

Calgary Diocesan Anglican Church Women

Summer 2021 Newsletter



Where are we





Anglican Church Women Prayer

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who sent your blessed Son into the world to be the Saviour of all; Grant us a deep sense of gratitude for your grace and mercy towards us. Enable us by your Spirit to reveal your love in prayer and work and stewardship, so that your salvation may become known to all people, and your Name glorified throughout the earth: through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our June Newsletter! My name is Linda Holt, and I am your new President. I come to this job with some excellent mentoring, as I began as Second Vice President and with Margaret had the opportunity to work with Susan Redpath. Then for the past two years, I worked closely with Margaret in all her endeavours. I was born in Calgary and grew up on a farm near Cremona, where many of my family still live. Married for



nearly 44 years, we live in Gleichen, and have three grown children who live in Calgary. We attend a small Anglican Church, St. Andrew's, which was built in 1886, when Gleichen was still part of the North West Territories! With a small congregation, I am the People's Warden for the Church, play the organ for services, help teach Sunday School, and act as Secretary-Treasurer for our ACW. In our community, I am a Library Board Member and Secretary of the Community & District Hall Board.

As a retired teacher, I had the opportunity to work with and teach students in every grade from Kindergarten to grade 12. The joy of a small school, (Bassano) was that I was hired as a Special Needs teacher and worked with student support, but in any given year, I could also be teaching LA, music, art, science, social, math, photography, or a myriad of other things, depending upon need. It kept me challenged and enthused!

Retirement from teaching has now given me the opportunity to volunteer, to complete my EFM, visit my mom, garden, sew, and do a bit of watercolour. Last September, I started flute lessons! Life is very good.

Cisley Robinson and Linda Anderson have put together a great newsletter. Among the articles are an introduction to our new First Vice President, Lisa Boulet and our new Second Vice President, Wendy Kingston. We are all honored to join such a great Executive. We know that we can look to them for guidance.

If I was to choose a Bible verse to begin my tenure, it would be Hebrews 10: 24-25, "Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together ... but encouraging one another". As we move forward in our Diocesan ACW, we are continuing our focus on connection with our Community. During the Conference, we explored ways to make contacts and create community, so now we want to explore a variety of possibilities. We have decided that even after COVID we need to have an electronic presence. We plan to continue offering varied and interesting programs using ZOOM, and when we can meet face-to-face, we will try to record the events on ZOOM for those who cannot attend.

June will see the publication of this Newsletter and one more Hymn Sing before summer. Fall will bring another book club, our Silver Cross event and a one-day Conference on October 16th, with guest speaker the Rev. Canon Dr. Richard Le Sueur. On Monday, December 6th, we will "ZOOM" our "Lessons and Carols" evening. Of course, we are really hoping for an in-person April Spring Conference in Okotoks.

We are always looking for other ways of becoming connected, so please email us if you have an idea. Even using ZOOM, we can make great connections. Our email is: dioceseofcalgaryacw@gmail.com

In closing, I would like to thank our Board for their encouragement to me and for all of their hard work. It is an honor to work with you all.

A little about me – Lisa Boulet

1st Vice President, ACW Diocese Calgary



First off, I am a single mom of an amazing 17 year old son, named Tyler. He is my pride and joy. He often helps me out with ACW tasks, such as setting up, cleaning up, and serving for me. If you see me chances are you will see him. He also is a server with our church Holy Cross Calgary and has graduated High School early and has been accepted to SAIT for the professional cooking program.

I have two goddaughters, they are 1, and 3 years old they often spend their weekends with me. So needless to say, I stay pretty busy.

I joined the Holy Cross Church in Calgary about 8 years ago where we were welcomed with open arms. For the first couple of years, we were kind of sporadic with our attendance, not really knowing how I felt or if I fit in. We continued to go Tyler and I, and gradually we began to start getting to know more and more people and truly feeling welcome. I really wanted to change my life around and live a life my son and I could be proud off.

I have since joined ACW at Holy Cross and then in 2017 I became the leader of Holy Cross ACW group. I had never done anything like this and really didn't know too much about ACW except that I really enjoyed attending the meetings and seeing all the wonderful speakers and things we did. I jumped in with both feet and thought if this is the path the Lord has chosen for me then I am going to be the best that I can be at it. At first it was a little scary thinking that I had some pretty big shoes to fill following Anne Davidson and what a wonderful job she always did. She had become a true inspiration for me and was always there to guide me and help me through. It turns out it wasn't as hard as I thought it would be as we have a bunch of wonderful ladies in our group who have also helped guide me though it all. Now I have learned the different events we do to raise money for charities and be able to help others. It was actually a perfect fit for me as I love to organize things, work hard, and most of all help others.

Life has not always been easy my son and I have had our ups and downs like everyone does but with the support of our church and the support of our ACW ladies it made it a whole lot easier. I truly know in my heart this is the path that God had laid out for me as I have never been happier or felt more satisfied with my life.

