

**CATHEDRAL PARISH of St MICHAEL and St GEORGE,
GRAHAMSTOWN
AGENDA of the ANNUAL VESTRY MEETING to be held in
St GEORGE'S HALL
on SUNDAY 11th MARCH 2018**

- 1. OPENING PRAYER**
- 2. APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY**
- 3. ELECTION OF SCRUTINEERS**
- 4. PRESENT** (Please complete the attendance register which is being circulated)
- 5. APOLOGIES** (Please complete the apologies register which is being circulated)
- 6. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS VESTRY MEETING HELD ON 12th MARCH 2017, and the adoption thereof.**
- 7. MATTERS ARISING from the minutes of the 2017 Vestry meeting:**
There were no matters arising from the 2017 Vestry minutes
- 8. DEAN'S REPORT**
- 9. CHURCHWARDENS' REPORT**
- 10. FINANCIAL REPORT AND ADOPTION OF ACCOUNTS:**
 - 10.1 Makana Choir School Financial Report 2017
 - 10.2 Cathedral Financial Report 2017
 - 10.3 Cathedral Budget 2018
- 11. ELECTIONS:**
 - 11.1 Parish Roll – Canon 27 (2) and Article XXIV (10) of the ACSA constitution
 - 11.2 Ballot papers & pencils
 - 11.3 Scrutineers
 - 11.4 Proposers or seconders to speak
 - 11.5 Election of Churchwardens – Canon 29 (1) and (2)
 - 11.6 Election of Alternate Churchwarden – Canon 29 (4)
 - 11.7 PCC Elections – voting procedure:

Vestry elections in 2014, 2015 and 2016 (and confirmed in 2017) required that candidates who are elected as Parish Councillors must have received a majority of votes. (50% + 1)

11.8 Election of Parish Councillors – Canon 28

12. MOTIONS. *Only those received by noon on Wednesday 28th February 2018 will be tabled.*

13. REPORTS:

12.1 ANSOC Chaplaincy Report

12.2 Altar Servers

12.3 Cathedral Student Ministry

12.4 Children's Church

12.5 Director of Music

12.6 Fort England

12.7 Flower Guild

12.8 Grocery Basket

12.9 Lay Ministers

12.10 Makana Choir School

12.11 Marimbas

12.12 Meditation Group

12.13 Mothers Union

12.14 Sacristan Report

12.15 Sidespeople

12.16 Sound System

12.17 SpiritFest

12.18 Steeple Keeper

14. THANKS

15. CLOSURE

Cathedral of St Michael and St George, Grahamstown
Minutes of the Annual Vestry meeting held in St George's Hall
on Sunday 13 March 2016 at 10h30

(As amended by the Vestry meeting on 12 March 2017)

1 The meeting opened with prayer and a reading from John 15: 1-8

2 The Dean proposed that Claire Cordell be appointed as secretary to minute the proceedings. Seconded by Cathy Pringle.

3 The Dean explained that there was a need to elect scrutineers for the four elections that would take place at the meeting. The scrutineers would hand out ballot papers, gather and count them. Nominations for scrutineers were called for from the floor and the following people were proposed and accepted by the meeting: Rev Siphokazi Njokweni, Pat Terry, Marian Walwyn and Michael Whisson.

The attendance register, and apologies list were circulated among those present.

4 Present: Andrew-John Bethke, Jane Bradshaw, Elizabeth Breetzke, Rosalie Breitenbach, Rodney Bridger, Rose Buchner, Lorraine Cassem, Maggy Clarke, Claire Cordell, Sister Neheng CR, Vuyokazi De Beer, Lunga Dongwana, Theodore Duxbury, Rev Mzinzisi Dyantyi, Roger & Rosalind Embling, Catherine Euijen, Akona Gabavana, Jeanette Hodgson, Dean Andrew Hunter (chair), Rev Claire Nye Hunter, John Jackson, Nceba January, Wayne & Marian Jayes, Joyce Maarman, Rev Luthando Madiba, Lusanda Madiba, Zoleka Maqwili, Lynette Marais, Ian & Cathy Meiklejohn, Rosa Msweli, Nomfuneko Ntapane, Rev Siphokazi Njokweni, Nokulunga Peter, Patrick & Cathy Pringle, Jennifer Reynolds, Busisiwe Soxujwa, Rose Spanneberg, Pat & Sally Terry, Rev Ezra Tisani, Thami Tisani, Niels Vandereyken, June Venn, Paul & June Walters, Chris & Marian Walwyn, Anne Warring, Michael Whisson, Clive & Penny Whitford, Thabisa Yili

5 Apologies: Geoff & Margie Antrobus, Peter Bailie, Mandy Bridger, Val Buchner, Ronaldo Burger, Yolizwa Dongwana, Jeanette Eve, Rudi & Kay

Marx, Duma Myemane, Thelma Neville, Linda Nyarashe, Rev Monwabisi Peter, Daphne Rink, Peter & Ann Stockwell, Joy Tandy, Andrew & Heather Tracey

6 The minutes of the 2015 Vestry meeting were tabled and accepted, subject to one correction: On page 1 of the minutes (p 4 of the purple booklet) “Eleonor Barker” should read “Eleanor Barker”. Proposed by Patrick Pringle. Seconded by Lunga Dongwana.

7 Matters Arising

Jane Bradshaw tabled points 7.1 to 7.13 on the agenda which detailed all action taken on matters arising from last year’s Vestry meeting. In response to 7.1 (Nave Piano chock blocks), A-J Bethke thanked Wayne Jayes for the piano cage system which had been constructed and installed on the Nave Piano as it made the instrument much easier to move.

8 Dean’s Report was tabled in the Cathedral during the service preceding the Vestry meeting (the full text may be found pp 11-13 of the purple booklet).

9 Churchwardens’ Report:

Paul Walters drew the attention of those present to some of the most important points in the Churchwardens’ Report which may be found on pages 1-3 of the blue booklet.

- a) Jane Bradshaw and Wayne Jayes are standing down as Wardens. Thanks were extended to them for their work during their respective tenures of one and five years. Jane was particularly thanked for her care of the staff and Wayne for his careful oversight of the Cathedral finances and all practical aspects. Their efforts were acknowledged with acclaim.
- b) The Lady Chapel Altar Piece was dedicated during SpiritFest 2015
- c) A copy of the Registers and Terriers has been stored in the Muniments Room safe.
- d) Rev Canon Dr Claire Nye Hunter and Rev Luthando Madiba have re/joined the staff as of January 2016

The clergy were thanked with a standing ovation for the work they had done over the past year.

Thanks were also extended *in absentia* to Paul Daniels II and to the sidespersons for the welcoming work they do at services. Thanks were further extended to Anet Peter and the team responsible for restoring the Cathedral floor to shining splendour. It was noted that neither of the two Vergers to leave in the past year was dismissed – both left of their own accord.

Chris Walwyn proposed acceptance of the Churchwardens' Report; seconded by Lynette Marais.

10 Financial Report

The **Cathedral's financial report** was presented by Wayne Jayes. He indicated that there was a deficit of R35 730 for 2015, which represented about 2% of annual turnover. He explained that the summary of the year could be found in the blue booklet (Income Statement 2015), with a detailed account provided on the pages immediately following. Bequests and Donations have been acknowledged in the Churchwardens' Report points 4.4 and 4.5. Expenditure was normal. Non-Clergy staff costs look higher because Eunice Ncwadi resigned as Verger and, as she was too old to contribute to a pension fund, money was put away for her on a monthly basis and interest accrued. This sum had to be paid out to her when she left. Wayne invited those with concerns to raise them with him at any time.

The Auditor's Report was tabled (see blue booklet). As always the auditors provided a qualified opinion as they could not be sure what happens between money leaving a pocket and being banked. It was noted however that the sidespersons and those who count the money (Peter Stockwell and Basil Coyne) do a consistently good job.

The audited financial statements for **Makana Choir School** were also tabled (see blue booklet). Marian Jayes is Treasurer and reports to the Cathedral Parish Council. Expenditure for 2015 was R99 081 and donations received late in the year meant there was a surplus of R101 000.

Concerning the need for transport for young choristers to Joza or back to school, a taxi driver has been contracted to transport them on Sundays and Wednesdays and it seems to be working well. June Walters thanked A-J Bethke for all the transport he did before this scheme was put in place.

The Proposed Budget for 2016 was tabled. Wayne Jayes indicated that pledged income was based on pledge forms received. He noted that pledgers are very faithful. Loose plate collection is however variable and the estimate is therefore based on historical values. Fundraising comprises the amount expected to be generated by St George's Fair. It is not possible to budget for bequests. The Chambers figure consists of rental income so that is a known quantity. Donations include the grocery basket and other donations. If the amount set aside for donations were to be increased, the budget would have to be trimmed elsewhere. Clergy Staff Costs include Transport, Living Allowance, Maintenance, Lights and Water. Clergy residences are not rated. The Diocese has levied the same assessment as last year so there is a 0% increase for this year. This was acknowledged with acclaim. It was noted that clergy transport allowances and medical aid contributions increased mid-year last year, with further increases expected this year. A-J Bethke enquired about the item labelled "Archdeaconry fees". In reply Wayne said that the Grahamstown and Albany archdeaconries meet quarterly and operate a combined council. Money contributed by each parish is used for clergy visits to country churches like St Barnabas (Alicedale), clergy retreats and training for deacons. The contributions are calculated by agreement on what each parish can afford.

The Treasurer was thanked with acclaim.

The accounts were adopted and approved as follows:

Cathedral accounts: proposed by Paul Walters and seconded by Lynette Marais

Makana Choir School accounts: proposed by Maggy Clarke and seconded by Cathy Euijen

2016 Budget: proposed by Lunga Dongwana and seconded by Paul Walters.

11 Elections

The Dean stated that those who appeared on the Parish Roll were eligible to nominate candidates and to vote. In terms of article 24 of the Constitution of the Province, a parishioner in good standing needed to come to communion a minimum of three times in the year. Parish Councillors should be eighteen years of age or older; Churchwardens twenty-one years of age or older.

Churchwardens

Nominees: Ian Meiklejohn (proposed by Patrick Pringle and seconded by Cathy Pringle); Ronaldo Burger (proposed by Patrick Pringle and seconded by Lunga Dongwana).

Mauve ballot papers and pencils were distributed by the scrutineers. After voting, the ballot papers were collected and counted by the scrutineers. Ian Meiklejohn received 40 votes and Ronaldo Burger 42. In total 46 ballots were cast so the requirement of 50% + 1 vote for the election of Churchwardens was well met. The nominees were pronounced duly elected with acclaim.

Alternate Churchwarden

Nominee: Paul Walters (proposed by Wayne Jayes and seconded by Claire Cordell)

Yellow ballot papers were distributed by the scrutineers. When once voting was complete, the ballots were collected and counted by the scrutineers. In total 42 ballots were cast. Paul Walters received 39 votes. There were 3 abstentions. Once again the requirement of 50% + 1 was well met. Paul Walters was duly elected Alternate Churchwarden for 2016.

