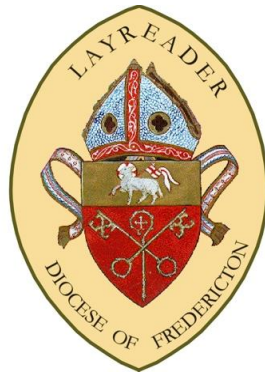


Layreader Update 2018

For Clergy and Layreaders



The Anglican Diocese of Fredericton

Layreader Website

<http://anglican.nb.ca/wp/layreaders/>

Clergy Resources Website

<http://anglican.nb.ca/programs/layreaders/>

May 12, 2018

Issue 3

WORKING TOGETHER TO THE GLORY OF GOD

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Message from the Warden of Layreaders

Dear Clergy and Layreaders:

It is a pleasure to report that the Diocese of Fredericton layreader ministry program has experienced another year of growth and maturity. Currently there are 31 layreaders-in-training as well as 94 diocesan and 204 parochial layreaders for a total of 329 layreaders assisting in the diocese. We thank each person as well as the twelve layreaders who have chosen to retire over the past year for their ministry. We also welcome six new layreaders-in-training wishing them well in their journey of faith.

Core foundational courses are designed to provide layreaders with a basic understanding of scripture, liturgy, worship, doctrine, history, leadership and preaching. One course titled "Leading Worship as a Layreader" has been added to the Anglican worship stream.

To date, all core foundational courses have been developed with the exception of the session relating to the Book of Common Prayer. Required courses for layreaders-in-training as well as continuing education courses for parochial and diocesan layreaders, include:

- Reading Scripture & Liturgy in Public (Bishop Edwards)
- Biblical Foundations (Bishop Edwards)
- Church Doctrine (Bishop Edwards)
- Introduction to Sermon Preparation (Bishop Hockin)
- Church History: The Reformation (Canon Dr. Ross Hebb)
- Leadership Foundations (Bishop Edwards)
- Anglican Worship:
 - The Lord's Prayer (Bishop Hockin)
 - Prayers of the People (Rev. David Peer)
 - Unpacking the Creeds (Rev. Terence Chandra)
 - Leading Worship as a Layreader (Rev. David Peer - October 27, 2018)
 - The Book of Common Prayer (to be developed)
 - Spiritual Disciplines & Practices (Rev. Thomas Nesbitt - June 2, 2018)

Parochial and diocesan layreaders are strongly encouraged to participate in the courses to receive new information and to mentor new layreaders.

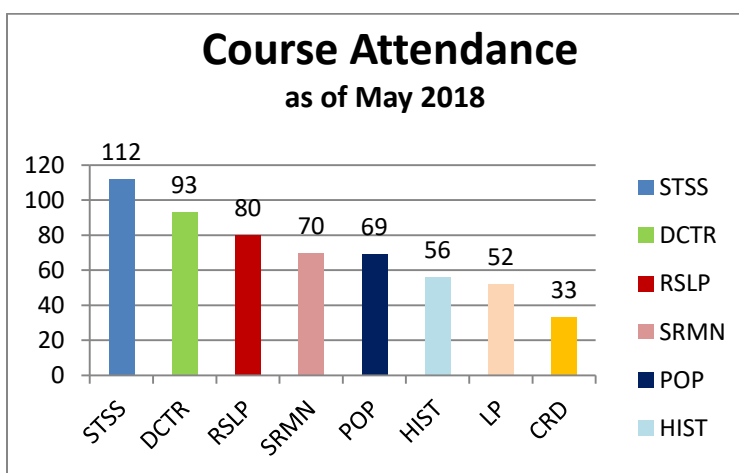
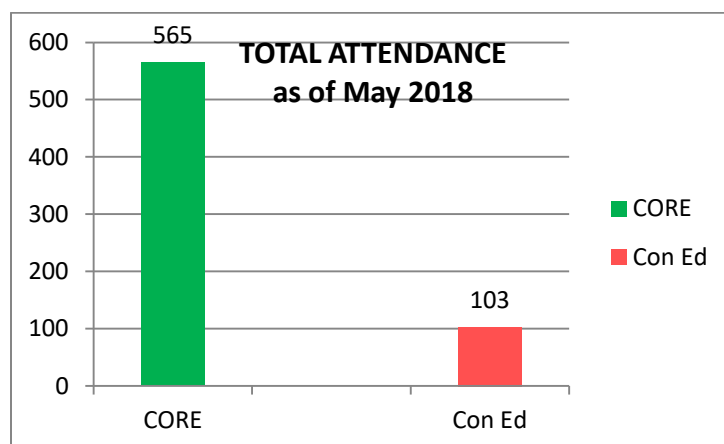
To date one continuing education course has been developed titled *S.H.A.P.E. - Your Shape for God's Service* as a discernment course designed to help determine layreaders spiritual gifts. Other continuing education opportunities include the *Gospel and Culture* video presentation by Bishop Edwards (May 2017) with upcoming opportunities featuring the Rev. Thomas Nesbitt presenting *Spiritual Disciplines and Practices* on June 2nd, 2018 and a session titled *Becoming a Missional Person for a*

Missional Parish planned for the spring of 2019. Any and all book studies, courses, programs, or education events are considered continuing education.

