



# **St George's Anglican Church**

**ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING  
OF ST. GEORGE'S ANGLICAN CHURCH  
PARKTOWN  
TO BE HELD AT 10h45  
ON SUNDAY 10th MARCH 2019  
IN ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH HALL**

**VESTRY REPORT**

# **St. George's Anglican Church**

**PARKTOWN**

**ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING**

**SUNDAY 10th MARCH 2019 AT 10H45**

## **AGENDA**

**The business of the meeting shall be:**

- 1. Opening Prayer & Welcome**
- 2. Apologies**
- 3. Appointment of Secretary**
- 4. Appointment of Scrutineers**
- 5. Confirmation of Minutes of the 2018 Vestry Meeting**
- 6. Presentation by Churchwardens of Audited or Verified Annual Accounts**
- 7. Report by Churchwardens on condition of Church property**
- 8. Report by the Rector on the care and needs of the parish**
- 9. Presentation by the Churchwardens of the Budget for ensuing year**
- 10. A decision by Vestry on the number or persons who will serve on Council**
- 11. Election of Churchwardens and Parish Leadership Team for ensuing year**
- 12. Appointment of Auditor or Independent Verifier for ensuing year**
- 13. Closure**

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## RECTOR

# BRIEF VESTRY REPORT 2018

## The Revd Dr Jeremy Jacobs

Dear Friends

It was my habit over the years to submit fairly detailed statistics on the essential functions of Parish life, but since my departure in August last year, the best I can offer is a general impression of Parish life as a whole.

As I think back, I find it curious that the daily operational management of St George's extensive work has already begun to drift out of my memory. I remember the substantial list of ministries and all the amazing work St George's does, but what remains very clear in my mind are the extraordinary people who do it. To 'quantify' ministry is never easy, and it is always treacherous to measure the performance of the heart, but what rises above our varied opinions is the centrality of relationships. This is the key ingredient that will determine the sustainability of the church.

Clichéd as the old adage may be, the mountain really is clearer from the plain. The 'big picture' indicates that St George's is in transition. There is a clear attrition of long-standing members due to the inevitability of age, and a gradual influx of new younger families, but not at a pace equal to its decline. This is a trend in keeping with the Anglican Church all over the world, and our Diocese, for the most part, is not exempt. Commensurately, more pressure is placed on fewer people to sustain the work of the church. I am of the opinion, for those of a 'certain age', that church life, as we have 'always known it', will continue to divest itself of many functions that used to be routine. For a number of reasons, we simply won't be able to do as much as we used to. The main reasons hinge on the natural cyclicity of ageing parishes, but in our demographic, we also suffer the time-constraints

of corporate life. A stressed economy won't help the situation either. In brief, we will have to do more incisive, focussed work in less time with less money.

This requires new skill-sets, sharper insights, and more robust and inclusive education. As much as my next comment my ‘rub’ against the piety of our core values, I would advise that the church needs to rediscover humanity’s centres of pleasure. What pleases people most these days? What kinds of experiences are the most gratifying? What entices participation and offers encounters of delight and awe? What kinds of projects would be sufficiently challenging to inspire a sense of achievement and reward? What kind of teaching and preaching is most likely to keep people intellectually interested and engaged? If you are able to locate and define these ‘pleasure centres’ and cater adequately for them, you will succeed. My challenge may sound spiritually counterintuitive, self-indulgent, and even un-holy, but it is honest. Bear in mind that the ultimate goal of Christianity is *Absolute Pleasure* – we call it heaven! If you can provide a little heaven on earth, then people will come.

Yours in Christ



**The Revd Dr Jeremy Jacobs**

*Chaplain*

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Member of the Independent Schools Association of Southern Africa  
And the International Boys' Schools Coalition (IBSC)

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# 2018 CHURCHWARDENS REPORT

## 1. BUILDINGS

### Church and offices

- Major repairs were successfully completed to the roof of both the church and the hall during the year. These repairs were funded from the Building maintenance reserve.
- Further damp proofing is still required to the cement pointing of the stone work on the tower which will be considered during the dry season.
- The planned lobby at the South-West stairs to the church has met strong resistance from the Heritage committee and further plans will be postponed until a new rector is appointed
- During the year the old split pole fence between the church and the rectory was replaced by a see-through metal fence which is considerably more attractive and secure. The fence was financed by a donation from a parishioner
- A parishioner has donated a cement replica of the bronze Herbert Baker head that was stolen which has been installed in its original position on the plinth at the garden of remembrance
- Dr D Barnes, on behalf of the Barnes Trust, has funded and overseen the installation of a set of new stain glass windows into the middle windows of the East wall
- A toilet for disabled and wheelchair access to the hall and, if possible, the church is being planned.
- The church offices are all in good state of repair, recently painted with the carpets cleaned and presentable.
- Consequently, other than the damp proofing of the tower for which funds are available in the building maintenance reserve, no major repairs are expected in 2019.

