



Renovation is almost complete at Stone Church page 5



Camping ministry reports page 8-9



CLAY exceeds expectations page 14



A regal garden party in downtown Fredericton page 16

THE NEW BRUNSWICK ANGLICAN



A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL

OCTOBER 2016

SERVING THE DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON

Vandals spray-paint Woodstock church

But the crime brings out the good

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Aug. 20 was not just another Sunday for the Rev. Shirley Noseworthy. Early that morning, she got a phone call from a church neighbour telling her someone had defaced Christ Church in the Parish of Woodstock.

"Somebody had spray painted the church," said Shirley. "I made it part of my sermon. It was a good, fresh example I could use."

Two separate spaces, the side of the entry porch and the front of the building, had been hit.

After church, she called the RCMP, who showed up along with some neighbours and the local newspaper editor, who took photos.

The RCMP has contacted neighbours, but Shirley isn't holding out a lot of hope for an arrest. Vandalism is difficult to investigate unless someone talks or there are eye witnesses.

Nevertheless, Shirley chooses

to see the bright side: After a note circulated on social media, several people came by to help clean up the mess, including chapel warden Richard Wetmore and Nancy Hall and her children, Grace, Nathan and Thomas.

"They all had their hand in painting," said Shirley. "We were finished within the hour."

Shirley also realizes the incident could have been much worse.

"I'm just thankful they didn't break any windows," she said. "When you think about how Christians are persecuted around the world, this is mild."

There is the added bonus of good will that's been voiced over this incident.

"I want to thank the community," she said. "There have been so many expressions of support. That's the way God wants us to be. It's a good news story, even though it started out bad."



SUBMITTED PHOTOS



The Rev. Shirley Noseworthy, warden Richard Wetmore, and Thomas and Nathan Hall all pitched in to rid Christ Church in Woodstock of graffiti someone painted in two places on the exterior of the church.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

HAPPY DANCE

Catherine and Arene Weah, 16 and 19 respectively, are newly arrived Liberians from a refugee camp in Côte d'Ivoire. They arrived in Fredericton with their parents, Phillip and Esther, on July 27. The family is sponsored by several Fredericton-area parishes and Christ Church Cathedral and are settling in to life in Canada. Here the siblings dance at a picnic at Woolastook Park in Upper Kingsclear, near Fredericton. Read more about refugee efforts in the diocese on page 6.

Diocesan Council highlights

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Diocesan Council met at Camp Brookwood in Florenceville-Bristol on Saturday, Sept. 10.

Bishop David Edwards spoke on the parable of the lost sheep in Luke 15.

"When I was studying scriptures, I was told this parable is the equivalent of an Irish or a Newfie joke," he said. "There would be immediate laughter because shepherds in that society were odd and usually the butt of people's jokes."

It was to get the crowd's attention, he said. What shepherd leaves 99 sheep in the wilderness to go find the one that's lost? What about the other 99?

Diocesan Council continued on page 2.

DIOCESAN NEWS



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS

ABOVE: Chancery David Bell makes a point during discussion on amendments to canons at the Sept. 10 Diocesan Council meeting held at Camp Brookwood. At right are Kathy Asch, Siobhan Laskey, Sandy Craft and Bishop David Edwards. BELOW RIGHT: Rodney Smith and Dwight Phillips man the barbecue as the Rev. Bob LeBlanc looks on.

Diocesan Council highlights

Diocesan Council continued from page 1

The bishop mentioned a group he talked to which said, "Until we pay all our bills, we can't do any more outreach, and in fact, we're going to cut that too."

That is contrary to the parable of the lost sheep.

"The Pharisees here, who look after the 'sheep,' criticize him and don't understand his purpose to go after the lost sheep.

"I suggest that's our function too" — to find the lost sheep.

Lay vice-chair Sandy Craft reported on the success of the Diocesan Open House held in June.

"I think it went very well," she said. "There were groups there people had not known about before. About 60 people went through who are not part of this council."

Diocesan Council voted to appoint Terry Hutchinson QC as interim Diocesan Misconduct Officer to fill a vacancy. This appointment is for one year, to be reviewed.

Diocesan Council voted to reappoint Bishop Claude Miller as the bishop's and Synod's representative to participate in the ongoing discussions and negotiations between the Parish of Shediac and Shediac Camping Ltd. to ensure ongoing confidence that due process is being followed and the vested interest of the diocese is protected.

The Parish of New Bandon has been granted a tentative loan guarantee to help address upgrades to its rectory next spring. The approval is subject to receipt of further details and a review by the Property Committee.

Treasurer Irene Adams provided a review of the year's finances to the end of June.

"Revenue is slightly higher than we expected for the first six months of the year," said Irene. "And expenditures are fairly in line with both the budget and the first half of the previous year."

As of Aug. 31 96 per cent of parish contributions to the diocesan shared ministry budget have been received.

"We're seeing very positive support," said Irene.

Diocesan Council also received the 2015 financial statements prepared by Grant Thornton. Although the diocese had to record an unrealized loss in the fair market value of the DCIF portfolio, this was much lower than it could have been given the volatility of the investment market in 2015.

When compared to the operating budget, results were actually better than originally forecast.

The Episcopal Elections Task Group submitted its report via the Administration Team to Diocesan Council.

The task group was struck after last year's Diocesan Synod, when a motion was passed to

look at the procedure for electing a bishop.

The task group made nine recommendations, which will be received by Diocesan Synod Nov. 5.

Diocesan Council voted to send the issue of the implications of a change in the use of rectories to the Finance Committee for discussion and recommendations back to council.

Suggested amendments to canons took up the afternoon session of Diocesan Council, with chancery David Bell walking council through the proposed changes that will be on the agenda of Diocesan Synod on Nov. 5.

Council approved and recommended to Synod for enactment, several proposed amendments:

- To Canon One, definitions
- To Canon Three – election of bishops providing for a means to appoint an assistant bishop
- Supplementary package of proposed amendments to the Synod Constitution, the Canons and the Anglican Church Act
- Canon Four – Diocesan Governance; Canon Six – Parish Governance; and Canon Seven – The Clergy.

Once again, the crew at Camp Brookwood took its task of hosting and feeding members of Diocesan Council seriously, providing a delicious lunch. Thank you to Barb and Rodney Smith, and Mary Lee and Dwight Phillips for their hospitality.

The next meeting of Diocesan Council is at Stone Church, Saint John, on Dec. 1.



DEADLINE for news and photo submissions for the November edition of the New Brunswick Anglican is Oct. 1.

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THE BISHOP'S PAGE

Taking the focus off ourselves

The Five Marks of Mission series, # 3: To respond to human need by loving service



This Mark of Mission is slippery. Over the last few years there has been a greater appreciation of how loving service fits into the mission of the Church, but we still face the issue of dealing with over 100 years of misunderstanding. Let me try to explain.

During the latter half of the 19th Century a split began to develop in the Church between what have later been called liberals and conservatives. Neither of these titles is particularly helpful, but they are in common usage.

The separation had its beginnings in the interpretation of scripture, but developed over the years in many directions. One of these strands came down to how the church should do mission.

There was no need for this division to happen as both views were rooted in a strong tradition of mission and in some senses misunderstandings came about because of how one side characterized the other, rather than the way each saw themselves.

The liberals were accused of doing good works and service without connecting them to the need for the recipients to respond to Jesus.

The conservatives, it was said, were only interested in people coming to faith in Jesus and their poverty or whatever was not seen as important.

In addition, social action was not seen as part of personal holiness.

As with all attempts to describe peoples' beliefs these are caricatures, but they have an element of truth in them. The result has been that both sides have been wary of each other, because they have seen themselves as the protectors of the "pure" Gospel.

It is only in recent years that the majority of Christians have begun to see that the Marks of

Mission are linked. The first two tended to be seen as the province of the conservatives and the others as the realm of the liberals.

This was a false dichotomy which is now slowly being corrected.

We come to faith in Jesus, but there is a need to understand that out of that comes service. If we are taught and nurtured in the faith properly, we grow into being servants of God and this is expressed through Marks 3 - 5.

The intention of all of this is to proclaim the Gospel in order that others can become followers of Jesus.

There are many examples throughout the Bible of the serving nature of God, but these are brought into particular focus in the life of Jesus.

We are all familiar with John 13 where Jesus washes the feet of his disciples. He takes on one of the lowliest roles in society to show his followers what they/we should do.

In recent years Pope Francis has brought this task into sharper relief for the Church by washing peoples' feet on Maundy Thursday.

For me the most powerful passage in the New Testament on this subject is in Matthew 25: 34-40

34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.

35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in,



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Shediac Cape Community Garden is in its third season. More than half the garden this year was planted for the Vestiaire St. Joseph Food Bank in Shediac. Garden organizers from St. Martin-in-the-Woods, Parish of Shediac, plant, tend, harvest and deliver the vegetables to the food bank so that those in need will not be hungry. The church is seen in the background of this photo. Bishop David sees this ministry as an excellent example of the Third Mark of Mission — responding to human need by loving service.

36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?'

38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you?'

39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

•••

I have to admit this portion of scripture shocked me when I first read it in depth.

Coming from a more conservative parish, this was never really preached about. We were more concerned with saving souls and living correctly than with this kind of thing. I have come to realize that it is all of a piece.

The list of ministry found here is not intended to be exhaustive, but it is supposed to be instructive. It leads us to this

question: what are we doing in loving service?

What I have come to understand is that following Jesus is not merely about how I behave, do I obey all the rules all the time. That makes us like the Pharisees.

I have discovered that it is about my heart, how is that positioned in love for God and for others. What am I doing to show this and what are we as churches doing about this.

If we individually or as churches are solely focused on ourselves, then we are not doing or being as we should.

Loving service is essential to our nature as Christians and our corporate call as the Church.

David Edwards is
Diocesan Bishop of Fredericton.

PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS

OCTOBER 1
DIOCESAN COMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP

OCTOBER 2
PARISH OF CAMPOBELLO *

OCTOBER 4
CELEBRATION OF NEW MINISTRY OF PAUL RANSON

OCTOBER 5
CELEBRATION OF NEW MINISTRY OF ROBERT LANGMAID

OCTOBER 9
PARISH OF SAINT JOHN*

OCTOBER 15
SEE THROUGH THE SCRIPTURES - SAINT JOHN

OCTOBER 16
PARISH OF BATHURST;
PARISH OF RESTIGOUCHE - ANN FAIRWEATHER INDUCTION AS RECTOR

OCTOBER 21-22
MIRAMICHI MEN'S CONFERENCE;
DIOCESAN STEWARDSHIP CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 23
PARISH OF MCADAM (115TH ANNIVERSARY);
CELEBRATION OF NEW MINISTRY OF GREG FRAZER

OCTOBER 27
BISHOP'S COUNSEL

OCTOBER 29
SEE THROUGH THE SCRIPTURES - PARISH OF FREDERICTON

OCTOBER 30
PARISH OF THE TOBIQUE;
CELEBRATION OF NEW MINISTRY OF KEVIN MCALLISTER

NOVEMBER 5
DIOCESAN SYNOD

NOVEMBER 6
PARISH OF ST. MARK (STONE CHURCH)

NOVEMBER 13
PARISH OF ST. STEPHEN

* CONFIRMATION

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



ARCHDEACONRY SERIES

Adapting to new realities in the archdeaconry

This is the sixth in the series on archdeacons in the diocese. This month we feature the Archdeaconry of St. Andrews.

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

The Archdeaconry of St. Andrews occupies a large area in the southwestern corner of the province, from the US border all the way to the west side of Saint John, plus Campobello and Grand Manan Island.

Last year it had the distinction of being the archdeaconry in which Bishop David Edwards launched his pilgrimage. The bishop's archdeacon there is John Matheson, in his role for almost two years.

While John went all the way to Harvard Divinity School in Cambridge, Mass. for his education, since then he has not wandered far from home. He grew up near St. Stephen, and has spent 21 of his 35 years as a priest in nearby St. Andrews. He is the priest-in-charge of the Parish of St. David & St. Patrick and rector of the Parish of St. Andrews — four churches in all.

"I have been learning more about the archdeaconry since becoming archdeacon," he said. "But being a member of the archdeaconry for 21 years, it makes it easier to understand the mindset. And in 21 years, you become quite fond of many people."

In the archdeaconry, he is responsible for 11 parishes and one mission, plus nine clergy. A handful of parishes are without a priest or deacon, and it's John's job to make sure there are fill-ins to run the services.

"In Grand Manan, it's easy to find fill-ins during summer vacation," he said. "Campobello is harder because of having to drive to Maine."

Retired clergy and layreaders are called upon to fill the gaps. In St. Stephen there are willing layreaders who step up, and two retired priests who do the Eucharist, but they are both over 85, said John.

One of the challenges facing this archdeaconry, and many, is the lack of people attending

church.

"The problem isn't always what the church is saying, it's that church isn't a priority. The stigma of playing hockey on Sunday morning is gone."

In his short time as archdeacon, John has met a lot of people from Saint John to the international border.

"I like helping parishes out with their ministries and their challenges," he said. "There are very capable lay ministers who've had to adapt to a lack of clergy in the parishes. Without them there would be no church."

"Clergy have to allow that to continue so that priests can do what is particular to their ministry."

An advantage the archdeaconry does enjoy, particularly around the loyalist community of St. Andrews, is the tradition of the Anglican Church as an iconic and historic presence in the community.

"The Anglican Church has a prominence," he said. "It's almost a community church."

As such, community events are held there, like the St. Andrews annual Remembrance Day service, and on Campobello, events for Lighthouse Day celebrations.

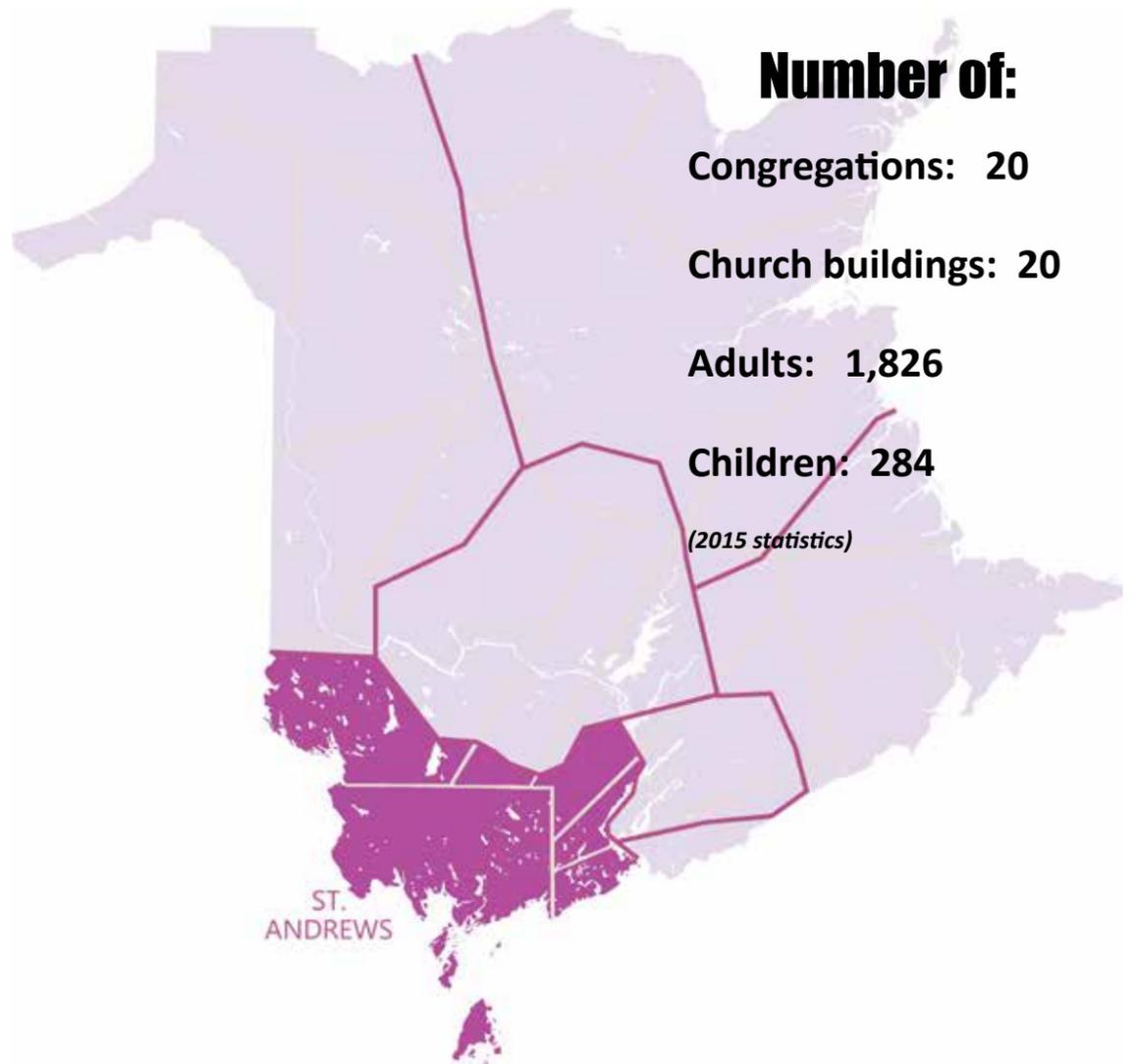
"If there's a community event, it's probably going to be in the Anglican Church or hall. We serve the community at large, not just our members."

While many churches suffer a downturn in attendance over the summer, in St. Andrews, the opposite is true. John's total Sunday headcount jumps from 65 to about 90, given the resort nature of the town.

"We have a number of parishioners who go south in the winter, so we lose them then," he said.

One special and seasonal building in the archdeaconry is St. John the Baptist Chapel in Chamcook.

"People like the atmosphere



Quick Facts:

The Archdeaconry of St. Andrews has two deaneries, St. Andrews and Lancaster, though they are administratively combined.

Parishes: 11 + 1 mission:

St. Andrews deanery: Campobello, Grand Manan, McAdam, Pennfield, St. Andrews, St. David & St. Patrick, St. George, St. Stephen

Lancaster deanery: Musquash, the Nerepis and St. John, Lancaster; plus the Westside Anglican Mission

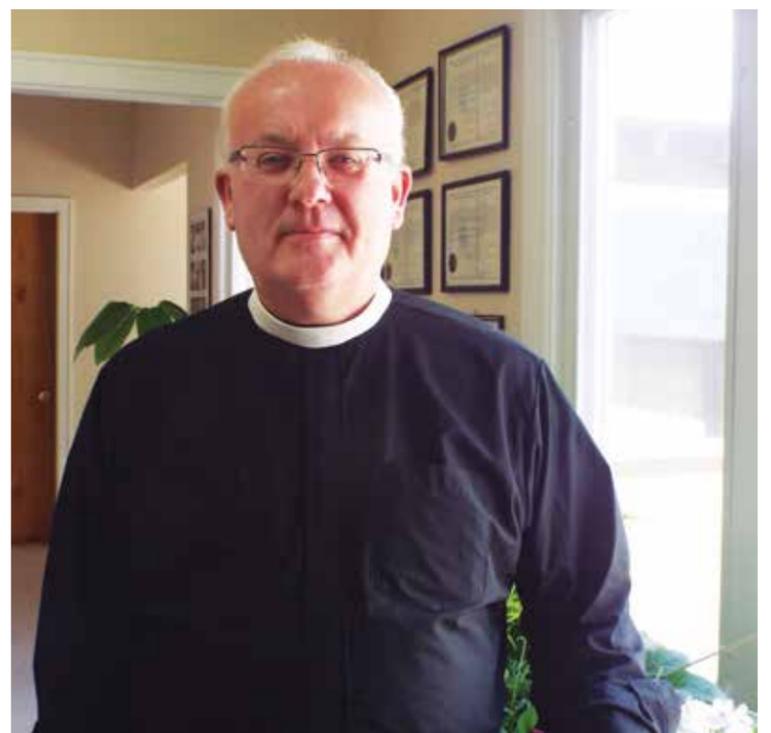
of the chapel," said John. "At least half of the people every Sunday are visitors."

