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THE NEW BRUNSWICK

# ANGLICAN



A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL

MAY 2016

SERVING THE DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON

## The pilgrimage continues

### This year, Bishop David Edwards will walk in the Archdeaconry of Chatham

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

When Bishop David Edwards started planning a pilgrimage last year, he knew he would need a fellow walker beside him. The obvious choice was Trevor Fotheringham — fellow British ex-pat, avid outdoor enthusiast and successful pilgrim.

Trevor tackled the Camino Way in 2014, spending more than a month walking from France, over the Pyrenees and across the north of Spain to Santiago de Compostela and the tomb of St James. Who better to guide the bishop than an experienced long-distance walker?

Trevor is back again this year, planning the route they will take through the Archdeaconry of Chatham and looking forward to another adventure.

“It was fun the first time,” said Trevor of last year’s pilgrimage through the Archdeaconry of St. Andrews. “And somebody has to look after the bishop!”

So on May 30<sup>th</sup>, the two will launch the second annual diocesan pilgrimage that will take

them to every parish in the archdeaconry in about two weeks. The bishop has vowed to do one a year, seven in all, to walk each archdeaconry in the diocese.

“There are many reasons for undertaking these walks in different parts of the diocese,” said Bishop David. “From my point of view, as bishop, it gives me a chance to see the region in which God has asked me to serve. I am also able to meet people from our congregations and beyond in a less formal atmosphere.”

Meeting people, witnessing what’s happening in the parishes, seeing how they deal with challenges — all were highlights of last year’s walk, said Trevor.

Again this year, the bishop will write a daily blog of his adventures, which proved to be popular and inspirational last year. Look for a link on the diocesan website once the pilgrimage begins.

Last year, Trevor was unsure of how the idea of a pilgrimage would go over with parishioners. He needn’t have worried.

“We didn’t know how parishioners would react, but the response was overwhelmingly supportive,” he said. “The hospitality was great in every single parish.”

The two usually stayed overnight in empty rectories, in churches or in a parishioner’s home, held Morning Prayer and then were on their way for anywhere from 10-24 kilometres of walking.

At the end of the day, the parish would feed and house the two and Bishop David would lead Evening Prayer.

“We still plan to do the same thing — Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer in the churches,” said Trevor. “There was great participation in the evenings last year. Evening prayer was very well attended. It’s an impressive trend I hope will continue.”

Trevor is hopeful for one change this time — greater numbers joining them.

“The only thing I’d like to

**Pilgrimage continued on page 2**



DEBBIE EDMONDSON PHOTO

### ALLELUIA! CHRIST IS RISEN!

**Ciara Edwards, 6, reads the Easter story to the congregation at St. Paul’s Anglican Church in Zealand on Easter morning, with some guidance from the Rev. John Sharpe. See more news from the Parish of Bright on page 10.**



**Bishop’s Court on Brunswick Street in Fredericton**

## Future of Bishop’s Court project uncertain

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

With the one-year pilot project of Bishop’s Court (Discipleship House) coming to an end, its review was on the agenda at the March meeting of Diocesan Council.

After a presentation by local support team member Tom Fetter, much discussion ensued. A motion passed to continue the pilot project this fall, if practical.

Timing — whether to sit out a year and make more thorough preparations, or go ahead this fall hoping volunteers would step up to help with the administration — was at the heart of the discussion.

With so many successes with the ministry aspect of the project, no one wanted to see a loss of momentum.

“There’s now a community of over 20 young adults who are

not residents, many of whom are at the house through the week,” said Tom in his presentation.

Those young people who drop in at Bishop’s Court have found a support network, friendship, encouragement, open discussion and Bible study.

“We have a Christian community that didn’t exist before,”

**Bishop’s Court continued on page 2**

## DIOCESAN NEWS

# Christians have gone on pilgrimages for centuries, says bishop

**Pilgrimage continued  
from page 1**

see different this year is more people walking with us," he said. "You don't have to join us for the whole day. It can be for half a kilometre. I'm hoping for no days where it will be just the bishop and I walking."

One advantage of joining the pilgrimage is that it affords the opportunity for discussion — some one-on-one time with the bishop that's rare for most parishioners.

After a drizzly, foggy start to last year's trek, Trevor is also praying for better weather.

This year will be different from the first pilgrimage because Chatham is a much bigger archdeaconry geographically, giving Trevor quite the planning challenge. He's trying to time their arrival at the larger centres of Miramichi, Bathurst and Campbellton for the weekends.

As well, there are vast areas between the larger centres that will be covered by car.

"There will be a lot more trail walking than road walking this year," said Trevor. "That will be easier on the feet, and on the roads you can only walk single file, making conversation more difficult.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**The Rev. Chris McMullen of Church of the Good Shepherd and Bishop David Edwards walk a foggy trail west of Saint John during last year's inaugural pilgrimage.**

"With trail walking we can walk as a group. It provides more opportunity to talk to the bishop," he said.

Bishop David sees the historical significance of what he is taking on.

"In truth, the journey is more than a walk, it is a pilgrimage," he said. "The Church of God is a pilgrim Church. We are on the move travelling towards the full establishment of the Kingdom of Heaven.

"We have been on this jour-

ney for more than 2,000 years and it continues today. We have faced many bumps in the road over the centuries as well as times of beautiful rolling hills and panoramic vistas. God continues to lead his Church and a

walking pilgrimage is a symbol of the travelling we do together.

"Pilgrimage has been something Christians have undertaken for centuries. In the early days of the Church the obvious place for pilgrims to go to was Jerusalem, to walk the way of the cross.

"This proved impossible for some and it led to the development of what many of us remember now through the Stations of the cross during Lent. This gives us the clue as to the ultimate purpose of walking, time for prayer and reflection.

"[For me], it is two weeks away from the hurly-burly of everyday life to breathe and take time. I hope some of you will join Trevor and me for a whole day, part of a day or more as we walk this year."

People are welcome to walk alongside Bishop David for one or more days. If you wish to join the pilgrimage for multiple days, including overnight stays, contact Cheryl Jacobs at the Synod Office (459-1801).

Each day's walk will typically begin immediately after Morning Prayer around 8 a.m. and finish up by mid-afternoon. The pace is expected to be 3-4 km/hour.

Day 1 begins May 30<sup>th</sup> at St. Agnes Church in Grey Rapids.

## Next step is appointment of local committee

**Bishop's Court continued  
from page 1**

said Tom.

The concern of many council members was that closing Discipleship House for a year would put that new Christian community in jeopardy.

However, there have been and remain considerable administrative challenges which require resolution.

"We were doing a lot on the fly," said the Ven. Cathy Laskey, the bishop's executive archdeacon. "We need to build upon what we've learned in the past year."