I enjoy exercising, learning to eat healthier, and can hardly wait to get my flowers planted and my vegetables growing. I have a wonderful job working in a High School Office with the Admin team, a wonderful son, two lovely Goddaughters and a lovely position with ACW.

I thank the lord daily for allowing me to be blessed with so many wonderful things in my life and I look forward to many more years with ACW.

An introduction - Wendy Kingston

2nd Vice President, ACW Diocese Calgary

I was nominated by Rev. Deacon Ingram to the office of second vice president of ACW Board of the Diocese and it was seconded by Darlene Dumenko. I was declared second vice president by acclamation.

I am blessed with the opportunity to learn and grow in this position and I look forward to getting to know each of you better....What fun it will be! So on that note, I will share with you a little about me. I moved to Calgary, Alberta from Saskatchewan in 1991 and then moved to Airdrie, Alberta in 2006. I am a single parent of three daughters. Jessica is 24, Kaitlyn is 17 and Sydney is 15.



I have been employed with AHS since 2002. Many years as a surgical processor, however in late 2018 I branched out, still with AHS, I became a hand hygiene reviewer. Shortly after becoming a reviewer, I also was given the responsibility of maintaining 26 AEDs. I was to ensure functioning of AEDs by performing monthly self-tests and to keep them fully equipped for emergency use.

I still maintain the credentials for Surgical Processor, I no longer do any of the above work positions with AHS, and I am still employed by AHS. My goal is to use the skills and knowledge I have acquired in my years of service and move forward into a new position in the Administration field. I am hoping to work in a clinical setting now, in Airdrie, as opposed to a hospital setting, still with AHS.

I am a member of St. Francis of Assisi Anglican Church in Airdrie. For many years now, I have been blessed with a wonderful church family, thanks be to God. I enjoy being active in ACW meetings and events. I am part of the Altar Guild. I love helping out with cooking, serving of dinners, and coffee hour fellowship time. (pre-covid days) In my spare time I enjoy reading, going on walks, yoga, and learning new technologies, including ZOOM.

Many people have asked about the picture on my wall that they see on all ZOOM interactions...so here is the story.....Last Year I invited Rev. Deacon Jennifer to go to an outdoor fundraising event and dinner (social distance followed and limited numbers of people attended) at the Alice Sanctuaries, in Wheatland County, east of Kathryn and Keoma, I think. There were a handful of artists that performed on an individual basis (as per covid reg.) Musicians, painters, and vendors. There was one artist that had a raffle going on two paintings...one was a pig named Zully...the other was a sheep that during the course of the event she painted (not sure of its name now). I bought tickets for this raffle...I put it all on Zully. And I won!!!

It was a wonderful day to enjoy and remember fondly whenever I speak of how the pig picture came about. Thank you for taking the time to get to know me and I look forward to getting to know you all. God's blessings to you all.

Our Past President with our Mascot



Margaret Newton with Espen

Calgary Diocese ACW AGM Report 2021

Submitted by Pearl Franz

The theme was “Come and See” John 1:46

This was the first time that the ACW has held an AGM through Zoom.

On Friday at 1:00 pm, several women participated in the pre-conference Anglican rosary making session. Packages had been mailed out prior. Rev. Betty Piwowar led a discussion of how people use the rosary to pray. There were several prayers that were in the package to choose from.



At 4:00 pm we gathered with the rest of the participants totaling 47. A great number of attendees considering we used Zoom as the venue. The business meeting was held including the election of Officers as follows:

President: LINDA HOLT

1st Vice President: LISA BOULET

2nd Vice President: WENDY KINGSTON

Secretary: EILEEN WILLIAMS.

Treasurer: MARY DYMOND

Appointments:

Past President - Margaret Newton

Chaplin - Rev. Betty Piwowar

Members at Large - Susan Redpath & Pearl Franz;

Newsletter - Cisley Robinson;

Calendars - Mary Anne Armstrong

Archivist/Historian - Vacant

Silver Cross/Names of the Departed - Betty Nadurak

Publicity/Quilt Keeper - Rev. Jennifer Ingram;

Book of Remembrance - Vera Apletree;

Web Master - Linda Anderson

Medicine Hat/Brooks Representative - Barbara Hamblin



2021 Diocesan Board: President Linda, Patrons Archbishop Greg & Vicki, Newsletter Cisley, Rev. Deacon Jennifer, Member-At-Large Pearl, Chaplain Rev. Betty, Member-At-Large Susan, Calendars Mary Anne

Missing from the photo : Betty Nadurak, Silver Cross and Names of the Departed; Vera Apletree, Book of Remembrance; Linda Anderson, Web Master; Barb Hamblin, Member-At-Large

Thankofferings - The total collection to date of \$1,376.50 will be divided between (Inside the Diocese) R.E.S.T. Pilot Program in Canmore and (Outside the Diocese) the Diocese of the Arctic. A Motion that the Diocese of Calgary ACW donate \$1,000 to the Windward Islands Volcano Fund for the Island of St. Vincent was made and accepted.

