate in His will being accomplished on earth (Matt. 6:10). However, if we don't use the "prayer key" the door will remain closed for some of God's blessings. {The famous Hope Diamond which is located in the Smithsonian Institute, is known of around the world. It is the largest and most perfect blue diamond in existence, boasting 45.52 carats, and having a worth more than \$350 Million dollars. Though the renowned stone is of great value, prayer is much more valuable than the Hope Diamond.} Why is prayer so valuable? Here are several reasons.

Reason #1 Prayer is how we develop a relationship with God. What if prayer didn't exist? Suppose God didn't provide any way to contact Him when we're in trouble. [... You cannot talk to Me and I won't talk to you. I will not intervene in your affairs. If you want help...sorry, but you're on your own!" [... The good news is God does want us to pray so we can get to know Him in a better way. Prayer is connecting our heart to God's heart. [... Prayer is letting Him know what's on our heart. Psalm 62:8 says, "Pour out your heart before Him." Our closeness to God can be measured by how much we talk to Him when we're **NOT** at church. James 4:8 says, "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you." "Drawing near" isn't referring to distance because God is inside us. {Fr. Louie made that very clear in his sermon on July 21st.} It's talking about drawing nearer in our hearts. [... Prayer is like talking on a phone, which also means listening. Some people do all the talking and never listen. [... Sometimes we also do that with God. We talk and talk and never listen. It's a monologue instead of a dialog. {We pray for a minute or two, or several minutes, then we get up and leave and go about our business....hoping that God has heard us...but we left out the vital part of being in God's presence quietly for a period of time, listening to what he has to say to us.} And we've missed the primary reason to pray—to get to know God.

Reason #2 Some things will not happen unless we pray. Why should we pray if it doesn't make any difference? James 4:2 tells us "you do not have because you do not ask." To say it another way, **if we don't use the key the door won't open.** God can change our circumstances if we will use the key and call out to Him for help.

Sennacherib, the king of Assyria, was threatening to conquer Jerusalem. King Hezekiah knew he would be defeated unless God stopped Sennacherib. Hezekiah prayed that God would deliver Jerusalem from the Assyrian army. God answered him, **"Because you have prayed to Me** about Sennacherib king of Assyria, I have heard you" (2 Kings 19:20 NASB). God came to his rescue **because** he prayed. If the king hadn't prayed, Jerusalem {may} have been destroyed. Prayer brought something to pass on earth that would not have happened if he hadn't prayed. [... Don't give up praying. Keep praying and don't lose heart. God has placed in your hand the key, but it's up to you to put it in the doorknob.

Reason #3 Prayer shows God how desperately we want something. "The effectual fervent (desperate) prayer of a righteous person avails much" (James 5:16). When we pray out of desperation we touch God's heart and catch His ear. Our prayers show Him how desperately we want something. As Jesus passed through Jericho, two blind men sitting by the road cried out, "Lord, have mercy on us!" (Matt. 20:30). Even though a huge crowd surrounded Him, Jesus stopped when He heard their cries for help. He then answered their request and healed them. On another occasion, a woman who had a hemorrhage for 12 years touched the hem of His garment. While a large crowd was touching Him, Jesus felt power leave Him and she was healed (Mark 5:24-34). What was different about her touch than the others touching Him? She was desperate for a miracle. {Christians need to have real faith. One who has no faith will not pray. So many people and churches too, are defeated, floundering in their spiritual walk, because of prayerlessness. If our church is to be victorious, we should definitely be praying. Who would want to be floundering in their spiritual walk with God, or have our church fail?}

Reason #4 Prayer is the way we release our burdens to God. "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4:6-7). Sheep are not designed to carry burdens. You've heard of "pack mules" but you'll never hear of "pack sheep." God didn't design us to carry burdens on our souls. When we've truly prayed, we've released our concerns into the Lord's hands and we let Him carry the load. [... {Prayer is also an Obstacle remover. If you recall, in the Book of Acts, Peter was in prison. The church was having a prayer meeting for him. The result was that God opened up the

prison doors that had him bound and set him free. Obstacles are removed when God's people exercise their responsibility and their right to pray.}

Reason #5 When we pray, God intervenes in other people's lives and changes them.

Have you ever wondered why Jesus told us to "pray for those who mistreat you" (Luke 6:28)? Let's think about that.