When the pilot project was approved last June, it noted the need for this initiative to be seen as a community house with parishes "adopting" these young people.

Part of the issue is that a broader local support team composed of people from Fredericton parishes did not materialize.

"It has not been advertised that we need local support," said Archdeacon Pat Drummond in speaking on the need to con-

tinue the project this fall. "We'd find these people. I don't think that would be a problem."

Parish development officer Ken Neilson wondered whether the aspects of the project that worked well could be continued outside of having a residential-based project.

Tom's impassioned presentation illustrated the successes and challenges of the first year of students and house parents living together in the empty bishop's quarters on Brunswick Street in Fredericton.

House rules, late rent payments, delegation of responsibilities for things like calling a plumber, and the general friction that comes from people living together were challenges, but Tom focused mostly on the successes, opportunities and potential in his presentation.

Tom told council members the goals of the Discipleship House are in keeping with the bishop's charge from last November's Diocesan Synod, including the priorities of prayer, learning the scriptures, building

up our youth and engaging our communities.

"The results have been strengthened relationships with God; the building of a Christian community and the expression of faith through service," said Tom.

The next step is for Bishop David Edwards to appoint a local committee to review the recommendations and continue to develop the project for implementation. This committee will report to the Administration Team.

But time is of the essence as potential residents will soon need to have their fall accommodations confirmed.

The Discipleship House operated from September to April this past academic year with two house parents and three students. One student left in January.

One of the aims of the project has been to offer post-secondary students a supportive, Christian environment away from home, coupled with community service and local parish involvement.



**DEADLINE FOR NEWS AND PHOTO SUBMISSIONS for the June edition of the New Brunswick Anglican is May 1.**

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## THE BISHOP'S PAGE

# Working with the Five Marks

## The Five Marks of Mission – a quintet in six parts

### An Introduction

The purpose of this series is to help us all to think about the Five Marks of Mission of the Anglican Communion. These were developed in 1984 and we have slowly been working towards them ever since.

It is my hope that through these brief articles we can, as a diocese, determine ways of continuing to work with them.

In his book *The Open Secret* (SPCK 1978), the late missiologist Lesslie Newbigin makes a profound observation: if the Church is only interested in mission in order to save itself, then its mission will not be effective.

Therefore, before we think about the Five Marks and how they apply to us, we face a more basic question: why are we involved in mission? Do we genuinely want to see the Kingdom of God extended; or are we hoping to reach back into a bygone age when our churches were full and we were comfortable in knowing they were there forever?

The answer we give will impact our future and will lead to change.

The first will lead to a reshaping of ourselves to serve God's mission into the future;



the second will mean continued decline.

In this series of reflections, I am not going to go over our problems again. We know what they are and they too easily bind us in inertia, like a rabbit caught in the headlights of an oncoming vehicle.

Rather, I will try to point to some ways forward, not suggesting these are answers, but perhaps pathways we might explore.

Before getting into the meat of the Five Marks, it is necessary to sketch a big picture. Too easily we fall into the trap of seeing our faith as wholly personal, about "me and God" or "Jesus and me."

It is true that God's heart's desire is that we know him, love him and relate to him. This is accomplished through Jesus. Yet there is much more to it than that.

In a sense, our knowing God is a sign of what he really wants: the whole of creation restored to harmony with him. The task of the Church is to play a role in working to that end. We are

involved in God's mission of redemption, of bringing back.

The whole of scripture is set in terms of a conflict between God and forces which are working against him. Sometimes these powers are characterized in a very personal way — Satan.

On other occasions they are seen as defined entities — the Egyptian Empire. They are also pictured as anonymous actors — the spiritual forces of this present age.

No matter how they are described, they are working against the purposes of God.

The most significant player in this drama is Jesus. He is sent to demonstrate God's purpose and to bring about defeat for the opposing powers.

This is Good News, hope for the future. Mark's Gospel leaves us in little doubt of this with its opening line:

"The beginning of the Good News (Gospel) about Jesus Christ, the Son of God" (Mark 1:1).

The word used for Good News is euaggeliou, the root of our words to do with evangelism. In Jesus's day an evangelist was a herald sent from the Emperor to bring glad tidings, such as the birth of a son or a great victory.

The adoption of this word for its message by the early church makes two fundamental statements: the fact of Jesus is Good News; and this news comes from the king.

This once again emphasizes the struggle between God and the powers of the present age. In addition, it points to Jesus

as the primary agent of God in the conflict. He brings the Good News of hope.

God loves his creation, has not abandoned it and in Christ has come to restore it.

At his Baptism there is the image of the Spirit of God coming upon Jesus like a dove. God's voice is also heard from heaven commending him. The sense we are to have is that Jesus's ministry is driven by the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2 gives the same message when the Spirit comes upon the disciples as a rushing wind and fire on the Day of Pentecost. Both Jesus and the Church are empowered by God to bring the Good News of the Kingdom to the world.

Jesus is the agent of God's mission as the Jews were before him; and the Church is the agent of God's mission as Jesus was before it. When the Church works towards the fulfilling of the Five Marks of Mission, then we know that we are doing what we were commissioned to do by God.

Next time, the First Mark: "To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom."

David Edwards is  
Diocesan Bishop of Fredericton.

**WHEN YOU ... listen with all your heart • HONOUR YOUR ELDERS • encourage young people to take over the church often and loudly • choose good over evil • welcome the stranger • write the government about the issues that matter • INVITE A CO-WORKER TO CHURCH • help your dad do housework • get messy with your Sunday school kids • say "Thank you Lord" and mean it • Tweet your blessings one by one • introduce your grandchildren to nature • READ AND SHARE GOD'S WORD • ...THEN YOU ARE LIVING THE MARKS OF MISSION [www.anglican.ca/marks](http://www.anglican.ca/marks)**



ARNOLD GODSOE PHOTO

## LENTEN LUNCHES

Each year for four weeks, the folks at St. George's Anglican Church in McAdam mark the Lenten season with Lenten cafés. This year they began on Feb. 22 with a menu of homemade chicken vegetable soup and lentil soup, sandwiches, cake, coffee and tea served by their Anglicans Working Together group. A New-To-U table was also popular. This year's cafés raised \$1,550 for Lakeland Industries, a local sheltered workshop for intellectually challenged persons, and \$200 for PWRDF. This photo is from the Feb. 29 café.

## PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS

MAY 1  
PENNFIELD \*

MAY 3  
ACW DIOCESAN  
ANNUAL MEETING

MAY 5  
DIOCESE OF  
QUEBEC -  
CONSECRATION  
OF BRUCE MYERS

MAY 8  
MILLIDGEVILLE \*

MAY 11-13  
THRESHOLD  
MINISTRIES  
NATIONAL  
GATHERING

MAY 14  
LAYREADERS' DAY

MAY 15  
STANLEY \*

MAY 19  
DIOCESAN  
COUNCIL

MAY 21-23  
TEENS  
ENCOUNTER  
CHRIST

MAY 26-27  
CLERGY SPOUSES  
RETREAT

MAY 29  
COLDBROOK  
AND ST. MARY \*

MAY 29 - JUNE 12  
PILGRIMAGE -  
ARCHDEACONRY  
OF CHATHAM

JUNE 12-15  
ATLANTIC  
THEOLOGICAL  
CONFERENCE

JUNE 18  
DIOCESAN  
COUNCIL

\* CONFIRMATION

## ARCHDEACONRY SERIES

# Working together in the valley

*This is the third in a series of stories focusing on our archdeacons. This month we feature the Archdeaconry of Kingston and the Kennebecasis.*

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Last year at this time, the Ven. Rob Marsh was thinking it was time to become more involved in diocesan work.

"I've been in the diocese now for 24 years," said Rob. "I had drawn back from diocesan roles and got more involved in parish ministry. But then I began to feel that it was time to do more in the diocese."

At about the same time, Archdeacon David Barrett was saying goodbye to parish life in order to become the hospital chaplain at the Saint John hospitals.

Then Bishop David Edwards called Rob about taking on the role of archdeacon.

"He asked me to think and pray about it. It felt right," said Rob.

Rob was ordained the diocese's newest archdeacon last September and took over for David Barrett in the Archdeaconry of Kingston and the Kennebecasis, a territory that runs from Saint John's eastern border to Sussex Corner — south central New Brunswick.

"So far it's been a joy to get to know people in the archdeaconry and get to know clergy in a deeper, ministerial way."

As archdeacon, Rob doesn't carry a big whip. It's not his style.

"I see my role as archdeacon to be a go-between, between the parish priest and the bishop. I am the bishop's representative at events, and I pray for and care for the priests in my archdeaconry," he said.

"I'm also here to encourage laity in the archdeaconry. Kingston and the Kennebecasis has over 70 layreaders."

## Working together

Rob is also priest-in-charge in the Parishes of Central Kings and Upham, which takes in Springfield, Lower Norton, Bloomfield, Upham, Barnesville, French Village and Smithtown — the churches between Saint John and Apohaqui, not including Hampton.

He's pleased with what he sees in his own two parishes.

"One of the best things is seeing how these two parishes have grown together," said Rob. "On all the big Sundays we worship together, plus one Sunday a month. It seems like people are finding more reasons to be together."

Men's group, missions committee, seniors' dinners, outreach to Hampton High School — they are all shared in the two parishes.

## Origins

Rob began life in Newfoundland and joined Church Army. His first parish was in Grande Prairie, Alberta in 1990, where he was parish assistant and diocesan youth co-ordinator for two years.

"My wife and I wanted to move east, towards Newfoundland, so I took a job at Inner City Youth Ministry in Saint John," he said. "I had Sunday duties at Trinity and St. James on Broad Street."

From 1999 to 2008, he was Church Army's Atlantic director. His territory ran from Montreal to Newfoundland.

At the request of Bishop Claude Miller in 2008, Rob went to Musquash to assist David Genge who was undergoing chemotherapy at the time.

David subsequently died and Rob stayed on, moving to the Parish of Central Kings in 2010.

The bishop added the Parish of Upham in 2014, and that's

where he's been since then.

Rob was away from full-time parish ministry from 1992-2008, "and when I returned . . . it was like I'd found something I'd lost. It's where it feels good for me," he said.

The Archdeaconry of Kingston and the Kennebecasis is a spin-off of the Archdeaconry of Saint John, and was created in 1999 when the Saint John archdeaconry was split.

As of 2016, Rob and these eight priests: David Turner, Albert Snelgrove, Eric Phinney, Wally Collett, Peter Gillies, Allen Tapley, Tom Stradwick and Paul Ranson, plus several deacons and honorary assistants, are responsible for ministry in the archdeaconry.

## Challenges

High on Rob's list is getting a clergy opening filled in Gondola Point.

Beyond that, Rob believes the archdeaconry's biggest challenges are linked to the loss of parishioners.

"Right now it would have to be dwindling numbers in the congregations and how we go about reviving them," he said. "People still need to know God loves them."

"Part of that is people think they can be close to God in nature, at a park, at home, but we're called as Christ commanded to come together. We need to do that at the parish level and archdeaconry level."

Dwindling numbers lead to dwindling finances, another challenge, he said.

Finally, the challenge of keeping young people engaged is big.

"It's about how we meet youth in our archdeaconry, the ways and means to meet them where they are, and how they find support and encouragement," he



## Parishes

Central Kings  
Gondola Point  
Hammond River  
Hampton  
Kingston  
Quispamsis  
Renforth  
Rothesay  
St. Marks (Sussex Corner)  
Sussex  
Upham  
Upper Kennebecasis  
Waterford

## Archdeaconry of Kingston and the Kennebecasis Quick Facts

### Number of:

Parishes: 13

Congregations: 16

Church buildings: 24

Adults: 2,429 (2015 statistics)

Children: 396



The Ven. Rob Marsh

said.

But they're on the right track with something as simple as a jelly jar, he believes.

At youth group, kids are welcome to put any question they want answered in the jelly jar and it's up to Rob to answer them honestly and clearly.

Questions about evolution, why good people get cancer, why there is war — it's up to Rob to address some pretty compelling issues that are on kids' minds and he enjoys that challenge.

## Team work

Rob encourages the idea of parishes working together.

"At the last Stewardship Day we broke off into deanery

groups, and one idea was to have a deanery or archdeaconry day to get together to discuss something we might want to do together," he said.

"We could share information and best practices, have open dialogue between parishes. I'm looking to the future and like team-building between parishes."

He saw that played out at Easter when all five churches in the Kennebecasis Valley held a joint Good Friday service. He cites his own two parishes as another example.

"We have to start working more together," he said. "I'd like to see it happening more and elsewhere."

## DIOCESAN COUNCIL

# Highlights from Diocesan Council's March meeting

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Diocesan Council met March 17 at the Church of the Resurrection in Grand Bay-Westfield. It being St. Patrick's Day, Bishop David Edwards opened with a homily on Ireland's patron saint.

"He was determined the people of Ireland should receive the gospel," said the bishop. "In a way, he crucified himself. He gave up himself for others. It reminds me of the call upon us.

"Jesus says we must die to lead, on both the personal and corporate level. What must die in us, what must be given up in order to achieve new life?

"Our challenge as a diocese is how to cultivate that new life? Let's reflect on that today. What are we, in leadership, being called to let die?"

