

King's College Chapel

Annual Report 2015-16

Presented at the Annual General Meeting

April 7, 2016

Compiled and Edited by Veronica R. Curran

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KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL ANNUAL MEETING: AGENDA
7 APRIL 2016

1. Prayers.
2. Election of Secretary for meeting.
3. Adoption of Minutes of 19 March 2015.
4. Adoption of Reports
 - a. Report of the Chaplain and Priest-in-Charge
 - b. Report of the Music Director
 - c. Report of the Warden
 - d. Report of the Chapel Administrator
 - e. Report of the Chapel Theologian
 - f. Report of the Sacristan
 - g. Capella Regalis Report
 - h. King's Chorus Report
 - i. Report of the Treasurer
 - j. Sunday Congregation Report
 - k. Report of STAS President
 - l. Report of the Altar Guild President
 - m. Report of the Chapel Photographer
 - n. Report of the Artists-in-Residence
 - o. Report of the SAMS President
 - p. Report of the DAng President
 - q. Report of the Intercessor
 - r. Chapel Website Coordinator
 - s. Special Event Reports
 - i. Trip to the Hermitage of the Annunciation Report
 - ii. Report on the Chapel Concert Series
 - iii. Report on the Icon-Writing Workshop
 - iv. Report of the Resurrection Feast Committee
5. Election of Wardens
6. Election of Treasurer
7. Appointments
8. New Business: Response to the Final Report of the External Reviewers.
9. Adjournment
10. Prayers

Schedule of Appointments for the 2016/17 Academic Year

Chaplain Assistant:	Karis Tees	
Wardens	to be elected	nominated: Hannah Fisher, Keith Kampen, Cameron Lowe
Treasurer	to be elected	nominated: Caroline Brown
Sacristan:	Meghan Kitt	Assistant Sacristan: Daniel Whitten
Head Server:	Aidan Ingalls	Altar Guild:
SAMS:	Sarah Jane von Bredow	STAS:
Intercessor:	Ben von Bredow	Website Coordinator: Sam Landry

KING'S COLLEGE CHAPEL ANNUAL MEETING 2014/15 ACADEMIC YEAR Minutes – 19 March 2015

1. Prayer

2. Election of Secretary for Meeting

Meghan Kitt elected to take minutes

3. Guest Speaker

Dr. Stephen Blackwood, "Liturgy as Poetry" (20 minutes)

- Dr. Blackwood spoke of the guiding nature of the liturgy as a constant (*see notes, fill in?*)
- provides a pattern through which we can understand the present as it is connected to the past
- reveals what we already know in a new way

4. MOTION

Approval of Minutes of 27 March 2014.

Nick Halley moves, Alan Rempel seconds

- Comments and corrections:
 - Correction to spelling of Verity Thomson's name – all in favour
 - Katie Merwin highlights vision of "friends of the chapel"
 - trying to create a network of those who have gone through the chapel since 1972 for whom the chapel has played an important part in their conversion and continues to be an important part of their memory
 - continued viability and the future of the chapel seems to be at risk – such a group of people could help raise money to keep the chapel going

5. Announcement

- Resurrection Party to take place at Thorne residence on Lawrence Street, parties to follow elsewhere

6. Thank-yous

- Paul Halley, who shares in responsibility of care of the spiritual life of the chapel
- Tom Curran and Helen Riding, clergy who share in the leadership
- Kristin McKenzie, student from AST who has given herself entirely to our life together
- Karis Tees and Verity Thomson, wardens
- Will Barton and Daniel Whitten, sacristan and asst. sacristan
- Rozzi Curran, treasurer
- Zach Hansen, intercessor
- Jordan Draper, president of Dalhousie Anglican Society
- Veronica Curran, president of SAMS
- Thomas McCallum, president of St Thomas Aquinas Society
- Ben von Bredow
- Nick Halley, Vanessa Halley, and Nico Veltmeyer, for music
- those who have not forsaken us: Colin Nicolle, Katie Merwin, Shannon Nicolle, Nick Hatt, James Mosher
- Chapel Administrator: Katie Merwin, Natasha Conde, Melissa Legeyt
- "real thank-yous" to come at resurrection feast

7. MOTION

Receive all reports contained in *King's College Chapel 2014/15 Annual Report*

Vanessa Halley moves, Ben von Bredow seconds

- Concerns:
 - Alan Lensink: appendices – not part of the report themselves, but this report has been put together with the intent of being our presentation to the university review committee who will review chapel and chapel music program
 - appendices are for helping them understand the value of the chapel in the life of the college – simply don't pertain to this meeting
 - also it made the document too large for an email
- Changes to the reports:
 - Andrew - Why no budget in the report?
 - the university is responsibility for determining the budget

- Veronica – name of SAMS
 - it is St. Andrews Missions Society, rather than St. Andrew’s Missionary Society
 - constitutionally changed in year 2008/09
 - Katie Merwin was president at the time
 - changed in the SAMS constitution, not in the chapel const.
 - changed for the KSU, not for the chapel
 - chapel will continue to use Missionary officially
- Misspelling of names:
 - Chapel administrator’s report: Melissa’s name
 - Paul suggests typos be corrected
- AMENDMENT
 - Paul Halley moves that all typos be corrected before reprinting of the report, Daniel Whitten seconds
 - vote: aye, amendment passed
- Questions and comments pertaining to any of the reports.
 - Paul Halley: unusual in making riveting reading – very fine
 - Fr. Thorne: extraordinarily proud of this presentation
 - Karis: look to report of artist-in-residence, if you are going to read any one, read this one

9. Election of warden

- Chaplain and two current wardens act as nominating committee, receiving names from the community, investigating every name presented

Karis Tees nominated to be warden

- clarification: one warden and one asst. warden, also a possibility for three total
- description of warden in the wardens’ report – also in 5.1 of constitution

Andrew Thorne nominates Katie Merwin

- Katie declines

Hearing no other nominations, Karis is elected as warden

10. Election of assistant warden

Verity Thomson is nominated to be assistant warden next year

Hearing no other nominations, Verity is elected as assistant warden

11. Election of Sub-assistant warden

- Third warden?
 - It is noted that wardens take on responsibility according to their own gifts, and a third warden would be helpful
- Opening the floor to nominations/volunteers for third wardens:
 - Thomas McCallum nominates Zach Hansen
 - Zach declines
 - Andrew Thorne nominates Thomas McCallum
 - Thomas accepts nomination
 - Vanessa Halley nominates Alan Rempel
 - Alan accepts nomination
 - Jordan Draper: request for more info – who the sacristan is, for example
 - doesn’t want to choose the sacristan from those who are left after this process
 - FT: intends to appoint Sam Hodgkins-Summer as sacristan, Meghan as altar guild president, SAMS and STAS will choose their own presidents
 - Thomas: unless things change and he’s not in Halifax, Thomas would remain pres of STAS – hope for more sharing of the liturgy, etc. between pres of STAS and sacristan
- nominees exit for election
- Veronica Curran MOTIONS that this be a private ballot – approved
- Thomas voted sub-assistant warden (by one vote)

12. Election of treasurer.

Ben von Bredow is nominated as treasurer.

Hearing no other nominations, he is elected.

13. Prayer

Meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m

The Annual Report of the Chaplain and Priest-in-Charge
The Prophetic Voice of the King's Chapel

On 6 March 1940 the Minute Book of the King's College Student Missionary Society records that a student moved that the Dean of the College be requested to cease to pray for victory in the



war. The Minutes go on to describe the lively debate that followed. The matter finally was resolved by requesting that the Dean use the authorized prayers from the BCP. Of course the student mover, Karl Tufts was pleased. There were three prayers for the Queen's Forces in that 1918 Canadian Book of Common Prayer that was used during the Second World War. These prayers cried out for repentance, mercy, courage, loyalty, and safety. Not for victory.

Photo Credit: Samuel Landry

Later in 1940 five deacons were ordained at All Saints' Cathedral. During their time together of preparation for ministry at King's College Chapel, the radical challenge of the Gospel had not been lost on them. Alas, within six months they received letters from the Bishop of Nova Scotia that their licenses as Deacons had been revoked and they would not be ordained to the priesthood. Their offence? Only that they would not back down from the practical demands of the Gospel: they spoke openly from their pulpits about issues of faith and justice: before such things had become acceptable in mainstream culture they highlighted the shameful treatment of our First Nations People and the Church's neglect of the poor and marginalized. In a sermon several years later the same Rev'd Karl Tufts would preach from the Cathedral: "Many donations are given but what of the poor? What are you Christians doing about Africville? And what is this I hear about Jews not being allowed to rent or buy homes on Tower Road, next door to my Cathedral?"

Thankfully, the Bishop of Nova Scotia relented and ordained to the priesthood that group of King's graduates who would go on to organize trade unions, stand on picket lines in solidarity with striking fish-plant workers, support the emerging CCF, and promote the Society of the Catholic Commonwealth. The SCC accepted the Marxian analysis of society, but was fundamentally rooted in Hegelian dialectic. These priests (known as the 'Briefcase Boys' in the Diocese because their action was always supported by thoughtful study) were relentless in their criticism of a capitalism based on greed and competition. Their preaching was prophetic in describing the future global capitalism that today fuels the violence throughout the world to support a ridiculously lucrative weapons industry.

These 'Briefcase Boys' were simple priests who in their time of preparation for ministry in the King's chapel stripped the varnish and discovered the true grain of the Wood. They were labeled

troublemakers and were often alienated by the church hierarchy.

Where is that prophetic voice now in our chapel community?

It is present and strong in the dedication and relentless commitment to beauty and truth in our Music Director who refuses to offer anything less than the exceptional giftedness with which he has been blessed. The prophetic voice is present in the devotional life of each and every member of the chapel community whose commitment both to the habit of common prayer and to the sacrificial bearing of one another's burdens is radically countercultural. The prophetic voice is present in the refusal of the chapel community to embrace a narrow denominationalism that has only a sentimental value in a 21st century secular university.

The brief vignette above about the 'Briefcase Boys' illustrates that our resolve not to be conformed to the present world but to transform it by the renewing of the mind, has a very long tradition in our beloved Chapel. Indeed this prophetic voice is ever more needful in a university that seems less and less willing or able to engage in challenging cultural, societal, and political commentary.