All core and continuing education course information is available on the layreader website at <http://anglican.nb.ca/>. Facilitator toolkits as well as information to deliver courses is available on both the layreader and clergy resource websites at <http://anglican.nb.ca/>. All courses have been developed to be given in small group format as well as through self-study.

It is the layreaders responsibility to keep track of the courses they have taken using the *Layreader Training Event Record*. However, it is the clergy and/or course facilitator's responsibility to submit attendance information to synod office where a record of attendance will be maintained for all core foundation courses offered in parishes, deanery's, and the diocese.

Over the past 2 1/2 years there have been 565 attendees at core training events and 103 at continuing education events. Training is ongoing with small group and self study formats steadily growing.



Legend: STSS- See Through the Scriptures; DCTR- Church doctrine; RSLP - Reading Scripture & Liturgy in Public; SRMN - Sermon Preparation; POP - Prayers of the People; Hist - Church History; LP - The Lord's Prayer; CRD - Unpacking the Creeds.

All layreader programs or courses being offered are advertised through:

- the Layreader Site at <http://anglican.nb.ca/>
- the Diocesan Event Calendar <http://anglican.nb.ca/>
- the Archdeaconry Layreaders representative
- Diocesan eNews

Layreaders and clergy are encouraged to assist those without computer technology within their respective groups to obtain all information and videos needed to participate in the training program.

Layreaders have been diligent in providing feedback through an evaluation process. Overall ratings for the courses and workshops attended remain at 4.5 on a Likert five point agreement scale with 5 being classified as being very pleased. Comments provided by layreaders through evaluations have been appreciated and have helped frame and improve the development and delivery of new courses.

Feedback has been very positive from clergy and layreaders about the value of the self-assessment process and initiation of layreader covenants, both of which have provided an opportunity to discuss the layreader ministry with respect to roles and gift discernment at the parish level. Another area of importance and value has been the development and presentation of Layreader Emeritus certificates - which replaces the Bishop's List - recognizing layreaders who have chosen to retire.

I would like to thank Cheryl Jacobs, Irene Adams, Bishop David Edwards, Bishop Bill Hockin, Rev. David Peer, Dr. Ross Hebb, Rev. Terence Chandra, Rev. Jonathan Springthorpe and the archdeaconry representatives for their kind assistance through telephone calls, emails and teleconferences this past year. Most importantly I would like to thank you - the layreaders and clergy for your dedication to this program.

As always, this annual layreader update provides highlights of core foundational and continuing education courses as well as where layreaders and clergy can locate course materials, dates and locations of training. The Appendices offer commonly referred to definitions; clergy and layreader document information; frequently asked questions; and a list of archdeaconry contact information.

Thank you one and all for your support and the many gifts you so willingly share. Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Many blessings,

Cleo

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Appendix A - Definitions

Team Ministry

Bishop David has provided a definition of team ministry that profoundly encourages each of us to be an active participant in the dynamic movement of building up our various ministries...together. He says..."Each parish functions as a unique unit but is also a significant partner within the greater dynamic...the Diocese. Team ministry is an opportunity to identify the spiritual gifts of each lay person and cleric, and to work together to the glory of God".

Layreader Definitions

A layreader is a layperson authorized by the bishop in the Diocese of Fredericton to officiate at services of worship or take a leadership role in certain parts of a service. Anglican layreaders are licensed by the bishop to a particular parish (parochial) or the diocese at large (diocesan) for a one-year term. Layreaders require annual renewal of licenses following review and recommendation by incumbent clergy. Layreader applications are available for clergy use on the diocesan website - clergy resource area at <http://anglican.nb.ca/>

Layreader-in-Training ~ A layreader-in-training is someone who, under the direction of parish, deanery or diocesan clergy, has completed a time of discernment and has been approved by both the incumbent and bishop to enter a layreader training program following an appropriate application process. The primary responsibility of a layreader-in-training is to be part of the ministry team and to undertake a flexible two-year training period to become a parochial or diocesan layreader. Layreader training will include learning to assist during services as directed by clergy and the completion of core foundational curriculum topics based on:

- Reading Scripture & Liturgy in Public
- Biblical Foundations
- Church Doctrine
- Introduction to Sermon Preparation
- Church History: The Reformation
- Leadership Foundations
- Anglican Worship:
 - The Lord's Prayer
 - Prayers of the People
 - Unpacking the Creeds
 - Leading Worship as a Layreader
 - The Book of Common Prayer
 - Spiritual Disciplines & Practices

A layreader-in-training will wear a layreader medallion with a light blue ribbon when vesting.