## Financial Report

• Chair Gil Carter presented the Finance Committee report, including a motion to write off the sum of \$58,929 in arrears in accordance with Policy A-6: Outstanding Parish Support. The motion was passed.

## Parking lot loan

• Council approved a diocesan loan to the Parish of Coldbrook and St. Mary in the amount of \$65,000 and furthermore that the parish be granted approval to access their rectory funds as a repayable loan.

This money is to enable them to pursue the purchase of land they previously sold to enlarge their parking lot.

"They have a problem that others would envy," said the bishop. "Their parking lot is too small."

They previously traded the land to a contractor for work done a few years ago. The buyer had planned to build on it but has since decided not to, prompting the parish to explore the feasibility of repurchasing the land.

## Upgrades to St. Mark's

• Council approved a diocesan loan guarantee to the parish of St. Mark's, Sussex Corner in the amount of \$270,000 for proposed renovations.

Their entryway was demolished by an out-of-control truck some time ago, and "this gave us the opportunity to look at the building and ask how the building could be brought into the 20th century — and the 21st century," said the Rev. Allen Tapley.



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS

**ABOVE:** The Rev. Allen Tapley, rector of Waterford and St. Marks, and Colin McDonald, director of youth and intergenerational ministries, chat before Diocesan Council got underway March 17.

**ABOVE RIGHT:** The Church of the Resurrection in Grand Bay has a striking interior.

**BELOW:** Bishop David Edwards, right, thanks the kitchen crew for the delicious meal of soups and sandwiches at Diocesan Council.



They've had a working group studying this for two years and have engaged a draftsman to draw up plans, but there have been complications.

"We realized bringing the building up to modern standards is expensive," said Allen, adding the Fire Marshal's requirements are particularly demanding.

The work will cost in excess of \$400,000, and parishioners have donated \$60,000 so far.

The parish also has the money they received from the insurance settlement related to the original damage to help fund the renovations.

The loan itself is subject to further discussion with potential lenders, at least one of which is another parish in the diocese.

Archdeacon Patricia Drummond asked about the impact the mine closure in Sussex would have on repaying the loan.

"The plans were already in place when the mine closed," said Allen. "Our miners said the project should go ahead.

There are five miners and their families in the congregation.

## Safe Church

• Treasurer Irene Adams reported that the diocese has applied for federal funding for three student jobs this summer.

One is for the resource centre, and another is to help with diocesan and parish websites.

The third revolves around Safe Church, specifically to

develop a training package to deliver to clergy and laity.

"You're going to hear a lot about Safe Church over the next few months," said Irene. "This must be implemented well in advance of by Dec. 1, our insurance renewal date."

## Bishop's gratitude

• Bishop David expressed his gratitude to council and the diocese for their response to the Caring For Colin fund, noting that \$170,000 had been raised to help pay for Colin Ranson's brain surgery in Texas.

"I was at a funeral the other day and a 92-year-old came up to me and said, 'I can't remember the diocese coming together like this on anything,'" he said.

"It's made us look up, and

look beyond keeping the roof on. It's out of the ordinary."

Colin, 2 ½, had successful laser brain surgery March 4 at Texas Children's Hospital to remove a tumour. He is the son of the Rev. Paul and Kim Ranson.

## Open house in June

• Diocesan Council is planning an open house for its meeting on Saturday, June 18 in Fredericton.

Mark your calendars and plan to join in a time of celebration on Saturday afternoon at Christ Church Cathedral, on the green if weather permits, Cathedral Memorial Hall, Bishop's Court and the Synod Office.

Watch for further details on this event in eNews. Everyone is welcome to attend.

# THE GARDEN THAT GREW AND GREW



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

**Matthew 25:35 - For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.**

The bible has a great deal to say about feeding the poor. The Rev. Canon Richard McConnell takes that seriously.

Now retired, he is credited with the idea of starting a community garden on the vast grounds of St. Martin-in-the-Woods in Shediac Cape.

"The church sits on seven acres of land, and in behind the church, there's probably another seven acres at least," he said. "It seemed obvious that something should be planted there."

Having a large vegetable garden, and sharing the bounty, is in keeping with his beliefs.

"I've always been a very sacramental type of Christian," he said. "Having bread and wine on the table — that is where it comes from."

So in 2013, he and parishioner Joyce Tilburt began toying with the idea of a

community garden, whereby half the plots would grow food for the Vestiare St. Joseph Food Bank in Shediac. They sought advice from the community garden in Shediac and started small.

"I can remember saying to Joyce, 'I don't know if this is going to work or not work, but I'm not going to discourage you.'"

It worked.

## Breaking ground

In the fall of 2013, parishioner Charlie Connors brought his tractor and plowed up a large plot. They found oyster shells in the soil, an indication that this had been a fruitful garden long before they came up with the idea.

Susan Bérubé and George Welling joined Joyce to form a loose organizing team to oversee the garden, and the serious planning began.

In the spring, they enlisted the help of the children at the church's St. Martin's Daycare and After-School program to grow plants, a task they took on with great enthusiasm.

"Those kids, from Day 1, have been involved in the planting and growing," said Richard.

The team rented out 15 plots for \$15 each, and had a large plot set aside exclu-

sively for growing vegetables for the food bank.

It was a great success, to the point where last year, they doubled the size of the 15 plots and increased the food bank plot by 1.66.

"People pay us \$15, but there are provisions if people really can't afford it," said Susan. "We're willing to forego it."

These 15 gardeners, some parishioners, some neighbours of the church, have found the ready-made garden a great advantage. Susan is one of them.

"Some could easily put a garden in their backyard, but choose not to," said Susan. "Here the tilling is done. It's ready to plant."

## For the food bank

Providing garden plots is one thing, but planting, tending, harvesting and donating vegetables to a food bank is quite another.

"We felt this was a way to give back to the community and provide organic vegetables to the food bank," said Susan. "Regardless of whatever else was going on [with the garden], the food bank would be part of it."

But it had to be organically grown vegetables.

"Joyce was adamant about it being an

organic garden," said Susan. "It was part of the original concept when she and Father Richard were planning it."

So who tends the food bank plot? "The idea is that every person who rents a plot would donate time, but that doesn't always happen," said Susan. "That falls to those of us willing to put the work into it."

The result was that in 2015, St. Martin-in-the-Woods church was able to donate in excess of 1,000 vegetables to the food bank. Clearly someone was tending the food bank plot.

## Expansion

With the first season a success, 2015 was an expansion year with the addition of a meditation garden.

"This was Joyce's wonderful idea," said Susan. "The concept was the creation of an area facing the garden in the shade of six fruit trees we got, surrounded by blueberry and quince bushes, and just enjoy it."