### Rectory, flat and Apex apartment

- The rectory was vacated in August, minor maintenance was attended to and it has now been rented for a year till 31 December 2019 while we await the appointment of a rector.
- The flat at the rectory also became vacant but it too has been maintained and is rented for a year from February 2019 until February 2020

- The Apex flat has been rented for most of 2018 and a lease is being negotiated for 6 months from 01 February 2019.
- The rental derived from these properties contributes significantly to parish income

## **2. EQUIPMENT**

### **Organ**

- Our thanks go to Sydney Place who attends to the maintenance and tuning of the organ. However, the organ will require specific interventions by the manufacturer, Rieger, from time to time and this may well become necessary in 2019. Consequently, further funds have been allocated to the organ maintenance reserve this year to ensure that there are sufficient funds available in this reserve when needed.

### **Office equipment**

- A computer, printer and other minor pieces of office equipment were purchased during the year ensuring that our staff are able to perform their duties.
- Several chairs were replaced, and no major replacements are anticipated in 2019.

### **Motor vehicles**

- The Toyota Rav, which was used by Jeremy, was disposed of and the proceeds of R 195 000 transferred to the motor car replacement fund which now stands at approximately R 550 000 and is deemed adequate to fund a car for the new rector when appointed.
- The Toyota Avanza is in good condition and continues to be used as the office vehicle.

## **Protection of assets**

- The church and the rectory are fully alarmed and have an armed response serviced by 24/7 and the rectory and its garden are further protected by an electric fence connected to the armed response.
- All assets are adequately insured through the Diocesan insurance policy and values are updated annually.

## **3. FINANCES**

### **New Verifier**

- Alistair Dry, who has been our verifier for many years, has been replaced by Charmel Flemming who was appointed in Alistair's place by the Diocese as the Diocesan rules preclude a parishioner from being our verifier. We thank Alistair for his diligent work over the past years and wish him success at Bishop Bavin.

### **Annual Financial Statements**

The annual financial statements for the year ended December 2018 have been posted on the door of the church as required by the Diocesan rules. Salient features are: -

- Income was down on both last year and budget largely due to a drop in dedicated giving as several major givers are no longer members of the parish.
- Expenses are well within budget as Jeremy left us in September 2018 and there is a 3-month saving in both stipends and allowances, which saving will not be of a permanent nature.
- The bulk of the small surplus remaining has been transferred to the Organ Maintenance reserve as highlighted previously in this report.
- Available cash is R1 880 000 and is adequate to fund our reserves and for the future running of the parish in the short to medium term, however the fall in DG income is of concern and will impact on our cash reserve going forward.

## 4. PERSONNEL

### Clergy

- Sadly, Jeremy left us in September 2018 to take up the challenging and important post of Chaplain to St John's College. We wish him every success in this critical role and he and Kim, St. John and Aiden many happy years at the school.
- We were blessed to have Gerard agree to take on the role of Interregnum as well as Nigel's retirement from the Appeal Court coinciding with Jeremy's departure so availing him of more time to assist Gerard while we search for a replacement rector.
- Together with Yvette and Anthony, who was ordained in January, they have and will continue to look after our pastoral needs for which we are extremely grateful.
- We extend our congratulations to Anthony on his ordination as priest and wish him God's blessings in his ministry.

### Other staff

#### *Director of music and organist.*

- During the year Richard Pantcheff, who had been our honorary director of music, announced that he would be retiring during 2019 and that Marnus Greyling was coming back to Johannesburg. Marnus accepted the position and was appointed from 01 December 2018 and Richard retired.
- Richard developed the music at St. George's to be amongst the best church music in the country and we are extremely grateful to him for his selfless dedication of his time and talent to St. George's.
- Unfortunately, funds are not available to employ both a director of music and an organist, so Kenneth Jackson left us at the end of December 2018. We thank Kenneth for sharing his talent with us and for his loyal service and wish him all the best in the future.

### ***Secretary***

- Nomawethu has been outstanding in her role and has been a great support since Jeremy's departure and we thank her and wish her many more happy years with us.