Some of the highlights within the archdeaconry are the new play park being planned for the Church of the Resurrection in Grand Bay-Westfield, and the emergence of the Westside Anglican Mission on the Lower West Side of Saint John, with the Rev. Rob Salloum leading it.

"And St. Stephen has a long history of serving meals to the community," he said.

As for the future of the archdeaconry, John says it's clear it will require flexibility, adaptation, and sharing ministries and clergy.

"I think we realize there must be some sort of co-operative ministry in the archdeaconry," he said.



Archdeacon John Matheson

MCKNIGHT PHOTO

DIOCESAN SYNOD

Legislative amendments will go to November synod

BY DAVID BELL

The Synod is a sort of parliament for the diocese of Fredericton.

Like other parliaments, it's a place for visionary speeches. Our new bishop used his charge to the 2015 synod to articulate a vision for the church over the next decade.

Another function of parliaments is to make laws. Bishop Edwards and the Diocesan Council have called this 2016 synod to discuss changing some of the rules by which we conduct business at both the parish and the diocesan level.

It's an unglamorous task but we need to refresh our governing rules so that they are not unnecessary obstacles to the church of the future. This will be the main business of November's "business" synod.

Impetus for changes came from three sources. First, there were changes that the bishop wanted explored.

A prime example is introduction of more young Anglicans to Synod membership.

This became the basis for the proposal to reduce basic parish membership in synods from three delegates to two, but with a third delegate for parishes that choose someone aged 25 or younger.

Another source of proposed changes is the experience of working with the Synod's existing legislation, which dates from 2002-03.

It's become apparent that some provisions are out of date and some need clarification, and that in other cases, there is no



MCKNIGHT FILE PHOTO

Among proposed legislative changes for November are ones that would make future synods both smaller (to give better scope for discussion) and younger (to promote renewal). This photo shows the delegates to Diocesan Synod in 2015.

provision when one is needed.

For example, although in 2014 the Diocesan Council appointed an "interim administrator" for the diocese after Archbishop Miller retired and before Bishop Edwards was consecrated, it is questionable whether it had the power to do so.

That gap will now be filled.

A third stimulus to change was the experience of other dioceses. For example, the diocese of Rupert's Land legislation on what happens if the bishop becomes incapacitated was helpful in rethinking our own inadequate provision.

Some of the more important proposed changes aim at greater flexibility in diocesan administration; others, however, provide for more restriction.

One example of closer re-

striction is conflict-of-interest guidelines.

Another is extending the concept of term limits to lay synod membership, to promote synod renewal.

On the other hand are the proposals that would give the bishop (or Diocesan Council or parish corporations) greater flexibility.

For example, pointless distinctions between rectors and other incumbents would be reduced, and the possibility that the bishop might appoint a lay person to have charge of a parish (which has happened) would be made explicit.

All of the changes we're talking about are recommended to the November synod by the Diocesan Council. Underpinning that generalization was quite a

process.

As chancellor, it was my job to do the rough drafting.

Then the drafts went in various directions for informal review, including to the vice-chancellor and ex-chancellors.

Then they went to the Constitution & Canons Committee for technical review and to the Administration Team for policy review.

Finally, they went twice to the Diocesan Council. The first Council consideration was for debate; the second time was for debate and vote on whether to recommend to November's synod. Council members devoted a major part of five meetings to these amendments.

The sailing was not always smooth, nor should it have been. Some proposed changes died in the Administration committee.

Others were queried in Council debate and changed.

One that drew comment is the proposed process for appointing an Assistant Bishop (an Assistant Bishop is a retired bishop who is asked to assist the diocesan bishop in some functions).

The diocese of Fredericton has had provision for such an office since the 1970s but has never had a practical means for making an appointment should an Assistant ever be wanted.

The Council's debate on a suggested method of appointment turned into a debate on why the Diocese needs such an office in the first place.

Synod delegates may faint when they see that November's package includes scores of these proposed legislative amendments. Most are minor.

To help delegates understand the half-dozen more important ones, I'm visiting the seven Greater Chapter meetings in October to go over the highlights.

To pass at Synod, amendments to the constitution and canons require approval by two-thirds.

Proposed amendments to the Anglican Church Act go ultimately to the NB Legislature for enactment, which may take a further year.

Whatever the November Synod does with these proposals, the business of legislative revision needs to be ongoing.

Anyone who has picked the big rocks out of a field in the fall knows that somehow by spring a new crop has appeared.

David Bell is the diocesan chancellor.

Renewing old stones

The renovations at Stone Church, Saint John, are going very well and almost right on target. The end of September was the aim for taking possession of the renewed building.

While this is almost exactly a month later than planned, delays have been due to equipment that has been unavailable when needed, rather than to any complications with the project.

The hall adjoining the church was demolished, and the cavernous sanctuary has been remodelled to accommodate offices

and ministry needs that were housed in the hall. This new area has been built under the once-unused balcony while the sanctuary will occupy the centre of the church.

"We have been delighted with the work as it has progressed," writes the Reverend John Paul Westin, Anglican Uptown Vicar.

"We are seeing the plans come together and all the pieces falling into place as we near completion.

"I believe people will be amazed and delighted at what has taken place. The congregation is getting very excited as 'move-in day' approaches."

The grand re-opening service is on Sunday, Nov. 6 at 10:30 a.m.

Special celebration events are planned for the entire week



following the re-opening. Check the parish website for details: www.stonesj.org

"God is great! Come celebrate with us!" said John Paul.



MINISTRY TO REFUGEES

Liberian refugees settle in Fredericton

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

When Phillip Weah woke up on July 28, he was a free man, living in a safe and free country. War, uncertainty, poverty and despair were behind him.

For more than half of his 48 years, Phillip has coped with danger and hunger on a daily basis. He and his wife, formerly of Liberia, spent 26 years in a refugee camp in Côte d'Ivoire on Africa's Atlantic coast. Their children were born there and know nothing other than life as refugees.

But this family of Phillip, Esther, son Arene (pronounced Aaron), 19, and daughter Catherine, 16, are, thankfully, a long way from life in a refugee camp.

On July 27, they landed at the Fredericton International Airport, sponsored by several parishes in the Fredericton deanery along with Christ Church Cathedral.

They now have a comfortable apartment, with food in the cupboards, furniture, clothing and most of all, hope.

"I like the freedom," said Phil-

lip. "I can go anywhere. Nobody stabs you. It is a safe country."

In Liberia a generation ago, life was marred by civil war, bloody coups, massacres, cease-fires, and new uprisings, which caused Phillip to flee.

"I left because of trouble, fighting," he said.

He was 21 years old.

In the refugee camps, he did odd jobs. It's difficult to carve out a career in such a place, so he is looking for similar work here, adding he can sweep, clean and garden.

The Weah family lives close to St. Margaret's in the Forest Hill area, and have made the church their own. Recently, Phillip sang a song in church — Count Your Blessings — in both English and his native language of Grebo, because, he said, "I feel happy all the time."

"We were blessed at St. Margaret's with the singing of Phillip," said the Rev. Rick Robinson, priest and rector.

"Shortly after he arrived, the first person he wanted to phone was his former pastor on the Ivory Coast. A few days later we



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Weah family, Arene, Catherine, Phillip and Esther, upon arrival at Fredericton International Airport late on July 27. Phillip lived in a refugee camp in Côte d'Ivoire in West Africa for 26 years and his children have never known any other life until now.

were talking and the conversation came around to the fact that he considered it a miracle that he and his family were able to come to Canada.

"He asked me if it would be possible to 'sing to the Glory of God' in thanks for how things worked out for him and his family. I consider Phillip to be a man of faith which is evidenced, in part, by his regular attendance at St. Margaret's."

Phillip and his family speak French and a little English — enough to be understood. What they make very plain is their gratitude.

"We don't have words to thank you," said Phillip, nodding to Archdeacon Pat Drummond,

who is present for the interview. "We are so happy. The way you take us in, receive us, reminds me of my own mother and father."

Their hope now rests with their children. Arene would like to be a teacher, and Catherine, a doctor. Esther, once a widow, has four grown children still in Côte d'Ivoire and she would love to see them resettle here too. "I want them in Canada," she said, determined for a better life for all of them.

Pat Drummond and others on the local committee have had a busy summer, helping transition this family from refugees to residents of a western country.

"They knew nothing about

North American living," said Pat. "The team has spent a lot of time teaching."

Everything we take for granted, from banking to cleaning a house, operating an electric stove to using the bus system, has had to be learned.

"The very first night, I was showing Phillip how to use an electric kettle," she said.

It's a very different reality now, compared to how the Weah family used to spend the days — literally searching for food, and firewood with which to cook it.

"That took all day," said Pat.

About a dozen volunteers from the Fredericton archdeaconry have been hands-on, completing the required paperwork, showing them how to use a debit card, taking the family shopping and to language classes, teaching them how to cook with North American food and equipment, and taking them on outings.

So far, some or all of the family has been to Killarney Lake, bowling, canoeing and picnicking. In the summer, the teenagers tasted ice cream for the first time, which led to ice cream appearing on their shopping list at the next outing!

"They love Tim Hortons. They like donuts," said Pat. "I've taught them to like donuts and ice cream — unfortunately!"

The Fredericton group's sponsorship of the family runs for one year.