Those apple, pear and cherry trees and fruit bushes will eventually yield a harvest, another way to help feed the community.

With help from a provincial grant through the Community Action Food Program, they added a shed, picnic tables, wheelbarrows and benches, plus the trees

and bushes.

They also applied for help from the Exxon Day of Caring, a United Way initiative where employees of Exxon, plus many volunteers, take on local community tasks.

"You apply for volunteers to come," said Sue. "They came and helped plant, stained the shed and picnic table, cut sod for the meditation garden."

"What we got accomplished with those 12 people in one day would have taken us a month. We're all getting older."

## Spin-offs

From the garden have come other ideas for how to enrich the community using food. They have held workshops on making pasta, quark (similar to cottage cheese), sauerkraut and soap.

"This is all under the auspices of the community garden, and we've run one series of children's cooking classes," said Susan.

They began with 12 kids from ages 8-14. For six weeks, in the church's commercial kitchen, the kids learned to make such delights as shepherd's pie, chili, biscuits and cookies.

A Red Seal chef in training, Megan Savoy, taught the kids, and the outcome was a success, so much so that another class is planned for this spring.

"It was free. The parish supports it. We have our own little budget for this," said Susan.

And the St. Martin's Daycare and After-School program not only starts plants in the spring, it has its own plot for growing vegetables.

## Funding and future plans

This year, plans are underway for an herb garden, and Joyce is probably already growing the herbs, said Susan.

They have more workshops in mind — on planting, maintaining, harvesting and preserving the proceeds of the gardens.

For those thinking about replicating what St. Martin-in-the-Woods has done, it's not been a huge financial burden. Last year, the budget was about \$4,000, but that was to purchase equipment, and the group had help from the provincial grant. The first year it was less than half that.

Funding has come from a variety of sources. The parish has provided a substantial amount, and the proceeds of yard sales the past two years have helped, as has the collection of recyclable bottles and cans. And parishioners have donated Canadian Tire money, which buys seeds and tools, said Susan.

## Marks of Mission

**Third Mark of Mission: To respond to human need by loving service.**

**Fifth Mark of Mission: To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.**

St. Martin-in-the-Woods is fulfilling two of the five Marks of Mission with its organic community garden.

"We wanted to offer people the opportunity to personally grow fresh, organic food, and to offer the same to those in need," said Sue. "We hope it encourages others."



ABOVE: Cooking class for kids was a big hit last year, and another six-week course will take place this spring. Here Noah Leblanc and Quentin Cheriére look very much at home in the kitchen. Hudson Knaze is busy with clean-up in the background.

BELOW: Charlie Connors tills and fertilizes the plots in anticipation of gardening season while Barb Murray mows.

BOTTOM LEFT: Last year's Exxon Day of Caring saw a dozen community volunteers lend a hand to get a lot of the heavy jobs completed, like staining the shed.

LEFT: Last year volunteers prepared the meditation garden next to the vegetable plots. The garden will eventually produce cherries, apples, pears, blueberries and quince — the fruits of what was planted that day.



BELOW: The Ven. Cathy Laskey, now the bishop's executive archdeacon, was a priest at St. Martin-in-the-Woods when the community garden began in 2014. Here she is blessing the garden and its harvest.



## NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE



# Maundy Thursday: A challenge from the bishop



TOP: Bishops David Edwards and Claude Miller renew their vows during the Maundy Thursday service.

MIDDLE: Mary Allwood, Janet Otorowski and Kaye Small of the Cathedral ACW serve lunch.

BOTTOM: Layreaders Shara Golden, Nancy Robinson and Peggy Sproul (standing) renew their vows.

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

The Maundy Thursday service at Christ Church Cathedral on March 24 saw dozens of clergy and those in commissioned or licensed lay ministries — layreaders, parish evangelists and so on — plus two bishops renew their vows of ministry.

It was also a time for oils of healing to be blessed.

Bishop David Edwards preached on the call of God in our lives.

“The call of God to us is his whispered word that can be whispered in numerous ways,” he said.

He told those gathered of being at a garden party as a teenager when the vicar came up to him, tapped him on the shoulder and said, ‘David, you should consider being ordained.’

“It took me almost 20 years to get there,” he said. “But that call was the intention of God before the beginning of time.”

Many are called but do not answer. Many things inhibit the call. Nevertheless, it is still from God, said the bishop, and “We are called to fulfill that call.”

He recounted the first time he went for discernment.

“I was rejected,” he said. “Did the church get it right? Absolutely! In the intervening years, did that invalidate my call? No.”

He reminded lay, diaconal and priestly ministers that they are called together to be the church and to serve in humility.

“Everybody in ministry



must understand what it means to serve, to set ourselves aside in order to serve,” he said.

At Easter, we are reminded of the biggest decision in history, made in the Garden of Gethsemane.

“If we think about it, Jesus could have very easily turned and walked away, down the Kidron Valley ... and disappeared from the pages of history. There would be no Good Friday, no Easter, no hope.

“What he did was demonstrate what he said earlier that evening: if you want to be my

follower, you must be the least, the servant, the slave — the one that puts yourself at the bottom of the heap so that good things can happen.

“The good news of Christ involves sacrifice,” he said. “That’s our challenge.”

After the service, many gathered at Cathedral Memorial Hall for lunch and fellowship.

Then it was back to their respective parishes to participate in Holy Week services, and on Easter Sunday, to celebrate the resurrection of the risen Saviour.



## TESTIFY!

# From illegitimate to legitimate

**When Rick Mills was 13, he needed his birth certificate to join Air Cadets. That document revealed a shameful secret.**

BY RICK MILLS

What you've started to read is my testimony, but in a sense, it is everyone's story.

According to Hebrews 4:8 (NKJ), "But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons."

I became a child of God — or a legitimate son — after 40 years of wandering in the wilderness. Although the wilderness is not much fun, it can be a great learning experience.

Deuteronomy 8:2 (NAS) says, "You shall remember all the way which the Lord your God led you in the wilderness these 40 years, that He might humble you, testing you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not."

In the worldly sense, I was born illegitimate on Feb. 26, 1950. In those days the norm for a young, pregnant unmarried woman was to either give her child up for adoption or give the child to a family member.

I was given to my grandmother whom I called mom. I

wish I had time to tell you about this wonderful, strong woman who taught me to go to church, gave me my first Bible at age eight, and taught me good morals and values.

One fact about Mom is that

on her 39th birthday in 1942, she buried her husband in Hardwicke, N.B.

It should be noted that Mom at this time was pregnant for her 14th child with little education and little or no money. So she left her home and community, packed her family and moved to Newcastle.

Eight years later, I came on the scene — her 15th child.