Although not all FYP 'Final Lectures' in my time have been enthusiastically received, none has been so soundly rejected as that of Earl Shorris' in 2007. In the mid-1990s Earl founded the Clemente Course of the Humanities, designed to give a free Humanities Education to those living in material poverty in New York. This remarkably successful Clemente Course is now associated with the finest universities and colleges on five continents: Halifax Humanities 101 is an instance. Thus in 2007 Earl was invited to give the final FYP lecture. Upon his arrival in Halifax Earl had a couple of days with the Halifax Humanities 101 course before the FYP lecture. During this time he met with several FYP faculty and students. It soon became clear that something about the FYP approach bothered him. As he began his FYP lecture he did not hold back. He made the students uncomfortable immediately. They did not know what to make of Earl – he was attacking their philosophical complacency. Earl would occasionally look up to me, seated at the back of Alumni Hall, for the singular support and encouragement that he could find among the full lecture theatre. After a quick journey describing the underbelly of the major philosophers of the western canon, Shorris focused on twentieth century Germany: telling the students of historians who had run a concentration camp, of pianists in the SS, of Heidegger's Nazism, of Heidegger's intimate affair with Hannah Arendt, etc. The students were gobsmacked. They couldn't make sense of what they were being told, and why they were being told. This was a jarring conclusion to what had been a purely safe intellectual ride on the tide of ideas.

As the honored guest at the President's Dinner for graduating students in 2009, Henry Roper suggested that the purpose of universities was to be subversive: "places where everyone is challenged on an ongoing basis to think again and again about what they know". Last week I received an email telling me that the chapel bell was 'unsafe and dangerous'. The email referred to the physical state of the bell cradle, but my best hope is that the ringing of the chapel bell truly becomes something dangerous and unsafe for everyone at King's, challenging each and every student, staff and faculty member to question their prejudices and most deeply held beliefs, re-thinking what they know in the light of their commitment to love a world that is so broken and needful.

As usual, this Annual Report documents and reviews the prayer, worship, fellowship, and outreach activities of this year. In particular the Wardens' Report and the Report of the Music Director provide an overview of this year which was bracketed by the publication of the Chapel Self-Study in September and the reception of the Final Report of the External Reviewers a few weeks ago.

The ordination of Nicholas Hatt to the Diaconate in October was a much anticipated joy. We celebrated and were glad. I am blessed to share ordained ministry to the College with the Reverends Nicholas Hatt and Thomas Curran, both of whom provide constant encouragement and 'propping up' when required. They, and the entire chapel community, may wish that their sage advice to the Chaplain was more readily acted upon! Father Curran's leadership on Sunday mornings is an offering that continues to strengthen our community.

It is my greatest privilege to share every aspect of the planning and execution of the spiritual care and nourishment of the worshipping congregation with Paul Halley. Along with Nick and Vanessa we thoughtfully and prayerfully shock, jolt, comfort (i.e. strengthen), encourage, overwhelm, nourish, challenge, annoy, anger, and generally attempt to love the worshipping congregation into the Knowledge and Love of the ineffable Most Holy and Blessed Trinity. Nick's leadership and overall commitment to the Chapel Retreats continues to surprise me with deep joy.

The Chapel leadership team this year has been led single-handedly by Karis Tees who knows how a warden must bear the burdens of the entire community and of each member in particular. She understands that the chapel exists for the good of all students at the College, and that only as we learn to 'think the faith' and thus tear down the divide between the sacred and secular will the chapel realize its potential in our secular university. I pray that the Lord provides a way for her to continue to give inspired leadership: to that end I will insist that she be listed as 'Chaplain Assistant', hoping that the title will work as a bungee cord to keep bringing her back as she tries to escape to begin a life outside the chapel community!

Our Chapel Administrator Veronica Curran has become a trusted friend and able administrator. She bears the wounds of keeping me out of jail and the Bursar's Office relatively happy with the Chapel's insane level of activity.

Our liaison with the College as a whole is the Vice-President of the College, Kim Kierans, who upholds us in prayer and regularly advocates on our behalf to a university administration that regularly responds to her incredulously, "Now they want to do what?!" Even Kim is unable to explain everything that we do, and so on our behalf she subsequently bears the weight of many of our faults and follies. The chapel community does not realize how much Kim bears for us. In the most sincere and deepest way, I thank you Kim.

Each Monday at 7 AM the Chapel Leadership Team met to share in fellowship, pray for the chapel community, pray for the College, and plan the week's activities: Jordan Draper (Chaplain Assistant), Sam Hodgkins-Sumner (Sacristan), Daniel Whitten (Assistant Sacristan), Meghan Kitt (Altar Guild President), Cameron Lowe (Junior Warden), Jonathan Gallagher (Intercessor),

Ben von Bredow (Treasurer), Karis Tees (Warden), and Veronica Curran (SAMS and Chapel Administrator). These were blessed times of fellowship and encouragement that nourished me along the way this year and will continue to nourish me in memory.

So many others have been thanked throughout this Annual Report. I am grateful to Dr Neil Robertson for leading our winter retreat on the Confessions of Saint Augustine. A highlight of this year has been to sit at the feet of our chapel theologian, Dr Daniel Brandes. The Shabbat Retreat was a beautiful moment for our community, and only possible because of the grace, giftedness, generosity of spirit, and intellectual rigor of our Chapel Theologian. Thank you as well to Molly Rockwood and Elizabeth Orenstein who led the entire community into the Shabbat.

This year, in addition to Thursday guest preachers (Dr Jesse Billet, Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson, Sister Constance, Dean Smith, Father Mac Stewart, Father Mark Marshall, Dr David Deane, and Dr Barry Craig), we had the threesome of Dean Hatt, Father Snook and Father Ingalls preach regularly to bring back the sermon as foundational to our community life. I want to thank them for guiding us through our year.



The Reverend Helen Ryding has been faithful to our community in so many ways, and particularly in the Friday noon Holy Communions.

When the External Reviewers came on campus on 14 October my plea to them was to help us create a more sustainable community life. I believed they attempted to help us in this way, but in the end their Final Report failed to assist us in this way. Rather, they affirmed every aspect of our current prayer, worship, fellowship and outreach, encouraging us to do more. They acknowledged that our present community life requires more resources and they recommended that a full time ordained assistant to the Chaplain be assigned to the Chapel.

How the university and the diocese responds to this recommendation remains to be seen.

Without a full-time ordained assistant or chapel administrator, how shall we continue next year? I don't know. Perhaps it is better that way.

Under the Mercy,
GWAT+

Report of the Music Director

The beginning of fiscal 2015/16 found us in the middle of Holy Week and all that entails. A week later the choir gave performances of Bach's Mass in B Minor in Lunenburg and at the Cathedral in Halifax. Our last sung service of term took place on Tuesday April 7th with both the Chapel Choir and Capella Regalis.

Michaelmas term began with a Choral Eucharist on Thursday, September 10th sung by the returning choristers and lay clerks. The next day we held auditions for new students. An increasing number of incoming students are auditioning for the Chapel Choir well in advance of coming to King's. Between those successful applicants and those who auditioned when they arrived on campus we offered places to six new choristers. We held our new chorister orientation session on Friday September 18th with Fr Thorne providing us with much food for thought.

During the week of All Saints (All Saints Day through the Octave), the choir sang The All Souls service, featuring the Fauré Requiem, at the Cathedral, as well as a Festal Evensong on the Wednesday. Holding these services at the Cathedral met with mixed reviews from both sides of the divide. The week culminated in our 7th annual "For All The Saints" concert on November 7th which featured the Mass for Double Choir by the Swiss composer Frank Martin.

The Remembrance Day service was moving, as always. With the new 'Reading Week' added to the Michaelmas term this fall there is concern that this tradition may be lost.

The annual Lessons & Carols service took place on November 29th and we concluded the sung services of term on Thursday December 3rd. We began our series of A King's Christmas concerts at St. Ninian's in Antigonish on Friday, December 11th, followed by Lunenburg on the 12th, and Halifax on the 13th. Our narrator was Bruce Connelly, who in spite of being 'from away' added considerably to the impact of the concerts.

On January 6th a small group from the Chapel Choir sang at the funeral of Neil Gall, husband of Julie Green, at St. Peter's Church in Dartmouth. Later that day the full choir sang at the Solemn Eucharist for the Epiphany which was followed by a fine gathering at Fr Thorne's home.

On Sunday January 24th the choir sang Evensong for Septuagesima at St. John's Anglican Church in Truro. This service was well attended and the response from the congregation was almost overwhelming in its praise and poignancy. So many people bemoaned the loss of this kind of singing and quality of music in their home parishes. The comments were all along the lines of, "We used to have music like this, but not anymore". It underscored the importance of working toward the School of Sacred Music and other efforts to bring fine music and liturgy to parishes throughout the Maritimes.

Winterlude (our annual choir get together) took place on the South Shore over the weekend of January 29th to 31st. The usual productive merriment took place. The weekend concluded with a massive and successful moving of Vanessa and Shay out of their rental house into their new (although currently uninhabitable) home.

Candlemas this year fell on a day without any sign of a blizzard, but went off well nonetheless. A mere eight days later we were singing the Allegrì Miserere at the Ash Wednesday Evensong at the Cathedral where we continued to sing Evensongs through Lent, as has become our custom.

On February 28th in Lunenburg and on March 6th in Halifax we presented “The Chapel Choir Unrobed” for the second year. The talent on display in these shows is alternately inspiring and disturbing. The Lunenburg performance was well attended, but the Halifax numbers were disappointing. The special guest this year was the Monteverdi Vespa (courtesy of Halifax Vespa), the prize for the winner of the raffle we are holding to help with the expenses of the Monteverdi Vespers of 1610 concerts in mid-April.



Photo Credit: Sarah Griffin

Holy Week, being so early this year, brought some challenges, but was moving and beautiful as always. One highlight was the offering of the Tenebrae service at the Cathedral for which we had a large crowd in attendance. Fr Thorne and a team from the Chapel community arranged the lighting and choreographic elements to provide an atmosphere of reverence and devotion. The new lighting in the Chapel added considerably to the services during this week.

Now we are in the middle of preparations for Monteverdi’s Vespers of 1610, which we will be presenting in Antigonish on Friday April 15th, Lunenburg on Saturday April 16th, and Halifax on Sunday April 17th. This series of performances is the largest production we have undertaken with period instrument players from Eastern Canada, the States, and even Scotland, and soloists from London (England), Montreal, and Halifax.

In May the choir will sing at the Baccalaureate service in the Chapel and present a concert of works by Peteris Vasks and J. S. Bach at the Cathedral for the Scotia Festival of Music.

This year we did not have an organ scholar at King’s. Our organist for Sunday morning services was Boris Spacek, whose help has been much appreciated.