Bishop Greg Kerr-Wilson spoke about how we pressed on to hold the conference, even with the challenges, we are changing in how we connect and engage with the church. To be faithful to God's call. After dinner we participated in Compline.

On Saturday, we welcomed Rev. Elizabeth Short, after The Eucharist, installation of Officers and Bishop Greg reading the names of our deceased sisters. Rev. Elizabeth Short spoke on "Seeing the Pandemic as a Time of Opportunity".



The pandemic has caused anxiety, fear, frustration, distrust, confusion, and impatience. She reminded us of the tools (our gifts) we can use during this time, prayer-service-gratefulness-live in the present-be a team player-share your passions and be willing to try new things. We need to surrender to God, accept the past for what it was, welcome the new situations and embrace the present realities yielding to the mystery of the future and the mystery of God in that future.



Margaret Newton gave a beautiful summation by a slide presentation that summed up what had been done and accomplished over the two years she was President. Linda Holt, now President, presented the handmade ACW Calgary Diocese plate to Margaret as a token of our appreciation and thanks for the work she did as President. We wrapped up the day with a hymn sing and said our goodbyes till next time.

Conference Evaluation

Report prepared for Diocese ACW executive/board meeting June 5, 2021

- 43 attendees were sent the link to fill in and 25 completed the survey [58% return rate]
- 12 questions were prepared by Linda and Margaret in Mailchimp
- Mailchimp collected and tabulated all the answers, and I was able to download a spreadsheet with all answers and comments
- the evaluation was emailed to participants Tuesday April 27th and all the replies were received by May 14th with the majority [20] received by Friday April 30th

Question 1 – 25 replies

Does the Friday evening, Saturday morning/early afternoon work for you to attend the conference? YES – 24 [96%] NO – 1 [4%]

YES

Question 2: If you answered no, could you please share your thoughts?

Too long both Friday and Saturday [from person who answered no]

Question 3: 22 answers

Is it important to you to have a pre-conference event? YES – 13 [59 %] NO – 9 [41 %]

Question 4: If you answered no, could you please share your thoughts?

- It is not necessary, but I enjoy them. Sometimes we have visited places that we probably wouldn't have visited on our own.
- I have not had the opportunity to do so at other conferences across the country - but think it is a lovely option to offer !
- It depends on activity
- Just because it is not important to me to have a preconference event, doesn't mean that it is not important. If it were not offered I might not miss it, but I do support there being one.
- The prayer beads created the Theme of the Conference. Prayers, Community, church, Family, and Friends. I would add Co-workers.

Question 5: If you answered yes, could you please share some suggestions for future conferences? examples: tours, craft,

- If it's on Zoom, maybe there's a way to do one of those bingo games where you get to know everyone better.
- Share pilgrimage videos or photos
- There were some repeats [tours when/where possible] with these added – creation of liturgical hangings and journaling.

Question 6: What aspects of the conference were of most value to you?



- Getting together with other ladies from around the Diocese. I know it was on zoom this year, but we could still see each other. I really enjoyed the talks by Rev Betty, Rev Elizabeth and the Bishop. It was nice to have the services together, too.
- I enjoyed it all. Thought the Rosary was great, although I didn't get the cross on correctly, and appreciated the input into how to use it. The speakers are always interesting, thought Zoom worked well; liked the break times to catch up with people; breaking into Rooms and discussion of the groups, I am not good at that and it made me a bit uncomfortable as not sure I was answer properly.
- The sermon of Archbishop Gregory Kerr-Wilson-Come and See...Go and Tell. Rev. Betty spoke on John 1:46 come and see and video was beautiful and tied in wonderfully. Rev. Elizabeth Short on "Seeing the pandemic as a time of opportunity" part one and two....breakout room on the scripture was very meaningful to me...community, meditation and learning and growing
- Rev. Deacon Jennifer making motion for our diocesan ACW to make donation to the Windward Islands for volcano relief. The installations of officers and appointments to the board. The singing of Hymns throughout the conference. The warm and heartfelt sentiment by Margaret Newton and Linda Holt, they were truly welcoming and a real example to follow. Especially when you consider all the things you need to know or figure out when it comes to ZOOM...and all the pre-organizing that is done ahead to make the conference have a theme. Margaret and Linda both acknowledge that prayer is always what brings things together.
- The homilies and significance of the Come and See mission. Putting names to faces and interacting with other churches.
- Really enjoyed Rev Betty's presentation. The whole conference was great!
- Seeing familiar faces, the exchange of ideas in small groups, Elizabeth Short's talks, Richard LeSueur's video
- Fellowship, teaching, singing

- Community aspect, During Lent, Rev. Luft had a similar theme. Come and See. Every day was a day to spend in reflection of how we can make Jesus a part of our everyday life through prayer and setting a good example to others.