Before starting school, I didn't know I was illegitimate. Entering Grade 1, I came home on the first day of school with an information sheet for Mom to fill out.

Upon returning to school, I examined the information about me which listed the names of my seven brothers and seven sisters along with Mom's name for mother and after my father's name it said "deceased."

In Grade 1, I learned arithmetic and soon realized that something didn't add up — I was born in 1950 and my father, on this piece of paper, had died eight years before I was born.

I didn't ask any questions and no one in my family ever explained anything to me. I just remember feeling not so much that something was wrong, but there was something wrong with me.

I couldn't verbalize or articulate this "wrongness," but



at age 13, I received a big piece of the puzzle when I asked Mom for my baptismal or birth certificate so I could join Air Cadets.

This time, Mom said, "Go see Jean" who was listed on the Grade 1 information sheet as one of my sisters.

Upon examining my baptismal certificate, Mom wasn't my mother and the space for father was blank.

Again I asked no questions and no one in the family told me anything. I solved the "wrongness" — I'm illegitimate."

With this revelation, my mind was bombarded with thoughts: "you're a mistake, you're unwanted, unloved" and there was a flood of shame.

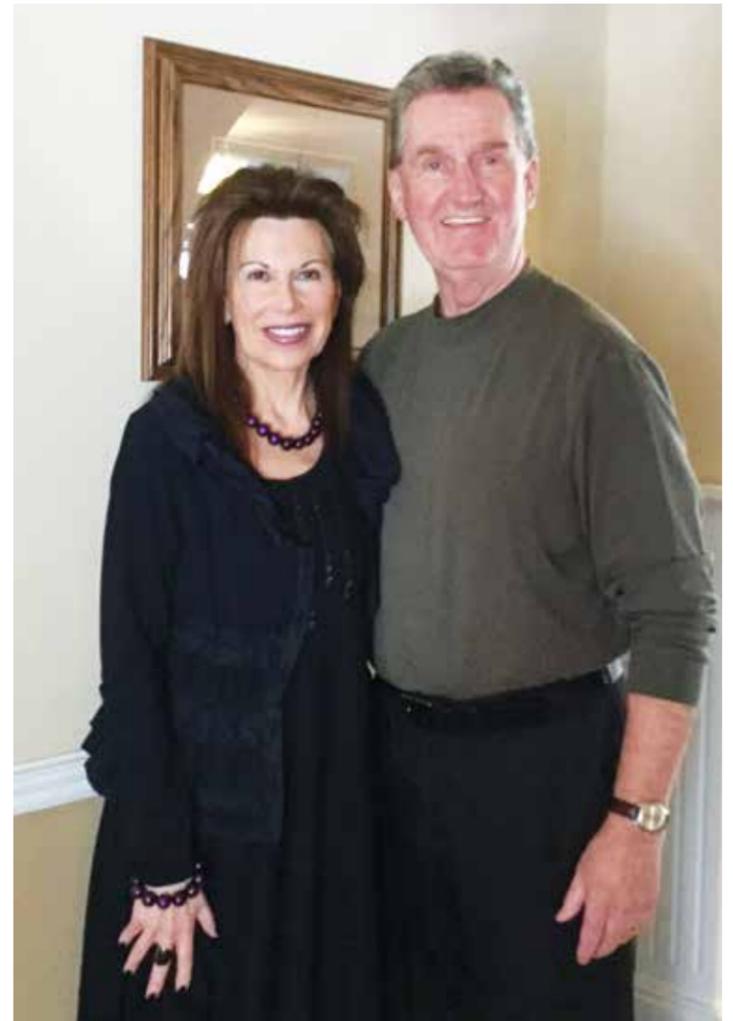
But this feeling of shame and all its ugly tentacles never came from my family and definitely never came from my Heavenly Father.

Isaiah 59:19 says, "When the enemy comes in like a flood, The Spirit of the Lord will lift up a standard against him."

The standard that was lifted up is none other than Jesus Christ himself who knows all about my shame and nailed it to the cross.

So how did I meet this standard? Who removed my shame? It was Monday, Aug. 27, 1990 and I was severely hung over and totally bankrupt — mentally, socially, emotionally, spiritually and in every way you can imagine.

In desperation that day, I got down on my knees and



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**As a child, Rick Mills did the math and realized not everything about his birth added up. It was much later that his suspicions were confirmed. He is shown here with his wife, Jeanie.**

cried out to God: "If you're real, please get me out of this mess or I'll get myself out," meaning suicide.

There was nothing but dead silence.

Then interestingly, three days later, it happened. It was 9 a.m. and I was all ready to paint the office at St. Mary's Anglican Church in Chatham.

Suddenly, something, or I should say, someone, grabbed a hold of me, took me out the door of the church office, past the church altar and threw me onto my knees near the Communion rail.

I heard a voice in my head say firmly, "DO IT!"

Without thinking, I raised both arms to heaven as high as I could and I said, "Okay God, You're number one."

That's the day and time when I believe God Almighty wrote my name in the Lambs Book of Life. Rick Mills was finally legitimate and part of the family of God.

Today I don't have the legal documents to prove my legitimacy, but I have a heavenly assurance.

•••

**Rick Mills lives in Miramichi, N.B. and attends St. Mary's Anglican Church in the Parish of Chatham.**

**In desperation that day, I got down on my knees and cried out to God: "If you're real, please get me out of this mess or I'll get myself out," meaning suicide. There was nothing but dead silence.**



**Got a prayer request? We can help with that.**

Send in your request and the diocesan synod staff will pray for you during Morning Prayer.

<http://anglican.nb.ca/wp/prayer/prayer-request/>

Themed camps each week from July 3-Aug. 12

Kids 5-14, don't miss out this summer!  
Florenceville-Bristol, NB  
[campbrookwood.ca](http://campbrookwood.ca)



**Camp clean-up day**

Saturday, May 28  
10 a.m.- 5 p.m.  
Lunch will be provided. Please help get the camp up and running for summer campers.