Esther has been seriously ill as of mid-September and hospitalized as a result. The group that looks after the family asks for your prayers for her.

Refugee update: Sussex newcomers settling in to life in New Brunswick

BY PAT MCCAIG

We have two families in Sussex that we are supporting. The first family of four arrived the end of June, and the second family of four arrived on Aug. 11. There is also a third family in Sussex that is being sponsored by another church.

It has been quite an experience. The first family to arrive was expecting a baby, and their third daughter was born on Aug. 10. Needless to say, it was quite hectic with this going on, and another family arriving all within 24 hours of each other!

The biggest issue is communication and language. Both families have very little English skills. The translation applications we have on our phones are a big help, although there are times when we get or give very confused looks!

We also are fortunate to have



The Alhamoud family: Hussein Alhamoud and his wife, Moona, arrived in mid-August with their two children.

a couple of Arabic speakers in our community who have been generous with their time. They have been essential with any items that are very important to communicate accurately.

The community in general has been very generous with not only the finances, but also volunteering their time and talents.

The first family has been



The Abou Aisha family: Mustafa and Ramia Abou Aisha arrived in late June with their two daughters and now have a new baby. One of the girls was napping when this photo was taken.

working diligently with volunteers in learning English. When I asked how they were doing, Ramia, the mother said "good," but said of her husband Mustafa, "very good." He is quiet though,

so he wouldn't say that himself.

After a few months they are starting to understand a bit more and speak with us when we visit. The newest family has met with most of the volunteer teachers and are just beginning their lessons. They are very eager to learn. We will be looking for a location where both families can come together for lessons.

We are hopeful that both families have skill sets that will translate into work for them in the community. Their experiences at home are similar to what we find in our area with construction and animal husbandry.

It is hoped that once they learn a bit of English, some work can be found. We are looking to support them in this area by making connections with potential employers and businesses.

This has been an amazing experience for me personally, as well as for other members that

are working directly with the newcomers.

I believe they are very brave to leave their country, families, friends, culture and language to bring their young families so far from all they know.

When visiting with Mustafa this morning, he told me how his home was again being bombed. It is heartbreaking to think of all they have lost.

With God's help, we can support them through this difficult time in their lives and give them and their children hope for a safe, secure, and peaceful future.

...

Pat McCaig is the treasurer of the Parish of Waterford and St. Marks and of Community Action for Refugees – Sussex. CAR-S. The parish is the official "constituent group," and with help from the community, sponsors the two refugee families.

MINISTRY TO REFUGEES

Family's prayers answered

Refugees baptized, join church in Toronto

BY STUART MANN

TORONTO — On a Wednesday evening in late April, Bachir and Mahfouze Brimo and their four young daughters sat down to a dinner of lasanga and salad in a comfortable home in north Toronto. Joining them were their hosts, Heather Gilley and Peter Singer, and their translator, Rula Haman.

A few months earlier, this scene would have been unimaginable to the Brimos. Members of one of the most persecuted groups in the Middle East, they were living in Lebanon, trying to make ends meet like millions of other refugees from Syria.

Their situation was precarious. Mr. Brimo's job in a shoe factory and a monthly allowance from the United Nations office didn't cover the cost of rent, food and other necessities.

They had applied to the UN to come to Canada but were told that their chances were remote. They considered making the risky trip to Europe via Turkey and the Mediterranean Sea but did not have enough money to pay the smugglers.

To make matters more difficult and dangerous, they were members of the Yazidi community, a religious minority that has been targeted for extermination by ISIS in Iraq and Syria.

Neither Muslim nor Christian, the Yazidis have often lived on the margins of society, with few rights.



PHOTO BY STUART MANN

The Brimo family sits on a couch in the home of Peter Singer and Heather Gilley, standing behind them. Standing at right is Rula Haman, their translator.

While living in Lebanon, Mr. and Mrs. Brimo started going to All Saints Anglican Church in Beirut. They had a lifelong affinity with Christianity and were attracted by the kindness of the priest and congregation.

"Every time I went to church, I heard the people speaking about love and helping each other and giving without an expectation of return," says Mr. Brimo through Ms. Haman, the translator.

He attended church twice a week while Mrs. Brimo went four times a week.

They wanted to be baptized and become Christians, as did many other Yazidis and even some Muslim refugees, they say.

But the hard times got worse. Unable to meet the rent, they moved out of the city, away from the church. They started to accumulate debt to buy food.

Mr. Brimo began to break down from the strain. One day after work, wracked by a severe headache and backache, he sat down alone and spoke to Jesus.

"I'll do anything you want, just please help my wife and

daughters," he said.

The next day, he received a telephone call at work. It was the UN office calling, asking if he would like to take his family to Canada. "I couldn't believe it," he said. "When I hung up, I prayed and thanked God."

The family landed in Canada on April 7.

"We are so lucky to be here – so lucky and grateful," says Mrs. Brimo, overcome with emotion. "I asked Jesus every day to help and protect us. It's only because of him that help came to change our lives."

On May 15, the feast of Pentecost, their dream of being baptized came true. Mr. and Mrs. Brimo and their four daughters were baptized at St. Clement, Eglinton, the church that is sponsoring them and where they have become members.

"It was a once-in-a-generation experience," says the Rev. Canon Jenny Andison, incumbent, in an interview after the service. "I may never have another experience like that in my priestly ministry. It was amazing."

Canon Andison baptized each family member in English and Arabic, with the assistance of Ms. Haman. She says the words in the baptism rite took on greater meaning, given the family's spiritual and physical journey.

"In the service, we say, 'Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?' and this family has precisely fled from such evil. They attribute their journey to the power of God – the power of Jesus – who has rescued them from war and death and slavery."

"When we say those words in church, we mean them primarily on a spiritual level, but this family means them on a physical level as well."

The church was full and many broke into tears when three of the daughters sang a song thanking Jesus.

Canon Andison's own daughters, the same age as the Brimo girls, noted that they sang like angels.

"I told our daughters that it was as if God had sent these

angels to St. Clement's in the form of refugees, and that's so biblical – God comes to us in the poor and the lost, the broken and the refugees. Here are angels at St. Clement's in the form of refugees."

She says the Brimo family has been a great gift to the church.

"When we sponsored them, we didn't know any of this would happen. We assumed very happily that we would most likely be sponsoring a Muslim family, and the fact that it has turned into this journey has been completely unexpected and has become this incredible gift to our community, when we were intending to give them the gift."

The Brimos, who lived with Ms. Gilley and Mr. Singer when they first arrived, have found an apartment nearby and their daughters are enrolled in school. Mr. and Mrs. Brimo, who speak Kurdish and Arabic, are taking English classes.

Ms. Gilley says providing a home for the family was a fulfilling experience.

"To be honest, I was a bit nervous beforehand, because there was so much unknown. But it's love in action, and if you have a lot of love and willingness to go outside your comfort zone, things usually work out."

"I believe that God looks after me and I follow Jesus and we've been taught to welcome the weary traveller. I feel very grateful for the opportunity to do this for this family."

She says it's been a positive experience for the parish as well.

"It's been great to see people from different walks of life working through all the challenges together. It hasn't always been easy, but it's wonderful to see a community wrap its arms around this family."

Reprinted with permission from The Anglican in Toronto. Canon Stuart Mann is the editor of The Anglican and the diocesan communications officer.

WALKING WITH THE SPIRITS

Walking With The Spirits was a very successful event held on the evening of July 23 at Church of the Ascension, Apohaqui. The evening began inside the church with George Urquhart and Dan McCormick providing a variety of music. The Rev. Wally Collett, priest-in-charge, led us outside to hear details of Canon Medley and his son, the Rev. Charles Medley, and their significant works which built and filled these beautifully designed Gothic Anglican church buildings. The crowd moved out into the cemetery, which has burial records dating back to 1845, to hear several more speakers, each with interesting facts, stories and recollections of ancestors and early settlers buried here. Afterwards a delicious dessert was served in Medley Hall. The Apohaqui ACW sponsored the event held as a fundraiser for the church's new roof. Seen here with the crowd is one of the speakers, Georgie Keith, at right.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Camping ministry: the fun, the friendship, the blessing



MCKNIGHT & SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Camp Brookwood's 49th season a success

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

On the third of July, Erin Hodge and her charges — 25 children in Grades 3-5 from Centennial School in Saint John — boarded a bus and headed north to Camp Brookwood, two-and-a-half hours away in Florenceville-Bristol.

Also on the bus were 25 camping kits — new sleeping bag, pillow and case, blanket, sun screen, bug spray and a flashlight — all supplied by Irving Oil, theirs to keep.

"For some, it would be impossible to ask the families to provide these things," said Erin. "It was great!"

When they got there, "one of the kids asked if this is the country. 'Yes,' I said. 'Wow, I've never been to the country.' Some have never left the city before," said Erin.

These are kids from a depressed, north-end neighbourhood where poverty is rampant. The kids are treated to a week at camp as part of Inner City Youth Ministry's outreach. Erin is its director. Irving Oil is a sponsor of Lunch Connection, another ICYM project that includes students at Centennial School.

"Honestly, camp is a chance to be kids — to run around in the dirt and the mud puddles," said Erin. "Some had been to camp last year, but for most it was the first time."

She was amazed and blessed by their interest in Bible stories.

"It was phenomenal to see how receptive the kids were, especially to chapel," she said, adding they were disappointed when the stories were over. "For me it was an opportunity to share my faith. Probably most of the kids are not involved in church in any other way."

While some kids at the camp are church members, there are many in the greater community who come to camp with no affiliations and no church experience. Many are sponsored by parishes and

individuals.

"We have people show up with their kids on Sunday nights and ask, 'can my child go to camp?'" said Barb Smith, secretary of the board of directors of Camp Brookwood. "We rely heavily on outside support!"

Just over half of the camp's 121 campers this summer were sponsored in some way. That includes the 25 from Centennial School.

