

**GOING
FORWARD
TOGETHER**

2012

a Prospectus



HOLY NATIVITY ANGLICAN CHURCH

November 13, 2011

Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

Matthew 25:23

Dear Good and Faithful Servant,

“Enter into the joy of your master.” Enter into the joy of carrying on Christ’s work on earth. Humanity has been entrusted with doing God’s work on earth. As followers of Christ, we, therefore, have been entrusted with the great task of redemption and salvation that Christ began 2000 years ago. And this, too, then becomes the work of the church, whether we define the church in the global, universal sense or as our church community here at Holy Nativity. Thus, at Holy Nativity we can find not only the opportunity to join in God’s work, but also the joy of doing God’s work, investing our time, talent, and treasure to produce divine dividends.

And we always must recall that what we invest is not our own. Whatever time, talent, and treasure we enjoy come from God. We are mere stewards, entrusted with resources and talents and gifts that can be used to do God’s work or buried, diverted to our own self-serving pursuits.

Here at Holy Nativity we are blessed with abundance. Your generosity has provided sufficient financial support, and people routinely step up and step in whenever there is work to be done. We have developed a strategic plan that will enable us to continue to thrive, even in the midst of accelerating change in the culture, the world around us, and even in the church. But a plan is just a plan. Now is the time for us to build on our strengths and go forward together. Therefore, our stewardship program for 2012 is an effort to match our resources of time, talent, and treasure with our ongoing activities and the various elements of our Strategic Plan.

The attached *Prospectus* describes the array of opportunities for involvement in the vital work of the church as envisioned in our Strategic Plan. Please, review it carefully and prayerfully before filling out your pledge card. We ask that you make a pledge of time and talent, as well as treasure. Keep in mind that our ability to forecast available financial and human resources will enable us to budget and plan more accurately for 2012. And we pray that it will reflect the abundance of time, talent, and treasure God has blessed us with. Then we may enter into the joy of the master, of using our God-given time, talents, and treasure, to follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ and do God’s work on earth.

Your pledge card will be your admission ticket to our Stewardship Appreciation Dinner on November 25. That will be our opportunity to thank you for all you have contributed in the past and pledge to contribute in 2012.

Yours in Christ,

The Reverend James J. Popham
Interim Priest-in-Charge

BUILDING & GROUNDS

We need to maintain our facilities and improve them as necessary to meet the needs of the parish.

Here's what we plan to do and where your investment of time, talent, and treasure would propel our strategic plan from paper to reality:

- Established a facilities planning committee to develop plans for facilities upgrades and improvements.
- Maintain a group of volunteers and coordinator to maintain our facilities.

Examples of how you can invest in this vital work of the church: Contribute to our stewardship and capital campaigns; participate in our stewardship or capital campaigns; help out with the grounds and minor maintenance. *Share your ideas!*

Existing building & ground activities: Maintenance group, Facilities Planning Group, lawn mowing, and garden care.

Vestry contacts: Rick Andison and Ed Tickle

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION

We want to enhance faith formation and deepening for everyone, primarily by increasing the focus on teaching. We want everyone, regardless of age, to have opportunities for learning and maturing in their faith. We want people to have a deeper understanding of scripture. We want people to pray in a meaningful way and find peace in their hearts. And we want people to be able to share their faith openly not only within our church community, but also with those who do not share our faith.

Here's what we plan to do and where your investment of time, talent, and treasure would propel our strategic plan from paper to reality:

- Offer a teaching series on how to share our faith effectively.
- Provide reflections on the readings in the Sunday bulletin.
- Introduce people to Christ and nurture a growing relationship with him.
- Offer a variety of educational offerings ranging from "Anglican 101" to in-depth Bible studies to provocative series like "Living the Questions."
- Promoting *Cursillo* as a means of developing faith and spiritual awareness.
- Offer more faith formation activities geared to young families and youth.
- Build accountability.

- Schedule weekend and one-day retreats.
- Offer a 40-day program of prayer and scripture reading.