Question 7: 25 answers

Was it effective to have presentations Friday evening before Compline and Saturday before and after our lunch break? YES – 23 [92%] NO – 2 [8%]

Question 8: If you answered no, could you please share your thoughts?

- Need something so people will want to register. Noticed that there were people registered who have never come before as they could do so in the comfort of their own home and not drive. Many of our members are aging and the drive out of town is out of the question for them. Think the word has to go out that anyone is welcome and you don't have to be associated with an organized ACW group.
- Have full day on Saturday or stop with lunch on Saturday.

Question 9: What is one thing that you took away from the conference that will enhance your daily life?

- Knowing there will be deserts in my life and that I will come out of them stronger.
- The 4 rules of the desert that was in Richard Leseur's video, which you can adapt to life...never go alone, take only what you can carry, anticipate anxiety and wait upon the Lord.
- Use of Prayer Beads...and knowing that we need to invite Jesus into the boat each day. Invite Jesus into our heart and life each day. We are meant to be in community...serving in love as we are loved.
- It is possible to do nearly anything on zoom, if you know how.
- the positivity of the speakers regarding our ability to move forward DESPITE the limitations we have experienced throughout the pandemic - that this has indeed been a period of opportunity for us if we are willing to see it that way!
- I am not alone! There is not an ACW group in my church and it is good for me to know that there is a diocesan group that I can participate in.



Question 10: Given that due to COVID restrictions we had to have our conference over Zoom are you willing to attend events over Zoom in the future? For an example would you attend a social gathering where you could visit friends with no planned programming?
22 of the 24 comments were all YES

- yes indeed - which it has been wonderful in the past (and hopefully in the future) to be able to experience "in-person"

events - I believe that Zoom has given a number of people an opportunity to participate when perhaps they have not attended previously due to health, inability to travel, weather and/or financial costs of attending.

Question 11 – 25 answers

What is your overall evaluation of the conference? Average rating 8.8 on a scale of 1 to 10, Highest percentage was 10, Lowest percentage was 6.

Question 12: Any further comments?

- Just loved it and I think it went very well on zoom because there had been lots of planning and organizing so everyone knew what they were doing.
- My first and definitely not my last!
- For those who would normally have to travel some distance, is it possible to carry it on Zoom also?
- I hope the list of suggested ways to build community, which came out of Elizabeth Short's talks, will be shared -- maybe in the newsletter.
- It was a very enjoyable time. It was nice to see ladies I already knew, and meet others. The Zoom format worked very well. It was great to have Linda's piano playing for singing. Very welcoming atmosphere. The chaplain, Betty, is very friendly and supportive to the ACW.
- The Conference Logo of the Umbrella was very, very clever and beautiful.
- Was one of the best ACW conferences I ever attended!! And all my life only missed one!!!



President Linda, Archbishop Greg, Rev. Deacon Jennifer, Rev. Betty and Margaret Warwick, National Anglican Church Women's President

From the Chaplain's Desk

I have been asked to put into written form the talk I gave at the conference. As I only talk from a brief outline this is not easy, but hopefully I have managed to recapture the essence of what I presented.

Come and See

"Come and see" seems to be a sparse three words. But these words come to us as invitation. Come with me to explore these words. They are what our journey is about. They help us form community. We are invited to come and see our Lord, to come into friendship, relationship with him and then to be sent out to our neighbour and to the world. They are integral to community, mission and evangelism.

I love John's gospel. It is reflective, contains detailed stories and has the theme of Jesus as our light in darkness. Come and see. Without light we see at best only dimly. It begins with John's disciples asking Jesus "Where are you staying". "Come and you will see", Jesus answers. Andrew goes to see and brings Simon to Jesus



Next, Jesus finds Phillip. Phillip calls Nathaniel. "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Nathaniel asks. When they arrive to where they find Jesus, our Lord states, "I saw you under a fig tree". I know you and who you are. Come and see.

Nicodemus comes at night. Jesus says, "You must be born again". Nicodemus wants to ask the big questions; he is a seeker, but he does not want his fellow Pharisees to know he seeks out Jesus one night. To be born again is to have your life changed, to have done with you what only the Spirit can do. You become a new creation. The story doesn't tell us how Nicodemus integrated this into his life, but at the end of Nicodemus' struggle, he boldly claims Jesus' body and puts it in his own tomb. He was changed that night. Come and see.

Then there is the Samaritan woman at the well. She comes to the well at noon shunned by her community. She has not been able to find loving or stable relationships. Jesus helps her to see herself and her needs. He offers her living water, a new life, a chance to become all of who she was meant to be. She goes back to her community and tells them, "Come and see the man who told me everything I had ever done". She goes back to the community that has shunned her. They come and see and believe.

Jesus heals the man born blind. It is a tale of both physical and spiritual blindness. When the blind see, people become upset. Jesus seeks the tomb of Lazarus. "Where have you laid him?" "Come and see Lord", they replied. The dead is raised. Mary Magdalene comes from our Lord's tomb, and tell his followers, "I have seen the Lord". As the first to witness the resurrection, she becomes the Apostle to the apostles.