"We reach out to parishes in our deanery," said Barb. "We have great response. And we get support from the diocese, and from outside people who want to camp once."

As in past years, theme weeks proved popular, with game show, science, space, under the sea, time travel and myths and legends as the themes.

The camp had some weather challenges. Some weeks were oppressively hot, while others were rather rainy, but the pool and rainy day mud puddle games helped, along with the creativity and skills of the staff, said Barb.

On week two, the camp was without a chaplain, but they managed, largely due to the efforts of the camp director, Claire Rideout, and nearby priest Bob LeBlanc. "Bob came out every night and played music," said Barb. "It was awesome of him to do that!"

One of the highlights of the summer was a baptism of former camper and former counsellor Griffin Broad, 21.

"I met Griffin a couple of years ago at camp when he was a counsellor," said the Rev. Chris Ketch. "He wanted me to baptize him because he had gotten to know me well."

Griffin had been asked to be a Godfather, and wanted to know if he needed to be baptized in order to accept the honour.

"Traditionally, that is a requirement," said Chris, so the baptism in the brook at camp was planned for the final week

of the season.

"We wanted the campers to be able to witness it, so we did the majority of the service at St. Andrews chapel at the camp, and then we made our way to the brook.

"Campers were lining the shore watching it all take place," said Chris. "The water was frigid. It was baptism by immersion."

Chris has been a chaplain at Camp Brookwood for a few years.

"By the end of the first day, you know all the kids' names," he said. "It suits my personality well. I really enjoy my time there, getting to know the campers and talking to them about Jesus."

The camp had a 78 per cent occupancy rate this summer, in keeping with the last few summers, although the board would like to see that increase, said Barb. They'd like to turn their six-week program into seven or eight weeks.

Next year is the camp's 50th anniversary, and the board's hope is to raise \$16,000 to cover half the camp registration fees for next year. There will be fundraisers through the year.

Barb and her husband are both board members. Barb is a former Brookwood camper, as is their son, Kyle. She understands the powerful impact of a week at summer camp.

"The exposure of children to church — this is the only time of the year they get that, for a lot of the kids. We know the importance of it."

This year, the camp employed eight summer staff: four counsellors, one director, one activity co-ordinator, one cook and one cook's assistant, whose position was funded through the NB Seed program. The camp also hosted two counsellors-in-training each week.

Watch for more information about Camp Brookwood's 50th anniversary and its fundraisers through the next few months.



'We're creating little Christians' - More than 400 kids enjoy Camp Medley

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

The best part of summer camp for Kody Squires isn't what happens on land.

"I like the river," said the 11-year-old from nearby Burton, who was at Camp Medley for the second year with his twin brother, Kalan.

"We do a lot of swimming, canoeing. Canoeing is probably one of my favourites." He has plans to continue as a camper next year.

"I'm hoping to come back," he said. "My mom said maybe we could go to Boy's Adventure Camp."

The enjoyment of summer camp doesn't stop with the campers. The staff becomes rather attached to the place, their co-workers and the campers.

This was the second year for senior cabin counsellor Gabrielle Gionet, 20. The Saint John native who attends Hillcrest Baptist Church points to the diocesan mission — Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ for the making of disciples — as her guide.

"I think that [mission] is so true," she said. "That's why I'm here. We're creating little Christians."

And she finds that some kids really need the camping experience.

"Our job is to make it the best we can," she said. "Some have severe lives."

TJ Treznick-Jeall says he owes a lot to Camp Medley.

"This is the best summer I've had in my entire life — hands down!" said the 17-year-old. "It's an amazing experience to work with kids. For a summer job, it's way more fulfilling to teach kids, empower them and have these positive experiences than working at McDonald's or something. So when I had the opportunity, I took it."

The nature counsellor says just talking about nature to the kids is boring, "so I use games."

Some of the activities have included stick fort-building, making nature bracelets, nature trivia, walks and hikes.

While campers were learning about

nature, TJ was learning about himself. "I've been tested so much because of so many scenarios," he said. "I've probably grown and learned more about myself than ever before."

And he's grateful for exposure to many new skills: drumming, slacklining, learning how to comfort kids and becoming a more creative person. He's hoping to return next year, after he completes Grade 12 at Moncton High School.

Adventure Camps a hit

After an intense 10 weeks, camp director Maren McLean Persaud says this summer saw many first-timers visit Camp Medley, which is always promising for repeat visits.

One of the highlights of the summer was a new camp week — Girls' Adventure Camp to complement Boys' Adventure Camp.

"We did adventure week for the first time," she said. "Both camps were full. 'The girls weren't sure what they were getting into, but they loved it.'"

The main activity of the week was a canoe trip to an island, where the girls stayed overnight, pitching their own tents and cooking their own food.

"Those camps weren't very big, but they were very good. That was when I felt like camp was becoming a family," she said.

Both adventure camps will return next year.

Another highlight happened early in the summer, before campers arrived. Maren took the staff to a nursing home in the Village of Gagetown where they had a campfire — something residents hadn't experienced in a long time.

"It was neat for staff to do something other than what usual youth ministry looks like," she said, adding they got a letter from a resident's family thanking them for the experience.

Camp-On-The-Road will be back next year, given this year's success of the pilot project. Maren is hoping more parishes will partner with Camp Medley

to bring a VBS-style day camp to their children.

"That's [one of the things] we'll be working on this fall, and we hope to expand it," she said.

One "God detail" as she calls it, stands out among the many highlights of the season. She had a call from a parish that had already committed to sending several children to camp, but they had two more kids who wanted to come, and no money to send them. Would the camp take them anyway?

Shortly after, Maren got a call from a parish that said "We don't have any more kids to send, but we have enough money to send two more kids if you know of any."

"I think that was really wonderful!" she said.

What Maren is most thankful for is the parish support that is shown over and over as parishes raise money to send kids to camp, make donations and support it in many other ways.

This year they got handmade quilts donated for the staff beds, and a complete craft supply from a church in Miramichi.

"Thank you to everyone who supports camping ministry," she said. "My favourite thing to do is share camp with other people! So anytime a group or parish wants to hear about what happened at camp this summer, or to see pictures and videos from our summer, I will come."

Just over 400 kids came through as campers, with another 40 day campers involved in Camp-On-The-Road. They had the largest weekly camp they've seen in several years, with 90 kids, all 7-11 year olds.

Camp Medley provided summer jobs for 25 students.

This fall, Maren will be evaluating the summer season and planning for next year.

Camp Medley will remain busy through October with several private and church camps and a wedding.

STEWARDSHIP

What is stewardship anyway?

BY MICHAEL BRIGGS

Webster's defines stewardship as "the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care."

God has entrusted all of us with different talents, time to use them and treasures to go with them.

So we are tasked with responsible management of these talents, time and treasures entrusted to us.

As you may have read in the previous article, I am guided by 1 Chronicles 29 as used in the invitation to the offertory in the BCP. "Blessed be thou Lord God of Israel, for ever and ever. All that is in the heavens and earth is thine, all things come of thee and of thine own have we given thee."

Thus, all stewardship is giving back to God those things he has given us, be it talent, time or treasure. We do not own these things; they are gifts for us to use.

Now as a treasurer and also a member of the finance committee, I am sure readers are expecting an article on increasing our giving. Certainly money is a part of stewardship, but it is also using our talents and time.

Everything we have is a gift from God and he has given us the free will to use these gifts either wisely, not so wisely, or not at all.

We all have different talents and these can be used throughout the parish, deanery or diocese. It takes all types of talents to make the parish, deanery and diocese work efficiently for the glory of God.

How are we using the talents we have in the time available? We do not all have the same amount of spare time as some are working and some are retired. Ask ourselves how we can serve and use the talents we have.

Time is also needed. The church runs on volunteers and it is not possible to quantify the value of all the hours donated by our volunteers.

Using our time is also good stewardship, be it helping with Sunday School, singing in the choir, serving on vestry, being a greeter, helping in the office and so on.

Lastly, treasures. We offer to God when we are in church either by using envelopes or by e-offering, special occasions in the church year, or as a memorial to someone who has died.

The amount does not matter as we all have different means. What matters is the willingness of the offering as we are able.

I will go further into each of these aspects of stewardship in future articles. I am using this to begin a conversation and perhaps encourage us all to think of stewardship in a different light.

I am sure we have all heard our parish treasurer make a plea for increased offerings. I know I have made such requests.

What I am asking is that we think of how we can best use our talent, time and treasure to further the work of the church in spreading the Good News of Jesus Christ to those in our communities who need to hear the news.

Michael Briggs is the diocesan stewardship officer.



EPISCOPAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Canon David Barrett has been appointed interim priest-in-charge of the Parish of Portland, effective Sept. 1. This is in addition to his appointment as chaplain to the Saint John hospitals.

There will be a Celebration of New Ministry for **the Rev. David Peer**, priest-in-charge of the Parish of East Saint John, at All Saints, 35 Park Avenue, on Sunday, Nov. 20 (Reign of Christ) at 7 p.m.

The Rev. Canon Jon Lownds has been appointed interim priest, part-time, of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, Fredericton, effective Sept. 1 until Jan. 31, 2017

Bishop David Edwards ordained **the Rev. Sandy MacPherson** and **the Rev. Christian Persaud** to the priesthood on Sunday, Sept. 18 at Christ Church Cathedral.

There will be a Celebration of New Ministry for **the Rev. Kevin McAllister**, deacon in the Parishes of Marysville and Minto & Chipman, at All



Saints, Marysville, on Sunday, Oct. 30 at 4 p.m.

There will be a Celebration of New Ministry for **the Rev. Robert Langmaid**, priest-in-charge of the Parish of Gondola Point (and Chaplain to RNS), at St. Luke's, 12 Quispamsis Road, on Wednesday, Oct. 5 at 7 p.m.