He told us to pray for our enemies because our prayer releases the Holy Spirit to convict them of their sins and bring them to repentance. Remember, some things will not happen unless we pray. We don't typically like to pray for those who mistreat us, but if we will pray for the Holy Spirit to convict them we might see some surprising results. James 5:16 says, "Pray for one another that you may be healed." It doesn't say to pray for yourself to be healed (although there is nothing wrong with that) but to pray for others. God has set it up so that **He wants to work through the prayers of others to help us**. Our prayers are part of the reason others are healed mentally and physically—and also in them being saved.

Only the Holy Spirit can convict us of sin, righteousness, and judgment (John 16:8).

When we pray for a lost person to be saved, the Holy Spirit begins to pull on that person's heart where it becomes easier to surrender to Him than continue in rebellion.

[... Think what could happen if we started praying for others and ourselves about everything. {Are we a praying church?} Our prayers could change {ourselves, others, and} the world!

You have permission to copy and distribute this material. Making Life Count Ministries
P.O. Box 680174 Prattville, Alabama 36068 www.makinglifecount.net

(Taken and modified from: The Five Purposes of Prayer By Kent Crockett
www.makinglifecount.net)

Parish Ministry of St. Michael's Church, Surrey August 2019

Dear Parishioners,

On behalf of the members of Parish Council, we would like to update you with regards to an ongoing discernment that the parish Leadership team, *the Wardens, Treasurer and Rector*, are doing on how we could continue to serve better this community.

You may also recall that after our 2019 Vestry Meeting, we asked The Reverend Tellison Glover to lead us in a parish conversation on how we could respond to our parish priorities as an offering to St. Michael's 60th Anniversary.

A few weeks ago, your parish leadership team met with The Archbishop and some of the senior staff of the Synod Office. Here are some of the highlights of that meeting. *(i)* We reviewed the Average Sunday Attendance (A.S.A.) of the parish. *(ii)* Our parish treasurer also shared with the group the most recent financial statement of St. Michael's. *(iii)* The Wardens shared to the Diocesan Staff about our plan to rehabilitate our buildings, parking lot and property improvement projects. *(iv.)* There were lots of conversation on how St. Michael's should discern its current ministry status and future growth opportunities within the available demographics and resources. *(v.)* A potential shared ministry model with another Anglican Parish in our area.

As Rector, my goal, for the second half of the year, is to further communicate more clearly and intentionally to the parishioners about what is going on in the parish. I will talk more about the importance of Sunday Worship participation, and Stewardship ministry. We, as a team, will campaign and encourage our members, to renew (once again) our giving as an expression of our love to God and support to the ministry of St. Michael's.

On July 29th, The Parish Leadership team wrote to the Archbishop about possible next steps that could support St. Michael's parish ministry. Some of these are the following: *(i.)* Have a follow-up Meeting with the Archbishop and the Diocesan Leadership. Main Agenda/Points of Discussion could be: 1. Reconfirm Roles and Responsibilities of Diocese and Parish Leadership. 2. Lands and Buildings - Risks and Liabilities. 3. Rector's Workload/Resource Allocation. 4. Potential Short-term and Long-term solutions. *(ii.)* The Wardens and Treasurer will then work on a proposed "**Ministry or Business plan**" that will include but is not limited to the buildings and lots owned by the Diocese in the Parish of St. Michael's, Surrey. *(ii.)* Have a third Meeting with the Archbishop and the Diocesan Leadership to present the above and decide further course of action.

In the next few weeks, this message will be on our Sunday bulletin. We hope that if you have some thoughts or feelings about these topics, you will find time to write to us or request to have a conversation with one, or some or all of us. We will keep you updated as we continue to journey in this challenging yet exciting time in the life of St. Michael's Church.

Lastly, please pray for the leaders of our parish, The Archbishop and all people involved in this discernment process. Thank you so much.

Jeddy James, Clark Norman, Rod Yetman, Louie Engnan

St. Michael's Anglican Church His (and Her) Story

In 1958, who would have thought that the future of St. Michael's Anglican Church, Surrey would have been determined by close friends having a card game and a hot dog roast in a neighbour's woods. But the neighbours around the campfire that evening realized that there was a need for an Anglican Church in the area. The two families were the Whaleys and the Whites. The pioneers of the Church were many, but the three people who initialized the drive for the Church were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Whaley and Miss Amy Barker. Miss Barker spearheaded the campaign soliciting support from neighbours in the area. The support was tremendous. May Whaley donated the land. The sod turning ceremony, laying of the cornerstone and the naming of the Church took place in 1959. While construction was underway, the congregation used J.T. Brown Elementary School for its services. Fred Whaley, a carpenter by trade, built the altar which was fitted with wheels for storage during the week. The first minister was The Reverend Stephen Lee. His assistant was The Reverend J. Major. From 1959 to 1960, The Reverend Keith W. Mason of Surrey Centre Anglican Church acted as an Advisor and performed christenings for St. Michael's at his Church.