Jesus gives us the assurance he is indeed been risen from the dead, in his post resurrection appearances. Jesus gives his followers and us what they need to see. He shows his hands and feet, he shares a meal. Indeed, come and see, He has risen.

So how have we, as Anglican Women, been given this opportunity to also come and see? How have we discovered new things in this pandemic and beyond? There is no denying how difficult it has been. We have had loses beyond count. We have recognized this and seen our world changed, turned upside down. We come and see that through this all God has walked beside us. Even in our suffering God has walked before us and we have learned new things.

As Anglican women we have learned we can come together from across the diocese through zoom. We can share services. We can save money and use our money for outreach and kingdom work, by having virtual meetings. Weather is no longer a factor. There have been no cancelations for storms and bad roads. We have formed community with other women across our diocese and beyond, many of whom we had not met before.

We explored our faith and spirituality together. We have shared an exploration of the Spiritual Disciplines, through our book study. We have had more time to examine our lives and be enriched by the witness and faith of others. We have brought others to the love and friendship of our Lord. We have seen his hand in our lives as we have had more time to spend with him. We have found that we have this wonderful gift to share and that we are called to serve and to share the gospel. The life of Jesus is our template. We have seen his care of all of those who were on the margins, the disenfranchised and those in need.

Like the woman at the well we have accepted the living water, rejoined in community and known we are forgiven. We know to leave our old life behind. With Nicodemus we leave our comfort zone and form a new healthier community. We learn to be true to ourselves. We tell who we are, and whose we are. We find the tombs we have created for ourselves, and acknowledge we are bound by the grave clothes of our fears

We come to see that Jesus, the Christ is alive, and by his Holy Spirit guides the lives we open to him. We see the need in our community and know that we are sent to stand for justice and to be God's hands and feet. When we feel we can never be loved, we remember the woman at the well. She finally found the true relationship she was seeking and put her past behind her. Come and see the love of Jesus. Like the man born blind, we see who brought us into light.

Jesus, the Christ shows us his hands and side and says "Peace be with You" Come and see.

How our Diocese Anglican Church Women accepted the challenge of COVID to be Community

Closed churches, social distancing, meetings cancelled, conferences cancelled that was what we faced when we approached the normal timing of an executive/board meeting. With the executive's support I approached the Diocesan offices to see if we could "borrow" their zoom license for an executive/board meeting. With a few basic instructions and willing attendees, we were able to have a successful first meeting via Zoom. At that first meeting we determined that we did not want to stop communicating with you our members and parishes. We thought perhaps we could do a fall retreat – how that would happen was still to be revealed to us. Behind the scenes Rev. Betty was checking with her colleague Rev. Dr. Kyle Norman and Rev. Kyle was willing.



Another Zoom meeting thanks to the Diocese and plans starting rolling – a date was chosen; the topic was finalized and the advertising started. We were delighted to welcome 28 ladies – and they were coming from much further away geographically than we had ever had at a fall retreat. I learned a little more Zoom techniques, how to spotlight a speaker, how to pull up a video, and how to relax just a little. Rev. Kyle's presentation on an Introduction to the Spiritual Disciplines was very well received.

We were feeling confident about programming over Zoom. At our next executive meeting [again thanks to the Diocese] we voted overwhelmingly to purchase our own Zoom license. What followed was Lessons and Carols the first Monday in December – we realized to do the music properly we would need to have Linda on a keyboard in our home office. We had volunteers from the board and regional representatives read the lessons – Linda played; I sang. The response was huge – we had 74 connections with as many as 85 persons join us. I had never expected so many would come on a Monday evening.

Advertising had said that it was open to families and we had families – each of the executive had invited their friends from across Canada and we had attendees from Ontario all the way through to British Columbia. At our fall meeting we had just left the Zoom on over breaks and lunch – at the time I was thinking it would just be easier for everyone to not have to come back on – what we discovered is that the ladies attending were visiting with each other, getting caught up with their lives. So... when the lessons and carols were over, we left the Zoom on so more visiting could take place – it was a free for all with many very happy faces.

Again, we received incredibly positive feedback. A hymn sing was our next suggestion. The Executive/Board all gave Linda suggestions for hymn choices – I had a dialogue with their comments which I used to introduce



each selection. That first hymn sing was also the first evening that things went off track for me as I worked zoom. Our youngest cat wanted to join the festivities and managed to unplug our speakers as she ran around behind the computer – waltzed over the keyboard and generally had an incredibly fun time – not so much me! Linda and I were not able to talk after the hymn sing and had to rely on Rev. Deacon Jennifer to solicit requests for hymns.