A Celebration of New Ministry for **the Rev. Thomas Nisbett**, priest-in-charge of the Parish of Newcastle-Nelson-Hardwicke, was held at St. Andrew's in Miramichi (Newcastle) on Thursday, Sept. 29.

There will be a Celebration of New Ministry to induct **the**

Rev. Paul Ranson as rector of the Parish of Douglas and Nashwaaksis at St. John the Evangelist Church, Fredericton, on Tuesday, Oct. 4 at 6:30 p.m.

There will be a Celebration of New Ministry to induct **the Rev. Greg Frazer** as rector of the Parish of New Maryland at the Church of the Holy Trinity in Nasonworth on Sunday, October 23 at 4 p.m.

There will be a Celebration of New Ministry to induct **the Rev. Ann Fairweather** as rector of the Parish of Restigouche at Christ Church in Campbellton on Sunday, Oct. 16 at 4 p.m.

STEWARDSHIP REMINDERS

Saturday, Oct. 22, Stewardship Workshop

St. John the Evangelist Church, Fredericton, 9:30-4:15

Sunday, Oct. 23, Stewardship Sunday

Watch eNews for details. stewardship@diofton.ca

"When You Pray, Say..."

Register online at billhockin.ca or by calling 506-455-2494

A weekend seminar on The Lord's Prayer with Bishop Bill Hockin

Friday, October 14, 7 - 9 p.m. &

Saturday, October 15, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Queen Street, Fredericton

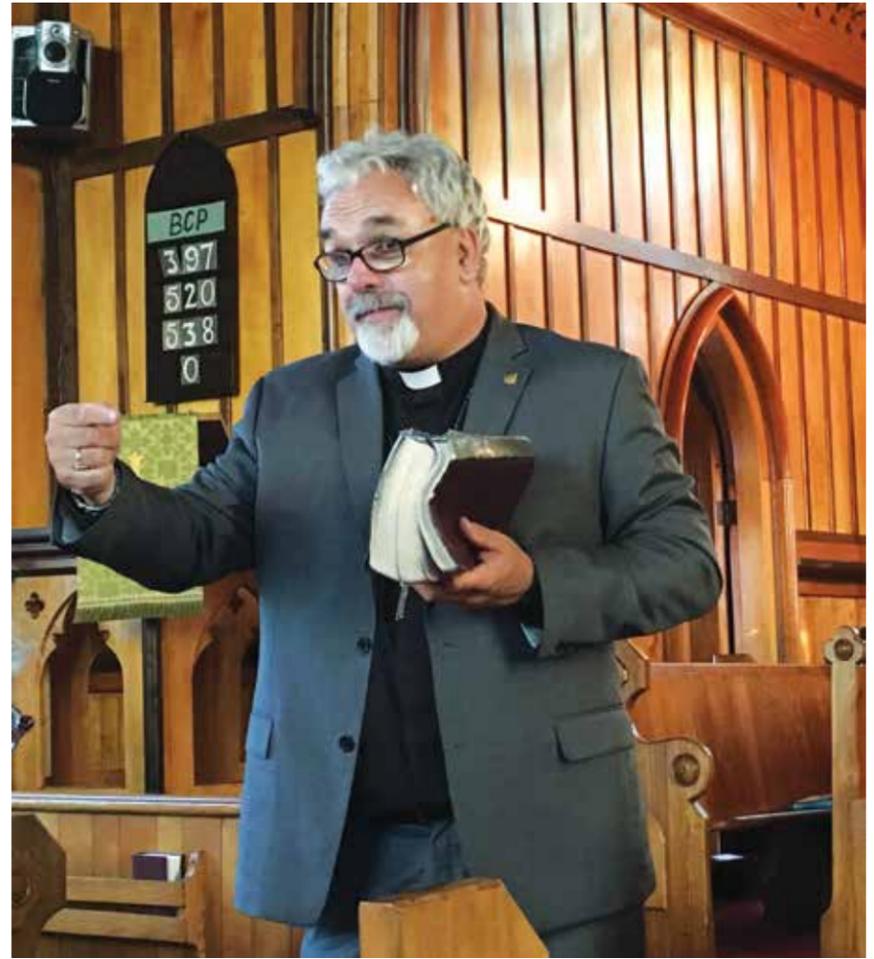
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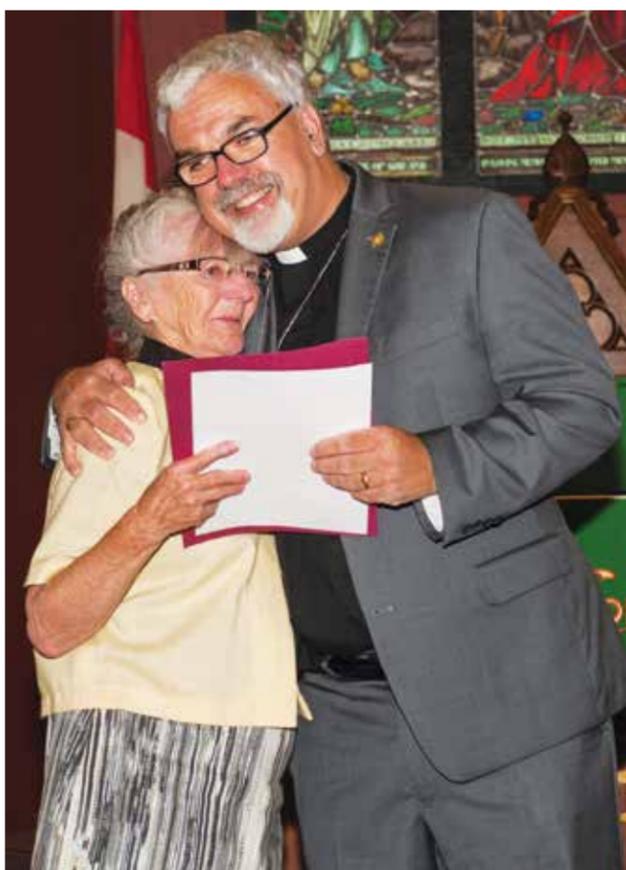
SUBMITTED PHOTO

Aug. 7 was a day of celebration as the Rev. Rob Salloum baptized Rodger Spinney Burke at Holy Trinity Church in New Maryland. Rodger is the grandson of the previous diocesan chancellor, Clyde Spinney, QC and the late Elizabeth (Liz Ann) Spinney. Rodger's parents are Gillian Dianne Spinney and Jason Rodger Burke; his Godparents are David Matthew Spinney and Barbara Lee Wishart-Fawcett.



MARILYN WILSON PHOTO

St. Mark's Church in Jackson Falls (Parish of Richmond) hosts a worship service every Wednesday evening through the summer months, with guest speakers and musicians. The special guest on Aug. 17 was Bishop David Edwards.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Rev. Eleanor Dryden of the Parish of the Nerepis and St John received an award for her work in pastoral care from the Recognition of Diaconal Ministry in the tradition of St. Stephen. Bishop David Edwards presented the award to the very surprised and honoured deacon at a service Aug. 14.

The Recognition of Diaconal Ministry in the tradition of St. Stephen began in 1995 when the North American Association for the Diaconate initiated a program to provide formal recognition for the ministry and work of deacons. Over that span 4,141 deacons — 3,446 in the United States and 433 in Canada — have received this recognition to identify some of the important ministry deacons do as well as the individual deacons who carry out Christ's work in our midst.

In 2016, Rev. Eleanor was one of 29 and the only Canadian honoured. She was nominated by Bishop David Edwards and Rev. Michael Caines, rector of the Parish of the Nerepis and St. John.

When asked how she felt about receiving the award, the Rev. Dryden thought she didn't deserve it as it was just something she did as part of her job description. She never expected it and is honoured and pleased to be awarded this recognition, but she said the award belongs to everyone. Without them, this wouldn't have happened.

Men's Conference - "Living Life to the Full"

Fri, Oct. 21, 7-10 pm; Sat, Oct. 22, 9 am-noon
The Point Church, 582 King George Hwy, Miramichi

Speakers: Bishop David Edwards & Rev. Dr. Ken Neilson

Cost: Freewill offering
Information: Rick Mills, 625-7186 or
< rickjeaniemills@rogers.com >

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRIES

Confessions of a first-time camp chaplain

BY DON ADAMS

This year I was asked if I would consider being a chaplain at Camp Brookwood. I had thought about it before, so I said yes.

However, I had some concerns about not living up to expectations and wondered if I had the stamina to keep up.

My age group was the 5-8 year-olds and the theme for the week was "Myths and Legends."

OK, I thought, I'm a pretty good story teller and had worked with this age group before. It won't be that bad.

My experience over the week with 16 children was great and I found there were still some things that could put me in awe, make me smile and make my heart skip a beat.

Each day consisted of two faith-based activities and an evening chapel session where everyone attended. The message was about Jesus, love, honesty and Christian history.

My main theme was about habits, both good and bad, where they came from and how to change them by thinking like a Christian.

I focused the camp theme of myths and legends on biblical superheroes. These included Noah, Peter the disciple, the Good Samaritan, Mary and of course, Jesus.

As the stories unfolded, the kids were full of questions and surprised me with the depth of their interest.

What really blew me away were the relationships and bonds that formed among all age groups, even mine. Director Claire and the councillors were exceptional in their empathy and compassion. Stacey, our

cook was an angel with the kids.

It didn't matter if it was a skinned knee, a sore ankle, homesickness or a lightning storm, someone was there to embrace the children and give them what they needed the most, themselves.

I am in awe of the kids' enthusiasm, energy, curiosity and their ability to remember any minor missteps or embarrassments by their leaders.

Noah, our activities director, decided after a rain storm, to have a puddle jumping activity. The young girl sitting next to me quietly said, "I guess I'm gonna be a red-neck puddle jumper."

I was surprised and asked her what she said. She repeated matter-of-factly, "I'm a red-neck puddle jumper." A councillor turned to her and gave her a great big hug.