The first Sunday school teachers were Mary Canty, and Jean, and Donna White. St. Michael's first confirmation class was presented by The Reverend Lee to Bishop Godfrey Gower at St. Asaph's Church, North Surrey on May 5th, 1960. St. Michael's was fully completed in 1962. Fred Whaley built the altar, pews, communion railings and prayer kneelers, and oversaw much of its construction. In 1962 Miss Amy Barker became the first Sunday School Superintendent. The Sunday school was packed each Sunday, as was the Church, which offered Morning Prayers three Sundays a month, with the last Sunday of the month being reserved for Holy Communion.

These years were a time of great promise and hope. In the early nineties the Church began a resurgence in Parish growth and interest in the Church, which was partially as a result of the general growth of Surrey. Father Paul Illical had then recently arrived at the Church and through him there was a general sense of optimism about the future. The Church had the enviable blend of several founding families still active in the Parish combined with new young families. With these new families came an increased enrolment in Sunday school. There was also a general feeling within the Parish that improved Church facilities were required to sustain the growth in membership. Thus, the idea of a new Church Hall was proposed and after much deliberation within the Parish, it was accepted. The next hurdle was obtaining approval from the diocesan office. This approval took four years to obtain. Due to the generous donations by the founding Church families and a forgivable loan from the National Church, the Parish was able to build the hall.

The construction of the 'Millennium' Hall however, would not have been successful without the diligent effort of a fellow Anglican by the name of John Reader. He was a

retired construction superintendent, who acted on our behalf as the general contractor. A significant amount of money was saved through St. Michael's being the general contractor to build the Church. The Millennium Hall was completed in the late 90s and has been in good use since it was finished.

Today, two other Christian Churches rent space for their services at St. Michael's. Sources Life Skills Resource Centre rents the Millennium Hall all week and a Montessori Kindergarten rents the back hall in the Church for its classes. The Church parking lot is full to capacity due to this and the Church is a hub of activity for the community. The Venerable Louie Engnan presides over two services each Sunday: a quiet contemplative communion service from the Book of Common Prayer (B.C.P.), and a contemporary family communion service from the Book of Alternative Services (B.A.S), which features a choir and a youth band. Reverend Louie provides Bible study on Tuesday evenings, counselling and support services. He invites inspiring guest speakers to the services and organizes pot luck suppers, barbecues and in the case of St. Michael's this year, its sixtieth anniversary celebrations! For over five years he has organized St. Michael's participation in a big Picnic event at Bear Creek Park in June, attended this year by four participating Churches and presided over by Archbishop Melissa Skelton. St. Michael's continues to be, as it was in its early days in the 60s, 'a warm, inviting community gathering place.'

St. Michael's Anglican Church, Surrey June 2019 Financial Update

Budgeted to date earnings	\$87,887
Budgeted to date expenses	<u>\$103,927</u>
Budgeted to date deficit	-\$16,040

Actual to date earnings	\$90,331
Actual to date expenses	<u>\$97,862</u>
Actual to date deficit	-\$7,531

Estimated Expenses for the rest of the year

\$103,922

*(The above value includes **-\$14,442** deficit as budgeted in the beginning of the year)*

Additional Upcoming Capital Expenses

\$ 110,000

The above includes the following which need to be completed within the next 12-18 months or so:

- 1. Church roof**
- 2. Millennium Hall roof**
- 3. Parking lot**
- 4. Furnaces in the Millennium building**

*Note to readers: Data/Information above were obtained from the Parish Treasure's Report
For more information, contact the Wardens, the treasurer or the church office*

St. Michael's 60th Anniversary Program, Sunday, Sept. 29, 2019

9:00am-Meet and Greet

Coffee and Welcome

10:00-Solemn Eucharist

Archbishop Melissa Skelton, Presider & Preacher

11:45-Fellowship Meal

Speeches and Socials, Cake Cutting Ceremony

2:30pm-Wrap Up