Examples of how you can invest in this vital work of the Church: Assisting with a Bible study or educational series, coordination, planning and preparation, teaching, facilitating, even if just to help set-up a venue. *Share your ideas!*

Existing education groups and activities: Sunday School, Youth Group, Wednesday Night Bible Study, Thursday Morning Bible Study, and monthly Men’s Breakfast.

Vestry contact: Helen Wheeler

COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICITY

We want to plan in advance and improve communications, with emphasis on electronic communication and advance notification. We want people to have information about key events in time to include them in their plans – even as much as a year in advance to permit calendaring major events. We want information about resources in the parish and among its members available to the community.

Here’s what we plan to do and where your investment of time, talent, and treasure would propel our strategic plan from paper to reality:

- Advertise all events and programs well in advance, including those that involve spiritual formation.
- Explain changes and why they are being made.
- Look to times other than Sunday morning for worship.
- Plan further in advance to accommodate crowded schedules and travel plans.
- Provide weekly e-mail.
- Post sermons in MP3 on website.
- Develop backup plan when office is closed.
- Use social networking and electronic communications effectively.

Examples of how you can invest in this vital work of the church: Write news releases, articles, public service announcements; assist with web updating; “like” Holy Nativity on Facebook; help with the audiovisual system, maintain the outdoor sign.

Existing communications and publicity groups and activities: Communications group.

Vestry contact: Pat Gilroy

HOSPITALITY AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

We want people to have a sense of belonging by maintaining and facilitating a loving, caring, and welcoming community for all ages. We want newcomers to be comfortable in our services. We want the Christmas and Easter worshippers to come back and children, grandchildren, and their friends to be welcomed warmly. We want to offer opportunities for involvement in our worship for every age group. We want to offer many avenues for people to be involved in the parish and all opportunities for involvement and service at Holy Nativity to be made known and accessible. We want more people involved and not always the same people doing the same thing. We want to become aware of what draws people to Holy Nativity and that people know what spiritual and other resources are available to them here. And we want to have enough clergy to meet the pastoral, liturgical, and educational needs of our growing congregation.

Here's what we plan to do and where your investment of time, talent, and treasure would propel our strategic plan from paper to reality:

- Give more attention to newcomers, and be sure they never are left alone; follow-up with an e-mail, phone call, and/or visit.
- Finding people who can welcome warmly without overwhelming.
- Provide something tangible for newcomers to take away and to provide donation envelopes that enable us to provide tax receipts and encourage them to provide contact information.
- Soliciting giftedness/interests from newcomers; show interest in them as persons – but not too pushy.
- Being helpful to people who are unfamiliar with our bulletin, service, hymns, and prayer book.
- Establish foyer or cell groups to foster more social interaction.
- Celebrate 50th anniversary with a homecoming event.
- Annotating parts of the bulletin as a teaching method.
- Making more hymnals with a musical score available for those who prefer them.
- Involving grandparents and developing approaches that attract children, their parents, and grandchildren (*e.g.*, “Bring a Grandchild to Church” Sunday).
- Consider having children in the service at the beginning for a short time, balanced with Sunday School teaching time, and other ways to include children in the service.
- Involve youth regularly in more aspects of the service (*e.g.*, prayers, readings, chalice, and music).

- Identify what attracts and repels and what we can do for working age people, retirees, parents, children, and youth, including opportunities beyond Sunday worship.
- Surveying the parish.
- Explain things like chapel prayer time, prayers of the people, the prayer chain, and prayer itself on the web and in sermons.
- Offer a workshop on prayer.
- Hire another part-time or full-time priest.

Examples of how you can invest in this vital work of the church: Form or join a group of “greeters” whose job it is to welcome, assist, and visit newcomers; assist with the Sunday school or youth group; coordinate or assist with a social event, planning, preparation, and implementation.

Existing hospitality and community development groups and activities: Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Strawberry Tea, Stampede Breakfast, Fall Fair & Tea, November Dinner, Sunday Brunch Forums, and Tuesday Morning Crafts & Chats.
Vestry contacts: Kathy Dodds, Bev Badke, and Barb Scott.