### ***Book keeper***

- Frederik has successfully migrated the accounting to "Zero" in line with requests from the Diocese. Under the direction of Neo, our treasurer, he continues to produce monthly figures for the Parish council meetings and annual accounts for the verifier and Vestry

### ***Other staff members***

- Gift continues as our verger, Kevin manages the garden and Anna does the cleaning as well as making 50 loaves of sandwiches twice a week.
- We are indeed blessed with excellent and dedicated staff who are committed to St. George's and we thank them for their invaluable contribution.

## **5. SUPPORT FUNCTIONS**

Many other activities take place at St. George's which are detailed elsewhere in the report to Vestry. Our thanks to all who give their time and talent in so many vital functions:

- the music and the choir,
- supporting preachers,
- parish ministers,
- servers,
- sacristans,
- bell ringers,
- sides men,
- Sunday school and youth workers,
- flower arrangers,
- caterers and tea pourers,

- greeters,
- the Mothers' Union and Anglican Women's Fellowship members,

All these functions and the people who run them make worshipping at St. George's the joy it is. In addition, we have numerous parishioners who are involved in a variety of outreach and social upliftment programmes helping to make a difference in the lives of those less privileged than ourselves.

St. George's is a special place thanks to the people who work, serve and worship here and we thank everybody for being who you are and doing what you do. At this time in particular, as we wait on the Bishop and the Search and Placement committee to nominate possible candidates for a new rector, we ask for your added commitment, support and prayers.

We have considered your comments regarding our needs as a parish and the qualities you require our new rector to have and have put this in The Parish Profile which has been given to the Bishop to assist in finding a suitable rector for St. George's. Once again, we thank Gerard, Nigel, Anthony and Yvette for serving us through this period of Interregnum.

***COLIN ROBINSON  
SIVIWE DONGWANA  
CHURCHWARDENS***

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## **CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY**

### **Sunday School**

We had seven dedicated teachers last year and we are grateful for all the hard work that they put into building the children. Several changes were made, and we now follow the church service but, in a child, friendly manner. We have also changed the time at which the children join the service to just before the offertory hymn so that they are there for the Eucharistic prayer and then are able to take communion with their parents. This instils a sense of what Anglicanism is about and they become part of the greater family of the church. We continue to use the curriculum that is written by a group in the diocese.

## **Youth Group**

We have started a youth group which also runs concurrently with the service but is separate from the Sunday school. This group is from Grade 6 and up and does not take part in crafts and games but is rather challenged intellectually. We have also started activities outside of the church including an 8km hike at the end of last year. We plan to do more outings this year including a camp with the hope of doing more team and leadership building.

## **Ever Presence** (University student bible study):

The Ever Presence group meets on a Sunday after the service. On three Sundays of the month there is a discussion group with topics ranging from books in the bible, to spirituality, to world religion. No topic is off limits in this group. On the fourth Sunday there are games, and then on the fifth Sunday we try to do an outing together. We also went on a camp at the end of last year where Fr Anthony, Zuko and me led discussions on different forms of spirituality. It was a wonderful and fun weekend of bonding and building. Going forward we hope to help these young people to take on more of an active role in church life.

## **Roedean**

Ministry at Roedean happens at least twice a week and there a minimum of two Eucharists a term, at which one of the ordained priests presides. There is a service once a week with the junior school.

## **Confirmation**

Six candidates were confirmed last year at the cathedral. This year we have started with a group of eight candidates.

***YVETTE ANGOMA***

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## **COMMUNICATION**

### **St George's Website (<https://www.stgeorgesparktown.org>)**

The website (maintained using the Wix package) is about to be modernized! There is now a team, led by Yvette Angoma, working on the website. Yoli

Tshetshe has a strong interest in marketing and will redesign the site and I will continue to manage it.

The annual cost of the website is as follows:

Combo Plan: R1,600 - due May 2, 2019

Domain: R200 - due November 10, 2019

### **Facebook Page (St George's Anglican Church Parktown)**

The Facebook page continued to give notifications of upcoming events during 2018, reported on past events and gave reminders of special services and events. The Facebook Page has grown at a pleasing rate. In 2017 there were 29 'likes', in 2018 there were 82 and this year there are already 155 which is a substantial increase. Event notifications have a wide reach and the Rupert Marshall and Marnus Greyling event has reached 1,400 people!

***ANDY OVERBEEK***

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## **LITURGY AND WORSHIP**

### **HOPITALITY TABLE**

The Hospitality Table plays a critical role as the first point of contact for our visitors as well as our regular St George's congregants. At this point we welcome everyone and encourage individuals to wear a name tag which enables people to get to know each other but more importantly, so people are addressed by their first names which adds a special personal touch to our relationship building endeavors.