Parish Councillors

Prior to the election of Parish Councillors Paul Walters proposed that those present continue with the election procedure used in 2014 and 2015 which required a majority of votes, i.e. 50% + 1, for a candidate to be

elected. This motion was seconded by Maggy Clarke and carried by Vestry.

Nominees: Eight nominations were received: Jane Bradshaw (proposed by Paul Walters; seconded by Cathy Euijen), Rodney Bridger (proposed by Paul Walters; seconded by Cathy Euijen), Lunga Dongwana (proposed by Wayne Jayes; seconded by Theo Duxbury), Roger Embling (proposed by Peter Bailie; seconded by Ros Embling), Cathy Euijen (proposed by Claire Cordell; seconded by Paul Walters), Wayne Jayes (proposed by Paul Walters; seconded by Cathy Euijen), Patrick Pringle (proposed by Wayne Jayes; seconded by Theo Duxbury), Rose Spanneberg (proposed by Paul Walters; seconded by Claire Cordell)

The attention of Vestry was drawn to the fact that there was an irregularity relating to Roger Embling's nomination.

The original minutes are amended and as set out in the following two paragraphs:

The Dean submitted that in an e-mail sent to Roger on 8 March, Peter Bailie agreed to nominate Roger for Parish Council. In a further e-mail to Roger, sent on 9 March and forwarded to the Dean, Peter Bailie, subsequent to nominating Roger for Parish Council, said that under the circumstances referred to in his e-mail he had no alternative but to withdraw his nomination of Roger. A copy of this e-mail was tabled at Vestry. Peter Bailie's withdrawal of his nomination of Roger was also confirmed in an e-mail to the Dean dated 12 March. This was further confirmed in a phone call from Peter Bailie to Rev Claire Nye Hunter on 12 March.

Roger Embling submitted that Mr Bailie nominated him for Council on Sunday morning, 6th March in the Cathedral on the form provided. Mr Bailie indicated that he would be unable to attend Vestry, so Mr Embling asked him to provide a hard copy of his recommendation speech because the Embling computer had been out of action for some time. This recommendation document, signed and dated 8th March 2016 (incorrectly labelled [sic] Curriculum Vitae) was duly left at his attorney's office where Mr Embling collected it. Claire Cordell, requested by the Dean, read this to Vestry. At no stage had Mr Bailie attempted to withdraw it. Mr

Embling's computer had expired so he had no idea of emails sent to him, nor had Mr Bailie phoned him.

Wayne Jayes telephoned Peter Bailie during the Vestry meeting and confirmed with him that the e-mails sent on 9 and 12 March superseded the letter of 8 March 2016. Since Peter Bailie had withdrawn his nomination of Roger, Ros Embling nominated her husband. The Dean requested a seconder from the floor, but none was forthcoming. Roger Embling's nomination therefore fell away. Roger and Ros Embling left the meeting.

Those who had put forward the nominees were asked to say briefly why they had chosen to nominate them. When this process was complete, the scrutineers handed out white ballot papers. When the voting was finished, the ballot papers were collected and counted by the scrutineers. In total 41 ballots were cast. Jane Bradshaw (34 votes), Rodney Bridger (38 votes), Lunga Dongwana (39 votes), Cathy Euijen (36 votes), Wayne Jayes (38 votes), Patrick Pringle (36 votes), Rose Spanneberg (38 votes). Once again the requirement of 50% + 1 was well met in each case.

Following the voting of Parish Councillors for 2016, Clive Whitford proposed that Vestry affirm the procedure adopted over the past three years to elect Parish Council members in future Vestry meetings. This motion was seconded by A-J Bethke and the motion was carried by Vestry.

Diocesan Synod representatives

Nominees were Wayne Jayes and Rose Spanneberg (both were proposed by Paul Walters and seconded by Claire Cordell). Nominations for an Alternate were requested from the floor. Patrick Pringle was proposed by Jane Bradshaw and seconded by Jeanette Hodgson. The motion was carried unanimously.

12 Motions

With the permission of Vestry, the Dean tabled the Motions before the Reports.

12.1 Motion concerning Diversity in worship.

A-J Bethke tabled a motion about diversity in worship. He would like to introduce an experimental hymnal including hymns in a number of South African languages. This hymnal would be used alongside the hymnbooks already in use at the Cathedral. The motion was seconded by Pat Terry. Wayne Jayes queried the printing costs. A-J indicated that the booklet would be about 35 pages i.e. 17 A4 pages containing about 50 hymns. Penny Whitford suggested that A5 format was easier to handle. Rev Claire Nye Hunter said that it was a wonderful initiative and probably long overdue to have a hymnbook reflecting the diverse languages in our country. Clive Whitford said that 50 hymns was a bit daunting, to which A-J replied that 20-25 of the hymns were multilingual and the others entirely in English but addressing South African issues. Jane Bradshaw said that she strongly supported this initiative. A-J is to leave the Cathedral in 2017 and this hymnal would be part of his legacy to the Cathedral and to the Anglican Church in South Africa. Pat Terry asked whether the music would appear on one side of the page as in *A Hundred Hymns for Today*. A-J replied that this would eventually be the case and was part of a doctoral project. Niels Vandereycken said that it was very important to have songs, especially by young composers, that speak to the contemporary context.

12.2 Motion concerning Inclusion

A-J Bethke tabled a second motion concerning Inclusion. The motion was seconded by Paul Walters. A-J spoke to the motion and indicated that it had been formulated in response to an *Ad Laos* from Archbishop Thabo about Pastoral Guidelines for those in same-sex Civil Unions. A-J was concerned that the LGBTI community in Grahamstown and South Africa at large might feel like second-class citizens. He felt that the main issue was how to minister to those LGBTI couples who are part of our parish and wider community. Wayne Jayes said that identity politics were counterproductive to our nation and the world at large. He felt that all human beings were welcome at the Cathedral. Jane Bradshaw said that she came from a homophobic background but that in the last 35 years she had heard many stories from male homosexuals and had come to learn more about their pain. She said that it was critical for the Cathedral to

openly state that we offer the same love and care to all regardless of their orientation. Marian Walwyn said that the Cathedral needs to be part of the conversation. Rosalie Breitenbach commented that the Anglican Church was light years behind the NG Kerk on this issue. Lynette Marais said that she felt we were not to judge others and refuse to bless them. A-J said that the Cathedral is a very welcoming community in general. He would not like us to become complacent however. He urged the parish to keep talking about the issue, to be aware of those in pain and on the fringes of society. Ian Meiklejohn proposed amending the motion so that the incoming Parish Council could be tasked with finding ways in which we can be more welcoming to all. The amended motion was carried.

13 Reports: the Dean proposed that Vestry reports should be taken as read and adopted *en bloc* without discussion. The motion was seconded by A-J Bethke. Comments on the reports were invited. The reference to “Sally Pringle” in the Flower Guild report should be corrected to read “Sally Terry”. Cathy Pringle remarked that many of the reports had been written by people who have become weary: new and younger people are needed to become involved. Concerning the Sidespersons’ report, Rodney Bridger thanked Basil Coyne for his faithful duty at the Sunday evening services. He also thanked Basil Coyne and Peter Stockwell for counting the money every Sunday evening.

14 Thanks: The Dean thanked all those faithful and passionate people who participate in the ministry of the Cathedral. He also thanked those who provided the tea for Vestry. He then thanked Claire Cordell for taking the minutes and Chris Walwyn for organising the paperwork for Vestry. Finally, he thanked Jane Bradshaw, Wayne Jayes and Paul Walters for all their hard work over the past year.

The meeting closed with the Grace and ended at 12h40.

Cathedral of St Michael and St George, Grahamstown
Minutes of the Annual Vestry meeting held in St George's Hall
on Sunday 12 March 2017 at 10h30

- 1 **Opening.** Dean Andrew Hunter welcomed all present to Vestry. He opened the meeting with prayer and a reading from John 15.
- 2 **Secretary.** The Dean proposed that Patrick Pringle be appointed as secretary to minute the proceedings: this was accepted.
- 3 **Scrutineers.** The Dean explained that there was a need to elect scrutineers for the four elections that would take place at the meeting. The scrutineers would hand out ballot papers, gather and count them. Nominations for scrutineers were called for from the floor and the following people were proposed and accepted by the meeting: Peter Stockwell, Pat Terry, Katie Appolis and Michael Whisson.
- 4 **Present:** The attendance register and apologies list were circulated among those present. The following were present and signed the register:- Geoff & Margie Antrobus, Katie Appolis, Andrew-John Bethke, Jane Bradshaw, Rosalie Breitenbach, Rodney Bridger, Rose Buchner, Ronaldo Burger, Sr Carol CR, Lorraine Cassem, Rev Lunga Dongwana, Rev Mzinzisi Dyantyi, Roger & Rosalind Embling, Catherine Euijen, Jeanette Eve, Di Harvey, Jeanette Hodgson, Dean Andrew Hunter (chair), Rev Claire Nye Hunter, Lou-Anne Liebenberg, Mieke Lippstreu, Lynette Marais, Kay Marx, Mvume Mdidima, Ian & Cathy Meiklejohn, John Murray, Rev Siphokazi Njokweni, Namso Nyamela, Florence Pswarayi, Patrick & Cathy Pringle, Rev Monwabisi Peter, Nokulunga Peter, Rose Spanneberg, Joy Tandy, Pat & Sally Terry, Rev Ezra Tisani, Thami Tisani, Peter & Ann Stockwell, Andrew & Heather Tracey, June Venn, Paul & June Walters, Anne Warring, Michael Whisson, Clive & Penny Whitford.
- 5 **Apologies:** Maggy Clarke, May de Vos, Yoliswa Dongwana, Nceba January, Guster Mutesasira, Noncedo Ntlali.

6 **Minutes of the 2016 Vestry Meeting.** The minutes of the previous Vestry meeting held on 13 March 2016, which had previously been circulated, were tabled and taken as read.

6.1 Roger Embling tabled an amendment to the minutes as set out in the “Amendment to the Minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on 13 March 2016”, which is attached to these minutes.