OUTREACH

We want Holy Nativity to be a church community that is making a difference in the wider community. In particular, we want to expand opportunities for service and think outside the box in finding ways to use our facilities and resources to serve the community. We want more faith formation geared to youth and young families as a foundation for outreach. We want people to have opportunities to live out their faith within and outside the parish.

Here’s what we plan to do and where your investment of time, talent, and treasure would propel our strategic plan from paper to reality:

- Provide more information on opportunities for service (including the time commitment involved).
- Have “minute persons” share for a minute about activities in which they are involved inside and outside the parish.
- Keep an eye out for creative outreach opportunities, especially those directed at people outside the parish.

Examples of how you can invest in this vital work of the church: Share your experiences in outreach activities and charitable and community organizations; get involved in experiences in outreach activities and charitable and community organizations; inform the parish of new opportunities for outreach. *Share your ideas!*

Existing outreach groups and activities: Exit Community Outreach, Samaritan's Purse, CAWST, PWRDF, Calgary Inter-faith Food Bank, Christmas Hampers, and NeighbourLink.

Vestry contact person: Barb Scott and Kathy Dodds

PASTORAL CARE

We want people to have the support we need in a loving, caring, and welcoming community. A major strategy is to form a pastoral care team. We want people to care for one another via visible, loving service. We want to remain in touch with everyone, including the home-bound and snowbirds and newcomers, “missing persons” and those who leave service early; we want to be sure current information is readily accessible; and we want to exude a sense of caring. We want to maintain an environment that encourages interaction and contact so that people know one another and feel comfortable sharing their needs – and where people who ask for support receive it in a timely way.

Here's what we plan to do and where your investment of time, talent, and treasure would propel our strategic plan from paper to reality:

- Providing transportation and meals, as needed, for the home-bound.
- Maintaining contact with the home-bound via cards, e-mails, and phone calls and visits.
- Instituting a system of telephone follow-up for those who are “missing.”
- Identifying those listed in our weekly prayers of the people by first and last names (with their permission).
- Providing communion at home for the homebound, using our lay readers, as well as clergy.
- Providing greater access to information and worship on the website.
- Training a pastoral care team (*e.g.*, Stephen Ministry) to assist clergy in providing pastoral care to the sick, dying, homebound, or otherwise afflicted.

Examples of how you can invest in this vital ministry: Provide transportation, meals, cards, visits to the ill and home-bound; train as a pastoral visitor or communion minister; keep track of the “missing;” *Share your ideas!*

Existing pastoral care groups and activities: Chapel Prayers, Prayer Chains, Christmas Hampers, food, transportation, visits, home communion, and Ministry to the Sick.

Vestry contacts: Jim Popham and Barb Scott.

STEWARDSHIP

We need to develop resources to meet future needs, including the possibility of additional clergy to meet our liturgical, pastoral, and educational needs.

Here's what we plan to do and where your investment of time, talent, and treasure would propel our strategic plan from paper to reality:

- Conduct annual stewardship campaigns
- Conduct a capital campaign to fund facilities improvements and upgrades.
- Develop information about planned giving.
- Discern and discover individual gifts and talents.

Examples of how you can invest in this vital work of the church: Contribute regularly and generously according to your means; assist with the annual stewardship campaign or capital campaign, and let us know your gifts and talents. *Share your ideas!*

Existing stewardship groups and activities: Annual Stewardship Campaign, and Capital Campaign Planning Group.

Vestry contact: Jamie Dodds

WORSHIP

We want to provide a meaningful worship experience. We want people to be engaged, to learn more about their faith, and to feel a connection with a Christian community. Our immediate objectives are to increase the focus on teaching, so as to add meaning to worship, and to enhance our music program. We want music to be a recognized and encouraged ministry that will attract greater involvement. And we understand that diversity in music may enhance our music at worship and reflect the diversity in the ways we connect with God.