The Mothers Union, jointly with the Anglican Women's Fellowship recently took on the role of manning the Hospitality Table every Sunday morning. Some of the other functions of this contact point are not only to welcome visitors but also to encourage them to become full members and join the St George's family by filling in membership forms. We also have forms for baptisms as well as confirmation forms. Situated next to the Hospitality Table is a notice board allowing arrivals to take note of activities taking place around the St George's community.

This central point, therefore, is an important part of growing our community and making everyone feel welcome and their presence acknowledged.

The Mother's Union and the Anglican Women's Fellowship's wish is to enhance the Hospitality Table making it visible and attractive such that it becomes a must first stop for everyone before entering the church.

## ***MICHELLE BAIRD***

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### **BELLRINGERS**

We have continued to ring on most Sunday mornings, and for weddings as required. We mourn the loss of Bob Woodhead during the year – his ill-health meant that he could no longer ring but he continued to join us on Sunday mornings from time to time. We would also like to congratulate Anthony Arbuthnot on his ordination as a priest, although parish duties mean that he is no longer able to ring with us as regularly as he used to, but a net gain for St. George's we hope! We have been joined by Kerry Simpson in the past couple of months, an experienced ringer although she hadn't rung for about 30 years. Dawn Troskie and Liz McClymont continue to make good progress and we are now sometimes able to ring all eight bells again. We look forward to continuing advances in our repertoire in 2019.

## ***RICHARD ROBERTS***

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### **CHURCH MUSIC**

The musical worship at St. George's continued to excel during 2018, following the pattern established following the arrival of the new Rieger Organ in 2013.

The repertoire of the **Choir of St. George's** continued to expand, and excellent performances of new works by Derek Holman, Christopher Tye, Luke Jakobs, and Samuel Henry Ramsbotham were given variously at the Sunday service of Eucharist at nine o'clock, and choral evensong on the first Sunday of every month. The repertoire of the choir is now very broad, encompassing music from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup> centuries, in many languages.

The **St. George's Chamber Choir** performed at the Services of Holy Communion held at nine o'clock on the fifth Sundays of the month, and, here again, the variety and quality of the music was outstanding: Communion/Mass Settings by Lassus and Darke were complemented by new anthems by Weelkes, Rubbra, Bairstow, Terry, and S.S. Wesley. Additionally, the Chamber Choir gave a superb performance of Heinrich Schuetz's St. Luke Passion on Maundy Thursday. Lastly, the Chamber Choir excelled itself in a concert on 1<sup>st</sup> December, featuring works by Purcell, Byrd, and Richard Pantcheff (including a world premiere).

Our regular **Evensong Organ Recital Series** continues to provide wonderful opportunities for local and visiting organists to play before Evensong on the first Sunday of the month. This year, we had memorable performances from Prof Theo van Wyk, Isabelle van Rensburg, Stephen Crookes (lately of St. George's Church, and now at Carlisle Cathedral in the UK), Cameron Upchurch, and a concert given jointly by Christine Geldenhuys (woodwind) and John Coulter (organ and harpsichord).

As is our wont, we partnered twice during the year with the **Choir of Christ Church, Pretoria**. The home fixture in June comprised works by Wood, Stanford, and Holst. The return fixture was in October. This has proved to be a most wonderful, fruitful, partnership, in which the two choirs come together to great effect.

St. George's hosted two outstanding musical events given by international musicians in 2018. In July, we were fortunate enough to welcome the **Choir of Jesus College, Cambridge** under their director of music, Richard Pinel, to sing choral evensong on 15<sup>th</sup> July. The church was packed for a wonderful service comprising music by Pantcheff, Murrill, Wood, and Byrd.

In November 2018, the vocal quartet **Profeti della Quinta** visited St. George's from Switzerland, to give a concert of Italian madrigals, accompanied by citterone, and harpsichord. Again, the church was full to bursting for this most wonderful performance.

**Marnus Greyling** returned to South Africa at the end of 2018, after two years studying and performing in Cambridge and St. Alban's in England. **Richard Pantcheff** announced that he was stepping down as Director of Music in December 2018, after six wonderful years at the helm of the music

at St. George's (and several years before that as de facto deputy to Peter Black). He will be returning to the UK to continue his composing and performing, although he will remain as Composer in Residence at St. George's.

We also said farewell to **Kenneth Jackson** as our organist, and we thank Kenneth for his contribution to the music at St. George's in 2017 and 2018.