# PARISH NEWS



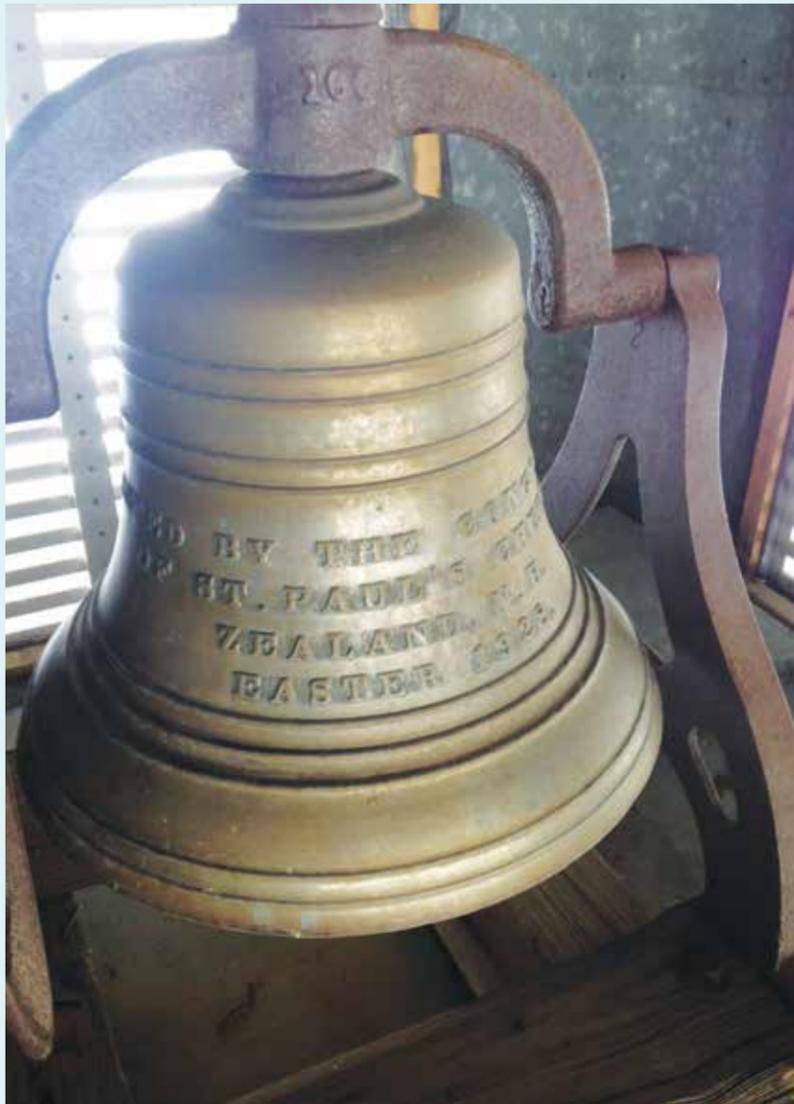
DEBBIE EDMONDSON PHOTOS

## EARTH HOUR & EASTER IN THE PARISH OF BRIGHT

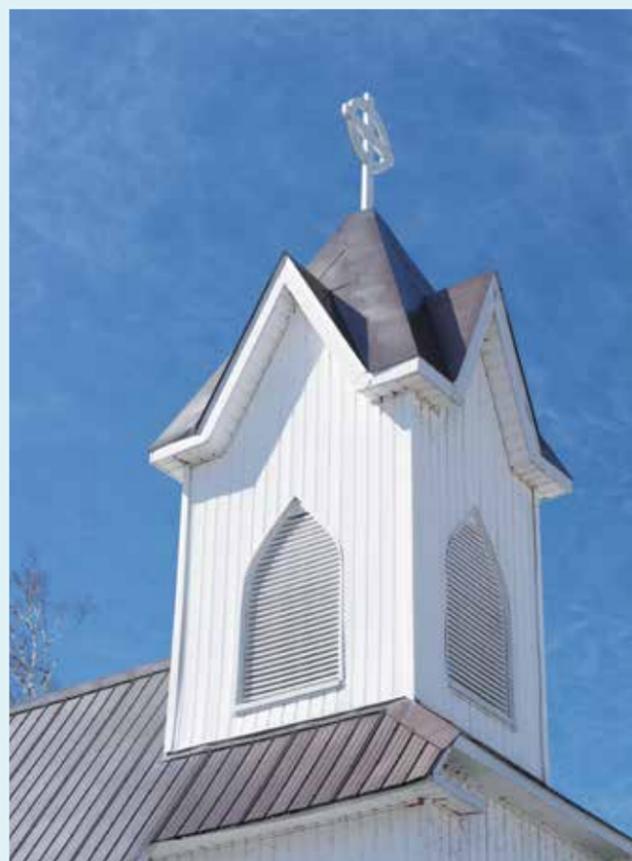


**EARTH HOUR CELEBRATED:** Members of the Parish of Bright celebrated Earth Hour on March 19th with a poetry reading, quiet reflection, prayer and refreshments in the Medley Room. It was a lovely evening of fellowship and awareness of creation. Here they are shown just before the lights were dimmed.

**LET THE BELL RING:** Easter morning at St. Paul's Anglican church in Zealand was celebrated with, among others things, some bell ringing. The bell at St. Paul's was dedicated 88 years ago on Easter Day 1928. Earlier the past winter, the rope to the bell broke, so the church bell has been silent for services for several months. But on Easter morning, the bell rang out in joyful celebration of a risen saviour. Here the bell and the steeple at St. Paul's are shown.



ERIC GILMORE PHOTO



## MUSIC COLUMN

# This new band consumes me

I have just found my new “good morning!” album — you know, the music you need to wake up to on a bright, energetic morning (unless you are the type that slumps toward the coffeemaker and drink two cups before anyone dares to come near you).

Consumed By Fire is a new band featuring three brothers who have brought all kinds of goodies to the table. It's Needtobreathe meets Mumford and Sons. It's Appalachian folk meets soulful funk. With a horn line. And a musical saw. And a whole lot of incredible music!

The album is called *Giving Over*, by Consumed By Fire.

“Lean On Me” (no, it's not a remake) is a great example of some good, honest, fun music that sets the scene for



the entire album. You will be whistling this tune in no time!

It is also an example of something I find very refreshing about this band, new as they are (this is their first full-length album). There is not a hint of questionable theology on this record.

Instead, the band sticks with basic themes of leaning on Jesus, the struggle to love each other better, perseverance of faith, etc.

These three brothers, Caleb, Josh and Jordan Ward have



been making music together most of their lives. Raised in a large southern United States musical family, they have been able to make use of many resources to experiment with new ideas and sounds.

Many bands take several albums to settle into and define their “sound,” and this may be the case for Consumed by Fire.

There is a great deal of mu-

sical material on this album, which can have benefits and problems. Right now, there are very few problems, and the current result, for me at least, is that this album is a musical treat to the senses.

The final track, “Crossroads,” a song written in part by Ward's father a few years back during a trying time for him, throws a dollop of Appalachian folk music that uses a spooky, wheezing musical saw (or is that mysterious instrument a Theremin?) for a dirge-like feel to the sound, supported by sparse, drawn-out lyrics.

As a hopeful death song (a neat trick - there are so few of them), “Crossroads” ends the album with an autumnal feel that's very satisfying.