6.2 Roger Embling said that he had put an alternative case to that of the Dean, and he felt it should be recorded as a true reflection of events. Ros Embling said that “Peter always used the telephone” and that “his withdrawal was unknown to us”. Ian Meiklejohn said that the events at the meeting as recorded in the minutes are how he remembered them, and the minutes are an accurate reflection of what took place at the meeting. Jane Bradshaw agreed with Ian and proposed that Roger Embling’s view should be attached to the minutes as his view. Ronaldo Burger proposed that, as there were two different versions, Roger Embling’s version should be attached as an addendum representing his view. There was considerable support for this view in the meeting. Paul Walters suggested that the matter be referred to the Parish Council for further consideration. Roger Embling said that correct procedure is that minutes should be corrected at the current Vestry meeting. He proposed that the words “The Dean submitted ...” should be inserted after “nomination” at the bottom of page 7 of the booklet containing the minutes of Vestry 2016, and that “Roger Embling submitted, etc...” should replace the two sentences following “...on 12 March.” (page 8, line 8)

6.3 After some further discussion the Dean put to the meeting the proposal by AJ Bethke, which was seconded, that Roger Embling’s proposed amendment as tabled be accepted. The motion was carried.

6.4 The minutes of the previous Vestry meeting held on 13 March 2016 are accordingly modified by:

6.4.1 inserting the words “the Dean submitted ...” at the bottom of page 7 of the booklet containing the minutes of Vestry 2016; and

6.4.2 incorporating, in the first paragraph of page 8 of the booklet after the words “Rev Claire Nye Hunter on 12 March”, Roger Embling’s proposal as set out in the attached Addendum.

6.5 The minutes were accepted, subject to these modifications.

7 **Matters Arising:** Paragraphs 7.1 to 7.5 were noted. There were no further matters arising.

8 **Dean’s Report and Slideshow:** The Dean’s report, which had previously been circulated was tabled and was taken as read. (The full text may be found pages 11-14 of the yellow booklet.) The slideshow, referred to by the Dean, ran continuously during the meeting: it depicted the worship, ministry, fellowship and activities of the Cathedral and its people during the past year. On a proposal by Jane Bradshaw the Dean’s report was accepted.

9 **Churchwardens’ Report,** which had also previously been circulated, was tabled and was taken as read. Paul Walters drew the attention of those present to some of the most important aspects of the report, which may be found on pages 15-21 of the yellow booklet. On a proposal by Ann Stockwell the Churchwarden’s report was accepted.

10 **Financial Report**

10.1 *Introduction.*

10.1.1 The Cathedral’s financial reports were presented by Ronaldo Burger. The following documents had been circulated to parishioners in a blue booklet prior to the meeting and were tabled at the meeting: The summary income statement for December 2016, including actual income and expenditure for the full year 2016; a summary of the proposed 2017 budget; the proposed 2017 budget; the Auditor’s Report for the Cathedral for the year ended 31 December 2016; and the Auditor’s Report for the Makana Choir School for the same period.

- 10.1.2 At the meeting Ronaldo indicated that the summary income statement for December 2016, the summary of the proposed 2017 budget, and the Proposed 2017 budget, that had been circulated in the blue booklet were defective and must be deleted. He accordingly tabled the following documents (in a white booklet) to replace them: a summary of the final version of the proposed 2017 budget (including actual income and expenditure for 2016), and the final version of the proposed 2017 budget.
- 10.1.3 Ronaldo also referred to the Treasurer's Report, which is included in the Churchwardens' report for the year 2016/17 on pages 18 to 21 of the yellow booklet, and which should be read in conjunction with the financial reports. Ronaldo invited those with concerns to raise them with him at any time.
- 10.2 ***The Cathedral's financial report:*** Ronaldo indicated that the year ended with a small surplus of R44 726 for 2016: there was a deficit of R35 729 for 2015. Cash reserves at the end of 2016 were R229 3232, which includes the bequest of R178 058 from Beth Dickerson. Expenditure for 2016 was slightly higher, by R24 435, than 2015. Matters that were raised and discussed included the following: -
- 10.2.1 The cost of printing and stationery has increased partly as a result of printing A-J Bethke's new hymn book in house.
- 10.2.2 The current intention is to use the bequest from Beth Dickerson to restore the Cathedral's south windows.
- 10.2.3 Audit and accounting fees were higher than usual. There were two sets of audit fees during the year, and it was necessary to consult the accountants extensively following the office's computer crash that wiped out much of the Cathedral's accounting data.
- 10.2.4 The increase in stipendiary clergy travel costs. The Dean explained that stipendiary clergy are compensated for travel in their own vehicles by the parish according to a formula determined by the Diocese.

10.3 *The Auditor's Report:*

10.3.1 As always, the auditors provided a qualified opinion as it is not feasible for the Cathedral to institute accounting controls over cash collections prior to the collections being banked. The auditors could not be sure what happens between money leaving a pocket and being banked. The meeting expressed its gratitude to the side's people and those who count the money. They consistently and meticulously ensure that the cash is faithfully and accurately collected, counted and banked.

10.3.2 During the meeting it was established that the auditors had, on page 9 of their report, erroneously omitted to reflect any amount under the expenditure item "Easter, Whitsunday...", and this had the effect of dropping that item and all subsequent items by one line. This made it difficult to identify and discuss potential anomalies in the statement of expenditure.

10.4 *The Makana Choir School.* The treasurer of the Makana Choir School was not available. Expenditure for 2016 was R144 375 and income from donations and fund raising amounted to R177 100, with a surplus of R32 725. The auditors' opinion was qualified as it is not feasible for the School to institute accounting controls over donations prior to the collections being formally receipted. Cathy Meiklejohn questioned whether this qualification is applicable and suggested that it be challenged in future.

10.5 *The Proposed Budget for 2017.*

10.5.1 Ronaldo Burger indicated that estimated pledged income for 2017 was based on pledge forms received and was higher than 2016. Loose plate collection is however variable, and the estimate is therefore based on historical values. Fundraising comprises the amount expected to be generated by St George's Fair. It is not possible to budget for bequests. The Chambers generate rental income, which is more certain. Rentals are reviewed in April each year. There is a reasonable

increase in the Diocesan assessment. The budget reflects a surplus of R28 834.

10.5.2 Matters that were raised and discussed included the following: -

10.5.2.1 The substantial increase in the budgeted maintenance costs of St George's Chambers is due largely to roof repairs. It is important to prioritise the Chambers' maintenance so as to ensure that the tenants continue to be satisfied with the premises as the rental is critical income for the Cathedral.

10.5.2.2 The auditors should be requested to consolidate and separate the expenditure for the Cathedral and the Chambers respectively.

10.5.2.3 The Chambers' tenants pay VAT, and this should be managed separately before consolidation.

10.5.2.4 The "cost of books for book sales" (item 2230) refers to the cost of, for example, the reprint of the Gould Guide to the Cathedral for resale.

10.6 *Adoption*

Ronaldo Burger proposed the adoption of the revised Cathedral Financial Report and the 2017 Budget, seconded by Michael Whisson. Vestry approved the proposal and thanked the Treasurer for his hard work in difficult circumstances.

11 Elections

11.1 *Introduction.* The Dean confirmed that those who appeared on the Parish Roll were eligible to nominate candidates and to vote. In terms of article 24 of the Constitution of the Province, a parishioner in good standing needed to come to communion a minimum of three times in the year. Parish Councillors should be eighteen years of age or older; Churchwardens twenty-one years of age or older. He reminded the meeting of the role of the scrutineers. Nominators will give a brief motivation for their nominations.

11.2 *Churchwardens.* The following were nominated: Ian Meiklejohn (proposed by Jane Bradshaw and seconded by Paul Walters); and

Ronaldo Burger (proposed by Paul Walters and seconded by Jane Bradshaw). As there were only two nominees for two positions, voting took place by a show of hands. After counting the votes, the scrutineers announced that Ian Meiklejohn had received 40 votes and Ronaldo Burger 45. In total 50 people voted so the requirement of 50% plus 1 votes for the election of Churchwardens was met. The nominees were pronounced duly elected with acclaim.

11.3 ***Alternate Churchwarden:*** Paul Walters (proposed by Ian Meiklejohn and seconded by Ronaldo Burger) was the only nominee. As there was only one nominee for the position, voting took place by a show of hands. After counting the votes, the scrutineers announced that Paul Walters had received 45 votes. The requirement of 50% plus 1 votes for the election of the Alternate Churchwarden was met, and Paul Walters was pronounced duly elected with acclaim.

11.4 ***Parish Councillors***

11.4.1 Voting Procedure. The Dean reminded the meeting that Vestry 2016 affirmed the procedure adopted over the past three years, which required a majority of votes (that is 50% plus 1 of those voting) for a candidate to be elected, would apply to the election of Parish Councillors in future Vestry meetings.

11.4.2 Nominees. There were six nominations: Jane Bradshaw (proposed by Lynette Marais; seconded by Cathy Euijen), Rodney Bridger (proposed by Ian Meiklejohn; seconded by Jane Bradshaw), Roger Embling (proposed by Ros Embling; seconded by Jennifer Reynolds), Cathy Euijen (proposed by Paul Walters; seconded by Cathy Euijen), Patrick Pringle (proposed by Ian Meiklejohn; seconded by Jane Bradshaw), Rose Spanneberg (proposed by Jane Bradshaw; seconded by Ian Meiklejohn).

11.4.3 Voting. Those who had nominated the candidates were asked to briefly motivate their nominations. When this process was complete, the scrutineers handed out ballot papers. When the voting was finished, the ballot papers were

collected and counted by the scrutineers. Pat Terry, on behalf of the scrutineers, announced that in total 50 ballots were cast, and all of the candidates, except for Roger Embling, had exceeded the 50 plus 1 threshold. He accordingly declared Jane Bradshaw, Rodney Bridger, Cathy Euijen, Patrick Pringle, and Rose Spanneberg duly elected.

12 **Reports:** The remaining reports to Vestry, which had previously been circulated, were taken as read and adopted *en bloc* without discussion. Jane Bradshaw expressed the thanks of the meeting to Peter Stockwell and Basil Coyne for faithfully counting and caring for the plate money during the year. To a standing ovation, Rev Claire proposed a vote of thanks to Andrew-John Bethke for his outstanding work as Director of Music and for his wonderful contribution to the life and ministry of the Cathedral. The Dean confirmed that there would be an appropriate farewell for A-J in two weeks' time.

13 **Motions:** No motions were proposed.

14 **Thanks:** The Dean thanked everyone who participates in the worship and ministry of the Cathedral. He particularly thanked Ian Meiklejohn, Ronaldo Burger and Paul Walters for all their hard work over the past year. He also thanked those who provided the tea for Vestry.

The meeting closed with the Grace and ended at about 12h30.

**Amendment to the Minutes of the Vestry Meeting held on
13 March 2016**

Introduction

At the Vestry meeting held on Sunday 12 March 2017 Roger Embling proposed an amendment to the minutes of the Vestry meeting held on 12 March 2016 as set out below. Vestry 2017 decided to incorporate the proposed amendment in the minutes of the Vestry meeting held on 12 March 2016.