Once we figured out the problem thanks to a suggestion from one of our board members, [Callie had unplugged the speakers] we were able to ask about what other programming attendees would be interested in. From that conversation came the suggestion for a Lenten Book Study. Rev. Betty ran with that idea and at our next executive/board meeting final plans were put in place and Rev. Betty suggested that she would be open to having two groups – one during the day and one in the evening.

As we had an e-mail address for each of the attendees at each of our programs it was easy to send electronic invitations to all that had attended any of our previous Zoom programs as well a copy of our latest newsletter was attached to each invitation. The Lenten Book Study once again brought new people into our group and in turn those new people have attended other events. Our circle was widening. Our next leap of faith was calmly deciding we could do a two-day conference with a pre-conference event. Honestly, it was not until early

Saturday morning of the conference that I realized that we had taken on so much! I had to learn a few more tricks – how to ensure good sound for a video, how to admit people more easily to the conference – Rev. Deacon Elizabeth Short and I exchanged information about how to create polls and how to create small group rooms.

Behind the scenes – my husband's computer which I normally use for any large program lost its sound on Friday just as we were starting the pre-conference program so we had to quickly move to my laptop. Linda just jumped right in moved all her things to the desk with the laptop and carried on. Linda had thoughtfully brought her own laptop, so we were able to have two computers open at the same time just remembering to turn off the sound on the one not being used at the same time. Saturday the computer worked perfectly and everything went very smoothly.

I am sure you have all heard that slogan “when life hands you lemons make lemonade”. So how did we do making lemonade? We did very well – we were able to present to people we would never had been able to reach in person.

Every program we have presented has had new people attending. My presidential remarks at the conference were presented with visuals – a power point presentation that I would not have done in person. Using Zoom has allowed everyone to be seen – even on two, three or four pages – and we are seeing more conversations that perhaps would not have happened in person. Not everyone is comfortable sitting with people they don't know and we do have a habit of sitting with friends. What we have discovered is many new friends.

Our smaller events such as the Lenten Book Study have allowed for very deep personal discussions. Some of our attendees have been very clever to share to those without computer access – at our conference two ladies came together at St. Michaels in Canmore and at The Church of the Epiphany in Rimbey five people attended. At our hymn sings we have two ladies that we know of, that share via phone with two more friends each. We will always be concerned about not reaching our shut-ins but we are working on strategies to reach out.

Rev. Betty's homily Friday evening of the conference was enriched with a video by the Rev. Richard LeSueur. We enjoyed both Compline and Eucharist services. We were not defeated by COVID. We were equal to the challenge – we welcomed the chance to try new ideas and I know that your New Executive/Board will continue to be inventive in ways to reach out and programming. One way that has already presented itself to us is that our Diocese will Zoom host the National Presidents Conference in October. So, more opportunities for us to learn and share. When we can go back to in person programs/services we are committed to adding Zoom into that mix as well. Our circle continues to increase.

Respectfully submitted,
Margaret Newton, Past President

Ideas shared at Rev. Deacon Elizabeth Short's presentation at the Diocese Anglican Church Women's Conference Saturday April 24, 2021

1. People missing communion – drive through and dropping off
2. Socializing – telephone social call, have list of everyone in Parish, have a list of trivia to share, results in lovely conversations with some folk not previously known
3. Programs [Canmore – Pat Grayling and Theresa Lambe] food and friends [over 200 people attend] during COVID restrictions offered take out, street people with prayer, prayer shawl knitting, tuck shop at the hospital is closed during COVID but Pat agreed to accept phone calls to go pick up gifts and have those gifts picked up, Theresa was involved in mask making [which she hung by clothes pegs outside the church]
4. On line : prayer, book study, Bible study
5. Outdoors – running together, exercising and dancing
6. Potted plants to shut-ins
7. What's up, Zoom chat in a group, phone calls, emails, following COVID rules but keeping in touch
8. All season cards – drop off and pick up – sharing

9. Emails, Facebook groups, which includes chatter from other groups, in some work situations people can still socialize safely
10. Outside get together – in parks, bike rides, walks
11. Zoom chats [coffee hours] after Zoom church service
12. Send pictures
13. Pat G. was invited into Theresa's bubble – you can invite single's into your bubble
14. Put a person on the phone with a Zoom partner so they can share in a church service or program
15. Send letters and cards
16. Send a link for your church service to long term care centres – they are looking for ways to entertain and stimulate their care family
17. Facetime people in long term care
18. Draw on the wisdom of those who can't be with you
19. Invite another ACW group to your ACW group Zoom
20. On Zoom meetings where there are multiple parishes represented add your parish to your name
21. Remember to explain to people what to expect on a Zoom call
22. Encourage check-in of members and attendees, provide ice breakers, encourage sharing

ACW Meetings continuing at Holy Cross Calgary

It was an amazing day on May 16, 2021. I decided it was time to start up our ACW meetings at Holy Cross again, even though we couldn't meet in person. So Zoom here we come. We have not met in over a year and I missed it, so I thought lets send out an invitation to meet through Zoom and see what kind of response I would get. We had four lovely ladies show up and discussed the Conference, and prayer beads. We all had a nice little talk about how we are all doing and getting through COIVD.