Parochial Layreader ~ A parochial layreader is licensed in a parish and has received certification by the bishop to offer layreader duties under the direction of parish clergy following an appropriate application and training process. Their role is primarily liturgical in nature. They have a responsibility to be an active member of the ministry team in their parish, assisting during services as directed by the incumbent. Examples include:

- reading scriptures,
- officiating services,
- administering the chalice,
- leading the prayers of the people, and
- taking home communion to sick and shut-ins

A parochial layreader will have completed the studies in reading scripture and liturgy in public, biblical foundations, worship, church doctrine, church history, leadership and basic sermon preparation or equivalents. Continuing education is required.

A parochial layreader will wear a layreader medallion with a dark blue ribbon when vesting.

Diocesan Layreader ~ A diocesan layreader is licensed in the diocese by the bishop to offer layreader duties under the direction of the incumbent, the archdeacon or bishop following an appropriate application process. Their primary responsibility is to be an active member of the ministry team in their home parish and to support neighbouring parishes. A diocesan layreader will have completed the studies in reading scripture and liturgy in public, biblical foundations, worship, church doctrine, church history, leadership, and sermon preparation and preaching as well as a discernment course (or equivalents).

Upon completion of training and at the clergy/bishop's direction, the diocesan layreader may lead services, prepare and deliver the homily/sermon and travel to parishes/churches requiring assistance. Continuing education is required.

A diocesan layreader will wear a blue scarf with layreader crest when vesting. (See FAQs)

Archdeaconry Warden of Layreaders

Bishop Edwards has asked each archdeaconry to identify individuals to act in a liaison capacity between the Warden of Layreaders and members of the archdeaconry while collaboratively disseminating and implementing the layreader training program. To date each archdeaconry has one or two people working together to fill this role. A list of archdeaconry representatives can be found at the end of this document.

Appendix B - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q. I am 17 years old...can I become a layreader?

A. Yes. A congregation member can become a layreader at 16 years of age. To begin the process (at any age) discuss your desire with your incumbent and complete a self-assessment questionnaire. Once you and your incumbent have determined your call to a layreader ministry, he or she will complete an application form and submit it to the warden of layreaders who will review the application, then refer it on to the bishop. The bishop is the only person who can issue a layreader licence in the Diocese of Fredericton.

Q. I have been a parochial/ diocesan layreader for many years. Do I have to take these courses?

A. The short answer is no. However, the layreader courses can be considered as both core foundational courses for layreaders-in-training and continuing education courses for people who are current layreaders. Current licensed layreaders are **strongly encouraged** to participate in the courses for two reasons. The first reason is that new information will be provided. The second reason is that as a current layreader you have a wealth of knowledge that puts you in the enviable position of being a wonderful mentor to new layreaders. Complete the new self-assessment form to help you determine your needs.

Q. I don't have a layreader medallion. How do I obtain one?

A. Discuss the need for layreader medallions and scarves with your incumbent. Medallions and scarves can be purchased by contacting Cheryl Jacobs at Synod office (506) 459-1801 or cjacobs@diofton.ca.

- Light blue or dark blue ribbon \$2.00
- Layreader medallion with ribbon \$23.00
- Diocesan layreader scarf: \$40.00

Q. I am a diocesan layreader and have a dark blue (or purple ribbon) and medallion. Do I have to wear a blue scarf?

A. If you are a current layreader, no you do not need to have a scarf, and may continue to wear your medallion. If you do purchase a scarf please do not wear both the medallion and scarf at the same time. Your medallion may also be passed on to another layreader or returned to Cheryl. All newly licensed diocesan layreaders are to wear the blue layreader scarf.

Q. I don't have a computer and do not use the Internet. How will I know when courses are being offered?

A. The Archdeaconry Warden of Layreaders in your deanery will be aware of upcoming training events and will be communicating that information with clergy. It would also be helpful for you to ask a layreader in your parish who has access to the Internet to keep you informed.

