



# 2019 Annual Report

# ST. JOHN'S

# RICHMOND

A Parish in the Anglican Network in Canada



# Rectors' Report

## In Memoriam

**Christina Ann Cissell**

August 13, 1936 - May 27, 2019

**Mu Zhen Chen**

April 19, 1946 - December 6, 2019

**Carolyn Mae Reimer Jones**

November 7, 1952 - December 19, 2019

## Baptism

**Cindy Xu** (June 30, 2019)

Photos on front page:

**Top:** Bible in a Day June 8, 2019

**Bottom:** Cindy Xu Baptism, June 30, 2019

"Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth! Sing to the LORD, bless his name, tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvellous works among all the peoples!"

(Ps.96:1-3)

One of the highlights of 2019 for me was the preaching series we did on **evangelism**, especially the testimonies given by Ed, Maggie, Kirsten, Alan, Norm, Gail, Louise, and Lara. They reflect the unique and diverse ways that God works in and through us to declare his glory among the nations. That's what Psalm 96 talks about. It tells a testimony of God the unique Saviour, Creator and Ruler, and invites all people to join in worship of the reigning King. It is a fitting climax to all the texts we preached on last fall.

Psalm 96 has two basic reflexes: singing, and sharing. There is a very strong outward focus, but before the church **tells**, it **sings**.

This Psalm is wrapped in **worship**: our hearts are made to worship, to sing praises, to tell good news. This Psalm was sung in full with minor adaptations by King David and all his subjects in 1 Chronicles 16, as an expression of praise and gratitude for the successful move of the ark to Jerusalem.

Verse 9 of this Psalm appears on page 3 of the Book of Common Prayer, as an invitation: "O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness: let the whole earth stand in awe of him."

All the cosmos sings for joy in v11-12: the heavens, the earth, the sea, the fields, the forest, and all that is in them. The whole universe vibrates with the melody and harmony of the glory of God. I am conscious of the Lord's work in SJR to form us not just

**evangelistically**, but as **worshippers**.

We have something to share because we know whom we worship: the One God who is good, gracious, and glorious; wise, wonderful, and sovereign. We exist at his pleasure, and have been granted life eternal through Jesus his Son. We want to be a Christ-centered, Biblically faithful, and relationally warm community whose worship (not just on Sunday mornings) is infectious, and who has something to share with those outside.

## 2019

I am always amazed, looking back, at the heart and health of this congregation. You are eager and affectionate, creative and gracious. I am so thankful to be entrusted with Christ's flock at SJR, but the older I get the more undeserving I feel. God is merciful to me and to us, and we have known his good hand upon us.

Early in 2019 after a comprehensive process we hired Rev. Guy Bellerby as our new Associate Minister. Much work and prayer went into this, and I cannot be more pleased with the outcome. Guy has brought great experience, a tender heart and vigorous mind, and theological clarity. It is a privilege for me to serve once again with my old friend, and our ministry is strengthened by his presence.

In the Spring of 2019 we first heard from Trinity Lutheran Church (TLC) about their desire to move their Chinese Fellowship into the Nave on Sunday mornings. After several months of dialogue, prayer, and seeking best possible solutions, we committed to a transition to the Hall, now underway. This has taken an enormous amount of work by many many people at SJR, but I am pleased at the outcome. The move has been way smoother than it might have been, and you all have been most gracious in your help and financial generosity. I think this move will strengthen us, as well as TLC. It is a reminder that our home is with Christ, seated in the heavenly places (Ephesians 1:20), and that we are 'strangers and exiles' on this earth.

In 2019 a few new things happened by the grace of God including: Prayers for Healing, and Anointing with Oil, which we will continue in 2020 every fifth Sunday (4 times per year). We highlighted one of our four mission partners each Quarter. We enjoyed many testimonies on Sunday mornings, something I have wanted for many years. We had a Baptism in a swimming pool. We enjoyed a Seder Supper during Holy Week. We started offering Holy Communion at two assisted living homes in Vancouver and North Vancouver. Owen Vint got married. Allan Tan got married. Rachael Cheung got published. We hosted an SJR Gallery and Open Mic event. We met five times at different SJR family homes for Parish Neighbourhood Prayer, remembering to keep our city in prayer to hear about and respond to Jesus. The quantity and quality of Sunday music, special events, and volunteer musicians is staggering.