As always Fr Thorne’s leadership nourishes and inspires. Barbara Butler and Musique Royale continue to provide tremendous support for the Chapel Choir, as do countless others.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Halley Vanessa Halley
 Director of Music Choir Manager

Report of the Wardens

INTRO

It seems fitting to begin this report by saying that the 2015-16 year was an unusual year for the Chapel, although it is perhaps equally true to say that every year is an unusual year! In recent years, things like the flood in the vestry and the theft of the altar cross have been prominent events that shape the year in some significant way. This year, there are a number of moments in space and time that can serve as milestones for us as the year draws to a close.

2015-16 was the year that the Chapel was scheduled to undergo an External Review as part of the college's implementation of its Strategic Plan, which states that all departments must undergo a full review for the sake of making recommendations to the university administration for the future operations of the college. This process began in August with the Chapel's submission of a "Self Study" which detailed all the ins and outs of Chapel Programming for the past five years (special thanks to Meghan Kitt for her tireless work on this document). Although not everyone was directly involved in this process, the creation of the Self Study and the anticipation of the External Reviewers' visit were both significant moments in the life of the chapel this year. The Self Study gave us the opportunity to articulate the character of our community, and the visit of the Reviewers (Rev'd Bill Cliff and Rev'd Jody Clarke) proved to be an exciting opportunity for students and people from all quarters of the King's community to come out and show their appreciation for the sustained life of the chapel on campus. During their visit, it was immensely encouraging to see so many people turn up to show their support simply by their presence. The visit of the reviewers also revealed to us just how exhausting our regular schedule of daily offices, choral services, guest speakers, and fellowship, really is! The final Report of the External Reviewers and the Chapel's response has been made available to people in anticipation of this AGM.

Early in the fall, Verity was injured playing rugby and became unable to participate fully in chapel life as a result of her concussion. Verity's recovery proved to be very slow, and, unable to continue school for the semester, she left us in second term to go work as a Vimy Ridge tour guide in France. In her stead, Cameron Lowe took over as Warden in the Easter Term. Verity has asked us to include the following message from her in this report:

"I feel myself so much a part of you all that I know we live and bear everything in common, acting and thinking for one another even when we are separated"

--Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Letters from Prison

Although I have been separated from you all first by illness and then by distance I have never felt cut off from our spiritual life together. I am very grateful for your prayers and how they carried me through a difficult time. I am always mindful of the activities of our community and hope to be physically present in many of them next year.

In friendship and devotion,
Verity

We also had a number of visitors this year. Dr. Jesse Billett came to deliver the inaugural Robert Crouse Memorial Lecture (see report below). Rev'd Mary Irwin Gibson, Bishop of Montreal and Meghan Kitt's aunt, came to preach and to speak informally to students. Sister Constance of the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine came to preach and to speak to students about an initiative in

new monasticism that the SSJD is undertaking this September. Three priests from the Southern States--Fr. Mac Stewart, Fr. Justin Fletcher, and Fr. Gregory Tipton--joined us on the first Winter Retreat and in the days leading up to it. While it can be exhausting to host so many people, visitors like this remind us of our connection to the world outside of the college and to the broader life of the Church.

On the 28th of October 2015, Nicholas Hatt was ordained as a Deacon in the Church of God. As an ordination gift, the Chapel and St. George's Round Church commissioned an icon of St. Stephen, the first martyr and first Deacon, and the patron saint of Nick's home church in Chester, Nova Scotia. Symeon Van Donkelaar, who led the icon-writing workshop in the winter term, travelled to Nova Scotia to collect the minerals for the pigments he used in the creation of the icon. As I write this, we look forward to his Priesting (alongside the Deaconing of Colin Nicolle) on June 24, 2016, the Feast Day of St. John the Baptist! This year it has been an absolute joy and an honour to have Nick serving among us just as he has for many years, but now as an ordained Deacon.

The report below gives an account of the many goings-on in and around the King's Chapel this year. We ask your forgiveness for any omissions or errors.

MICHAELMAS TERM

Frosh Concert (Sept 8)

This year, breaking the recent practice of having Thom Swift play the Frosh Concert, we opted to ask Chris Luedecke, AKA "Old Man Luedecke" to give the inaugural Chapel Concert of 2015-16. As has been the custom, admission was by free-will donation. All proceeds went to support Laing House, and Gwen Danson spoke briefly before the concert on behalf of Laing House. The concert was extremely well-received. It seems as though this concert in particular was perceived by the campus community, especially first-year students, simply as a gift: a simple evening spent listening to quality music in a beautiful space. Future chapel concerts and other events that are undertaken in a similar spirit and deliberately offered as "gifts" can only be good for our collegiate home.

Cape Split Hike (Sept 19)

The Cape Split hike has become one of the biggest "Chapel" events of the year, measured by the number of students who attend! This year's hike saw nearly 60 students driving to Cape Split in the Annapolis Valley and hiking out to the Cape. Fr. Thorne celebrated a service of Holy Communion at the Cape under the beating sun. As usual, a few brave hikers dipped into the Bay of Fundy to cool off upon returning from the hike!

It has become somewhat of a tradition for the Parish of Cornwallis to host us for a meal in their Parish Hall following the hike, and this year the ACW (Anglican Church Women) went all out, with lots of food options and organized table settings! Since Jordan, Will, and Karis had spent the summer working in the Parish, we had hoped that the meal following the hike could be a time of reconnection with various people they met during the summer. Unfortunately, since most of the people we got in contact with weren't available for lunch on that particular Saturday, this vision was not fully realized. Still, the hospitality of the Parish women was remarkably warm, and one person who had sung in the Compline Choir during the summer did show up to meet all

the King's students and contribute a potluck salad! Thanks are due to Penny Lockhart and Sandra Nichols of the Parish of Cornwallis ACW.

Thanksgiving Retreat (Oct 10-12)

For the second year in a row, the Thanksgiving Retreat has been the only "Fall Retreat," since, for complicated scheduling reasons, we have been unable to host a fully structured Fall Retreat at Mersey River Chalets. This year, just over 35 students retreated to St. Anne's Camp in the Annapolis Valley for the Thanksgiving Weekend. St. Anne's Camp is truly a place of peace and much-needed stillness. The weather this weekend was mostly agreeable and no one got lost or spent the night outside! Many thanks to Thomas McCallum for heading up the kitchen. One disappointment from a Warden's point of view was that, for the first time in recent memory, we did not sing Compline on the lake on Saturday night because we were too carried away with the Feast.

Address by the Chapel Theologian (Oct. 15)

In the absence of a Fall Retreat this year, we invited Dr. Brandes, the 2015-16 Chapel Theologian, to give an evening lecture on a topic of his choosing. This lecture coincided with the visit of the two External Reviewers, Rev'd. Jody Clarke and Rev'd Bill Cliff, who were here on behalf of the University to review the place of the chapel on campus and make recommendations to the university administration. Dr. Brandes has a large student following at King's and the lecture was very well attended, with over 70 students, faculty, staff, and friends of King's present. The lecture was engaging and fascinating, and an exciting preview of what was to come on the Winter Shabbat Retreat, which at that point had not fully taken shape.

Dr. Brandes described his topic: "We will enter into a fascinating and instructive exchange between two towering intellectual figures of the twentieth century, the German-Jewish refugees Hannah Arendt and Gershom Scholem. The two thinkers – both of whom worked tirelessly in the wake of the second World War to recover precious artifacts of Jewish culture, stolen or maimed by the Nazi regime – had a bitter falling out in the wake of the publication of Arendt's famous 'trial report', "Eichmann in Jerusalem". At the heart of Scholem's critique of Arendt was his claim that notwithstanding her Jewishness ("I regard you wholly as a daughter of our people"), Arendt's critical judgment of the role played in the extermination by the Jewish inhabitants of the camps, as well as the "almost sneering and malicious" tone of the book, betrayed a shocking "heartlessness" - and still more shocking (for Scholem), the absence of any "Ahavat Yisrael: 'Love of the Jewish people". The exchange of letters sparked by this critique raises essential questions regarding Jewish identity, the private or public character of such an identity, the place of religion in the public sphere, and the political obligations that follow (or not) from one's identification as both a scholar and a Jew."

Trip to the Hermitage of the Annunciation (Oct 17)

Please see Allison Graham's report.

Quiet Day (Oct 24)

In preparation for the ordination of Nicholas Hatt to the Deaconate, Dr. Wayne Hankey gave a series of talks in the Chapel on Augustine's *Confessions* and Aquinas's *Summa Theologiae*. Dr. Hankey chose to break from the usual model of 3-4 talks throughout the day, with ample silence in between, in favour of a more sustained contemplative model. Dr. Hankey gave twelve short meditations throughout the morning, with time for silence and reflection in between. The day concluded with a shared lunch in the Senior Common Room, provided by Sodexo. Members of the King's community attended, alongside parishioners from St. George's, friends of Dean Hatt,

and a variety of other friends! All in all, a diverse group of about 40 people attended. One memorable moment from the day is when, over lunch, Shari Clarke offered Nick an ordination gift in the form of a piece of music she had composed on her violin entitled, “The Promise of Stars.” This quiet day was a beautiful coming-together of people in prayerful support of Dean Hatt and a long-anticipated ordination.

Bluff Trail Hike (Nov 21)

Early in the fall, we perceived a great demand on campus for more hiking opportunities (perhaps this is in part because the King’s Outdoors Society is no longer a ratified society). The Bluff Trail Hike was a somewhat last-minute attempt to meet this demand for the sake of students yearning to get out of the Quad. We offered two options for transportation to the trailhead: by cycling with a group led by Kristian Rafuse (Assistant Dean), or by vans/cars driven by volunteers drivers. The plan was to head out, hike the loop, and return for dinner in Prince Hall, all costs covered! On the day of the hike, it poured rain, but the hikers were undeterred. Kristian Rafuse and Sam Sumner braved the bike ride in the rain. All in all, it was a successful rainy day hike!

Christmas Tree Hunt (Nov 27)

Will Barton coordinated and hosted this year’s Christmas Tree Hunt. He led the crew of about 20 students to Kevin Veinotte’s U-Cut tree farm on the South Shore, and then hosted the group for dinner and Compline at his current home, outside Bridgewater. Frank Harlow, whose family tree farm we have visited for the past few years, chose to close down his operation entirely this year. We miss the Harlows, but Kevin has got a great thing going, too - he knows every tree on the property and is happy to tell you about it. Some of us even picked up small trees for free! We concluded the day with the office of Sung Compline in a little “Stonehenge” circle on Will’s landlord’s property before heading back to the city in the dark.