**Marnus Greyling** has been appointed as Director of Music and Organist at St. George's, with effect from January 2019.

We thank Richard for the sterling work he has done as Director of Music and wish him well with his future endeavours. We look forward to Marnus continuing and building upon the tradition of choral and organ music in our church.

***RICHARD PANTCHEFF***

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## **PARISH MINISTERS**

We currently have ten Parish Ministers at St. George's. This year we lost two Parish Ministers. We were deeply upset at the death of Rowena Baird who had served as a Parish Minister with great dignity and competence, despite her serious illness and the treatment she was enduring. Busi Shole also retired as a Parish Minister in 2018. We thank her for her services to St. George's.

On behalf of the Parish, and on my own behalf, I would like to thank all our St. George's Parish Ministers for the great gift of their time and their talents to Our Lord and the community of St. George's. I would also like to thank Jeremy, Geoff, Gerard, Nigel and Anthony on behalf of myself and my fellow Parish Ministers, for their guidance and support. Jeremy's steadying hand will be sorely missed but we are much blessed to have such wonderful new leader in Gerard.

***PAUL WAREHAM***

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## **SACRISTANS**

The Sacristans have yet to meet this year. We are a dwindling group of senior parishioners who take it in turns, on a weekly basis, to set up and prepare for the Communion Services. Thank you to one and all for your continued hard work and commitment. Clare Pantcheff has been a sacristan for the past 8 years but will be leaving South Africa mid-year. We thank her sincerely for help and dedication.

A big thank you to Rosemary Pyne-Mercier for sewing new Purificators and Lavabo towels for the church. We so appreciate your gift of sewing to replenish the Church stocks.

The Sacristans are an integral part of the worship at St George's. Despite The constant pleas for help, no help has been forthcoming, and the situation is now becoming unsustainable and needs to be addressed.

## ***GILL JEPHSON***

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## **SERVERS' GUILD**

Many thanks once again to all our regular servers, who ensured that we had another successful year. We had to say goodbye to Tsegofatso in August, as she decided to continue her studies in Kenya, where she is now at university in Mombasa. In return, we welcomed St John and Aidan as acolytes. We still urgently need new servers to join our regulars, as we need at least four servers for our regular services, and an additional two for high masses. We will continue to advertise in the pew leaflet. We look forward to an even better year in 2019.

## ***RONALD UNTERSLAK***

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## **SIDESPERSIONS**

In contrast to 2017, last year saw quite a few changes to personnel. We were sorry to lose May Campbell, Judith Campbell and Graham Collins, all of whom retired, and we were devastated at the death of Bob Woodhead, who had served faithfully for so many years.

On the other hand, we were pleased to welcome three new recruits: Warwick Jones, John Kane-Berman, and Percy Khoza.

Finding new recruits for the 7 o'clock service has proved a challenge, due to the relatively small number of congregants, and we find ourselves one sides person short.

It seemed that situation might have been remedied when, on Christmas Day, Warwick Jones dragooned Mr. Nicky Oppenheimer into taking the collection. Sadly, however, this proved to be only a temporary arrangement....

Our two major services were of course the 9am on Easter Sunday and Christmas Day, and I'm happy to report that both went without a hitch. The attendance figures for these two services were quite interesting: a packed church at Easter with 273 congregants, whereas Christmas Day had 166.

Once again, I should like to thank all sides persons for helping with the smooth running of the services, for their reliability in always being at their posts, and for always having a cheerful welcome for all.

***NICK PRINCE***

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## **CHURCH FLOWERS**

The past year has been a joy, although sometimes challenging, it is always interesting meeting people's different flower wishes. It has kept me very busy and given me great pleasure to have arranged the flowers in the church. I have also had the opportunity of meeting many interesting and unusual people.

My wish for this year is that we get many more people putting their names on the flower roster so that the congregation has a chance to see different ideas and flowers. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank both Gift and Noma for their willing support and friendship. They make my life at the church so much easier.

Finally thank you for placing your trust in me.

***BETHE BELL***

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**SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY:**

**IRENE HOMES**

Irene Homes, which operates under the auspices of the Anglican Church, provides a caring place for 88 women of all races in eight independent houses (hence the title Homes). The residents live under the care of housemothers and domestic workers in a family-style environment. Men and women of all faiths are provided with support and skills training. The vision of this amazing organization is to enable mentally disabled people to grow to their full potential. To this end there are three workshops – creativity, weaving, knitting - and a contracts centre. All these are designed to develop and improve skills, and to earn an income to supplement their grants.