Q. Will I be able to take courses in other parishes?

A. Yes, however, it would be best to contact the person giving the course to make sure there is room. There may on occasion be a course that has some limitations.

Q. If I miss a training event will it be offered again in my area or deanery?

A. Yes, it will be offered again as the need arises. We are also looking at the possibility of offering online training in the future.



Appendix C - Layreader Documents

Layreader Self-Assessment

One of the interesting comments that came from talking to so many people was the idea of learning what layreaders think about their ministry. The purpose of the self-assessment document is to help you, and the clergy who support you, gain a better understanding of your needs and desires as a layreader in the Diocese of Fredericton.

All current layreaders and those entering the layreader-in-training period should complete a layreader self-assessment and keep it as part of their layreader documentation. The self-assessment can be used as a resource when reviewing your layreader ministry goals with the clergy responsible for renewing your yearly licence. The layreader self-assessment form can be obtained by contacting the warden of layreaders or found on the layreader site at <http://anglican.nb.ca/> under Resources.

Layreader Event Record

The layreader event record is a user-friendly way of keeping track of training events or spiritual growth events that layreaders attend. The event record can be completed online and saved or printed as a paper copy. It can be found on the layreader site at <http://anglican.nb.ca/> under Resources

Appendix D - Clergy Documents

Layreader Covenant

A covenant is a 'working agreement' outlining areas of responsibility between the layreader-in-training, the parochial layreader, or the diocesan layreader and the incumbent. It reflects the understanding of duties, roles, responsibilities and expectations in the areas of liturgy, ministry in the parish and diocese, and participation in layreader training events.

This covenant will be in effect for two years or when a layreader-in-training completes training and becomes a layreader (parochial or diocesan), in which case a new covenant is signed. It should also be reviewed and revised according to the direction layreader ministry is evolving within the parish. The covenant will be signed by both the Incumbent and layreader.

Copies of the Layreader Covenant can be found on the diocesan website under the clergy resource area at <http://anglican.nb.ca/>.

Layreader Application Forms; Covenant; Event Tracking Records; Self Assessment and Training Attendance Forms

These documents are located on the diocesan website under the clergy resource area at <http://anglican.nb.ca/>.

Appendix E- Contact Information - Archdeaconry Wardens of Layreaders

THE RT. REV'D DAVID EDWARDS BISHOP OF FREDERICTON 115 CHURCH ST. FREDERICTON, NB E3B 4C8 dedwards@diofton.ca (506) 459-1801	CLEO CYR WARDEN OF LAYREADERS 28 AUTUMN AVE. QUISPAMISIS, NB E2E 4R9 cleocyr1@gmail.com (506) 847-0116/(506) 647-8170
ARCHDEACONRY WARDEN OF LAYREADERS THE ARCHDEACONRY OF KINGSTON AND THE KENNEBECASIS THE REV. DAVID TURNER david_aleksander_turner@yahoo.ca (506) 832-3375	ARCHDEACONRY WARDEN OF LAYREADERS THE ARCHDEACONRY CHATHAM THE REV. DEACON ROSE STEEVES rose.steeves@gmail.com (506) 215-1038
THE ARCHDEACONRY OF SAINT JOHN HAROLD MCINNIS mcinnis4@bellaliant.net (506) 696-2159	THE ARCHDEACONRY OF CHATHAM: THE REV. SANDY MACPHERSON macpsan@hotmail.com (506) 623-8882 / (506) 546-3225
THE ARCHDEACONRY OF ST. ANDREWS LINDA ELLIS linda@futurenets.net (506) 659-2587/754-2180	MONCTON ARCHDEACONRY THE REV. DR. DAN GOODWIN danielcorey.goodwin@gmail.com (506) 962-1448
THE ARCHDEACONRY OF FREDERICTON CANON WANDLYN SNELGROVE wandlyns@bellaliant.net (506) 459-0207/ 451-0630	MONCTON ARCHDEACONRY THE REV. BRUCE GLENCROSS bruceglencross@hotmail.com (506) 785-9092
THE ARCHDEACONRY OF WOODSTOCK THE REV. DEACON FRAN BEDELL fbedell12@twc.com (207) 728-3541	MONCTON ARCHDEACONRY THE REV. CHRIS HAYES revchrishayes@gmail.com (506) 756-2296
THE ARCHDEACONRY OF WOODSTOCK THE REV. ROD BLACK frrodblack@gmail.com (506) 328-3042	

Note: The archdeaconry regional deans and archdeacons are also part of the archdeaconry teams. Their contact information may be found on the Diocesan website at <http://anglican.nb.ca/>