There is a rustic cross on the lectern in the chapel. That cross became a valuable tool for me to use for the rest of the week. I asked the group to tell me what the cross meant to them.

They said Jesus suffered and died on the cross. He had to carry the cross a long way. He was treated mean and it wasn't very nice.

I spoke to them about God's love for us, his desire for us to be with him, and his rainbow promise He made to us.

I spoke of the meaning of the cross which was life, faith, rebirth and God's everlasting love.

On the last day, I again asked each group what the cross meant to them. The answers floored me. They said, "God loves us. We were born again and Jesus is with us. It means He saved us."

My reflections on the week:



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Don Adams, top left, in purple T-shirt, wasn't sure he was up to the challenge of being a camp chaplain, but after a week at Camp Brookwood, he is hooked. He says he came away in awe of camping ministry, so much so that they may not be able to keep him away next summer.

1) The words of a child when asked a question are pure. Believe them when they answer without thinking.

2) Kids take everything personally and are sponges when emotions of any kind are directed their way.

3) Never make assumptions when it comes to children. We think we know what is going on in a child's head but can be so wrong. Always ask questions to find out what is really going on.

4) For children to be the

best they can be, they need role models. Their behaviour comes from observing their parents, family and leaders. If our motives are pure and we do our best, children will emulate.

•••

I received full payment when I said goodbye to the kids on Friday. Sixteen of them ran forward to give me a big hug. There was so much love and honesty in their farewell words.

When I reflect back on the

concerns I had, I realize now what I would have missed if I had given in to my initial fears and not gone.

This ministry is open to anyone who loves God and children. You can give them so much when you give so little as a week of your life. I can't wait for next year if they'll have me.

Don Adams is a retired air force major and a cook who has a soft heart for children. He is also a parochial lay reader in transition.



CATHY LASKEY PHOTO

CLERGY CONFERENCE

Father James Mallon, an author, speaker and Catholic priest in Halifax, was the guest leader as clergy met at Rothesay Netherwood School the last few days of August. The Rev. Eric Phinney had this to say: "Father James brought amazing riches from both new and old wine skins. It was so good to hear a speaker that had achieved significant success and who could also articulate his understanding using material from a very wide variety of sources — from Bill Hybles to Thomas Merton. Father James was funny, bold, practical and prophetic. It truly was a refreshing blessing." Fr James is seen here during one of his lectures.

TESTIFY!

Missing the TESTIFY! feature? We need readers' stories of God's work in their lives!

Email them to gmcknight@diofton.ca

INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRIES

St. Michael's marks 30 years

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

How do you get 25 teenagers from around the Maritimes to come to a camp for a week each August to learn about Anglicanism, the bible, prayer and Christianity? And how do you get staff to come and teach it for free?

Well, there's the food. It's pretty good. And the camp is on the Bouctouche River, which is scenic. And the camp has a great pool, which is popular.

All those things no doubt help, but most agree it's the sense of community that's been built here that keeps kids coming back to St. Michael's Youth Conference.

"It's about building relationships," said the Rev. Canon Kevin Stockall, one of the organizers. "The kids build relationships, they engage and support each other.

"There is essentially no challenge to recruiting staff to St. Michael's," he said.

The staff includes Bishop David Edwards, clergy, a few university professors and others.

St. Michael's is a six-day camp of intense Anglican formation and theological mentoring on everything from church customs and the Sacraments to prayer and missions. That's three lessons a morning, followed by recreation and entertainment in the afternoons and a mixture of both in the evenings. In between, of course, there are the daily offices and Holy Eucharist.

It's held in late August at Camp Wildwood, and 2016 marked its 30th year. It's also intergenerational — everyone from grandchildren of staff to people in their 70s attends.

Elizabeth Stockall is all of 26, and this is her 24th year at the conference.

"I was a house kid, a conferee and staff," she said. "I've been here my whole life. I've seen every aspect of it, how it becomes a community. We look at it as a big community coming together rather than just a summer camp."

But in this community, there is always room for someone new.

Rebecca Chipman and Anne Robertson are friends from St. George's (Round) Church in Halifax. Both are first-timers.

"Our youth group leader came here when she was young and suggested we go," said Rebecca.

"You go, I go," said Anne, so both are enjoying what might become the first of many years spent at St. Mike's, if past conferees are any indication.

This is also the first year for Siobhan Laskey — as a teacher. She's actually been to St. Michael's 18 times. She taught introduction to prayer to first year conferees, with good results.

"They all have very interesting and challenging questions," she said. "Even though they're young, they bring a lot of experiences to class. I had a great week. When you have challenging questions, you always learn."

Recreation is popular at St. Michael's, including the Old Guys versus Young Guys pool basketball challenge.

As the game intensified, one young player was heard to say, "I never wrestled a bishop before," to which his teammate replied, "I did last year."

The game ended in an accidental bloody nose for Bishop David.

Throughout the week, the theme of St. Michael, one of the archangels who does battle for God, is always present. Our lives are a spiritual battle, seeking God's will and striving for obedience, said Kevin.

"What I've experienced at St. Michael's is a ministry that God is blessing," he said. "As a result, it's blessing others also."



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS

TOP: Dr. Bruce Robertson and Bishop David Edwards watch as the Young Guys score against them in an enthusiastic game of pool basketball.

MIDDLE: The house kids amuse themselves with a board game. Clockwise from bottom left: Bella d'Entremont, Eric Steeves, Eve d'Entremont, Kate Thompson and Beth Thompson.

BOTTOM: Siobhan Laskey, centre back, taught a first year course on Introduction to Prayer. Two of her students, Anne Robertson and Rebecca Chipman, at left, are from Halifax.



INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRIES

Together for one cause; CLAY exceeds expectations

BY JASON SMITH

Let me paint you a picture of the size of CLAY (Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth). At one of our Large Group Gatherings (LGG) there were over 800 participants — 220 leaders, 150 volunteers and special guests, and of course, youth delegates. There were more than 600 Lutherans and 200 Anglicans all together for one cause!

Every province was represented and we were the only New Brunswick team present. Let me tell you, it was an amazing atmosphere and experience for me and the Diocese of Fredericton team.

From Aug. 17-21, the Diocese of Fredericton was represented by five youth and two leaders; Ashley Nutter, Alyssa Snider, Patrick Doyle and Jason Smith from the Parish of the Nerepis and St. John and Caitlin Mason, Miranda Mercer and Debora Kantor from the Parish of Cambridge and Waterborough.

We embarked on this journey, not really knowing what to expect. We were following God's call to take part in this great traditional youth event.

Let me give you a feeling of our week's adventure.

DAY 1 – Wednesday, Aug. 17

Once we arrived in Charlottetown, PEI we registered, settled into our accommodations at the University of PEI and the youth signed up for their ministry projects — workshops they would take part in throughout the week that incorporated the gathering's theme of Not for Sale. A Maritime Ceilidh party allowed the youth and leaders to mix and mingle.

DAY 2 - Thursday Aug. 18

After breakfast we had our first LGG where we were introduced to the worship

band, and the drama troupe that entertained us with skits, videos and parodies.

Our keynote speaker for the week was Pastor Mark Ehlebracht from Toronto who spoke about how we can stay true to our own voices. He challenged us to use our voices to be heard that we are Not for Sale.

We loaded buses and headed to our Servant Events. The Servant Events were spread around Charlottetown and the rest of PEI and allowed the teams to get into the community and participate in some ministry or community service.

Our team was at the Hunter-Clyde & Wheatley River Watershed. We got a guided tour of the facilities, learned about what a watershed does, planted some trees and hauled away topsoil and filled it with mulch. Our team really enjoyed it.

DAY 3 – Friday, Aug. 19

Friday began with a Morning Mash-Up where our team was joined by other teams and met with Anglican Indigenous Bishop Mark Macdonald and a Lutheran Bishop from Saskatchewan, Sid Haugen.

It began with a morning devotional on questions from the Not for Sale theme and an opportunity for the youth to ask questions of the bishops about anything.

We continued with our second LGG which focused on the challenges of creation. We were all greeted by Buddhist monks of PEI, who hosted a group for their Servant Event by making bread.

They graced us with a blessing chant. It was very beautiful and an honour to receive. They also made some bread for us as a snack after.

After the LGG, we had a Home Team Mixer, where the youth mixed with other youth



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Above: After returning from a servant event, the Diocese of Fredericton team posed for this photo. Back row: Debora Kantor, Caitlin Mason, Patrick Doyle and Jason Smith. Front row: Miranda Mercer, Alyssa Snider and Ashley Nutter..

Below: More than 800 people wait to get buses to the beach and the hike on Day 4.



and leaders and participated in a Right to Water exercise and challenges. Right to Water is CLAY's national sponsoring campaign.

The day continued with another Ministry Project workshop and LGG focusing on humans not for sale.

DAY 4 – Saturday, Aug. 20

Saturday began with another devotional, this time it was just for our team to get together and a third Ministry Project workshop called a Try It.

After lunch we all boarded buses again and headed to the beach at Greenwich National Park where we had a wonderful barbecue.

The options were beach or hike and our group chose beach. The weather and view were beautiful and we ended with a service on the beach.

DAY 5 – Sunday, Aug. 21

We wrapped everything up with a final LGG, packed, grabbed a box lunch and left for home.

Summary

Overall the experience was fantastic. Everyone enjoyed the atmosphere and the event and all are excited to return.

"I thought CLAY was an amazing experience, and a wonderful opportunity to explore my faith. Not only did I get to learn, but it was in a safe and non-judgemental environment with fellow Christians who shared my beliefs and morals," said Patrick about his CLAY experience.

"My favourite part about CLAY was that we had many opportunities to relax and chat amongst friends and new friends, and had the free-

dom to be able to do what we wanted alongside the activities there. It made me feel happy that I could do things at my own pace."

The next location of CLAY in 2018 is Thunder Bay, Ont., They are already calling it Thunder CLAY.