I want to invite all who would like to join us. We will be meeting the 1st Sunday of every month from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm. Our next meeting will be June 6, 2021 we will then break for the summer and resume September 12, 2021 as the 1st Sunday is the long weekend so we will meet the Sunday after.

If you would like to come and join us please send me an email and I will gladly send you the link. We are going to try some crafts, and have speakers, and if we are really lucky maybe even have our President and Past President come and visit us.

I am going to plan as much fun and fellowship as I possibly can. Don't worry if you are not familiar with zoom, as I will be creating documentation with screen shots on how to use Zoom to help you get familiar with it. It truly is not that hard and really is the way of the world right now.

Don't worry if you do not attend Holy Cross you are still more then welcome to join us.

If you have any questions or would like to join, please send me an email to holycrossacw@gmail.com, phone or text any time 403-399-2315.

I look forward to hearing from you. Have a blessed day!

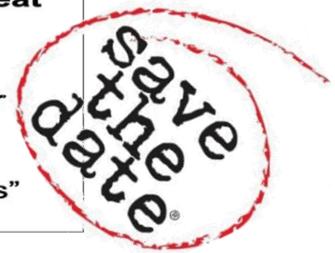
Lisa Boulet
 1st Vice President, ACW Diocese Calgary
 President ACW - Holy Cross - Calgary
HolyCrossACW@gmail.com
 (C) 403-399-2315

Anglican Church Women Fall Zoom Retreat



Anglican Church Women Fall ZOOM Retreat
Saturday, October 16th
Guest Speaker:
The Rev Canon Dr. Richard Le Sueur

Topic:
“The Women Who Walked Alongside Jesus”



ACW DIOCESAN QUILT

Please contact Jennifer to book the quilt for your church event 403-9486463 or jennjmingram@gmail.com

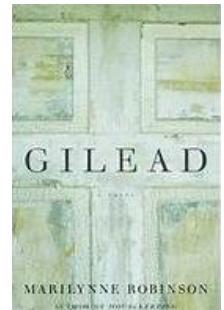


**READ ANY GOOD
BOOKS LATELY?**



GILEAD – Marilynne Robinson (book review by Linda Holt)

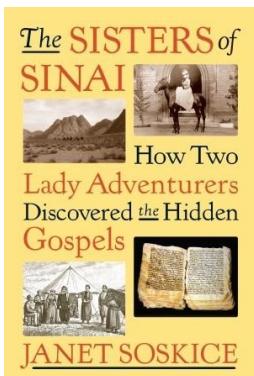
I am rereading Gilead, savoring it and would like to recommend it to you. It is the first of four Novels by Marylynne Robinson set in Gilead, Iowa. Each book is recorded from a different character's perspective. This one is set in 1956. written as a memory journal, it is the Reverend John Ames' story for his son. John is 76 years old and suffering serious heart problems, which become a metaphor for the book. He knows that he will not live to see his 7-year-old son grow up and feels strongly that he should leave a document of "begats", reminisces, and history for his son-something that will let his son know him better. Rev John Ames muses through many issues of uniting his faith with the world, around him and encourages us to look at things with thankfulness and appreciation. The book also reflects on society with all its cracks...it's about the "damaged heart of America". There are issues of aligning the past with the future, of dealing with matters of race and of forgiveness. Mostly it is about the tremendous love of a father for his son. John notes, "What have I to leave to



you but the ruins of courage and the lore of old gallantry and hope." Remember that in Genesis, Gilead means "Hill of Testimony". I am thoroughly enjoying my second look at this nearly 20-year-old book!

THE SISTERS OF SINAI - Janet Soskice
HOW TWO LADY ADVENTURERS DISCOVERED THE HIDDEN GOSPELS
(book review by Margaret Newton)

I really enjoy reading books about women adventurers, and there are a number of Victorian ladies who have written about their amazing expeditions. Two who stand out are the Scottish twin sisters, Agnes and Margaret Smith.



With a father who believed in women's education, with their inherited wealth and with their tenacious and determined spirits, these ladies mastered French, German, Italian, Spanish, along with Arabic, Greek, Hebrew, and Syriac, then travelled to Egypt, Jerusalem, and Sinai to discover lost manuscripts and eventually establish a college at Cambridge. To overcome the sadness of her husband's death in 1891, Agnes decides that she should visit the Monastery of St. Catherine's in Sinai, for she has heard that there are Syriac texts stored there which have not been seen by Biblical scholars. She masters photography before setting out, in order that she might make prints of the pages to transcribe at home, and she does discover a palimpsest, (a manuscript which was effaced and written over, but still exhibits a faint text).