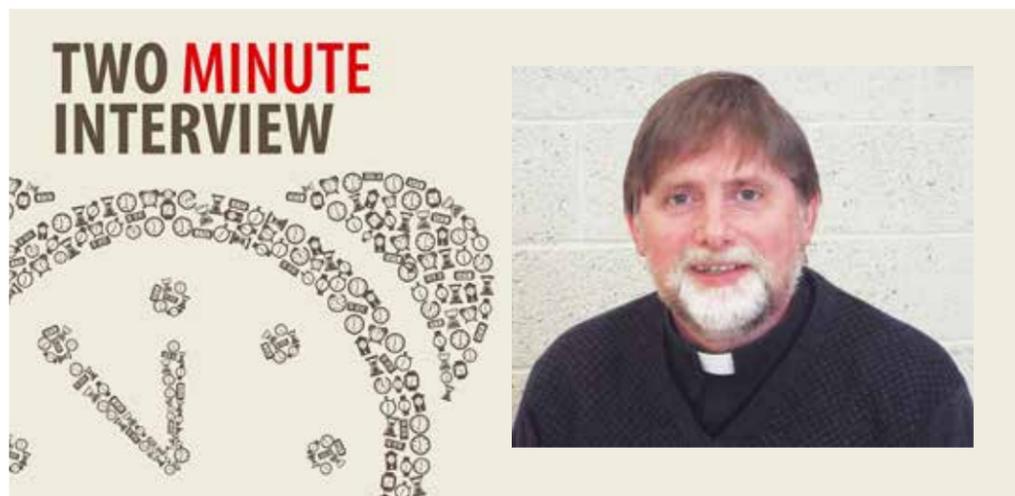
This album is sure to attract

fans of folk, acoustic and some pop music. It is a fresh package of simple music that doesn't presume to be more than something inspirations, hopeful, and helpful.

The music on this album has a strangely deep-rooted, yet raw feel to it, one that is inviting to the listener while revealing some deep truths about Christian faith.

If this is the band's first offering, then I simply can't wait to see what comes next! I'll give it two proverbial thumbs up, and am eager to see what others think of this album.

*Rev. Chris Hayes is a musician as well as a priest serving in the Parish of Salisbury and Havelock.*



## The Ven. Rob March Archdeacon of Kingston and the Kennebecasis

- **Favourite book of the Bible** - The Gospels, Acts and Romans
- **Provenance (birthplace)** - Harbour Breton, NL
- **What you love most about God** - That he is a God of love and grace
- **Favourite place on Earth** - Lake Louise, Alberta with my wife; the hills overlooking Cartwright, Labrador with my dad; walking the fields on the back of Bell Island, Newfoundland with my mom; racing go carts with my sons
- **Farthest you've been from home** - Gibsons, British Columbia (famous for the Beachcombers television show)
- **Favourite meal or dessert** - Italian food, Thai food and almost every chocolate dessert
- **Biggest fear** - anything that might hurt my boys
- **Hidden talent** - cooking barbecue
- **Favourite movie or book** - Lord of the Rings trilogy / the Hobbit series
- **Your hobby** - woodworking, mechanics, gardening, watching sports
- **Three things always in your fridge** - milk, cilantro, cheese
- **Favourite sports team** - NHL: Montreal Canadiens; MLB: Toronto Blue Jays; NBA: Toronto Raptors; CFL: Montreal Alouettes; NFL: Dallas Cowboys/Chicago Bears; English Premier League: Arsenal FC

**ANNUAL CLERGY SPOUSES' RETREAT**  
May 26-28  
Villa Madonna Retreat House,  
Renforth, N.B.  
**Theme: It is Well With My Soul**

Register on-line via Diocese of Fredericton website ([anglican.nb.ca/register](http://anglican.nb.ca/register)), or send form to Isabelle Hockin, 110 Harbour Brook Lane, Fredericton, NB E3B 0C4



## TEC

### Teens Encounter Christ

A weekend free of stress, pressure, school, work and home, where you'll have an opportunity with others to experience Jesus Christ.  
What you'll find: discussions, questions, worship, live music, fun, fellowship, food, no judgments.

Victoria Day weekend,  
May 21-23 @ Camp Medley

Download the brochure and registration form: [http://anglican.nb.ca/events/2016\\_TEC24\\_candidate\\_application.pdf](http://anglican.nb.ca/events/2016_TEC24_candidate_application.pdf)



## AROUND THE DIOCESE

# Camp clean-up needs your help

BY MAREN MCLEAN PERSAUD

We are now in full swing at Camp Medley getting ready for our summer season!

As the staff comes together, campers begin to register and the weather starts to feel a little bit warmer, summer camp feels a bit closer every day. Sometimes I like to refer to what we do in camping ministry as “plunging toilets and changing lives” because that really is the A-to-Z of it. So many little jobs (not always pleasant!) go into making sure that the summer is successful, safe and fun.

If all these little jobs weren't done, camp couldn't be the life-changing experience it is for so many children. This year we are looking for the community's help to get us

started on some of our pre-camp duties.

On Saturday, May 14, we are hosting a Camp Community Clean-up Day from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Coffee and treats will be there in the morning, lunch will be available and all we ask in return is that you bring yourself and a readiness to work as we tackle a list of chores that need to get done. The jobs will range from cleaning mugs and digging flowerbeds to fixing up some of our buildings.

There is something for everyone to do, no matter your maintenance skill level. We are looking forward to this day spent together!

Please email me with your intention to participate so we can prepare enough lunch: [director@campmedley.ca](mailto:director@campmedley.ca)



MCKNIGHT PHOTO

## ANGLICAN ENERGY!

Anglican Energy, the diocesan team for the fundraiser Coldest Night of the Year, included Cheryl Jacobs, Irene Adams and the Ven. Cathy Laskey, who, with help from many generous people, raised \$2,058.25, more than any other Fredericton team. The national fundraising campaign aims to combat homelessness and hunger each February.



## HARDY FOLK

Both young and old braved a cold March Saturday on the morning of the 19th for the Restigouche Parish sleigh ride. After the outdoor fun, people from all three congregations gathered at Christ Church for beans, chili and hot dogs.



MARK FRANKLIN PHOTOS



## Episcopal Announcements



April 12, 2016 The Rev. Chris Hayes, of the Parish of Salisbury and Havelock, is appointed regional dean of the Deanery of Shediac for a three-year term ending April 15, 2019.

April 5, 2016 The Rev. Fran Bedell, of the Parish of Madawaska, is re-appointed regional dean of the Deanery of Woodstock for a three-year term ending March 31, 2019.

## Heart for Asia prayer conference June 3-5

*Crandall University, Moncton  
Annual missions conference  
of OMF International  
(formerly China Inland Mission)*

Theme: Facing The  
Task Unfinished

[www.heartforasia.ca/](http://www.heartforasia.ca/)