Here's what we plan to do and where your investment of time, talent, and treasure would propel our strategic plan from paper to reality:

- Record sermons and post them on the web for later listening by the homebound and others who could not attend service.
- Offer an educational series on worship and preparing for worship and/or an occasional "instructed" Eucharist.
- Expand our worship music to blend traditional Anglican hymnody with new music in the same service.

- Rehearse new hymns before the service, with emphasis on hymns that are in a range and rhythm that the average person can sing without difficulty.
- Continue greeting one another as an integral part of worship.
- Create a pre-service atmosphere that allows proper preparation for worship.
- Eventually add a third service of a different character and at a time on the weekend other than Sunday morning.

Examples of how you can invest in this vital work of the Church: Helping with audio-visual set-up; contributing your musical talents, vocal or instrumental; suggesting music; joining the choir; and joining one of our liturgical ministries (*e.g.*, Altar Guild, servers, intercessors, communion ministers *et al.*). *Share your ideas!*

Existing worship groups and activities: Altar Guild, Communion Ministers, Choir, Intercessors (Prayers of the People). Lay Readers, Scripture Readers, Oblationers (gift-bearers), Servers, Sidespersons, and Counters.

Vestry Contact: Simspson Laing

STEWARDSHIP APPRECIATION DINNER



6 p.m.

Friday, November 25

Parish Hall

Admission: FREE (w/signed Pledge Card)

**PLEASE, MAKE YOUR
TABLE RESERVATIONS
BY MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21**

This is NOT a potluck.

All you have to do is show up.



**HOLY
NATIVITY**
ANGLICAN CHURCH

going forward together

2012 PLEDGE

Name _____

Address _____

Phone number _____

Email address _____

Envelope number _____

*That we may go forward together
as God's people, demonstrating
God's love, we make this pledge of
our time, talent, and treasure to
Holy Nativity Anglican Church
for the year 2012.*

Signature

Please, make your 2012 pledge on the reverse side of this card. This pledge card will be your admission ticket to our **Stewardship Appreciation Dinner** on Friday, November 25, 2011. So, please, fill out the card even if you cannot pledge this year.

<u>OUR PLEDGE OF TIME AND TALENT</u>	NAME	NAME
<i>Please, check the areas to which you are pledging to devote your time and talent.</i>		
Worship		
Christian Education & Spiritual Formation		
Hospitality and Community Development		
Pastoral Care		
Outreach		
Communications & Publicity		
Stewardship		
Building & Grounds		
Other: _____		
I am unable to pledge my time and talent this year		

OUR PLEDGE OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT

\$ _____ per week
 month
 year

I am unable to pledge

Pledges may be adjusted at any time if your circumstances change.

HOW TO FILL OUT YOUR PLEDGE CARD



going forward together

2012 PLEDGE

Name John and Jane Doe

Address 111 Lake Crescent SE
Calgary, AB T2J 4P7

Phone number 403 279 0002

Email address JJDoe@shaw.ca

Envelope number 999

That we may go forward together as God's people, demonstrating God's love, we make this pledge of our time, talent, and treasure to Holy Nativity Anglican Church for the year 2012.

Jane Doe John Doe

Signature

Please, make your 2012 pledge on the reverse side of this card. This pledge card will be your admission ticket to our **Stewardship Appreciation Dinner** on Friday, November 25, 2011. So, please, fill out the card even if you cannot pledge this year.

<u>OUR PLEDGE OF TIME AND TALENT</u>	NAME	NAME
<i>Please, check the areas to which you are pledging to devote your time and talent.</i>		
Worship	✓	
Christian Education & Spiritual Formation		✓
Hospitality and Community Development		
Pastoral Care		✓
Outreach		
Communications & Publicity		
Stewardship	✓	
Building & Grounds		
Other: _____		
I am unable to pledge my time and talent this year		

OUR PLEDGE OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT

\$ 999 per week
 month
 year

I am unable to pledge

Pledges may be adjusted at any time if your circumstances change.