## SJR 2019 Sermon Series

**Gospel of Mark**  
**Evangelism**  
**Advent Focus**

**January - August**  
**September - November**  
**December**

In 2019 we were blessed with growth in numbers: our Average Sunday Attendance lifted from 71 in 2018 to 81 last year. Not every person connected with SJR is able to come every Sunday, though we want people to not forsake meeting together. This is so important to the fabric of koinonia-fellowship in Christ. What a joy it has been to welcome many new people from diverse cultures and backgrounds, and to be encouraged by so many lively stories of faith.

My prayer for us in 2020 is that we will continue to deepen our Discipleship, Widen our Witness, Build our sense of Belonging, and Strengthen the Saints in other churches. I'm greatly aware that we stand on the shoulders of the saints who have gone before (and some in SJR whose loss we feel deeply), and have shown us how to "guard the good deposit" presented to us in the pages of the Bible.

I want to acknowledge the Staff of SJR (Guy, Krista, Mary, Laurie, Kirsten, Penny, and Thomas) who pour extravagant creativity and prayer and effort into leading ministries like Youth, Sunday Hospitality, Children, and Music. I also want to acknowledge the Directors (Ed, Julie, Tracey, Roar, David, and Guy) and their unseen yet profound service to Jesus Christ and his ministry in and through SJR. It is a privilege to walk alongside these servants so that we will continue to worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness, wherever we happen to assemble.

Respectfully Submitted, **Rev. Sean Love**

### Being Part of the Anglican Network in Canada

70+ churches

A Diocese of the Anglican Church in North America

Diocesan Bishop Charlie Masters

Suffragan Bishops Stephen Leung and Trevor Walters

16 parishes in Greater Vancouver

Bold, Prayerful, Strategic, Encouraging

### ANiC's 5 Priorities

Bold Witnesses

Biblically Grounded

Loving Children

On Mission

Planting and Growing Churches

## Associate Ministers' Report

*The god of this world has blinded the minds of unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the Gospel of the Glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.*

2 Corinthians 4.5-6

It has been such a joy, and privilege, to have found myself at St. John's in 2019 - a fresh start in ministry with you at a time in life when many clergy hang up their robes for the last time, and join the lawn bowling club (a friend of mine seriously recommended this to me!). You have welcomed me, encouraged, and supported my contribution to the Gospel work here with warmth and generosity, and I am so thankful.

Weekly, I travel back and forth from our home on Vancouver Island. Friends from St. John's (Vancouver) offered me a bedroom in their lovely home to stay in which has been a huge blessing. I love being on the sea, so it's no hardship to travel back and forth on the Ferry, and I've even been given some rides on Harbour Air floatplanes, which makes one feel like a millionaire, travelling so rapidly over the Salish Sea...

Almost from my first Sunday with you in March, I've been moved by how strong and well-equipped our parish is. Notable is the Children's Ministry, Music Team, Pastoral Care, above all the Leaders whom God has gifted to us for building us up in the Gospel. Some highlights, from my diary:

- Good Friday's Service of Lessons from St. Matthew's passion narrative, coupled with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs. I think this Service is perhaps my favourite of the whole year.
- The Sermon Series on "Evangelism" with a Personal Testimony to conclude every talk. It was such an encouragement to hear people bear witness to the light of the Gospel in their lives.
- "Bible and Society" is our new ministry to young adults. We are meeting every other Monday evening, exploring some 'tough questions' about the relevance of Christianity to our world.
- Being with one of the Church School classes one Sunday. The curriculum Penny Love and her Team have developed is phenomenally-creative, I can see why it's used by so many churches!
- Preaching. As St. Paul writes to the Church in Corinth, the faithful proclamation of Jesus Christ as Lord is the only way to bring people from darkness into light, and I'm very glad share in this!
- Lastly, working with Sean. We have known each other for over 30 years, serving together at St. John's (Shaughnessy) and with Inter-Varsity, in the 1990's. He is a true servant for Jesus' sake, and the most capable Senior Minister I have ever worked with.

Respectfully submitted, **Rev. Guy Bellerby**

Welcome Lunch,  
May 19



## Bible in a Day

BIAD is a one-day seminar developed at SJR that aims to tell the story of the Bible under the theme of Kingdom. The goal of BIAD is to help people see how the Bible fits together coherently.

## 2019 Seminars

St. John's Richmond, June 8, 2019

Church of our Lord, Victoria, November 16, 2019

BIAD has been presented by people connected with SJR, and those we have trained, over 35 times since it was created in 2009. It has been used by God to bless, teach, and equip churches in 4 different provinces from Vancouver and Victoria to Brandon, Burlington, and Barrie.