The amendment reads thus: (Bottom of page 7, after “nomination”)

The Dean submitted that in an e-mail sent to Roger on 8 March, Peter Bailie agreed to nominate Roger for Parish Council. In a further e-mail to Roger, sent on 9 March and forwarded to the Dean, Peter Bailie, subsequent to nominating Roger for Parish Council, said that under the circumstances referred to in his e-mail he had no alternative but to withdraw his nomination of Roger. A copy of this e-mail was tabled at Vestry. Peter Bailie’s withdrawal of his nomination of Roger was also confirmed in an e-mail to the Dean dated 12 March. This was further confirmed in a phone call from Peter Bailie to Rev Claire Nye Hunter on 12 March.

Roger Embling submitted that Mr Bailie nominated him for Council on Sunday morning, 6th March in the Cathedral on the form provided. Mr Bailie indicated that he would be unable to attend Vestry, so Mr Embling asked him to provide a hard copy of his recommendation speech because the Embling computer had been out of action for some time. This recommendation document, signed and dated 8th March, 2016 (incorrectly labelled Curriculum Vitae) was duly left at his attorney’s office where Mr Embling collected it. Claire Cordell, requested by the Dean, read this to Vestry. At no stage had Mr Bailie attempted to withdraw it. Mr Embling’s computer had expired so he had no idea of emails sent to him, nor had Mr Bailie phoned him.

DEAN'S VESTRY REPORT – 11th MARCH 2018

4th Sunday in Lent

Numbers 21:4-9; Ps 103:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21

Greetings to the Sub Dean and Archdeacon of Grahamstown, the Venerable Mzinzi Dyantyi, Lilitha, and your children, Sambe and Sammi; our honorary Canon of the Cathedral, Canon Ezra Tisani and mama Dr Thami; our Cathedral clergy team: Senior Assistant Priest and Cathedral Chancellor, Revd Canon Dr Claire Hunter (who we congratulate on her appointment as Canon Chancellor); our deacons, Revd Siphokazi Njokweni, with Lisakazi and Mihali; Revd Lunga Dongwana, Yoliswa, your children – congratulations on the twins returning from the bush and their matric results; Diocesan Media Officer Revd Luthando Madiba, Lusanda, and your darling baby daughter Lulibo; Revd Monwabisi Peter and Nokulunga (chaplain, St Andrew's Prep) and your children; Revd Idowu Akinyole from Nigeria, doing his PhD here at Rhodes; Revd Percy Chinganga and Tendai, from COTT; our churchwardens Professor Ian Meiklejohn, your spouse Cathy – who is fundraiser for the Makana Choir School and also is involved at Good Shepherd School - and your children; Mr Ronaldo Burger (who is also our treasurer), your spouse Michelle, and your children; Professor Paul Walters (alternate), your spouse June, your children and grandchildren; our parish councillors; lay ministers; all the people of God gathered here this morning: I greet you all in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

I want to acknowledge our two Artists in Residence, Chris Mann (aka Fafa Hopkins) and Julia Skeen. Chris is a poet and musician; Julia an artist and contemplative. Both use their art to witness to the Gospel of Christ. They were admitted and licensed as Artists in Residence at a service of Evensong towards the end of last year.

Our Annual Vestries over the past few years have always been during Lent, this wonderful time when we reflect deeply on the love and mercy of God for his people. A time when we draw aside, go into the wilderness, open ourselves to God, change direction, face the demons. Our readings for today are rich in these themes: the grumbling people in

the book Numbers, and the bronze snake which becomes a source of healing. Psalm 107, which is a song of praise as the people of God remember what God has done: “Then they cried to the Lord in their distress, and he took them out of their trouble. He sent his word and healed them” (Ps 107:19-20). Our Gospel reading with that well-known verse, John 3:16 “God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whoever believes in him will not perish, but have eternal life.”

But it is the reading from Ephesians 2:1-10 that helps us appreciate who we are in Christ, where we have come from, and what is our calling.

Where have we come from? We are a wonderful mixture that is any South African community, people from all over. But we share a common origin, according to Ephesians 2: “You once were dead because of your sins and wickedness... In our natural condition we lay under the condemnation of God like the rest of humankind...” (Eph 2:1, 3). We represent a world that needs to be saved, a world bent on its own destruction. Our country bears the scars of sin and wickedness: high levels of sexual violence; alcohol and drug abuse; corruption and greed and dishonesty; our broken history of conflict and hatred; racism and prejudice; immense inequalities in standards of living, education, health. Our pot-holed roads and bankrupt municipality. Anger and frustration all round. The cost and the symptoms of sin and human wickedness.

Who are we? As the Cathedral community, we celebrate our diversity. We are privileged to be part of this rainbow family, where everyone belongs. We are enriched by difference. But we share a common identity in Christ: “But God is rich in mercy, and because of his great love for us, he brought us to life with Christ...” (Eph 2:4) We know the grace of God that redeems and transforms and saves us. Our identity is that of sinners saved by grace. Under condemnation, dead in our sins, but now brought to life with Christ. Carrying the scars of the past, but no longer prisoners. Wounded healers.

What is our calling? We may be here in Grahamstown for work or study; many are incredibly busy and under pressure; and those who are retired are often the busiest of us all! We all find our ultimate calling in Christ:

“...we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus for the life of good deeds which God designed for us.” (Eph 2:10). Lives of witness and service.

This past year, 2017, has been a year of recovery from 2016. The student protest storms of 2016 did not re-emerge. The costs of those protests were high, too high; for many, 2017 was a year to lick their wounds and simply survive. People on all sides of the protests were incredibly bruised. Our country has been in turmoil, with concerns about poor governance and corruption; we are now finally seeing some shifts, long overdue, as happened towards the end of last year in Zimbabwe. We welcome with immense relief the resignation of Jacob Zuma and the appointment of our new President, Cyril Ramaphosa. But even when there is significant change at the top, much damage has been done to our life as a country and we are feeling the effects. We have seen state capture, inappropriate influence of one family on the presidency; each week has brought its new revelation of deliberate fraud and greed at the highest level. We have as a country been betrayed by those chosen to represent us.

Financially, 2017 was a tough year, and we as the Cathedral felt that. I thank all who continued to faithfully support the ministry and life of the Cathedral and the wider church, through it all.

We said a sad farewell to Dr Andrew-John Bethke as director of Music, and we congratulate him on his new post at UKZN, and his adoption of a baby boy! His going left a gap here, which to an extent has been wonderfully filled by the music team, with Kutlwano Kepadisa as music intern, and Asakhe Cuntsulana as marimba intern, the Makana Choir School committee, chaired by David Gain; Maggy Clarke in her meticulous planning and co-ordinating; our volunteer organists and pianists. After interviews, we appointed Cameron Luke from the UK as the director of Music; however, his visa application is taking a very long time indeed and we have no idea when he will arrive. As wonderful as our music team is – and they are wonderful - we are feeling the gap. Thank you to the worship and music team who are holding the fort!

Thank you also to our clergy team mentioned above, and our many wonderful volunteers: churchwardens Ronaldo, Ian and Paul; PCC; lay ministers; altar servers headed up by Sally Terry and Revd Lunga; sacristans headed up by June Venn; Mother's Union, led by mama Thabisa Yili; sound team – and we thank Clive Whitford for his many years of work with our sound system, and welcome the emerging group of sound engineers, especially Mandilakhe, Amila, Lisakazi, Mihali, and Monwabisi; sidespeople, headed up by Rodney Bridger; flowers – Elizabeth Breetzke; our organists Markus Mostert and Peter Breetzke, pianist John Jackson; our wonderful admin and office staff – Chantel Riddin, Lou-Anne Liebenberg, with Dinah Flani and Timothy Stephen our Verger. The office is a happy, efficient place!

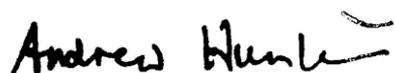
This year, 2018, is our 165th anniversary as the Cathedral. I would like us to have the following areas of focus in the year ahead – the good works of Ephesians 2:10:

1. Worship & Fellowship – this includes the entire ministry of preaching and teaching and prophetic witness. Our various Sunday services, our weekday worship; it embraces a great deal of what we do and who we are. Confirmation classes. Our house groups. Music and liturgy; lay ministers, altar servers, sidespeople and welcomers, flower team, administrative staff at the office in preparation of leaflets, and indeed the maintenance of the Cathedral fabric – it is one of our priorities. Let's do our best.
2. Young people – we continue with our student outreach and our welcome of students at all our services. Students assist with Sunday School, as altar servers, readers, and as lay ministers. However, I am concerned that while we have a number of teenagers in the Cathedral, we don't provide an organisational base for them. I do hope that under the guidance of Revd Lunga Dongwana, this will take shape this year.
3. Inclusivity, particularly when speaking of sexuality and the LGBTIQ++ sector of our community. We discussed this at Vestry last year; we invited the IAM (Inclusive and Affirming Ministries)

to the Cathedral in September. Let's be as welcoming as possible.

4. The environment – the drought in Cape Town has been a wake-up for us all. How are we using our resources? Water? Electricity? Let's work to have the Cathedral declared and recognised as a "Green Cathedral" in ACSA and in the Anglican Communion. There are criteria for this, and I am personally eager to see this happen. As the son of a farmer, this is close to my heart!
5. Thank you for your love and prayers and care and support for Claire and me, and for our darling daughters, Rachel and Nicola – and how much we appreciate the way in which you as the Cathedral family love them and care for us and in particular our two grown-up children. They know they have a home here. Thank you for the love that you give them, and that you give us as the deanery family. And our thanks to Bishop Ebenezer for his leadership of the diocese and his ministry.

"Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen." (Ephesians 3:20-21)



The Very Reverend Andrew Hunter

Dean of Grahamstown

11th March 2018

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 All three Churchwardens re-elected at the Vestry Meeting in 2017: Ronaldo Burger, Ian Meiklejohn, and Paul Walters (Alternate). The role of churchwarden is multi-layered; we are involved in almost every area of the Cathedral Parish's life; it is often interesting, sometimes challenging, but always satisfying.

2 BUILDINGS

Cathedral Improvement Plans

- 2.1 Through generous bequests and donations from Beth Dickerson, Eleanor Barker and David Hodgson, it was possible to restore all the windows in the South Wall of the Cathedral. David Manning did an excellent job for far less than originally quoted. A priority is currently the rising damp in the South Wall, but cash flow problems have put this on hold.

2.2 St George's Chambers

As reported for the last two years, the Cathedral administrator has been collecting the rent and ensuring that the invoices are sent to the advocates, in addition we have been looking after all of the maintenance at the chambers. In the last year, leaks in the roof and the plumbing have been particular concerns, but we are hopeful that we have done enough to ensure that all major problems have been solved. Thus far, the rent collection process is still working well, and the Cathedral is getting extra revenue because we are no longer paying an agent's commission.

2.3 St George's Hall

The windows were repaired, and the hall was painted during 2017. Current projects include the repairs to the geyser. We continue to utilise revenue from the use of the hall as the "Long Room" during the festival as a revenue source.