Warden’s Decorating Party (Nov 28)

Not much needs to be said about the decorating party this year, except that it smelled and looked fantastic as usual! We opted to have drinks and food at the back of the chapel, rather than in the SCR, and this was for the best. The biggest thank-yous go to George Cochrane & Henk Fisher for heading up the garlands and putting on the final touches.

EASTER TERM

“The Giving Tree” Lecture series (Wednesdays in Easter Term)

Shel Silverstein’s *The Giving Tree* was first published just over 50 years ago, as Dr. Sarah Clift reminded us in the opening lines of the first reflection in this series, but it remains just as relevant to us, here, today. Eleven members of the King’s community graciously agreed to share their thoughts with the congregation at Wednesday Evensong throughout the Easter term. Reflections were brief, and varied in scope, but each reflection provided a unique interpretation of the Tree, the Boy, and a myriad of other concepts explored in such an outwardly simplistic book. For the duration of Lent, Wednesday Evensong was moved to the Cathedral Church of All Saints, and the Giving Tree reflections with it. Endless thanks to all those who gave (or have yet to give) a reflection: Dr. Sarah Clift, Henk Fisher, Veronica Curran, Fr. Gregory Tipton, Karis Tees, Dr. Christopher Elson, Vanessa Halley, Somed Shahadu, Dr. Laura Penny, Mary-Dan Johnston, and Elizabeth Halley.

Student Meditations (Fridays throughout the year)

On Fridays at Evening Prayer, Jordan Draper led us in the singing of the psalms and canticles. Most Fridays throughout the year, we also heard a meditation given by a student at Evening Prayer. This year we heard meditations from: Justin Wolff, Sam Landry, Andrew Griffin, Darren Atherton, Clifford Lee, Sarah Griffin, and Sam Hodgkins-Sumner. The meditations this year were incredibly thoughtful, and often moving and personal. It is always a joy to see people coming to Evening Prayer specially to hear their peers speak: it seems that we begin to know each other better when we listen to one another in a more formal setting. Thank you to Sam Hodgkins-Sumner for coordinating this series of meditations.

Robert Crouse Memorial Lecture (Jan 15)

Dr. Jesse Billet (University of Toronto Faculty of Divinity and former Cambridge Choral Scholar) joined us briefly this year to deliver the inaugural Robert Crouse Memorial Lecture. He was gracious enough not only to join us for the lecture, but also attending the daily offices & joining us in fellowship and enriching theological discussion throughout his stay. He delivered his lecture to a packed chapel on the history of Divine Office, the Medieval roots of Anglican worship, and how it continues to move us still today. We are incredibly grateful for his time and for his insight, and hope the lecture will continue to be as much of a success in future years, in the sustained memory of Father Robert Crouse.

Benefit Concert for a Syrian Family ft. Hunter McLellan, Ostrea Lake, Campbell Wood (Jan 23)

Please see Thomas McCallum's report.

Pancake Brunch (Feb 9)

Perhaps a modicum of the success of our annual Shrove Tuesday pancake brunch was owed to the fact that the weather had forced Dal & King's campus to close for the day, but even greater thanks are owed to the rag-tag group who assembled at the eleventh hour to ensure that it ran as smoothly as it did, all while running on fumes from our first winter retreat. About 100 students were fed from 10am to 1pm -- most living on residence, but many day students showed up as well. Special thanks are owed to our sacristans Sam Hodgkins-Sumner & Daniel Whitten for their help doing some very last-minute advertising, as well as to Meghan Kitt, Henk Fisher, Emma Graveson, Caroline Brown, Alan Rempel, Hannah Fisher, and all others who showed up at some point in the morning to lend a hand!

Reading Week Icon Writing Workshop (Feb 15-19)

Please see Ben Von Bredow's report.

Winter Retreats (Feb 5-7, March 11-13)

As mentioned above, Dr. Daniel Brandes took on the position of Chapel Theologian this year. This meant that for the first time, we had a Jewish Chapel theologian! From the beginning of the year, we were thinking about how to integrate two distinct religious traditions while on retreat, honouring both and yet emphasizing our shared heritage. Over the course of the semester, and in collaboration with Dr. Brandes and members of the King's Jewish Connection, we decided to have two winter retreats: the first would follow the usual structure of the full round of Daily Offices, with talks given by Dr. Neil Robertson; the second would centre around observing the Sabbath (Shabbat) on Saturday and follow the prescribed cycle of Shabbat prayers, led by Dr.

Brandes and a few Jewish students. This two-retreat model turned out to be the right decision. It was wonderful to have two prominent King’s professors as Chapel Theologians, especially as the Chapel continues to discern its role in promoting collegiality at King’s. Following the second retreat, one or two people also remarked on the unforeseen but profound connection in the themes of the two retreats: while Dr. Robertson led us deep into Augustine’s *restlessness*, the Shabbat retreat was precisely about practicing *rest*.



Photo Credit: Samuel Landry

Winter Retreat I: Augustine’s *Confessions*

The first of the two retreats held at Mersey River Chalets over the winter semester. Just over seventy students, faculty, and members of the greater community found themselves amidst a dream-like woods, river and lake landscape on the peninsula of Nova Scotia for three days of relaxation, fellowship and community. Dr. Neil Robertson led retreatants in a discussion of Saint Augustine’s *Confessions*. This retreat was made all the more special as we were gifted with the presence of three young

Episcopalian priests from the southern United States: Fr. Mac Stewart, Fr. Gregory Tipton, and Fr. Justin Fletcher. Not even an overturned canoe could dampen the spirits of our visitors, as they continually contributed to the conversation offering their unique insight throughout the weekend. Thanks are owed to Shannon Parker Nicolle, Matthew Furlong, Alan Lensink, and Larisa Lensink, our most diligent cooks on this retreat. Thanks also to Veronica Curran for making sure the logistics went without a hitch, to the Sacristans for upholding the liturgy, to Nick Halley for his superb leadership in singing the offices, to Selina Latour for uniquely capturing the faces of retreatants as our stand-in artist-in-residence for the weekend, to Luke Van Horne for leading us in afternoon outdoor group activities, to the staff of Mersey River Chalets for being so accommodating to our needs, and to our Chaplain (without whom none of this would be possible) for his spiritual guidance and steadfastness.

From the first Retreat brochure: “Our contemporary culture has provided opportunities for material comfort, fantastic careers, instant gratification, unlimited travel, instant communication around the globe, and countless technologies for social connectivity, yet we continue to experience lives of regret and our hearts have never been more restless. Dr Robertson will lead us into Augustine’s world to discover that same restlessness and to consider if the ancient attempt to reconcile the restless heart can speak to us today.”

Winter Retreat II: A Community Shabbat

The structure of this second retreat took shape over the course of the entire semester, as members of the Chapel executive, members of the Jewish connection, Dr. Brandes, the Chaplain, and Chapel Administrator worked together to come up with a schedule of prayers that would be feasible for all to participate in and in keeping with Shabbat practices. This was a fascinating process in many ways: in the Chapel, we have a particular way of praying together, which we carry with us when we go on retreat. And yet, learning to pray the Daily Offices together has taken years of teaching and practice, in the interest of maintaining a particular tradition of Christian prayer. In planning the second retreat, we similarly had to navigate the many branches of Jewish tradition to find a pattern of Hebrew prayer and song that was familiar to all those who would be leading it and accessible to others. Dina Gang, Molly Rookwood, and Daniel Brandes put a great deal of thought and care into this task, and Elizabeth Orenstein also helped by taking leadership in the prayers during the retreat. Although there were no Christian prayers in the common area, we did celebrate early morning Holy Communion and late evening Sung Compline for those who wished to participate, and a great number took part.

It is difficult to put into words just how suited this particular retreat was to our particular community at this particular time. Dr. Brandes' talks brought us deep into thinking about liturgical practice, life in community, serving others, miracles, the images we encounter in the world and in nature, and a number of other themes that have been present in the collective imagination of this community for many years. Those who have attended retreats in the past will know that although we advertise the retreats as a time of rest, often the weekend is not at all "restful" for the majority of retreatants! The Shabbat retreat offered us a time to truly rest in the simple enjoyment of our surroundings and relationships, and especially to rest in gratefulness for the riches of this college community. Thanks are due to Thomas McCallum, Veronica Curran, and Henk Fisher for taking charge of the kitchen and feeding the 60+ retreatants.

***From the Shabbat Retreat brochure:** "Dr Brandes will introduce us to the fundamental theme of idolatry in the shaping of Jewish theology from Moses Maimonides (1135-1204) to Moses Mendelssohn (1729-86) to Franz Rosenzweig (1886-1929). We will consider the philosophical, social, and political significance of the Shabbat in light of the notion that God rested on the seventh day of creation. Finally, Dr Brandes will help us understand how the two great covenants of the Torah shape the character of the relation of love and law in contemporary Jewish thought."*

THANK-YOUS

The following honourable people deserve mentions:

Sam Landry, Caroline Brown, Sarah Griffin, Sarah Jane Von Bredow, Tess Woll-Morison, Will Barton, Hannah Fisher, Veronica Curran, Fr. Maximos Saikali

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Respectfully submitted,
Karis Tees and Cameron Lowe

Chapel Administrator's Report

This year as Chapel administrator has had its ups and downs. I have attempted to shift my role as a community member, somewhat successfully, to that of facilitator rather than planner. After some work, some successes have included the installation of the new lighting system, which saw its use during Holy Week, and the installation of a new sound system, which will make it possible to record live services and sermons any time that we wish! Also, weddings, one of the main duties of the Chapel administrator have steadily been on the rise over the past three years, with an unprecedented number planned for next year. Another unexpected duty was to help Shannon Parker in the organization of the Iconography Workshop. This was a huge amount of work, but also an extremely interesting and educational experience. One quick maintenance update is that this summer there will be extensive work on the roof, soffits and cupola of the Chapel which will prevent any further water damage to the building and hopefully significantly extend the life of the building.

The difficulties of this year have come through the strong time constraints that this position holds. The Chapel really needs to have a full time assistant who can help with programming as well as all of the administrative tasks that are required to keep this place running. While staying out of programming entirely is impossible for anyone who holds the Chapel administrator position in the same manner that I currently do, each new task taken on represents another that does not get done, or that gets done hastily or late. The Chapel has a rich variety of people and interests and a rich variety of programming is the natural and positive result. However, the pace that the Chapel is going and the lack of paid personnel to keep it going is not a sustainable combination. The Chaplain needs more support and I am not personally certain of the way forward, but I do believe that the discussion needs to be reopened of finding a way to have full-time help in the Chapel.