Above: Gallery and Open Mic event August 17th

## Music Ministry Report

### Music Events of 2019

- Open Mic and Art Gallery - build community
- Hymns of the Month x 9 - deepen understanding & engagement with Anglican hymns
- Ensembles/"bands" - help with service leadership, develop talent
- Easter and Carol Sing choirs - incl. kids & non-parishioners - celebration/welcome
- Good Friday Lessons and Carols - worship
- Inaugurated Song Writer's Workshop - encourage creation of new art for God in SJR

We're thankful to all those who give generously of their time and abilities for running the sound board, running the powerpoint, playing in an ensemble, helping with incidental music, or singing in our seasonal choirs.

New People who started playing this year: Miriam, Rose, Lara, Vaughan, Rachael, Andrea, Isaiah, Dylan, and Joy.

- Currently looking for people to help run the sound and powerpoint. Training provided and youth welcome.

### Looking ahead to 2020

- SJR to become known as a "singing church". What if our Sunday services were described like this: "They love to sing with energy there, and you can feel they're singing both to God and to support each other. It made me want to sing with them."
- Another Open Mic and Art Gallery

Ever wondered what our body of music actually is? Pick up a copy of our current repertoire list at the welcome table to check it out.

Respectfully Submitted,  
**Krista Carter**

# Outreach and Partnership

SJR is committed to supporting the work of mission partners domestically and internationally. Partners can mean individuals, agencies, or organizations. Part of our support is in the form of prayer and regular updates, ideally from people representing the work of these partners. Part of our support is financial. Our goal is to be generous as God has been generous to us, and to remember the needs of those with whom we have relationship wherever they are in the world.

In 2019 we had one update each Quarter from the four ministries we financially support: Ratanak, Honduras, YVR Chaplaincy, Artizo.

Internationally, SJR supports two ministries:

**Ratanak International (Cambodia)**

**Two parishes on Roatan (Honduras)**

## Coffee Ministry

SJR's Coffee Ministry has been blessed by the hands and caring love of Connie Matheson for the last 12 years. So, it was with sadness, but deeply grateful hearts that we said good-bye to her as the doyenne of this ministry.

Connie faithfully over-saw the kitchen and the hospitality teams every Sunday. And besides guiding and organising the teams, she got elbow deep in the kitchen being on a team herself. She often baked and brought extra goodies in to our coffee hour. And frequently there was a bouquet, or even just a single stem from her garden, to feed our eyes as well as our stomachs!

So, THANK-YOU VERY MUCH CONNIE for your years of tireless service. You love the Lord and his people. We are sorry you stepped back in May, but you managed a gracious and supportive handover of the ministry.

And, the coffee service truly is a ministry. Sharing food and drink together has been part of Christian worship from the beginning. It is a very important time for the body of Christ to enjoy fellowship with each other after gathering for worship.

If you are interested in this important part of serving your brothers and sisters, we are always looking for more team members. If you are new, it is a terrific way to begin to know some individuals in our church family. And if you're not new—it's still a great place to get involved! Just one Sunday a month, and complete training provided. We'd be glad to have you join this in this work.

Respectfully submitted, **Mary Jensen**, Coffee team coordinator

Domestically, SJR supports a number of organizations which seek to bring the gospel to Canada in different ways:

**Vancouver Airport Chaplaincy**

**Thursday Bread Ministry**

**Artizo Institute**

**Bible in a Day**

**Anglican Network in Canada**

# Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee recommends the following list of nominees for Directors. The maximum consecutive term is 4 years (two 2-year terms). The only advance Nominee is Ed Matalas.

POSITION	NAME	TERM LENGTH ALREADY SERVED
Treasurer	Roar Bakken	3 years
Director	Tracey Larter	1 year
Secretary	David Jones	1 year
Director	Julie Wong	1 year
Director	Ed Matalas	2 years

Nominations for Lay Synod Delegates, Alternate Lay Synod Delegates, and Youth Synod Delegate will be sought in Fall 2020 and presented to the congregation at a General Meeting to be held prior to ANiC National Synod meetings.

Respectfully Submitted, Directors

## Children's Ministry Report



SJR is blessed with a vibrant children's ministry for ages 2 to Grade 6, that meets year round, involving about 20 children. A third group was added in 2019, for the youngest ages.

Little Ones (ages 2 + 3)  
Primary Kids (ages 4 to Grade 1)  
Big Kids (grades 2 - 6)

We are thankful for the 28 teachers and helpers (5 new ones added in 2019) who support this critical ministry.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Penny Love, Laurie Bakken, Kirsten Vint** (Children's Board)

# Directors' Report

A brief reflection on Directors/ Trustees Meeting over 2019,  
by David Jones

There are several parts to getting church to 'work together'. Sunday meetings happen as well as they do because we work hard, and with attention, during the other 6 days.