Your parish donates to Irene Homes on an annual basis. Father Boyce invited me to be the representative for St. George's and for more than twenty years I have been a sort of re-cycler of your unwanted goods – clothing, furniture, books, cutlery, china, glass, small electrical goods and anything else you no longer use. This stuff gets taken over to Irene to their Charity Shop, which is Irene Homes' main source of income, providing much-needed funds. I am enormously grateful to so many of you who take the time and energy to sort out belongings and divert unwanted stuff in my direction. And I would also like to express my gratitude to those of you – notably Father Gerard, Susan Stott and Dawn de Jongh - who have recently helped with transport.

If any of you have unwanted goods to donate or have any questions about Irene Homes or, indeed, would like to go over and see this astonishing place for yourselves, do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

***GILLY PIROW***

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## **SAMARITAN SUNDAY**

Samaritan Sunday takes place on the last Sunday of every month. Its purpose is to raise money for the purchase of additional dry food, to create between 5 and 7 packages of food for needy people and to purchase material for sandwiches. Most of these needy people come from the church community.

For some, the donation of groceries is their way of giving. For the majority, the donation of cash is their way. Half the cash is used to buy new stock, and the other to pay for sandwiches, handed out from the church during the week

The church needs approximately 100 loaves per week, so this money goes some way in helping with the problem.

Below please find a breakdown of monthly takings for the past year:

January 2018	1 450.00
December 2018	870.00
November 2018	1 110.00
October 2018	800.00
September 2018	910.00
August 2018	1 260.00
July 2018	750.00
June 2018	790.00
May 2018	920.00
April 2018	1 590.00
March 2018	1 240.00
<u>February 2018</u>	<u>1 810.00</u>
	<u>R13 500.00</u>

***CHRIS JENNINGS***

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## **ST GEORGE'S TURNING POINT FOUNDATION**

We had another good year under the leadership of Marianne MacRobert. Our financial base remains strong, and we were able to distribute R220 000 to Sparrow FET College, helping to pay stipends and transport to learners in various courses offered over the course of the year. In excess of 50 students

were assisted in acquiring a marketable skill and thus empowered to take control of their lives.

We are actively looking for other institutions offering credible vocational training that we can work with. Our view remains that training in skills required by industry remains one of the best ways to provide young people with a good chance of earning a living, and of strengthening the economy.

We continue to support Vincent as he works to convert his diploma into a degree at the Vaal University of Technology. We are very proud of his achievements.

We again received generous funding from the Mary Nash Memorial Trust and the Inglis Family Charitable Trust, as well as a small band of faithful monthly donors from the parish. St George's itself also made a generous donation to the Foundation. We are grateful for all this support, which is the bedrock on which we rely.

The Foundation did not undertake any major fundraising during 2018, but we hope to undertake some fundraising during this year.

Some major changes are taking place within the Foundation itself. Rob Sharman has retired to Port Elizabeth, so has relinquished his seat on the board although he remains a member of the organisation. Rob made an invaluable contribution to Turning Point Home and then the Foundation, and truly became a father to many of the young men we have tried to help.

We were delighted to welcome three new board members during the latter part of 2018: Nobuntu Mpendulo, Zuko Khoza and Melt van der Spuy, all parishioners of St George's Church.

Melt will support Jamie Inglis in managing our financial affairs. They are already busy taking actions to reduce our overheads, thus releasing more money for funding.

In conclusion, we continue to be grateful for the support we receive from the parish and its individual parishioners.

***JAMES VAN DEN HEEVER***

## **THE GOOD SHEPHERD SOUP KITCHEN**

2018 was a sad year for the Soup Kitchen as our chairman of 26 years, Barney Curtis, passed away suddenly. A moving Memorial Service, conducted by Reverend Martha from St Michaels, was held at the soup kitchen premises in Hillbrow, with many of the attendees recalling their memories and giving thanks for all that Barney had done for them over the years.

The soup kitchen has otherwise been running effectively and smoothly with between 45 and 60 regular attendees. The seven volunteers, drawn from the street people who attend the kitchen, have taken ownership of its running on a Friday, backed up by our volunteers and by Clement, our Pastor. They have shown initiative and have taken pride in the soup kitchen. We have been seeking ways of sourcing additional funding to give Clement a more acceptable retainer and a donor has come forward, for which we are extremely grateful. Clement is now able to give more time to counselling the street people. Almost everyone is now attending the cell groups, which are interactive, and which Clement runs before holding a short church service prior to the meal.