For me this experience has been rather stressful, but I have learned a lot and furthered my own understanding of the Chapel's role and its challenges, while making and strengthening my friendships in this place and I am most definitely grateful for that. My most sincere thanks goes to all those who have supported (and often disagreed with) me over the past months. Especially Father Gary Thorne, Karis Tees, Father Thomas Curran, Father Nicholas Hatt, all of the Chapel executive, Shannon Parker, Kim Kierans, Stephanie Boudreau, Jenn Barnhill, Tami Kendall, Adriane Abbot, Paula Johnson, and all those in the College who have helped me as I have bumbled through new skill after new skill. I hope that my contribution to the Chapel has been made under Christ's guidance.

Respectfully submitted,
Veronica R Curran
Chapel Administrator

Chapel Theologian's Report

The retreat was an unqualified surprise and delight for me. I was initially surprised by the invitation and did not know what to expect, but the experience itself surpassed even the happiest speculations. First, the setting itself was ideal, as it enabled everyone present to experience the Sabbath rest - one of the central commandments at issue in our readings and discussions - in an atmosphere marked by peacefulness and beauty. As for the venue itself, everything was arranged so as to make the lectures and the subsequent conversations as comfortable and as conducive to dialogue as possible. But for me, it was the students themselves who made the event such a high point of my academic year. Many of these students (who ran the gamut from first-year rookies to near-graduates) were known to me beforehand only by name or face alone, but they became interlocutors and friends over the course of our time together. The conversation itself was pitched at quite a high level. The set of four lectures posed serious questions concerning the meaning of the Sabbath; how such a thing as 'rest' could be commanded; how to understand the relation of miracles and prophecy; and how to understand the relation of law and love in the Jewish tradition. But the students were hardly overawed by the complexity of the subject matter. On the contrary, they rose to the challenge, raising consistently insightful concerns, questions, and proposals. I felt that the Jewish and Christian students engaged each other and with their respective traditions with extraordinary respect and forthrightness... And just as satisfying as our intellectual pursuits were the liturgical practices: the Friday evening and Saturday morning prayers, the recital of the weekly Torah 'parshah' from the Book of Exodus, the singing of Jewish songs, the sharing of anecdotes, histories, and family traditions. Altogether it was a deeply gratifying and restorative experience for me and, I hope, for the students as well. I was honoured to be invited and I look forward to attending Chapel retreats whenever I am able (whether as Chapel theologian or as happy participant).



Photo Credit: Samuel Landry

Submitted by Dr. Daniel Brandes

Report of the Sacristan

As Father Thorne reminds us, this has been a year in which the world has been thoroughly at war. We are constantly beset by reports of violent conflict that leaves people harmed or displaced. Political communities seem irreparably rent apart by those who talk past one another. We then turn off the television or close the news article to find the same brokenness, worry, and struggle on the streets of Halifax and in our beloved Quad.

What better practice, then, but to carry out our corporate worship in the chapel? Our liturgical rhythm is underpinned by daily offices, which find their roots in monastic tradition. The weekly liturgy is comprised of a full slate of morning, noonday, evening, and night-time offices, as well as daily Communion. Over the year we have sought to bear one another's burdens, and the burdens of the world, through prayer. Many have taken time out of their busy lives to pause and make petitions for the needs of others and to offer up their own prayers. This habitual conversation with the Divine equips us to bring listening into our daily lives. A listening that the world needs so very much.

The spirit of intentional listening is modelled by the singers who enrich our worship every week, and constantly turn our souls towards Beauty. We were blessed by Capella Regalis on Tuesday-night Evensongs, and the Chapel Choir on Wednesday-night Evensongs and the Choral Solemn Eucharists on Thursdays. The Men and Ladies' Complaine Choirs carved out a space for rest and thanksgiving on Monday and Tuesday nights.

The Thursday Choral Solemn Eucharist is the focal point of the week, both for the weekly spiritual cycle of our inward reflection and outward community, and for the duties of the Sacristans. While so much of the credit for our ceaseless prayer goes to Sam Hodgkins-Summer and his tireless efforts, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who offered themselves, souls and bodies, through serving at the foot of the altar. They have facilitated, through their living sacrifice, the weekly miracle of Christ's transcendent presence in our midst. Any attempt to name these robed folk would be insufficient, but please know that your time, energy, love, and support is appreciated beyond measure; though we know we have already fallen short in this, we hope that we have had the chance to personally thank each and every soul who has given themselves to the stress and beauty of the liturgy in any capacity. If you have served as an acolyte, crucifer, thurifer, master of ceremonies, subdeacon, deacon, banner-carrier, bishop's chaplain, boat boy, or in any other capacity, you have our deepest thanks and appreciation.

In addition to our Thursday University Service, we would like to recognize the dedication of those who rise with Christ early on the first day to sing, praise, and glorify God in the Sunday morning service. There is a peculiar character to the chapel on Sunday mornings, and it draws devoted characters along with it. We are deeply indebted to the Rev. Dr. Curran, Faculty in Holy Orders, who has allowed us to journey with him this year. Fr. Curran has taken us to Jerusalem again and again with Christ this year, and delved deeper and deeper in to the mysteries of His cyclical journeys, to His death and resurrection. These explorations would not have been possible without the dedication of Meghan Kitt and Johnathan Gallagher. These two, through

their constant service and self-sacrifice, helped us to maintain the monastic hours with morning prayer, and, crucially, facilitated the celebration of Holy Communion by serving with Father Curran at the altar. Boundless thanks must also go to Veronica Curran, who, going above and beyond her duties, ensured that the Sunday morning crowd could always gather in fellowship together after our celebration with the much appreciated tea, coffee, and baked goods. A further thanks must also go to Stan and Anne Salsman, Margo Pullen-Sly, and all others who were steadfast presences on Sunday, and continue to support us all through their care and dedication to the transcendent beauty of our worship at the chapel (and also for their baking, along with all of the others who kept us nourished every weekend).

However, services were not confined to a singular physical space. Our worship made the sanctuary of All Saint's Cathedral's reverberate with sounds of joy and sorrow on occasions such as All Souls', Lenten Evensongs, and Tenebrae. We are grateful to the Dean for hosting us for many choral services this year.

We also conducted services on the Cape Split hike and on retreat at Mersey River. A wise Oklahoman once said that nature is a sacrament because it reveals more of God's glory each time we encounter it. We were fortunate to be able to bless the Lord in the face of fierce frost and snow, alongside venerable trees, and on balmy cliffs overlooking the Bay of Fundy. Our second trip to Mersey River was centred around the Jewish Shabbat and its liturgical practices. A great many thanks to Dr. Brandes, Molly Rookwood, and Elizabeth Orenstein for leading the songs and prayers.

A message from Sam Hodgkins-Summer: It has been an honour to serve as Sacristan this year. I am the son of a clergyman who, to this day, brings his vestments to a service crumpled in a tiny duffle bag. Thus, diligent care for "holy hardware" does not come naturally to me. Holding this position has taught me the importance and beauty of maintaining an orderly physical space for worship. I have also gleaned greater insight into the mechanics, theology, and tradition behind our liturgical movements. All of the preparation and training we undertake aims to further our tradition as part of the universal church. And yet, as Lutherans remind us, it's important that we make a few mistakes along the way to keep the serving party from getting too big for their cassocks.

While I'm on the topic of mistakes, I'd like to thank all those who have picked up the fragments when dropped the potter's handiwork. Without those I'm about to name, there would have been many more shards and cuts along the way.

Many thanks go to Daniel, the assistant Sacristan. He has driven hundreds of kilometers, shuttling coals and banners around, when I only asked him to go one.

A Message from Daniel Whitten: The Assistant Sacristan would like to take this opportunity to thank and apologize to Sam. Sam, you once told me that I die daily on behalf of others, but I have spent this year in awe of your sacrifice, dedication, and courage in the service of others. Though you did not receive the support you needed, the support I wanted to and should have given to you, you have brought our community to the foot of the cross, the entrance of the tomb, and the miracle at the altar every week. You have opened all of our hearts to His love through the

transcendence of the liturgy; you have allowed the Word to enter our hearts and the Light to lighten our souls. Words fail me, and I can only pray you know the love you have allowed to be shared this year.

Thanks to Will Barton, Colin Nicolle and Jordan Draper for their service, support, and encouragement; to Tom Curran and Boris Spacek for their leadership on Sunday; to Meghan Kitt, Shannon Parker Nicolle, and Margo Pullen-Sly for their efforts on behalf of the altar guild; to Veronica Curran for her general heroism and self-sacrifice; to all our deacons: Fr Snook, Dean Hatt, Fr Carter, Mtr Ryding; again, to Mtr Ryding for celebrating Friday masses; to all who have preached; all who have served or officiated, especially to Jonathan, Karis, Ben, Jake, Bredan, Keith, Nick, Caroline, Sarah, John, Justin, Gwen, Andrew Griffin, Fr Gregory, Fr. Justin (please forgive my poor canoeing!), Fr. Mac, Aidan, Jolanta, Caleigh, George, Andrew Thorne, Cam, Cliff, Henk; to Tabatha for being a well-behaved donkey; to Father Thorne for his wizardry; and to all who have supported the Chapel in prayer.

We sincerely hope that all who are able feel called to continue to pray and serve with us, and we beg that you join us in wholehearted support for our Sacristan for 2016-17, Meghan Kitt, in all of her sacrifices. We would also like to announce that we hope to have a second Assistant Sacristan (or assistant to the Sacristan) for 2016-17, to better support Meghan as she supports all of us in our journey to Jerusalem again this year.

God has a better memory than me, and I ask him to remember all those whom I've forgotten. Forgive and Bless.

Submitted: Sam Hodgkins-Sumner and Daniel Whitten



Photo Credit: Samuel Landry

Capella Regalis Men & Boys Choir

Capella Regalis continues to experience the challenges of a small, young non-profit doing counter-cultural work. But in many ways, the challenges of this year have made us stronger and we feel we've seen real progress in some key areas.

One update this year is that in the fall of 2015, Capella Regalis moved its weekly Tuesday Choral Evensong to All Saints Cathedral. This weekly Evensong at the Cathedral is becoming an increasingly significant connector between the Chapel and the Cathedral. The choir continues to rehearse in the Chapel every Friday and sing for special services in the Chapel such as Candlemas. Fr Thorne remains the Chaplain to Capella Regalis and continues to play an important role in the lives of the choristers.