2.4 The Deanery and Sub Deanery

Leaking roofs and general upkeep of the denary and sub-denary have been a priority during the past year. Rainwater tanks have been installed to try and mitigate against the current water crisis in Grahamstown and we are looking to institute further efforts to make these building more environmentally sensitive and less expensive.

2.5 Registers and Terrier

2.4.1 Canon 32 1 of the Anglican Church of South Africa requires that the incumbent and churchwardens

- maintain an Inventory of all movable property belonging to the parish;
- maintain a Register of all immovable property occupied by or belonging to the parish;

2.5.2 In addition, Canon 29. 7 states that the churchwardens are:

- to keep an inventory of all goods, ornaments and furniture belonging to the church and to deliver the same to their successors on ceasing to hold office;
- to provide for the safety and preservation of the registers.

This is an ongoing project and is receiving our attention.

3 PEOPLE

Clergy

- 3.1 There were few changes in the clerical staff of the Cathedral parish in 2017/8. We continue to give thanks to God and to our clergy for their faithful and dedicated work for God in our parish. Dean Hunter continue in his patient and wise leadership of the Cathedral and in his broader roles in the Diocese. The Venerable Mzinzisi Dyantyi has the role of Archdeacon which he does with enthusiasm and love. The Reverend Canon Dr Claire Nye Hunter has been appointed as Cathedral Chancellor and her work now includes support to the Good Shepherd School in addition to her

exceptional ministry at Rhodes University. We give thanks for the leadership of The Reverend Luthando Madiba (Media Officer, Diocese of Grahamstown), The Reverend Percy Chinganga (College of the Transfiguration), and The Reverend Idowu Akinloye (College of the Transfiguration) for their worship and teaching in the Cathedral. The Reverend Monwabisi Peter is the Chaplain at St Andrew's Preparatory School is occasionally able to help out with Sunday services, for which we are very grateful. The Reverends' Siphokazi Njokweni and Lunga Dongwana continue with their respective supportive ministries as Deacons in the Cathedral.

Lay staff

- 3.2 Our support team for the Cathedral is now stable and headed by Chantel Riddin as fulltime Parish Administrator, Lou-Anne Liebenberg as Part-time Secretary, and Timothy Stephen as Verger. We are very grateful for their dedicated service and the friendly and loving environment in the Parish office. We are still awaiting the arrival of the New Director of Music, Mr Cameron Luke.

Sidesmen

- 3.3 One of the many duties of the Churchwardens is “to see to the seating of the congregation, without respect of persons” (Canon 29 7); we delegate this duty to our sidesmen (of both genders). We are very grateful to the men and women who do this important but unglamorous duty. The sidesmen and women are the first people that members of the congregation see on entering the Cathedral and their welcome is enormously important.

Choir School

- 3.4 The Makana Choir School (MCS) continues under the interim Leadership of Kutlwano Kepadisa (Kepa). We eagerly await the arrival of the new Cathedral Director of Music, who will fulfil an important leadership role at the MCS. One of the choristers, Bayanda Mthetho is being supported to have organ lessons with

Jovan Heynsen, a music specialist on the staff of St Andrew's College and DSG.

General

Our year included the Cathedral tackling the difficult issues related to Human sexuality and a visit by the IAM ministry group was particularly fruitful in this regard. The Churchwardens attend ten Executive Committee meetings and ten PCC meetings between vestries, and four Archdeaconry Council meetings. Duties this past year have tended to be divided, with Ronaldo Burger as Treasurer, Ian Meiklejohn has handled HR and Staff Liaison, and Paul Walters has assisted both where possible. Ronaldo's efforts have been particularly difficult during 2017/8 due to the financial constraints under which the Cathedral had had to operate. The economic situation in the country has had a dramatic effect on the ability of parishioners to fulfil their pledges. We continue to pray for an improvement in the Cathedral's finances. Paul has had to fulfil a larger role than originally anticipated due to Ian's work commitments.

4 MONEY

Treasurer's Report

4.1 The financial reports were audited by BSG Accountants of Grahamstown, these are attached. The consolidated accounts show we ended the year with a deficit of R163,707 for the year.

The deficit includes arrears of R90,218 on our Municipal accounts that has to form part of the Financial reports in order to reflect all outstanding debts to our Creditors so as to reflect accurately on all areas of our finances. The arrears on the Municipal accounts mainly stem from our poor cash flows during the year that disallowed us from being able to pay. The poor cash flow mainly resulted from the short comings on our pledged income. The other reason for the arrears on the Municipal accounts was also due to the accounts not being accurately received from the Municipal offices. The Municipality is of the opinion that our meters are faulty and hence our meter readings are not accurate. We have made various

attempts to contact the Municipal offices in order to address this issue. They have not returned to fix or replace our faulty meters. This is a general issue experienced locally by a big number of Grahamstown residents and rate payers.

The auditors have also included a note in the Financial reports regarding this issue.

We also received another account from the Municipality stating that we are in arrears for rates on the Cathedral's erf to the amount of R110,872.10. We have submitted a letter to the Municipality (as attached to the Finance pack) in which we are disputing the liability of the account. Chantel has also been to meet with the Municipality on numerous occasions in connection with all our accounts, including this latest account. The auditors have been informed of this account as well and they have listed this particular account as a Contingent liability in our Financials due to the uncertainty of this debt in the meanwhile. It will reflect as such until it gets resolved.

Our cash reserves at the end of 2017 were R 127,153-33.

- 4.2 In order to reduce our banking costs, we have been making use of FNB's Advanced Auto Teller Machines (ATM) which can accept deposits without the use of a bank card. This worked well as we managed to save R102 if compared to 2016. Unfortunately, these ATMs can't accept coins, so we only bank coins once a month. The auditor has pointed out a possible weakness in our system of handling the coin deposits and has made recommendations to strengthen our system, which we will be implementing. There is no suggestion or hint of any loss of cash due to this weakness, but if it was exploited the amount would be small as the coins are by definition small in value and we don't receive a lot of coins anyway.

4.3 Petty cash – we have started using a debit card to replace the old cheque system for our petty cash withdrawals. This has also contributed well to reducing our bank charges.

Financial Highlights from 2017

4.4 From the point of view of **fundraising** 2017 was not a particularly bad year:

- Income from pledges amounted to R664,893 which was remarkably short by R88,251 from what was promised;
- Donations received amounted to R8,646 compared to last year's R10,994
- St George's Fair generated slightly higher proceeds of R33,631 as compared to the previous year's R27,664. We could reason that this was partly due to better marketing, as adverts and banners were placed well before the event to raise awareness. We certainly tried to improve on this error as no marketing took place in 2016.
- We received a number of bequests during the year 2017: See attached report on Bequests

4.5 Our **spending** this year was driven by huge costs on repairs and maintenance on our various buildings. We are hoping that this will subside during the forthcoming financial year, 2018.

Costs included the following:

- R71,030 (R66,016 - 2016) slightly up from 2016 on costs to the Diocese for Easter, Whitsunday, Grocery basket and various donations;
- R42,335 (R32,618 – 2016) up from 2016 on our Worship and Ministry costs; The increase mainly resulted from costs on the Marimba band costs, i.e. repairs to the musical instruments and new uniforms;
- R46,941 (R56,349 – 2016) we generated a saving here of just under R10,000 on costs for Telephone and IT;

- R57,588 (R70,174 – 2016) we generated another huge saving here on our Office and Administration costs, especially under our Printing and Stationery costs. We have started doing our own printing of the pew leaflets, booklets etc instead of using outside service providers which mainly brought about the saving.
- We spent R235,806 on Repairs and maintenance as compared to R72,966 in 2016. This includes the restoration costs of R150,053 which was mainly funded by our bequests. This is where the bulk of our budget went this past year especially as most of the maintenance costs were unexpected but necessary and in most cases emergencies, like roof leaks, broken windows, broken toilets, broken garage doors, new alarm and intercom systems, painting, tiling, new water tanks with pump systems etc as mentioned earlier in this report;

Monthly Financial Report

- 4.6 Parishioners are invited to inspect our financial reports and send comments and queries to the treasurer if so moved. A copy of the audited financial statements will be made available on the Cathedral's website as well.

Pledged Giving

- 4.7 For the pledge year October 2016 to September 2017:

A total amount of pledges received for the year was R664,893 as opposed to R605,024 in 2016;

- 4.8 For the pledge year November 2017 to October 2018 (the new pledge year started a month later):

A total of R789,058 has been promised by pledgers for this new pledge cycle; This is R35,914 higher than the R753,144 promised last year of which R88,251 was not received;

Budget 2018

- 4.9 A summary of the budget for 2018 is given in the attached schedule. You will see that we are forecasting an overall surplus of R12,568 over the year. The reason for this includes:

- Expected increase in pledged income;
- Increase in Chambers rental income from April 2018 onwards;
- Less spending on repairs and maintenance;

4.10 Our New budget for 2018 currently includes spending on bonuses and salary increases, however the actual payment of bonuses is reserved on condition that our Finances allow us to do so at the end of the year;

4.11 This is a budget that depends heavily on the anticipated pledged giving. We remain hopeful that our unforeseen expenses like repairs and maintenance on our old buildings remain within budget. We appeal to all parishioners to remain committed to their faithful giving to the Cathedral so that we may continue to fulfil the financial commitments of the Cathedral;

Ronaldo Burger

Ian Meiklejohn

Paul Walters

Churchwardens 2017

ANSOC Chaplaincy report

2017 can be regarded as a year of growth and renewal. Our numbers improved with many members participating in all our planned activities. We attended regional meetings with the one in Port Elizabeth proving to be one of the most well attended regional gatherings.

Our 2018 committee is as follows: -

⇒ Zokhona Mtwana	Chairperson
⇒ Ikho Gaushe	Deputy chairperson
⇒ Viwe Anna	Treasure
⇒ Ayabulela Matolweni	Secretary
⇒ Ntlantla Bingwa	Prayer Minister
⇒ Sonwabile Gule	Media and Project's officer
⇒ Tsebang Matlapeng Transformation officer	Gender, Education and

2018 Plans

We start of this year by joining the Cathedral Student Ministry camp. This is one of the start-up events that has proved to be popular and enjoyable for both groups. Participating in university's extravaganza allowed us to meet Anglican and non-Anglican students. We are excited by the prospects of increasing our membership.

Funding remains a huge challenge for us to such an extent that we are looking for means and ways to fund our society. This year's provincial conference will be hosted by the Western Cape Region. We are hoping to attend this conference but, funding remains an issue for us.

Our Wednesday's meeting will continue as last year, and we are hoping to have more interactions with COTT and Midlands College students.

In closing, ANSOC remains committed to be a home away from home. We will continue worshipping within the surrounding Anglican churches for purposes of uplifting our spirituality. Our membership is diverse, and this calls for us to be creative in all our acts of worship. We continue to encourage our membership to worship every Sunday but, this should be done via communicating with our chaplain and our committee for purposes of ensuring that our members are not lost or inactive when they attend services within the local Anglican churches.