We were a small representation of New Brunswick but I would love to return with a large group.

If you have youth who are going to be ages 14-19 in two years, they are more than welcome to join the CLAY 2018 team. Even though this is two years away, we can begin planning anyway.

Contact: yigfton@gmail.com if you are interested.

Jason Smith is the chair of YIG – the diocesan Youth and Intergenerational Ministries team.

Deep words, light music from Anna Westin

In Canada, we are no strangers to the artistic output of the singer-songwriter. From Jewel to David Myles and Alan Doyle, we've been blessed by many poignant songs that dig deep into our collective consciousness, making us think about their words long after the last note faded away.

Enter Anna Westin, whose eclectic and light music nonetheless can grab hold of you, and not let go.

Anna's last name may betray her connection to our diocese. She is the daughter of the Rev. Dr. John Paul Westin, who has been very supportive of her work. Anna currently lives in London, UK, where she continues to pursue a Ph.D. while also writing and singing music.

She was most recently in the diocese for a visit, and kindly took the time to visit the folks at St. Michael's Youth Conference in August.

This article now takes on a bit of a concert review as well as that of the music itself. Anna made a fast connection with the kids there (not always easy for an artist to do when the audience is not familiar with you or your music!). She sang while accompanying herself on acoustic guitar, and filled the main hall with the sound. I was enthralled with the variety of song topics she offered: sisters, hipsters, moving to a new place, prayers for help, experiences with God, east coast people, and

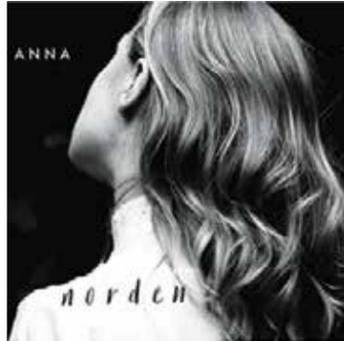


a few more — all in about an hour. There was even song written just for St. Michael's! What a filled-out hour it was.

On this night, there was much more to hear than the words and the notes. Anna paints big pictures in her music; much bigger than her guitar and her voice. Some of the songs deserve an orchestral treatment!

Her voice is an active one, with a subtle vibrato, a wide dynamic range (lows and softs, that is), and a strong tonal centre. Her guitar work is very tasteful, and much more interesting than mere chording and setting of the tempo.

The lyrics are captivating! Anna's texts read more like poetry; the kind of poetry in which you must lose yourself in order to gain a fuller understanding. Yet at the same time, particular lines themselves stand out and grab your attention — for example, "You bring blood back into my being," or "Love isn't sacrifice unless sacrifice is love," both from the song "Unborn Words."



Anna's music is not just something to have on in the background while you're working; her music demands your attention, and you, in my opinion, at least, will be rewarded for it.

Anna has chosen to donate 10 per cent of all money earned from her music to help stop child trafficking in Kolkata, India, through the Destiny Fund. She continues to write new music, in addition to already having her album, *Norden*, and her debut EP, *Wildflower*, available.

You can find out more by visiting various social media platforms: Instagram, Soundcloud, Facebook and Youtube.

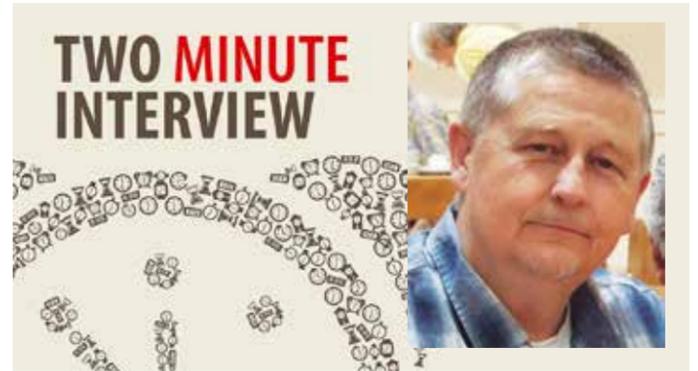
Her website is www.anna-music.org. I think we will be hearing more of Anna Westin in time to come!

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



CHRIS HAYES PHOTOS

Anna Westin, at right, performs for staff and conferees at St. Michael's Youth Conference in August, seen here above.



**The Rev. Bob LeBlanc, priest & rector,
Parish of Wicklow, Wilmot, Peel & Aberdeen**

Favorite book in the bible: Proverbs

Birth place: Amherst, Nova Scotia

What I love most about God: His love and forgiveness

Favourite place on earth: The ocean

Farthest I've been from home: Scotland

Favorite meal or dessert: Salmon dinner

Biggest fear: Not being able to play guitar

Hidden Talent: Whistling with my fingers

Favourite movie or book: MASH: Goodbye, Farewell, Amen

Your hobby: Playing the guitar

Three things in my fridge: cheese, eggs, vegetables

Favorite sports team: Toronto Maple Leafs

DIOCESAN SYNOD 2016

**Saturday, November 5
Christ Church (Parish) Church
245 Westmorland Street, Fredericton
8:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Registration begins at 8 a.m.**

Greater Chapter Meetings

- Archdeaconry of Woodstock, Oct. 5
- Archdeaconry of St. Andrews, Oct. 6
- Archdeaconry of Chatham, Oct. 11
- Archdeaconry of Saint John, Oct. 17
- Archdeaconry of Moncton, Oct. 18
- Archdeaconry of Fredericton, Oct. 19
 - Archdeaconry of Kingston & The Kennebecasis, Oct. 26

**DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES,
plan to attend your meeting!**

Visit our website for
synod details:
[anglican.nb.ca/synod/
sessions](http://anglican.nb.ca/synod/sessions)



INTERGENERATIONAL MINISTRIES

A regal garden party

Farraline Place celebrates the year, honours monarch's 90th birthday

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

It was a birthday party fit for a queen — Queen Elizabeth II, that is, on the occasion of her 90th birthday.

That was the theme of this year's Farraline Place annual garden party held Aug. 11 at the Queen Street residence in downtown Fredericton. Farraline Place is an ACW-owned seniors' home.

The afternoon party included a royal-inspired menu of finger sandwiches — salmon, egg and cucumber — plus raisin scones with jam and homemade clotted cream, lemon curd tarts, Victoria sponge and shortbread cookies with buttercream icing. Many of the ladies wore fancy hats and fascinators.

Torrential rains at noon forced the first half of the party indoors, where several people made short speeches. But afterwards, the yard was dry enough for the refreshments and music to be held in the garden.

Marlene Mercer, board of directors president, spoke of the upcoming fall fundraising gala and invited all present to gather again for it at Christ Church (Parish) Church Oct. 15 at 5 p.m.

"Farraline Place has a tight budget," she said. "The gala fundraiser goes toward expenses."

A recent yard sale raised \$296 to help pay for a fence in the yard.

Administrator Judy O'Donnell spoke of the efforts the staff put in to preparing for the garden party.

"You have no idea how much work goes into today," she said. "They did a lot of work. I'd like to thank the staff. They make me look pretty good."

Rosemarie Kingston, president of the provincial ACW; Fredericton Mayor Mike O'Brien; Fredericton city councillor and Christ Church Cathedral member Kate Rogers; Fredericton South MLA David Coon; and contractor



Bill O'Donnell all expressed appreciation for the home and brought greetings from their respective organizations.

"Seniors are such a gift to our city," said the mayor. "I'm so glad you're here in a safe and pleasant place."

ACW members attended, including one group from the Parish of Sackville.

The music this year was by Frantically Atlantic, a husband and wife duo of Don Rigley and Michelle Daigle, whose Celtic sounds, with fiddle, hammered dulcimer and whistles, thoroughly entertained the hand-clapping crowd.

One of the highlights of the party was not the food, nor the fellowship, but a fashion ensemble from the 1950s. Summer student Jessica Richard modelled the gown that Lady Dunn wore to the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II on June 2, 1953. The gown is owned by a local man.

The British-born Lady Dunn, whose name was Marcia Anastasia Christoforides, later became Lady Beaverbrook when she married her late husband's friend, Max Aitken.

She lived for many years in St. Andrews and died in 1994. Both her husbands were from

New Brunswick.

History

It was in 1988 that the ACW of New Brunswick, at the request of Bishop Harold Nutter, took over Farraline Place. It has been a home for the elderly since 1907 when J.N. Pauletta Fraser, wife of the lieutenant-governor, left it to be used as a home for elderly ladies. The house was built in 1809 and enjoys a phenomenal location next to the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick.

Farraline Home is not a nursing home or special care home. It provides independent living for seniors who don't require personal care from staff.

Staff do, however, prepare meals, clean rooms, look after medications and do laundry for residents. For those not wanting to live alone, keep a house, rent an apartment or make meals and do chores, it is ideal. There are 20 bedrooms at Farraline Place. Currently there is one vacancy, which the board is eager to rent.

The home got its name from Lt. Gov. J.J. Fraser, who took over the property in 1893. He named it Farraline Place after the original Fraser estate in Scotland. Learn more about Farraline Place at its website: farralineplace.com



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS

TOP LEFT: Michelle Daigle and Don Rigley form the duo Frantically Atlantic, which had many clapping their hands to the Celtic music.

TOP: Sharon Day and Peggy Boucher enjoy the refreshments.

BOTTOM: Summer student Jessica Richard models Lady Dunn's ensemble worn at Elizabeth II's coronation in 1953.

Farraline Place 4th annual Harvest Gala Dinner & Auction

Saturday, Oct. 15

Christ Church (Parish) Church

245 Westmorland Street, Fredericton

Doors open at 5 p.m. Dinner at 6 p.m.

Craft and bake table, silent auction,
gently used table, entertainment.

\$30, with \$20 tax receipt

Tickets: Judy O'Donnell 455-6443,
or ACW members

Hosted by the board members of Farraline
Place and the Anglican Church Women.

Proceeds support Farraline Place

farralineplace.com