Another update this year is that Dominique Saulnier, a Chapel Choir choral scholar, has joined the Capella Regalis staff to run the Probationers' Programme, and she has been doing consistent and wonderful work.

In the last few months, we've also brought in another addition to the Capella Regalis workforce. Irene Wilkinson, a stalwart member of the Chapel community, is helping Vanessa with many administrative tasks and working hard behind the scenes to help make things happen.

Capella Regalis lost one boy just recently to the Vienna Boys' Choir (yes, one of the Capella Regalis senior choristers was inspired to audition for the Vienna Boys' Choir, was accepted, and moved to the choir school in Vienna last weekend). On the other end of the spectrum, we lost a different chorister due to politically incorrect scripture readings!

The Young Men's section continues to grow with boys whose voices have changed. The newest member of the Young Men's section, Ryley Buffett (age 14), was recently baptized in the Chapel, at the Easter Vigil.

Capella Regalis sang its final Evensong of the term on April 5 at the Cathedral, and is looking ahead to a number of concerts over the course of May and June, including performing in the Monteverdi Vespers with the Chapel Choir, and with the King's Chorus in its concerts with the Nova Scotia Youth Orchestra later this month. In May, the choir will visit 10 area elementary schools to do free and interactive mini-programs, and will also host the Men & Boys Choir of Christchurch Cathedral, Ottawa for a weekend of joint singing and camaraderie. Capella Regalis will go on tour in June within the Maritimes, most likely to Cape Breton.

We are grateful to the Chapel community for all the support it shows the choir, and especially to Fr Thorne for his ongoing leadership and assistance. We would also like to thank Dean Paul Smith and the Rev. Helen Ryding for their support of Capella Regalis at the Cathedral.

Stay tuned at www.capellaregalis.com.

Nick Halley, Artistic Director
Vanessa Halley, Manager

The King's Chorus Report

The King's Chorus thanks the Chaplain and Chapel community for the support and identity that is integral to the activities of the King's Chorus. Only in the context of a community rich in spirit and concerned with beauty do the Choristers, unseasoned and experienced alike, participate in something that fosters a deep appreciation and desire for excellence in sung liturgy. The Chorus is constitutively at home in the Chapel, and we are grateful for the continued generosity.

For the second year running, on November 22nd, the Chorus celebrated the Feast of St. Cecilia, the Patron Saint of music, at St. Mary's Basilica. The concert in her honour featured C.P.E Bach's *Magnificat* and G.F Handel's Chandos Anthem *I Will Magnify Thee*. Carried by the reception of the piece last year, and to enjoy a certain continuity, the Chorus concluded the concert with Herbert Howells's stunning setting of Ursula Vaughan Williams's text, the Hymn for St. Cecilia. The Chorus was accompanied by Paul Halley on the Organ, three spectacular soloists, and a small orchestra, comprised of nine of Halifax's finest professional players who are known together as Ensemble Regale. The accompaniment elevated the music of the choristers into a joyful noise that confounded choristers and audience members alike. The concert was very well attended and financially successful, thanks largely to the sponsorship of Brian Flemming and others.



On April 22nd and 23rd, the Chorus will be joining the Nova Scotia Youth Orchestra to perform 'Opera Favourites' under the direction of Dinuk Wijeratne. To rise to the occasion the Chorus is working on its Russian, Italian, and French, to perform hits from Alexander Borodin's *Polovetsian Dances*, Giuseppe Verdi's *La Traviata*, and Georges Bizet's *Carmen*, among others. We thank Maria Koutovenko and the Russian Society for inviting the Chorus to perform two pieces at Russian Night on March 19. The evening was a grand success, greatly enjoyed by the choristers and a fruitful opportunity for Russian practice.

As the Chorus evolves, its relationship to the University is making a corresponding shift. Thanks to the work of Adriane Abbott and the KSU, the Chorus is presently rethinking how it structurally relates to the University. Acknowledging that the Chorus has grown beyond the scope of a student society, and that it has come to form an indispensable part of the King's community for students and staff, the advancement office is expecting to establish a new way for the Chorus to relate to the University in time for the fall season.

Thanks to the vision and leadership of Nick Halley the Chorus is able to direct its efforts towards its proper goal. The executive team, Alan Rempel, Mikaela Kyle, Hannah Fisher, Katie Cochran, Andrew Griffin, Molly Rookwood, Peter Wilkinson, coordinates the administration of the Chorus's activities under the indispensable guidance of our director. The team hopes to continue to bear more of the work to allow the director to focus strictly on the music making.

The Chorus looks forward to meeting new choristers, contending with new music, and deepening our relationship with the chapel in the upcoming 2016-17 school year.

Prepared by Andrew Griffin, Chorus Treasurer

Report of the Treasurer

This year we slowly accumulated treasure, which we then spent. This was because, I think, we have taken to heart what the Psalmist writes: "I love thy commandments above gold, yea, above much fine gold." (Ps. 119.127)

Personally, I have enjoyed being Treasurer. Counting things provides a lovely little break from actually thinking, which seems to be most of what we do around here. It has worked out very well that I am both the Treasurer and in the choir, because it means that I can do the count which the postlude is playing on Wednesdays and Thursdays, and therefore get Fr. Thorne to sign off on the count before he leaves. Getting his signature, I'm told, was the most difficult part of the job in previous years. We had a bit of a kerfuffle with envelopes at the beginning of the year, but it got sorted out.

I would like to thank Paula in the Advancement Office for being so friendly, and I wish the best of luck to the incoming Treasurer.

Submitted by: Benjamin von Bredow

Sunday Morning Holy Communion 2015-2016

It has been a great honour to take responsibility for Sunday morning worship in the King's College Chapel from Sunday September 13th in 2015 until the end of the Winter Term on Sunday April 24th 2016. I should like to underline the profound privilege of preaching to such a diverse and receptive congregation.

The congregation which attends on Sunday mornings has provided me (and others) with an opportunity to live out the fullness of Christian life (in community). This spiritual vocation has been inexpressibly deepened by the musical efforts of Boris Spacek, our dutiful organist. Sunday morning worship is hugely enhanced by the army of volunteers who provide coffee in the SCR immediately following the service.

Please allow me to thank all members of the congregation through the naming of Veronica Curran, Jordan Draper, Jonathan Gallagher, Sam Hodgkins-Sumner, Aidan Ingalls, Meghan Kitt, Cindy and Clifford Lee, Stan and Ann Salsman, Karis Tees, Ben von Bredow, Daniel Whitten and, of course, Margo Pullen Sly. By identifying the few, I wish to express my profound gratitude to the many.

We cannot put into words sufficiently our ongoing debt to Fr Gary Thorne for his continued care of us. It has also been a great honour to have our King's President, Dr George Cooper, as a member of the Sunday morning congregation.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev'd Dr Thomas Curran, Faculty Member in Holy Orders



Photo Credit: Samuel Landry

Report of the Saint Thomas Aquinas Society President

In the Saint Thomas Aquinas Society Constitution, written and adopted this year, it says that STAS exists for three essential purposes: 1. To educate the King's community, especially altar servers at the King's College Chapel, in the theology, spirituality, and practice of liturgy in the Catholic tradition as it is embodied in the Book of Common Prayer. STAS stimulates discussion about and encourages the practice of corporate spiritual disciplines oriented towards the growth in holiness of the Church as a whole and of all its members. 2. To ensure that altar servers and officiants at the King's College Chapel are prepared spiritually and practically to lead the King's community in regular worship. 3. To celebrate the feast of St. Thomas Aquinas annually on March 7.

There have been a lot of false starts in STAS this year. When I assumed the role of STAS President in September, I fully intended to have regular STAS meetings (four a semester) at which there would be liturgical education and discussion, thereby fulfilling the essential purpose of STAS as a the educational side of student engagement with Chapel programming. There was only one such meeting. There were a number of logistical upsets trying to plan a second meeting, but the reason why nothing came to fruition is ultimately that I, the President, decided that STAS would be the responsibility in my busy schedule that I allowed to flop, and for which I am responsible. The "STASk us a question" initiative - to answer questions about the liturgy in the Thursday bulletin - continued further into the year, but failed in the end for the same reason. The feast of St. Thomas Aquinas was also not kept. However, despite a slow start in the Fall Semester, a number of new altar servers have been trained this year, and we have a consistent roster of officiants.

STAS more or less consistently achieved two improvements to liturgical life at King's this year. First, we have standardized when the large bell is to be rung: only at 8:00 A.M., 12:00 P.M., and 5:00 P.M., as well as 9:30 P.M. on Mondays and Tuesdays for Compline, 4:45 P.M. for Evening Prayer on Thursdays, and 10:45 A.M. on Sundays. (If you are an officiant, please take note.) Second, the servers now turn away from the altar at the correct time during the Gospel procession about every two out of three Solemn Eucharists. The STAS Constitution, based on a description of the office of the STAS president from a 1990s Chapel Constitution, is also an achievement from this year.

I have a three recommendations for next year: 1) That the STAS President be a mature student, perhaps a graduate, who has a few years of experience with worship at King's and who, more importantly, has withdrawn from active participation in the Chapel Executive. STAS educational events are very easy to think of as "extra", and so they are very easy to neglect, as I have, if they are in competition for an organiser's with the practical functioning of Chapel programming. 2) That the STAS President and Vice-President (the Sacristan) meet at the beginning of each semester to discuss educational events and liturgical training programs for the semester, and generally that they ensure that both parties communicate clearly and regularly with one another about the practical and intellectual preparedness of Chapel servers and officiants for the liturgy. 3) That a team of people be put together to ensure that there is a STAS question and answer in the bulletin every week. For example, a team of four people would mean that each person would only have to research and write one answer each month.

Submitted by: Benjamin von Bredow

Report of the Altar Guild President

When I was asked to be the altar guild president this year, I did not really understand what I was agreeing to. I mainly had a list of duties. What I came to learn is that the altar guild cares for the chapel as a physical space, not simply so that it is clean and people can find things, but so that we can have a tangible connection to our spiritual life together. Polishing the holy hardware is a practice of attention; it's a form of prayer. Picking up stray papers, tending to the flowers, straightening the chairs... these things are not superfluous. The chapel is, for so many, a refuge. It is a place of abundance in an environment increasingly concerned with austerity: "a place of outward order for the inwardly disordered". We care for this physical space because it allows us to rest in peace, and because the very practice of that care is an act of love. The idea of prayer without speaking, ministry without eye contact, is very new to me, and it is not one I expected to find. I did not know that shy and quiet people had a place in the church. I am so grateful for this year, and I'm sorry I never figured out how to wash the linens, because I'm sure there are countless revelations to unfold in folding them.