We are looking forward to our first welcome function where we seek to "get to know-each-other," our picnic amongst other functions and activities which we have lined up this year.

We will report of the numbers in due course because society's evening hasn't taken place yet.

Yours in the services of Christ

Monwabisi

Altar Servers 07:30 Service

The team of four servers are Melanie Lancaster, Peter Bailie, Dawn Long and Lynette Marais. Our grateful thanks to the team for their dedication and we continue to pray that new volunteers will come forward to offer their services to God.

Lynette Marais-Johnson

Altar Servers Team: 09:30 Service

The Coordinating team for the Altar Servers consisted of the Sub Dean (the Venerable Mzinzi Dyantyi, Priest in Charge), Reverend Lunga Dongwana (Head Server and Trainer), Namso Nyamela (Trainer), Lisakazi Njokweni (Senior Scholar Server), Sally Terry (Administrator: 9.30 am, Evensong and Special Services), and Lynette Marais (who will report on the 7.30 services).

At the end of 2017 we bade a sad farewell to Namso Nyamela as she moved on from being involved with the cathedral since her time as a Grade 8 scholar at VG to her leaving as a Masters graduate at Rhodes University. She has given uninterrupted dedication to many aspects of the Cathedral, but we have benefitted from her co-authorship of the Servers Manual, her many training sessions and, above all, her attention to detail on how the servers conduct themselves. Personally, I would have never managed without the support she has given. The Cathedral owes her a huge debt of gratitude and we wish her well in her new life in Gauteng.

Training sessions continued in the first half of 2017. Of the 30 plus servers on the list there is a core of about 10 very competent members and a number of very keen younger members. However, drawing up a roster is, frankly, a nightmare. There is too much interference from school commitments and being the enthusiastic person who joins the team, getting involved in other duties in the cathedral. The system survives only because of a very small number of exceptional servers who stand in at the last minute.

We regularly make a plea for new members, but on the understanding that to be a server involves a commitment and requires each member to attend at least a training session and one or two duties a month and to check the rosters which are posted. If a server cannot fulfil a duty, this *must be communicated timeously* to the team and an alternative server suggested. We are really keen to recruit more senior members to reduce the difficulties that arise during the school holidays.

We are very fortunate to have adequate vestments and the tremendous support of Di Harvey who makes sure that they are all clean and fresh.

Sadly, sometime during the latter half of 2017 the thurible disappeared. So there has been no incense at the services since then. A replacement is in the process of being repaired and by Easter 2018 we hope that the thurifer will be in action.

In 2017 for reasons beyond our control we failed to hold an Annual meeting. This must happen in 2018.

We are very grateful to the reliable and loyal members of the team who have supported the worship during the last year. Thank you.

Reverend Lunga Dongwana and Sally Terry

Cathedral Student Ministry (CSM) Report

We have been incredibly blessed this year. It has been really exciting to see how God has been at work in CSM.

CSM is led by an enthusiastic CORE team under the guidance and wonderful leadership of Rev. Dr. Claire Nye-Hunter. We have strived to create a loving environment where we feel accepted, wanted and comfortable enough to invite their friends along. Throughout the year apart from our student services we have hosted numerous social events; Movie Night, Annual CSM/AnSoc camp, Children's church game afternoon and Senior's tea. It has been very exciting to see the number of people who attended grow.

So many people in the church family have been willing to help to make sure such events run smoothly and go off without problems. We would like to thank your endless love and support be it financially, through

prayer ministry and not to forgetting the lovely treats you always provide us with whenever we have an event. Without your help our events would not have been a success.

I have had a wonderful team behind me to whom God has given so many different gifts and talents which have complimented each other. A massive thank you has to go out to the preachers that have helped us this year: The Dean, Sub Dean, Rev. May, COTT students, Mama Bertha, Mama Jane and Mama Jill. Thank you for always being available and reliable even if contacted last minute. To the 2017 CORE team (Anelisa, Ayanda, Ayabulela, Kepa, Kundia, Nomvelo, Odifentse, Theodore, Zenande, Zikhona and Mama Claire) you often went an extra mile in everything you did together not because you were asked but because you wanted to and for that I am truly thankful! I have been truly blessed to have you by my sides. Looking back over the past year all we can do is praise God for all the blessings He as poured out on us. It has been a privilege to witness your growth and commitment to God.

In conclusion we would just like to thank the cathedral family as a whole. We would like to thank you for your prayers and constant encouragement. With your support and the power of God as we will see great things happen in the life of the church.

In His Grip,

Rosa Msweli

Children's Church Report (English)

2017 has been a wonderful and has brought tremendous growth in children's ministry at the Cathedral. I particularly want to thank the parents for entrusting their children's spiritual growth to our hands. We have enjoyed welcoming several families in our midst.

Behind that big Chapter House door by the power of the Holy Spirit, lives have been and continue to be transformed and spiritual seeds are being planted through worshipping (which at times can get a bit too loud and disturb "Big church"), Bible stories, Bible quizzes, crossword puzzles and colouring in. We foster a warm and caring environment for our young parishioners, helping them grow in their love and understanding of Christ teachings.

On the 19th August 2017 the children were invited to an afternoon of fun and games hosted by the Cathedral Student Ministry (CSM) as part of their outreach programme. Although the weather was not favourable that day, the attendance was satisfactory, and the children had a great time.

The team of faithful teachers has brought stability to the ministry and is the main contributor of growth. I am deeply grateful for the presence of Miss Ayanda Dabengwa who through her passion for both children and Christ, gave up her worship time to minister to the children through her teachings about the life and love of Jesus. Thank you for the ways that you have loved and cared for the children who have come through the doors of our church building. A big thank you also goes to Revd. Dr. Claire for her continued support and seeing us through the highs and lows

of children and sticking with us! None of this would have been possible without your incredible support. Your leadership and devotion are highly appreciated.

Furthermore, to the incoming, sometimes you might not see the impact of your work as you work with the children each week. Sometimes you see the lesson click and the eyes of the child light up as they experience the love or the power of God in a new beautiful way. Sometimes you have the privilege of seeing a young person grow into a relationship with the God who made them. And sometimes, you will never know your impact until you are other side of eternity. Being part of Children's church has thought me a lot and has helped me grow spiritually as well. I now have an understanding of why Jesus said "Let the children come to me, for the Kingdom of Heaven belongs to them". The future of Children's Church is bright and exciting filled with growth and meaningful ministry in your capable hands. It's has been a blessing being part of Children's Church. Thank you for allowing me to serve your children.

In His Grip,

Rosa Msweli

Xhosa Children's Church Report:

I was mandated by Dean Andrew Hunter to look after Xhosa Children's Church. We started by doing rooted in Jesus together with the boys is 2016. This book is about Christ disciples and how to be grounded in Christ. Later we saw a need that some of the boys should be baptized. Last year a number of them were baptized and confirmed. Not long from now we will see some of them being altar servers.

This year we are still continuing with Rooted in Jesus. We have about 18 boys. I encourage those who want to be part of the group, to join us at 09h00 in the St George's Hall on Sundays.

We have about three boys that are not yet baptized.

Thanks for their co-operation to Mrs Jane Bradshaw and the social worker Mrs Mpiyakhe and them working together for the bright future of the boys.

Appreciation also to the Dean.

Rev Lunga Dongwana

Cathedral Choir: Report to Annual Vestry Meeting 2018

Our musical ministry in 2017 has largely been one of experimentation; of getting to kindle with the unknown territories; trying new and fresh blood and challenging ourselves and grow deeper in faith knowing that even in uncertainties the good Lord rewards work that is rooted in prayer and faith.

Following the departure of Dr Andrew-John Bethke around April last year, our Cathedral has on paper been in limbo regarding its music as we still await the arrival of new music director, Mr Cameron Luke. I have been tasked with the honour and responsibility of keeping this beautiful ministry afloat until the arrival of our director designate.

Although this interregnum period is taking longer than anticipated, we have been blessed as a Cathedral family, that when Dr Bethke left, he had left the Cathedral with a deep sense of care and aligned his departure in such a way that things would not crumble and fall after leaving; that things would keep going strong as best as it could and that this musical ministry, that is embedded and characterizes the life of the Cathedral would continue to flourish, to mature and to grow.

In many ways I believe this extended interregnum period has been very beneficial to our Cathedral worship: it has enabled us to engage on who we are, the people whom we sing and worship with; it has made us grow

in our singing abilities, not just the choir but the congregation as a whole; and it allowed the space for new and young musicians to in our congregation to grow in confidence and ability. I give thanks particularly to the music team: Maggy Clarke, David Gain, Penny Whitford and Anelisa Kelemi for their time, energy, support and immeasurable input in this ministry. I am glad to say that the music in the Cathedral is still very healthy. It is a testimony of God's grace and love to those live to serve and grow his kingdom. Our cathedral music has been immensely blessed and against many odds survived a year of unfamiliar territories.

The Cathedral Choir had a successful 2017 and continues to grow from strength to strength, both as individual singers and a most diverse team! Golden moments from 2017 started off with a wonderful farewell concert for Dr AJ, in which various members of the Cathedral and the greater town came to bid farewell to this most extraordinary man. This was followed by various other highlights throughout the year such including the Opening Ceremony of the Festival; Festival Evening Choral Service – Under African Skies; The Big Hymn Sing; Prestige Music Concert (a new addition to our music calendar); our Annual End of Year Choir Concert, where we bid farewell to our Matrics; All Souls Service as well as our Traditional Festival of 9 Lessons and Carols.

Apart from doing choir regularly, choir members have also been excelling in musical fields outside of the Cathedral. Sine Nqumba is part of a 6 part a cappella group that performed at the Monument for Masicule; Xolisa Foley, Hlumelo Kulati and Uminathi Anthony received Gold in their respective Vocal eisteddfodau, and Bayanda Mthetho won the most promising pianist at his Eisteddfod in 2017. We are very proud of the musical development in many of our Junior Choristers and wish to thank the Makana Choir School Committee for their hard work and voluntary efforts in making sure to keep the Choir School funded and our young learners in the Choir. We inducted 5 Choristers in July 2017 namely, Ambesa Cagwe; Khazimla Hembe; Alizwa Tom; Siyolise Sandi and Sixolile Mafanani. We also commissioned Avile Sonyamba as the Head Chorister for the 2017/18 year. We have also welcomed some new members both adults and junior probationers.

As it is with anything in life, we had to say goodbyes to a number of Choristers our Cathedral Choir: Many Carver; Mike Skipper; Sue Skipper; John Murray; Andrew Tracey and Anelisa Kelemi. We thank them for their service and commitment to the Cathedral and wish them well in all their various endeavours.