We have two new volunteers, Rentsie and Lukanyo who are helping with food collections from the Olivedale Spar and the re-packaging as ‘take away’ before being driven through to Hillbrow, as well as the cakes and bread which are donated. Priscilla and Scott continue to make a large healthy meal which seems to stretch to cover however many people turn up. As well as monthly food collections at Spar, Lynn has also found generous people who are now donating chickens and dry food, which all cuts down on what we must buy. The year ended with our usual sit-down Christmas lunch but was exceptionally happy this year as Pieter brought his sound system and played such popular music that everyone got up and danced! They all then left with a big bag of groceries each.

Our thanks go to the volunteers from St Georges and St Michaels who give so generously of their time and money, we would not be able to operate without them. We would also like to thank the Church wardens and council for their continued financial support. More and more people seem to be hungry and we could not operate without the support of St Georges.

## **MONDAY DRAMA GROUP (JAM)**

2018 was an excellent year for JAM, culminating in the group winning an award for Innovation in Theatre at the Naledi Awards at Monte Casino's Teatro, where they also performed a piece from Hamlet resulting in a standing ovation. They also performed excerpts from various works of Shakespeare and pieces from TS Elliot for matric and drama students at various Johannesburg Schools, including the German School, St Stithians and Helpmekaar. The students really enjoyed their performances and the schools have said they will invite JAM back in 2019.

The year ended with our most successful concert yet held at Piza e Vino in Melville. Piza e Vino has offered their premises, free of charge, for four concerts during 2019. Dorothy Ann Gould continues to give her time tirelessly to teaching and uplifting the group and most of them, apart from Tsietsie who continues to live in the park, are now in shelters and rooms and no longer on the street. We will continue to look for new schools for which to perform and are hoping for another successful year. Our thanks go to the parishioners and parish council of St Georges who continue to support us both financially and by their attendance at our concerts.

## **GREENFIELDS SCHOOL, THOKOZA, FEEDING SCHEME FOR AT RISK CHILDREN**

Judy Tren, a former parishioner at St Georges, who now lives in England, raises money, through her current church, for a primary school in a very poor area in Thokoza on the East Rand. In previous years we had provided nutritious biscuits to children in need but as this has grown to encompass most of the children who attend the school, we changed tack in 2018. As part of the government feeding scheme in schools the children all receive a meal at lunchtime. As this meal is always vegetables, the school asked if we could maybe provide chicken for two meals a month. This has proved extremely popular with all the children attending the 'chicken days' and some parents, who are able, are also becoming involved in the scheme. The project is run by volunteers from St George's and with the help of Frederik in the Accounts Department. It has now been going for 28 years.

## **MEALS ON WHEELS, YEOVILLE**

Kind parishioners from St Georges collect various recycled tubs and containers which are then taken to the very thankful Meals on Wheels staff who feed many hungry people daily.

***DALE HOWELL***

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### **uBuhle Bezwe:**

The St George's Anglican Church, Parktown has been tirelessly supporting uBuhle Bezwe Children's home since April 2012. Much has been done since then to assist the home over the five-year period of the church's involvement. Examples are structural improvements were undertaken, assisting with summer and winter uniform as well as the provision of stationery on a yearly basis. The children were always treated to a Christmas Party. Our last financial contribution to uBuhle Bezwe was made at the end of 2017 where we bought school uniform as well as school bags for the year beginning 2018.

Towards the end of 2017, a decision was taken to identify and support a cause closer to the St George's community. It must be noted that the decision to part ways with uBuhle Bezwe was not taken lightly and every effort was made to ensure that our exit did not adversely affect the home's sustainability. We can confidently confirm that the home continues to receive support from the Diocese of the Highveld.

### **BEKEZELA:**

The exercise to identify a project closer to our parish was undertaken and a community in Newtown has been identified. Currently the Mothers' Union and the Anglican Women's Fellowship group are busy with a needs analysis of the said community known as Bekezela. This is a much larger community and we are committed to making a positive contribution.

In December 2018, the Mothers Union (MU) together with the Anglican Women's Fellowship (AWF) visited and delivered clothes and toys for the

children at Bekezela. As a follow-up, school uniforms and shoes were bought and delivered for 20 boys and girls at the beginning of January 2019. It is early days yet and there is much to be done for Bekezela, but we are confident that we as the St George's community will help make a positive difference to the lives of the people, especially the children, of Bekezela.