Most of the flowers were purchased from Sea Blooms at the farmers' market. The flowers are used to adorn the altar in accordance with the season: of the church calendar, and if possible, of the natural world as well. There were no flowers during the penitential seasons of Advent and Lent, except for roses by the icons of Our Lady. Sincere thanks to Margo Pullen-Sly and Ann Salsman for caring for the linens through the year. In the fall term, the chapel was decorated for Harvest Thanksgiving and during Advent in anticipation of Christmas. Thanks to Veronica Curran for her help in preparing the chapel for Harvest Thanksgiving. The windows were decorated with gourds and corn stalks, and the edible gourds were donated to SAMS for the St. George's soup kitchen after the decorations were taken down. In November, the wardens hosted the annual decorating party.

Holy Week: Palms for Palm Sunday arrived by automatic order and were stored in water until the Thursday before Palm Sunday. Many people came to help fan out the palms and make palm crosses. Shannon Parker Nicolle was instrumental in leading these preparations. She will likely not be present next year to teach us again, so it is important to have support from those who have already learned around this time next year. Flowers for the Altar of Repose were ordered a month in advance from Sea Blooms. Many thanks to Shannon, Kathleen, and Hannah for their help in preparing the altar, and to George Cochran for assembling it and tending to it through the all-night vigil. During the Easter vigil, the flowers from the altar of repose were distributed throughout the chapel and used to decorate the altar during the redressing. The Holy Sabbath Cleaning Party was excellent. Many people came to the party to help polish the holy hardware, clean and oil the wood, and otherwise prepare the chapel for the Easter vigil. There were hot cross buns and tea and coffee, and the chapel looked beautiful at the end. This is an important event in the preparation for Easter: a chance to care for order within our chapel space and care for each other in community. Holy Week is an extremely busy and unstable time of year for many, and it is very valuable to welcome those in distress into a tangible space of love and care.

Many thanks to Margo Pullen-Sly, Ann Salsman, Veronica Curran, Shannon Parker Nicolle, Cameron Lowe, Kathleen Harper, George Cochran, Hannah Fisher, Sam Landry, Caroline Brown, Tess Woll-Morison, and so many others for their continual care of the chapel.
Submitted by: Meghan Kitt

Photographer's Report

In the fall of this year, I was drawn to the look of the King's Chapel. As the photographer-in-residence though, my attempt has not been to document the visuals of the chapel space; instead I have attempted to document the life of the Chapel community. While 'community' can often be a platitude in Christian circles, what I have found here seems to be authentic, despite its less-than-glorious reality. One image that I find illustrative of our community was shot on retreat at Mersey River: Henk Fisher clutches three hand-carved crosses as he tearfully embraces Father Justin. The power of this image is not in its ability to fill pews: it does not market the community, it glimpses into its life. I have come to the conclusion that my purpose is not simply to use photos and video clips to sell the Chapel to the greater King's campus: my job is to capture our shared moments – both the difficult and uplifting.



While I have not specifically tried to market our community, I have used video production in an attempt to de-mystify the Chapel's culture – and to expose outsiders to the liturgy. Thank you all for receiving the videos as graciously as you have. Being unfamiliar with the culture of Anglicanism, I was initially quite nervous about invading the Candlemas service with my camera. I found solace, though, in St. Peter's account of the endowment of gifts: "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace" (1 Peter 4:10 ESV). It is an encouragement to have one's gifts welcomed and implemented into the Chapel's ministries. As a community we ought to ensure that the talents of all congregants are used to God's glory.

My experience as chapel photographer-in-residence has been a helpful break from the busy life of F.Y.P. and an opportunity to integrate into the King's community. I have a few recommendations for the position next year: establish the position earlier in the school-year; create an online space for the annual photographer to curator his or her work, avoiding communication difficulties; continue to welcome the Chapel photographer as a non-obtrusive part of the community.

King's Chapel cannot be simplified to an aesthetically pleasing environment. It is a community. We should continue to choose candidates for chapel photographer who will delicately capture candid instances of Christian fellowship, like Henk's embrace of Fr. Justin. Thank you for allowing me to serve this past Easter term. I look forward to serving amongst you, though perhaps not in this same way, for the duration of my undergraduate.

Submitted by Samuel Landry

Report of the Artists-in-Residence

Ryan Abrams: It was a great pleasure for me to be the artist-in-residence this year. I had the opportunity to meet many members of the Chapel community on both the Cape Split hike, and Winter Retreat. The view from Cape Split was breathtaking, and the peaceful weekend in Kejimkujik was just as inspiring. I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to create art for the Chapel this year.

Selina Latour: I am incredibly grateful to have had the opportunity to be the artist in residence for the King's Chapel retreat this past February. As an outsider to King's (a NSCAD student), I have been overwhelmed by the comforting homeliness of the King's Chapel community, who embraced me (among many other newcomers) with listening ears and open arms. I attended the chapel retreat for the first time last year and fell in love with the weekend experience. I grew eager to return to Mersey River, particularly to the main cabin, which quickly became a happy place of mine. The cozy space offered warmth, lovely views, delicious food, clever discussion and good company, allowing time for socialization, and to pause and carefully reflect on one's surroundings.

I was overjoyed when asked to come back to the retreat as an artist in residence. I chose to draw, via methods of blind contour, the beautiful people within the Chapel community who had warmed my heart exactly one year before. This portrait process allowed for me to share briefly an intimate space with each person I got to draw, and meet many new members of the community. Having had the opportunity to draw 40 portraits in total, I sincerely hope to have captured the kindness and generosity of the people I encountered. I am so thankful to have acted as artist in residence and further befriend the King's Chapel community. This weekend was an experience I will hold close to heart for the rest of my life.



Photo Credit: Samuel Landry

Report of the Saint Andrew's Missions Society President

This year SAMS was mostly active in the first term. There was a soup kitchen through Saint's George's Round Church once again this year. The food prep took place in the Manning Room on



Tuesday, October 27, using many of the decorations from the Chapel's "Harvest Thanksgiving" as ingredients in our Pumpkin Shepard's Pie. There were many students involved and many new faces this year, which was really encouraging. On Saturday, October 31, a group of five students joined the team at Saint George's in serving the food. It was a very positive experience.

In the second part of the semester SAMS' focus shifted, as always, to the YouthNet St. Nicholas Gift fundraiser. Through residence sponsorships and individual donations, we were able to raise enough money to buy gifts for all 21 children in the YouthNet After-School Programme. We also bought and wrapped them and had students make cards during the Chapel decorating party. This was the eighth year that SAMS was able to fulfill this commitment!

Other student initiatives that were not organized by the SAMS executive included gathering winter clothing items for Syrian refugees, gathering winter coats for a local soup kitchen, and gathering items for the Laing House Christmas Stockings. Due to time and people-power constraints SAMS did not organize the Pancake Lunch on Shrove Tuesday this year, but thanks to the Chapel Executive, it still took place, raising money for the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund. Many thanks to all who pitched in! There were also two Chapel benefit concerts this year, one raising money for Laing House and the other for St. George's Syrian Refugee Sponsorship.



Thank yous go to our executive, Lorina Harvey, Kat Maclean, Gina Grattan, Sam Hodgkins-Sumner, and Meghan Kitt, with a special mention to Buffy Sweny.

Respectfully Submitted,
Veronica Curran, SAMS President

Dalhousie Anglican Society

This year, the Dalhousie Anglican Society (DAng!) has largely been reduced to its essential function, which is ensuring that Wine Before Breakfast, a simple BAS Holy Communion service followed by breakfast, happen every Wednesday morning at 7:45 at the Dalhousie Multifaith Centre. I say “reduced”, but this is not necessarily a bad thing. Wine Before Breakfast has continued to be a blessing to those who have attended. We usually have about five people present each Wednesday, though occasionally more.

A few benefits in particular stand out. 1) The opportunity to discuss the weekly Eucharistic readings, which we do at WBB in place of a sermon, serves an important devotional and educational role, helping the participants to understand how word, sacrament, and an exhortation to Christian living coalesce in liturgy. 2) Breakfasts after the Communion have been important for developing friendships between those who attend. Especially significant in this regard is the rare opportunity students have to relax with the Chaplain over breakfast. We have also been able to extend our offer of friendship to the Multifaith Centre receptionists and on-duty chaplains, this year Megan and Dan Brown, respectively. 3) We continue to be able to say that, because of Wine Before Breakfast, regular Christian sacramental worship happens at Dalhousie University.

In previous years, DAng has organized events other than Wine Before Breakfast. Last year, DAng hosted three “thought-lucks”, events at which a meal is provided and people bring texts on a theme to discuss, which were all a success. God willing, the first and only thought-luck of the 2015/2016 academic year will take place this Saturday evening (April 9). In the past, DAng has also hosted movie nights and organized outings to local theatrical productions when shows of interest have come to Halifax. These events have not happened this year because of the regrettable busyness of the President, mostly with other Chapel programming.

The perennial difficulty with Wine Before Breakfast is making it a truly Dal-centric event. Right now, it is functioning as a mission of the King’s Chapel to the Dalhousie community, but the attendees are almost always only members of the Chapel community. The long-term vision of DAng, as far as I am aware, has always been that Dalhousie students and professors who attend Anglican parishes on Sundays will form a community around WBB as a witness to the truth, vitality, and relevance of the Christian faith to a large, highly-institutional public university. Not only would this “naturalize” the ministry of DAng, but it would remove some of the burden of organizing it from people who are also members of the Chapel Executive at King’s. This vision has never come to fruition, despite valiant postering and advertising attempts that have been made in the past. An avenue that has not been explored, which may be profitable, is to advertise WBB directly at local parishes.

Two unusual meetings for Wine Before Breakfast are worth noting. In the Fall semester, we tried using a modern-English liturgy other than the BAS for one Eucharist, to humour the President’s liturgical curiosity. This was not a popular change, and it was only used once. In the Winter semester, we hosted a sister from the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine, who spoke to the group after the Communion. This was well attended (about seventeen people), and proves that DAng can rally a crowd when it has a special guest. I would like to thank, first and foremost, Fr. Thorne for continued support of DAng’s ministry at Dalhousie. I would also like to thank Jordan Draper, Sarah-Jane von Bredow, and Alan Lensink for their faithfulness to regularly attend Wine Before Breakfast and offer help as needed.