Our Adult Choristers have been loyally going the extra mile to provide us with some beautiful worship services. A particular highlight was when the Adult Choristers, under the conductorship of Charles Antrobus, led the service of Dedication of the Garden at St Cyprians in remembrance of Celia Jameson, a former Cathedral chorister. Smaller music services such as the Taizé, Lucernarium, and Advent Devotional services continue to form part of our intimate service in which a space for meditation, contemplation and prayer is provided. It is good to witness a core number of regular congregants continuing to enjoy these services.

The one area where which formed a great challenge weakness in our music ministry was the vacancy of a regular organist for our Services. When Dr Bethke departed from the Cathedral he had organized a number organists to be available to help in the Cathedral for three months after which we had hoped Mr Luke would be well into his directorship. Naturally our list of available organists grew smaller and smaller, the more we waited on Cameron that we ended up with only Pianists, John Jackson and Penny Whitford and no organists available. By grace, Markus Mostert was approached and asked if he could play for the Cathedral and has thence become our resident organist as until the arrival of Cameron Luke. We thank Stephen Holder, Mike Skipper, Jovan Heynsen, Peter Breetzke, Simon Tibbs, John Jackson, Penny Whitford and Rev Claire for their volunteering and willingness to help in playing hymns for our Cathedral. I am in particular very grateful for Markus Mostert and John Jackson's passion and kindness to continue with us over this interregnum period.

A period of unknown and experimentation comes with its worries, but too, with beauties and blessings. One wonderful blessing we realized last year was of one of our Junior Choristers. Bayanda Mthetho has been learning piano since Grade 5 at Graeme College and subsequently

started having organ lessons with Dr Bethke until his departure. As time went by without a formal organist, Bayanda was provided with some space to grow and blossom in his music a capabilities so much so, that he ably and proficiently led the congregation on the Organ on a number of occasions – The 9 Lessons and Carols as well as the Christmas service being highlights. He has made a wonderful impression on all in the Cathedral. The Makana Choir School put up a fundraising campaign for him to continue having organ lessons. We are happy that he will be continuing his organ development with Mr Jovan Heynsen at St Andrew’s College and look forward to hearing him play regularly in the Cathedral.

In closing, what a year it has been, for me as a newly confirmed and baptized Anglican, for the Choir and the musical ministry of the Cathedral. I am immensely grateful for the support guidance and prayer of those who’ve supported me over the past year. In particular, I would like to thank Maggy Clarke, who has been the foundation of all that was able to happen over the past year. For her energy and time and care to a healthy musical life at the Cathedral. Many of what we did was under her guidance and noble advice.

I look forward to an even better 2018. As things regarding Cameron’s arrival in South Africa start gaining momentum, I will be ending my most wonderful journey as a leading servant in music ministry and will be joining Cameron as his student continuing my official role as a choir intern. The past year has groomed and grown me immeasurably in faith.

Thank you for your belief and faith in my abilities.

God Bless

Kutlwano Kepadisa

Fort England

The celebration of the Holy Eucharist continues at Fort England on Saturday mornings at 10:30. The number of patients varies considerably depending on the weather or whether they are allowed to leave their ward. The patients are predominantly male with females attending on rare occasions. A number of patients remain after the service for special prayers.

This important outreach ministry is performed by two Cathedral lay ministers namely **Rev Lunga Dongwana and Lynette Marais.**

Flower Guild

Thank you to Cathy Pringle and Sally Terry for their help this past year. I appreciate the extra help given by Cathy Euijen over Christmas with her generous donation of flowers and plants and also helping to arrange flowers. Thanks also to June Venn who helps us in many ways.

We need to rethink how we are to continue supplying and arranging flowers in church.

We will no longer be able to arrange flowers for funerals and the occasional wedding as flowers are difficult to source. We rely on what our gardens produce and with the bad weather we have had very few flowers during this past year.

I will do my best and will rely more on artificial flowers in the future. We go to church to worship and the church has so many special treasures. Flowers in church are a ministry not often noticed and are not necessarily needed every week. Parishioners very seldom take advantage of doing flowers in the Lady Chapel.

Elizabeth Breetzke

Grocery Baskets:

Our Parish continuous to support seven needy families with groceries for the month. We thank the parishioners who give so unselfishly towards this very important project. Our Parish also budgets an amount for the project each month. I do the shopping together with Dinah Flani who then divides them between the seven families and they are then collected fortnightly. Each family receives the basics plus a generous amount of fresh vegetables. Christmas 2017 we were able to give a very generous parcel.

I am busy doing research and working on letters to ask for donations from big companies like Shoprite, etc who donates towards causes like these.

Chantel Riddin

LAY MINISTERS VESTRY REPORT 2018

Our wonderful team of lay ministers are an extension of the pastoral, sacramental and worship life of the Cathedral. They assist in leading worship and in providing pastoral care. Our house group leaders are also largely from within this group. Brookshaw, Fort England, and those who are house-bound, receive regular ministry from lay ministers as well as from the clergy. The Synaxis and the Prayers at the Eucharist are also led by lay ministers, and their involvement in worship in this way is a great blessing. Some participate in the prayer ministry that is offered at each of our morning services, or share in the leading of the weekday offices. Our annual placement team of ordinands from the College of the Transfiguration come onto the lay ministers' roster during their time at the Cathedral, and we expect our 2018 team to join us in the 2nd term this year. While the core of the team is made up of long-standing Cathedral members, we have encouraged students here with us in Grahamstown during their years of study, to be licensed, and we are enriched by their presence and their ministry. Members of the LM team take it in turns to arrange the duty roster. Some of our lay ministers are licenced to preach and do so. Some share in the Good Friday preaching.

Lay ministers meet every second month. There is regular training, input and reflection. The LM team is often a valuable sounding board for matters of pastoral concern. Some have left the team, due to relocation or ending time in Grahamstown. We are in the process of training and licensing new ones. Our very sincere thanks to all who form part of this team.

Dean Andrew Hunter

Makana Choir School report for 2017

The Makana Choir School gave scholarships to 14 choristers, each one receiving R 4500 in total. 3 choristers received a portion of that due to less commitment. 5 new choristers received their first half of the scholarship for 2018 by the end of the year 2017. It totalled R 68,625.00

Other expenditures included:

- R 2565 in auditor's fees,
- R 2729.00 in bank account fees and charges
- R 52000.00 in stipend pay-outs
- Travel and accommodation R 24900.00

The choir school benefitted of anonymous and declared monthly donations in the value of R 25380.00

In October 2017 the New Settlers Foundation paid out R 100,000.00 which we are thankful to Cathy Meiklejohn's successful fund-raising efforts.

Balance as of end of December 2016 was R 213293.00

Balance as of end of December 2017 was R 186093.00

14 Feb. 18

Makana Choir School

The Cathedral Choir currently consists of up to a dozen adults and the young choristers of the Makana Choir School. Throughout the year the Choir sings at morning Eucharist services twice a month, and at Evensong twice a month.

Shortly after Dr Andrew-John Bethke presented his Director of Music's Report to the Annual Vestry of 2017, the Cathedral had the sad task of saying farewell to him, his last Sunday being Easter Day. His contribution to the Choir School, and the music of the Cathedral as a whole, was incalculable, and we are privileged indeed to have had the benefit of his musical skills, creativity, enthusiasm and spirituality. We pray for him in his new life in Durban as a music lecturer and new adoptive father.

When AJ left, we took comfort from the recent announcement that Mr Cameron Luke had been appointed to succeed him. Mr Luke has been Director of Music at All Saints' Church, Cheltenham, in the UK, since 2007. He was expected to arrive in Grahamstown within three months of AJ's departure. However, the reality was far different. His arrival has been delayed by the slow progress of his application for a South African work visa, and up to the time of writing there is still no news of when he will be here.

As a result of this interregnum a number of interim measures were put in place. Kutlwano Kepadisa, the Choir Intern, has been standing in: taking all the choir practices and shouldering many other responsibilities of a Director of Music. His stipend is paid by the Makana Choir School (see 'Wages and Salaries' in the Financial Report below) and his contract was renewed for a further six months at the beginning of this year. He is studying at Rhodes. He in turn is assisted by Anelisa Kelemi, another Rhodes student who was Choir Intern in 2016. She receives a stipend from the Cathedral, on a contract which is due to terminate on the arrival of the Director of Music. We are profoundly grateful to them both for keeping the ministry of the Choir School alive.

Around 15 – 18 choristers receive scholarships from the Makana Choir School. A full scholarship is worth R4,500 per annum, paid directly into

the choristers' school fee account in two half-yearly tranches. We are grateful to our donors: The New Settlers' Foundation which last year gave R100,000, and a number of individuals who contribute on a regular monthly basis. A special appeal was launched to enable Bayanda Mthetho, a talented young Graeme College chorister, to receive organ lessons during 2018. Through the generosity of a number of anonymous donors we are delighted to be able to report that his lessons with Jovan Heynsen are fully funded for the year. Many thanks for this!

It is the vision of the Choir School to develop the musicianship of young choristers and thereby to develop them as well-rounded leaders in their community. The Makana Choir School would like to ask for your support towards this worthwhile project. A number of individual donors make regular monthly payments to the Choir School, which although not large in themselves, together make a valuable contribution towards the Choir School's budget. Please consider joining them. Details can be found on the Cathedral website.

Maggy Clarke, Secretary, Makana Choir School

The Cathedral of St Michaels Marimba Worshipers Report

I am delighted to present this report on behalf of the St Michaels Marimba Worshipers. We as the marimba band extend our gratitude to the Dean and his team, Cathedral Music Director, and the whole congregation as well as parents for allowing us the opportunity of praise and worship through music. The year 2017 was a big step for myself to take as well as with the marimba team, as we had to create a conducive space for development, praise, worship and music performance without Mama Penny's assistance. She left a stable foundation with the kids, so in terms of igniting the spirit she left and raising the bars, I found it not that difficult. The marimbas gave a pleasing performance during the 2017 Grahamstown Arts Festival. We made a new design for the band to wear during performances which summed to R250. The Dean and I decided to subsidize the price to R50 maintenance fee from the kids and the Cathedral pays the remainder of R200.

The marimbas also needed some tuning, the African Music Instrument factory helped tighten the instruments for a good sound quality in which the quote and expense for that is with Ms. Chantel. We ended 2017 with an amazing concert which was themed as “Cathedral Prestige Concert” in which myself, Keba and Namso organized. We thought of making the concert a culture of the Cathedral in years to come, in which we would really love to go ahead from the Dean and his team.