This is the earliest known copy of the Gospels in ancient Syriac, the language that Jesus spoke. She returns to Sinai with a group of renowned scholars and although tempers flare and human jealousies abound, a manuscript of the Four Gospels, written in antiquated Syriac is eventually published for the world to see. She also makes numerous trips to purchase other manuscripts that are being torn from books and sold on the Black Market. The adventure is fascinating: Bedouin guides, camels, tents, 40 days in monastic surroundings, but Presbyterian sensibilities prevail. It is a fascinating look at 19th century travel, eastern "discoveries" and the perseverance of women!! To think that their adventures started when they were turning 50!

Summer Reads

I do love a good mystery and I will be waiting with great anticipation for the latest Inspector Gamache to arrive at my local library the end of August. I enjoy reading books in series as I love to see the development of the characters and Louise Penny, the Canadian author of the Inspector Gamache mysteries, exquisitely creates her characters. Most of the stories take place in a small hamlet called Three Pines near Montreal. It is actually quite incredible that so many murders occur in this rather small place but oh the tales! More on Louise Penny and her books can be found on her webpage louisepenny.com.



Canada has been blessed by many, many fantastic authors – mystery and science fiction authors are particularly successful and plentiful. If you watch the Detective Murdoch mysteries on CBC why not read the books that form the backdrop for the TV series – author Maureen Jennings first novel in the series is Except the Dying. Giles Blunt created a series of six novels with flawed heroes Detective John Cardinal and Special Investigator Lisa Delorme. These really are psychological mysteries and not for the squeamish [me] but absolutely brilliant. The suspense is incredible – if you happened upon these on CTV stretching over four seasons you will be relieved to know that they do follow the books generally. The action takes place in a fictional town loosely based on North Bay, Ontario. Often Canadian Authors don't place their stories in Canada but in other counties – Peter Robinson's long running series featuring Inspector Alan Banks are set in

Yorkshire. Long series allow you to see the characters age as well as their children grow up and move away. You begin to think that you actually know these fictional characters.

A series that I love and have reread a few times is the Father Tim “Mitford Novels” by Jan Karon. I freely admit to loving Father Tim Kavanagh and all the various characters in these Christian novels. We meet Father Tim, the rector of Lord’s Chapel, in the first novel At Home in Mitford. This is one of those series where you will laugh and cry and see a reflection of relatives and friends it in pages. If you are like me you will love Barnabas, the dog that is as big as a sofa, who is only kept calm by the reciting of scripture. The joy of this series is that it speaks of loving God, loving neighbours, forgiveness and grace – all wrapped up in wonderful stories with joy and laughter.

Whatever you read this summer – enjoy, enjoy, enjoy and if you want a little more information about any of the authors, titles that I have mentioned please email me for a chat.

Submitted by Margaret Newton Margmoore49@gmail.com

Anglican Church Women Website



The Anglican Church Women of the Diocese of Calgary have a website at www.acwcalgarydiocese.com where you can view the latest newsletters as well as get information on upcoming conferences, retreats and events. We also post pictures and articles from past diocesan events. Feel free to submit stories, articles or pictures to the website at email@acwcalgarydiocese.com. You can also find application forms on the website for Silver Cross, Book of Remembrance, and conference registrations.



The Anglican Church Women of the Diocese of Calgary

Welcome you
To a ZOOM Hymn Sing

On Monday, June 28th at 7:00 pm
Please register at:
dioceseofcalgaryacw@gmail.com
or call 403-734-2130



*Spread the
word... Hymn
Sing on June
28th.*

Welcome to the ANGLICAN WOMEN, DIOCESE OF CALGARY Facebook Page.

I am excited to invite you to join our Facebook Page. Please send me any information, pictures, news articles or inspirational memos that you would like to share across Facebook. I am always looking for items of interest to post. Please contact Margaret Newton- margmoore49@gmail.com. You can search in Facebook for Anglican Women, Diocese of Calgary and follow our page -OR- if viewing this newsletter on line click here  and then click to follow our page. By liking our page it boosts our visibility in Facebook.

PLEASE LIKE US 



The Book of Remembrance

The Book of Remembrance is a bound book in which the names of the WA and ACW deceased members are recorded in beautiful hand calligraphy.

The book was started and dedicated by Bishop Calvert in 1953, and is kept in a special case in the Cathedral Church of the Redeemer in Calgary.

There are over three hundred names entered, and the Book is taken to the Annual Conference each year so that members may have the opportunity to remember past friends.

ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN, Diocese of CALGARY Application for Diocesan Book of Remembrance

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Date of application _____

DD/MM/YR

FROM (group)

Town or City

Name to be inscribed (including Christian Names)

Date of birth (if wished) _____

DD/MM/YR

Date of death _____

DD/MM/YR

INSCRIPTION:

Please confine inscription to two lines if possible.

Address & telephone number

Signed _____

Please return application and cheque for \$15 payable to ACW, Diocese of Calgary no later than Feb. 1st. To: Vera Apletree. 58 Malibou Rd. S.W. Calgary AB. T2V 1W8 Phone: 403-255-2406

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