***MICHELLE BAIRD***

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## **PASTORAL CARE**

### **ST. GEORGE'S PRAYER CHAIN**

We are a small group of eight parishioners who serve as prayer intercessors. We pray for anyone in specific need of prayer – i.e.: illness, surgery etc. All information is confidential.

The weekly pew leaflet gives all the necessary information of our Prayer Chain service and contact details. The prayer chain does not require any funding or resources to operate.

The Prayer Chain continues to be used intermittently as the needs arise and the requests are made. Prayers requests are made both for and by parishioners and non-parishioners. Updates on progress/outcome is done on a regular basis and this information is passed through the prayer chain.

The phone chain has evolved into a WhatsApp Prayer Group which is proving to be very successful, efficient and fast with its instant messaging.

***JULIE CROOKES***

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## **Anglican Women's Fellowship (AWF) Vestry Report 2018**

### **List of Office bearers:**

Chairperson: Lebogang Shole; Deputy Chairperson: Lydia Monyepao;  
Secretary : Nomawethu Dingiswayo; Treasurer: Nobuntu Mpendulo;

Committee Members: Waha Vundla, Zandile Mxoli, Julia Nkadimeng & Claudia Mogale.

**Portfolios:**

**Prayer and Spirituality:** Waha Vundla

**Outreach and Social:** Zandile Mxoli

**Human Resources:** Julia Nkadimeng

**Finance & Administration:** Nobuntu Mpendulo

**Marketing:** Lydia Monyepao

**Membership:**

	ACTIVE	NON-ACTIVE
St. George's Parktown:	8	0

**Record of meetings and events held:**

We hold our meetings on the third Sunday of the month and meet as an archdeaconry / region every quarter.

Matters discussed are as follows: review of the AGM minutes, report back from AWF President, financial report, social outreach projects and announcements.

St George's Parktown hosted the second Archdeaconry meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October 2018.

**Visits to Orphanages:**

St. George's Parktown AWF and Mothers Union have partnered in the execution of social projects this is done in an effort of strengthening relations and increasing involvement in the Church.

On the 7<sup>th</sup> of January 2019 St. George's Parktown AWF and MU bought uniforms for the children of Bekezela in Newton which were handed over to the children.



In January 2018 children were handed over with clothes and toys at uBuhle Bezwe orphanage in Tembisa.



## **Achievements:**

- Officially launched Anglican Women's Fellowship branch St. George's Parktown
- Elected our Archdeaconry Office Bearers
- Visited St. Alban's Ferreirastown with our Diocesan President Mrs. Esther Tshaka and some of the Diocesan Executive Committee Members to officially launch as a Parish
- AWF activity involved in the Welcome Desk / Hospitality table
- AWF participates in Sunday tea making

## **Challenges:**

- We did not visit St. Aidan's Yeoville due to lack of availability.
- Fundraising for social projects has been highlighted as a difficulty
- Members have indicated that there are too many meetings

## **Plans for the next period:**

- To choose a St. George's Parktown AWF and MU joint outreach project
- To choose an Archdeaconry outreach project and work on it together
- St. George's Parktown will be hosting the Anglican Women's Fellowship Diocese of Johannesburg Leadership and Executive Workshop on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> of June at 09:00.





### **Assistance required**

- Encouraging and motivating members to actively participate in events and activities.
- Increase commitment in membership
- Promotion of AWF to encourage younger ladies to join

## **MOTHER'S UNION (MU)**

The St George's Mothers Union was established many years ago but fizzled out due to members relocating, others joining other parishes and in certain instances death. In 2017 it was revived when seven St George's congregants were robbed on the 26th November 2017.

The objective of reviving the Mothers Union was to have a women's group that would, as a collective, add value to its parish as well as surrounding communities by undertaking meaningful projects that seek to uplift and empower those targeted communities.

The St George's MU, with the Anglican Women's Fellowship, is currently responsible for hosting the Hospitality/welcome Table every Sunday morning as well as assisting with the Tea Service after the 09:00 service. We are currently looking at several other areas where we could add value with our participation.

The MU is looking to be a pillar for the St George's parish as well as all those communities that we choose to work with.

We are looking forward to an exciting and fruitful year in 2019.

***MICHELLE BAIRD***

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## SACRED WINDOWS



 Janus Boschhoff  
Architectural Stained Glass

These sacred windows are dedicated to the memory of the 616 black South African soldiers who died when the SS Mendi ship sank on the 21st February 1917 off the Isle of Wight, and to the South African pilots and aircrews who fought against Nazism and Fascism during WW2 and the Korean war.

The Barnes Charitable Trust

## **NOTES**