The very exciting news and plan for 2018 as far as the Spirit Fest is concerned is to create a dynamic concert with more choreography in performances. I have personally suggested that we should be inclusive of other churches around Grahamstown (i.e. in the locations) and showcase the creativeness of Grahamstown inside churches. I have sourced a close friend of mine for the choreography in the marimba band and thought to include Gumboot dance in the very beginning of our performance. Even though Gumboot dance is not music per se, but it is an integral part of music making. Now my eyes are up in the sky for the great year we will have and pray for intensified God’s guidance in what we do. Amen

Yours Sincerely

Asakhe Cuntsulana

Cathedral Meditation Group 2017

Report for Annual Vestry Meeting

By Julia Skeen

The Cathedral Meditation Group has had another fulfilling year with regular meetings from February through to December, held on Wednesday mornings from 9 am to 10.15 am.

The group was facilitated by Rev. Claire Hunter and Julia Skeen.

We met mostly at the Deanery and would like to thank Rev. Claire Hunter for her hospitality and access to her lovely garden. Rhona Duncan and Leela Pienaar also generously opened their beautiful homes and gardens to us. Our thanks go out to them as well.

Attendance was on average 10 to 12 people. We were delighted to welcome new members to the group this year.

The content that we studied and thought about throughout the year included the following:

The Book of Ruth: moments in every woman's life

During Lent: The Book of Joy by Desmond Tutu, the Dalai Lama and Douglas Abrams with the accompanying suggested meditations

A meditation from Andrew Harvey's the Son of Man: The Mystical Path to Christ

Joyce Rupp's The Cup of Life: The First Week

Elder Spirituality: a series of meditations on ageing

Richard Rohr: I Am Who I Am

Meditations on the theme of Water

Faith and Doubt: Chris Mann

Mother's Union Report:

Membership - Our Mother's Union is composed of 17 members. We are proud to be joined by Mrs Mvaphantsi, Mrs Mbambo and Mrs Gabavana.

Stewardship – We did not focus on stewardship last year, but we are planning to get more involved this year. We are addressing people to educate us on various health related topics such as autism, listeriosis, etc so that we can help and educate our families and anyone needing help. We are finding that a lot of people are very unclear on a lot of these issues and need assistance.

Fundraising – We assist annually to fundraise for the St George's Fair with our vegetable stall as well as the Pancake Evening. We are looking at becoming more active this year with fundraising.

Mother's Union is still responsible for cleaning the Eucharist equipment of the Cathedral. We also assist where we can when there is Cathedral clean ups, etc.

Thabisa Yili

Sacristan Vestry Report 2018

Not much has changed since the last report. Our team has increased by one – we welcome Gugu! We are very excited to have Gugu join us and she will be u to speed in not time. The team continue to fulfil their duties faithfully and are really committed. The clergy have cut down weekday service – leaving only the Thursday morning Eucharist, so the work load is a little less for weekday duties. However, it is still crucial to find people who are able and willing to stand in at major feasts like Ordinations, Easter or Christmas. This being the case it is essential to make an effort to recruit extra people to join the team this year. We continue to meet quarterly and always welcome the clergy to inform us of extraordinary services etc. thanks to those who have assisted with keeping stock of candles, incense charcoal and laundry. Sally Terry has been relieved of being in charge of candles, incense and charcoal. This will again be the responsibility of the Sacristan Team. Thanks, and gratitude to the Sacristan Team.

June Venn

2018 Sidesperson's Report

Sidespersons' report for 7.30 service.

It is an act of dedication to undertake this simple, yet important weekly task and it comes with some little sacrifice. One is isolated by distance at the back of the Cathedral, and it can be alienating to be, in addition, unable to hear what is taking place at the altar or the pulpit. Fortunately, the 7.30 group of sidespeople are utterly reliable in turning up for duty and are totally committed to the task in hand. One issue that needs to be addressed, though, is the need to have more members of the group. At

present there are six members, working in three pairs. Any one member falling ill or going on a family visit or holiday and the roster becomes difficult to balance. The need for another safe key to be made available to the group has been discussed but is yet to be provided.

Jeremy Fogg

Sidesperson's report for 9.30 Service.

Thank you to all our Sidespersons (both 7.30 & 9.30 teams) for your commitment and dedication. As Jeremy has stated above, it is a simple but important task.

Things are running smoothly with the 9.30 team except on the odd occasion when some of us could not make it for duty.

We welcome Simtha Citwa who joined the 9.30 team towards the end of last year.

New members are always welcome, so we invite anybody that feels called to this ministry to make contact with any of the Sidespeople on duty at both the 7.30 & 9.30 Services.

God bless

Rodney Bridger

14 February 2018

Sound System

Now it is time to go! Last year I reported that the system was fine but that the manager of the system was taking strain. Now the strain is unbearable. Turning 75 this year with the general slowing down of human reaction time and movement, I am in no fit state to manage this system. I am happy to act as a consultant and come and help with explanations and/or trouble shooting when things go wrong, but not do the job. I will however be happy to help out with week day services if there is nobody else, but a warning: slow reactions, a shaky hand and

failing eyesight cause fumbling and clumsiness when trying to find the right button to press at the right time. That causes nasty unwanted noises over the loudspeakers. Can't help it!

Clive Whitford

Spiritfest 2017

During the National Arts Festival in 2017 Spiritfest celebrated the arts in the context of our Christian faith in the Cathedral, as well as in Commemoration Methodist Church, St Patrick's Catholic Church and Trinity Presbyterian Church, and other venues.

As always worship and music were prominent in the programme. Even in the absence of a Director of Music the Cathedral was able to contribute two sung Sunday Masses and the choral multi-media service 'Under African Skies' devised by Ron Gill. This was sung by the Cathedral Choir directed by Kutlwano Kepadisa. He also conducted a Lucernarium with the adults of the Cathedral Choir, and, on the first Sunday of the Festival, Bob Chilcott's 'Little Jazz Mass' with a group of invited jazz musicians and singers. On the final Sunday the setting was Byrd's Four-Part Mass. Simon Tibbs conducted a small choir which he had gathered together. It is interesting to note that Simon's little group has continued to perform, under the name 'Byrdsongs', and the choir assembled by Kepa has grown into the Kwantu Community Choir, which is going to the World Choir Games in Pretoria this July! In this way Spiritfest can be said to be promoting the arts, even beyond the Festival.

The same applies to the exhibition, '40 Stones in the Wall' which has now occupied the Cory Room for four successive Festivals. We have recently heard that they will be holding a similar exhibition in Cape Town from 5 April 2018, at which Christian artists will be displaying their works.

While Commem hosted a choral concert with the Grahamstown Circuit Choir, and an organ recital with Stephen Holder, the Cathedral saw

exciting performances by the St Michael's Marimbas, now under the leadership of Asakhe Cuntsulana.

The Spiritfest Winter School returned to the Chapter House, a.k.a. the Cathedral Coffee Shop, and was convened by Simon Tibbs. The combination of lectures and refreshments posed a few challenges, and some of the sessions worked better than others. Particularly successful was the launch of Chris Mann's book 'Epiphanies', during which the participants, sitting around tables with their coffee and cakes, were invited to choose passages from the book and read them aloud. The Winter School had an overall theme 'Faith and Resistance', picking up the Festival theme of #mustfall. One lecture unfortunately had to be cancelled at short notice due to the unavailability of the speaker. The same venue was used successfully for the Open Mic session, again ably chaired by Harry Owen. We tried holding a separate Open Mic for musicians in Trinity Church, but it was poorly attended, so we have decided to combine these two events in future.

In other venues Spiritfest combined with Wordfest to host the launch of 'The Book of Joy' by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama, and John Ramsdale from Cape Town gave a moving dramatic reading on the life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. St Patrick's Church continued to offer opportunities for Guided Prayer, and one of the 40 Stones artists, Jonathan Griffiths, also held a solo exhibition in the Carinus Centre.

A new initiative of Spiritfest in 2017 was an Ecumenical Street Parade on the last Sunday of the Festival, from the Drostdy Arch to Church Square. This was a small beginning, which we hope will grow.

I give thanks to God for the energy and enthusiasm of the ecumenical Spiritfest planning team, and especially for the younger members who have recently joined us.

The programme for Spiritfest 2018 should be finalised by the time of this meeting, and can be read at <http://www.grahamstowncathedral.org/spiritfest>.

Maggy Clarke, SpiritFest Convener. February 2018.

Steeple Keeper's Report

Looking back on 2017, it was an interesting, yet unfortunately quiet year for the bell ringers.

Starting at the beginning of the year, on 25th February 2017, we had a group of visiting bell ringers who came to Grahamstown to ring a Peal on our bells. This was a very exciting occasion, as it is not very often we have all 10 bells ringing at the same time, and especially for that length of time.

Unfortunately, when arrangements were being made for this particular ringing trip to Grahamstown, the Grahamstown bell ringers were not in the loop and not informed until a very late stage. We were all very unhappy and upset about this. I have seen e-mail correspondence dating from 11th May 2016, but I only found out about this ringing trip on the 26th of September 2016. I was asked to confirm that I knew what was going on and that I was expecting them, but it was the first I had heard of the trip.

The Peal was rung and unfortunately our local bell ringers were unavailable on the day. The visiting ringers did go up to the bells to check everything before they rang. All was in order and they just put some tape on a few spots where the ropes were fraying. Attached to this email is an article written by Colin Lewis following this Peal in Grahamstown. This article was published in "The Ringing World"

On the 9th November 2017 we had another group of bell ringers come to town. We knew well in advance of their visit and were prepared for them. All the bells in the tower were ready, even though they arrived a bit earlier than expected. They checked all the bells and ropes before ringing and made an early start to their Peal. We were fortunate in that they also made a monetary donation after the Peal.

In general, 2017 was a quieter year for us than some previous years. We are still struggling for numbers and quite often we do not ring, as we just don't have enough ringers available for a particular evening. We currently have 2 learners, Fiona and Thomas. Fiona has been ringing plain hunt with us as our treble and is slowly making the transition to

another bell in the plain hunt. Thomas has only just at the end of last year begun ringing on his own and is at a point now where he can ring rounds with us and we can slowly start teaching him to plain hunt from the treble.

There are ringers in town who know how to ring bells, but it isn't easy to get them to come along to ring. We also cannot rely on them to come and ring when they are not committed. We are however continuing with the ringing as usual this year, and we hope to have some new faces joining us and learning how to ring the bells, as it is a very satisfying hobby.

We as bell ringers would welcome any suggestions as to how to entice more people to join in and learn to ring.

Maintenance:

I have been looking after the bells and they are all well maintained and working. We have not had any major problems over the last year. We have had a cracked stay and a slider slip out of place, but those were the only two incidents. A few of the ropes may need to be cut and spliced back together in the near future, but other than that I think everything will be fine for the rest of this year.

The only other problem we had in the tower, at the end of last year, was that birds were getting in and trying to build nests which made quite a mess. In the tower by the bells, around the sides where the slats are, there are bricks and a wire mesh. What is happening is that some of the bricks that were not fired correctly have started to crumble to dust and this resulted in holes where they once were. This has happened in previous years as well. I have been up there with cement and I have filled all the new holes that had formed since the last time I made repairs.