We as Directors are attentive to, and must think and act carefully on such matters as:

Who in our congregation are flourishing, and who are in a steady state, and those who are in an environment of considerable change.

The financial record keeping, reporting, and the pressures on our offerings in relation to our expenses

The various 'in-house' programs of Sunday School, Adult Catechisms, Music and musician dynamics

Legal requirements that the larger society requires of us such as Criminal Record Checks, various Canada Revenue Requirements

Maintaining and ongoing improvement of our relationship with Trinity Lutheran Church

On going relationship(s) with the local and national Anglican expectations for our parish and Rev. Guy and Rev. Sean

Prayers of Discernment that the Spirit of Christ brings to us; sometimes such direction is very clear, other times much patience and effort is required to figure out first what The Lord would have us notice, and then what is the significance of the revelations.

I have read that farming, whether plant based or animal based, is NOT an Information Age Skill. Such an observation is a metaphor for our Church. We are not best understood by our reports and due diligences. They are important.

But lest we become some sort of sterile place of 'spirituality' where social pressures and growth are our measurements, your Directors take their responsibilities with 'fear and trembling'

<sup>14</sup> so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes." (Eph 4:14)

Many pressures have flowed about us this year: Marriages, deaths, transitions of life, information of ongoing changes in our society and unexplained weather.

But we are in a church tradition that values silences and insight, abilities for non-activity, and time-tested worship instead of hectic amusements and checklists.

Directors may seem safe and secure, but we are like St. Paul, on his boat journeys: Thankful for the Lord who gives us purposes and protection, even when we are unsure.

Pray for the directors/trustees/deacons because our goal as part of the Church Universal ('As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be) is to support the activities and Christian Life in The Parish of St John's Richmond with discussions, votes, and prayers.

Respectfully Submitted,

**David Jones**



Above: The Youth Group in 2019



# Treasurer's Report

**St. JOHN's RICHMOND CHURCH**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AND NET ASSETS**  
**AS AT DECEMBER 31**  
**(Unaudited)**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents		
Bank	67,020	46,095
	67,020	46,095
Other Current Assets		
Accounts Receivable	570	260
Prepayments	1,693	1,643
	2,263	1,903
Total Current Assets	69,283	47,998
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>69,283</b>	<b>47,998</b>
<b>LIABILITIES and EQUITY</b>		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Account Payable and Accrued Liabilities	2,051	3,508
Deferred Revenue	23,140	0
Total Current Liabilities	25,191	3,508
Equity		
Opening Balance	44,490	45,832
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	(398)	(1,342)
Total Equity	44,092	44,490
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES and EQUITY</b>	<b>69,283</b>	<b>47,998</b>

**St. JOHN's RICHMOND CHURCH**  
**STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS**  
**for the year ended 31 December**  
**(Unaudited)**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Revenue</b>		
Received Offerings	176,307	168,736
Non Received Offerings	5,363	1,502
Gift from other registered charities	3,763	3,474
Interest (Bank) Income	9	8
Income from Pastoral Service	0	500
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>185,442</b>	<b>174,220</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Wages and Benefits	124,285	117,930
Facilities	27,500	27,300
Other program expenses	13,295	9,631
Gifts to qualified donees	15,200	15,200
Administration	5,462	5,501
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>185,840</b>	<b>175,562</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit)</b>	<b>(398)</b>	<b>(1,342)</b>



**St. John's Richmond Church**  
**Annual General Meeting MINUTES**  
**February 24, 2019 10:45 a.m. Hall, TLC**

1. Call to order by the Chair , 10:51 am, Sarah Fleming, Chair of the AGM
2. Quorum confirmed, 27 members were in attendance.  
Confirmation of a quorum (a quorum is "the greater of Eight (8) members or 25% of the members then in good standing, present in person, and eligible to vote".) There are 89 members eligible to vote. A quorum in this case is 22 members.
3. Bible reading and opening prayer, Rev. Sean Love
4. Clarification of Procedures for this meeting, Sarah Fleming
5. Appointment of Ann Isaacs as the Clerk for this meeting, by Sarah Fleming
6. Presentation and Adoption of Minutes of 2018 Annual General Meeting.
  - 6.1. Moved Martha Labadie
  - 6.2. Seconded Ed Matalas

Adoption of the Minutes of the 2018 AGM was approved.