Submitted by: Benjamin von Bredow

An Intercessor's Report

Having been tasked to write a report, I find myself in unfamiliar territory. Although over the past year that I that have been immersed with in this chapel community I have undertaken a great many foreign labours. When I was brought into the fray last year I had little to no church experience, so comes as no shock that did not know how to serve, much less pray. Yet when Father Thorne asked me to be the chapel intercessor last term, how could I resist the opportunity to learn and reflect on what is so strengthening to so many.

I did not know how to play, I have to make this expressly clear, I thought that prayer was good for quieting the anxieties created by the torrents of our chaotic lives. Prayer is so much more than that though. There can be two types of prayer: prayer of the mind and prayer of the body. It was my official duties as intercessor that affiliated me with the prayer of the mind. As Intercession you are responsible for the Intercession list, a list of names for healing and the departed, but these are not just names they were or are living breathing people. When I read aloud these names daily, I am connecting myself to these people in a very real sense. Through the converging synapses in the brain to the expelling of breath from my lungs I send forth that name into creation.

When I pray for say, Tom, I do not pray for a particular Tom or a group of Toms, I pray for all Toms in need of healing and by saying aloud the name of Tom I turn an inward movement into an outward movement, thus cementing the prayer in the world. As we move now out into the world my attention has to come to bodily prayer and its ability to connect us. When I was being trained as a server, Will Barton described my role as server as one who leads others in prayer, where your very actions are prayer. Will described the liturgy as a dance, yet are we not all a part of this dance? When we bow, we bow as one, as we attempt to attune ourselves with the divine, we harmonize ourselves with ourselves.

It may seem like a trivial thing to align ourselves with ourselves but as we do so we connect ourselves and by extension become aware of each of other.

My time as intercessor showed me that what I thought was an inward exercise is in truth an extraordinarily external and worldly practice.

We are all a part of this dance, and I hope we dance together.

Submitted by: Jonathan Gallagher

Website Report

This year I took over management of the chapel website from Melissa LeGeyst, who designed its current permutation. The website, kingschapel.ca, is intended to be a reliable source of information about the chapel, providing accurate, timely updates about our events and projects while also hosting general, static information (such as chapel history, wedding information, summaries of recurring chapel events, etc.). The main goal of the website administrator was to maintain a resource that could provide details for all events while presenting major ones in a clear and easily navigated format. I created an established post for each term with a complete list of events, with links to additional content where possible, intending to create a broad picture of the term without being unwieldy.

In addition to this, the website serves as a kind of short-term digital archive for sermons and meditations delivered in the chapel, and for photos from past events. The goal for addresses given in the chapel is to compile and distribute them. It is perhaps outside the scope of this report, but I would recommend submitting hard copies of these compilations to the King's archives so that they can be accessed by posterior chapel members. The website also features some art from previous artists-in-residence. The website manager should coordinate with artists-in-residence and the photographer-in-residence to digitize the rest of the chapel art currently displayed in the chapel. Once digitized, the art can be displayed in the website gallery and used to adorn materials distributed by the chapel.

One difficulty this year was establishing the website as a useful resource for the chapel community. Because the website was updated infrequently during the first few weeks of term, many people did not know that it had current information later in the term. It is therefore important for the website manager to communicate with the chaplain, administrator, and wardens at the very start of the year so that the website is active when the term begins.

Management of the website is dependent on clear communication from members of the chapel community. Being a member of the chapel leadership team and meeting together regularly was extremely helpful for gathering current information. Especial thanks to Veronica Curran, Fr. Thorne, Sam Landry, and Karis Tees for their consistent support and help with keeping the website updated!

Submitted by: Meghan Kitt

SPECIAL EVENT REPORTS

Hermitage of the Annunciation Trip

On October 17, a group of ten students travelled to the Hermitage of the Annunciation in New Germany, Nova Scotia for a peaceful day of contemplation and prayer. The group left the quad at 5am in order to arrive at the monastery in time for Matins and Divine Liturgy. For many students, these services were their first experience of Eastern Orthodox worship, while other students are regular participants in the Chapel's visits to the Hermitage.

For me, one particularly beautiful moment during the Liturgy was when the rising sun began streaming into the church. The physical shift from darkness to light seemed symbolic of what we were doing as we prayed. After many hours of services, we had coffee and tea while chatting with the monks. The students who had visited the monastery in the past were delighted to learn that Frs. Roman, Cassian, and Nathanael had been joined by a young novice, Brother Spyridon, who was the same age as many of the students. After a discussion with the monks, the students ate lunch according to the monastic custom of eating in silence while listening to a spiritual reading. Lunch was followed by a walk around the monastery grounds and more discussions with the monks. As the day drew to a close, part of the group had to return to Halifax, but the other half decided to stay for Vespers before driving back.

Personally, the Chapel's trip to the Hermitage of the Annunciation was one of the most important events for me in the semester. The peace that I find at the monastery is so refreshing, especially in the context of stressful student life, and it stays with me for days after my visit. The monks also see great value in the Chapel's visit; in their December 2015 newsletter, they wrote, "It is always an uplifting day for us because of the joy that comes from meeting young men and women who are seeking God".

Submitted by: Allison Graham

Report: Chapel “Concert Series”

On January 23rd a concert was held in the King’s Chapel in support of the King’s Chapter of the St. George’s Refugee Sponsorship Fund. Folk group Ostrea Lake was joined by King’s students Hunter McLellan and Campbell Woods. Ms. McLellan also designed the poster. The concert was attended by over seventy people, with over \$500 being raised in donations. Thanks are due to Micah Zionce and Sam Sumner for their help with this endeavour.

There was also a Frosh Week concert once again this year, organised by Karis Tees. This year local artist Old Man Luedecke played. The Chapel was packed and money was collected for the Laing House.

The King’s Chapel has been hailed as one of the best venues for folk music in Halifax. Ostrea Lake reported that it was one of the best sounding shows they have ever played. It continues to be my dream to see the Chapel grow as a venue for popular music without hindering but rather adding to the liturgy which is at the heart Chapel life. I feel that the Ostrea Lake concert achieved this goal. This concert created a very contemplative mood in the Chapel.

Respectfully Submitted,
Thomas McCallum



Photo Credit: Samuel Landry

Icon-Writing Workshop

During the Winter reading week, twelve students, alumni, and community members spent their days at the back of the Chapel writing icons under the direction of Symeon Van Donkelaar, an Orthodox iconographer from Ontario. Each day began with Morning Prayer and Communion and ended with Evening Prayer.

The workshop was challenging for most, if not all of the participants. Only a handful of the participants had experience with visual art. Everyone reached a point when the work was frustrating and difficult, though this moment arrived at a different time for everyone. At the same time, it was also a joyful experience for many of us to do unfamiliar artistic work with our hands, especially when the work seemed to be going well. So there was a constant give and take, a constant variation in each of us and in the group as a whole, between joy and solemnity, frustration and hope, contemplation and distraction, between mutual patience and shortness with one another.

The miracle is that, despite this give and take - indeed, in and through it - we were able to depict the face of Christ. Each of the icons is slightly different, though we were all working from the same prototype, and these differences are the results of finite imperfect minds which only know Christ in part and imperfect hands which only do the will of God in part. Our icons are different because we had different moments of frustration and joy while painting them - because each of us succeeds and fails in different ways to represent Christ, who is the only complete image of the invisible God.

As the Poet says,
 “Brother, our love has laid our wills at rest,
 Making us long only for what is ours,
 And by no other thirst to be possessed.
 If we could wish to bide in loftier bowers,
 Our wish would jangle with that will of His
 Which hath assigned our proper place and powers.” (Paradiso 3.70-75)

Symeon’s guidance of the group was exemplary. He is a man of tireless effort and deep humility, for which we are all grateful. We are also thankful to Shannon Parker Nicolle and Veronica Curran for their organizational contribution to making the workshop happen, and to Fr. Christopher Snook for supporting his parishioners’ participation in the workshop. I believe it was yet an important act of friendship between the Parish of St. George and the Chapel for us to share this experience.

Many other things could be said about the workshop. There are as many different testimonies about the impact of the experience as there were participants. Please ask a participant about his or her experience before you leave the AGM.

Submitted by: Benjamin von Bredow

Resurrection Party

The first step in planning this year's Resurrection party was to gather a group of approximately 8 committee members who would be responsible for the event. Being a first year who volunteered to take charge of planning the party, I required help from Karis to contact people that would be good for the job. The committee's first action was to visit St. Antonios to see the facility and make note of the space, chairs, tables, and the kitchen. The group met a second time to delegate tasks. One person was assigned to ask Matthew Furlong to be in charge of the meal and to be his point person to ensure he had adequate help. Two people were assigned to be in charge of decoration. Two people were assigned the task of gathering volunteers for set-up, tear-down, and bar-tending. One person was assigned to find a DJ who would be responsible for everything sound and music related, including equipment. For the most part, the jobs discussed in this meeting were delegated to others and I made it my job to mediate between all those people and all the various lines of communication, ensuring that everyone had all the information and help that they needed. Everyone that helped was wonderful and dependable, so there were no set-backs encountered that require specific mention. Here I would like to thank Karis Tees, Veronica Curran, Tess Woll-Morison, Cameron Lowe, Sarah Griffin, and Caroline Brown for all their hard work. You are the ones responsible for so smooth a planning period.

On the day of the event, a group of volunteers, along with the décor planners, set up the venue in the late afternoon. A huge thanks goes out to Daniel Whitten for helping to transport all of our materials. At the same time the DJ (Taylor Saracuse) set up his equipment, and Matthew arrived to start cooking the meal. A team of volunteers arrived at the venue as Matthew was finishing the meal to transport the potluck donations from the SCR to the hall and to alleviate Matt by tending to the final parts of meal preparation. Thank you so much to Matthew for a delicious meal, and to Bethany Draper and Emma Sutro for taking over so others could attend the Vigil, and for being so vital in hosting once the guests arrived. The meal was served buffet-style and quickly followed by many hours of dancing. Thank you Taylor for getting everyone up on the dance floor, it was enjoyed by all! Clean-up at the end of the night was less formally organized as most party guests, as expected, jumped in to help without being asked ahead of time.

I would like to thank Father Thorne from the bottom of my heart, not only for the work he did in making this particular event run smoothly, but for all he does throughout the year to create an atmosphere that welcomes everyone to celebrate together the rising of our Saviour. The party could not have been the same without him because the community is not the same without him. And I would like to thank him for trusting me, a first year student, to plan such a highly anticipated event. It was such a blessing, in more ways than this little report can say, to have been able to participate in chapel affairs in this capacity. My sincerest love and gratitude goes to everyone that made this event a success!

Submitted by: Sarah-Jane von Bredow