7. Presentation and Adoption of 2018 Annual Written Reports
  - 7.1. Moved Gwyneth Roodnick
  - 7.2. Seconded Nathan Carter

Adoption of the 2018 Annual Written Reports was approved.

8. Presentation of Nominating Committee Report, by Ed Matalas  
Ed thanked those who have served as Directors. The Nominating Committee recommends to this Annual General Meeting the following list of nominees for Directors. The maximum consecutive term is 4 years (two 2-year terms)
  - ☐ Peoples' Warden (congregational election)
  - ☐ Treasurer (appointed) Roar Bakken
  - ☐ Secretary (appointed)
  - ☐ Rector's Warden (appointed) Brian Roodnick
  - ☐ Director-At-Large Ed Matalas
  - ☐ Director-At-Large David Jones
  - ☐ Director-At-Large Julie Wong
  - ☐ Director-At-Large Tracey Larter

Term ended as of Feb 24, 2019: Erik Peters, Genesis Chen, Mary Jensen

Nominations for Lay Synod Delegates, Alternate Lay Synod Delegates, and Youth Synod Delegate will be sought in Fall 2019 and presented to the congregation at a General Meeting to be held prior to ANiC National Synod meetings.

9. Motion to adopt Nominating Committee Report (implies election of new Directors presented in the report)
  - 9.1. Moved by Doug Workman
  - 9.2. Seconded by Hope WellsAdoption of the Nominating Committee Report was approved.
10. Thanksgiving for retiring Directors by Ed Matalas; welcome to newly elected Directors by Sean Love
11. Ministry Leaders' Reports, all reports are in the Annual Report
12. Rector's Report as written in the Annual Report. Additional comments by Rev. Sean Love included:
  - Acknowledgement of the loss of Margaret Spasic who was a member of the congregation and died in last June, as well as acknowledging congregational members who have lost family members (Anna Cheung, Marion Price, Gordon Legeweg).
  - Overview of some of the ministries at SJR including the Children's Ministry, the support of the congregation in Honduras, and a variety of other areas where SJR provides ministry and support.
  - Reflection on 2 Corinthians 9:6, 10 – 11, the original context in the early church as well as the application for SJR. An encouragement to be generous in response to God's generosity. Especially as we bring on board a new Staff member.

13. Treasurer's Report (Roar Bakken, Treasurer)

13.1. Adoption of 2018 Financial Statements

- We had roughly \$48,000 in our account as of the end of December 2018. With outstanding expenses this results in approximately \$44,000 for the start of 2019.
- Total expenses were \$175,000.
- Total revenue was slightly less than the \$198,000, for a short fall of approximately \$23,000.
- Approximately 80% of the expenses for 2019 relate to salaries, rent and other costs incurred in operations. These expenses are independent of the other activities of SJR.
- Details of the 2018 Financial Statements were discussed and are contained in the 2018 Annual Report.

13.1.1. Moved by David Jones

13.1.2. Seconded by Julie Wong

- There was a discussion about what is included in the "church service expenses".

The adoption of the 2018 Financial Statements was approved.

13.2. Adoption of 2019 Budget

An overview of the proposed budget for 2019 was provided by Roar Bakken. The proposed 2019 was available at the beginning of the meeting.

- A balance of \$45,000 is needed at the beginning of each year to smooth income peaks and valleys, and to provide a buffer for any unexpected and urgent expenses.
- A need for additional pew bibles has been identified, this is likely where the discretionary funds will be focused.
- The Administrative line item has been increased by \$600 from last year, to allow for any unexpected expenses.

13.2.1. Moved Doug Workman

13.2.2. Seconded Tracey Larter

- There was discussion of the budget for Synod, and whether those funds will be sufficient given that the Synod will be in Ottawa. There was also discussion of whether the congregational member's air miles could be used to purchase tickets, and potential discount airlines with lower airfares.
- We are very good at keeping our expenses low. There is a need to support the 2019 both with time and financially.

The adoption of the 2019 Budget was approved.

14. Motion of adjournment

14.1. Moved Roar Bakken, 11:40 am

Motion to adjourn was carried.

15. Closing Remarks by the Rector, Sean Love

Sean reflected that the answer to the 2019 Budget discussion is found in Corinthians 9:6, 10 - 11

16. Closing Remarks by the Chair, Sarah Fleming

17. Closing Prayer and Doxology, sung by all a capella, lead by Krista Carter

2 Corinthians 9:6, 10-11

<sup>6</sup>The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully...

<sup>10</sup>He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

<sup>11</sup>You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God.