

Saskatchewan anglican

The newspaper of the Dioceses of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon and Qu'Appelle • A Section of the Anglican Journal • March 2023



Children at a one-day Vacation Bible School at Immanuel Church, Regina, play in the snow. The theme for the recent VBS days was "Snowflakes, each beautiful and unique and created by God, just like people."

Photo by Maegen Plumb

VBS held during kids' days off school

By Jenny Williams

REGINA — The public elementary school system schedules approximately one day off each month, mainly for professional development days for teachers.

In the fall of 2022, Immanuel Anglican Church started offering

one-day vacation bible school (VBS) programs on these days when students are out of school, to help parents who struggle with daycare. This program was made possible by a grant from the Anglican Foundation's Say Yes! To Kids initiative.

By mid-January they had held five of these

events. Organizers set a cap of 20 children each day, and for the most part they were full or almost full each time.

Each event incorporates a lesson, a craft or two, some organized games, and some free play time.

In the fall they used curriculum for

"Armour of God," and the Winter theme is about snowflakes and how God made each of us beautiful and unique, just like snowflakes.

Building forts was a favourite activity during the Armour of God VBS sessions, along with playing outside in the snow.

A good-bye lunch for Bishop Chris Harper

By Rev. Peter Coolen

SASKATOON — A sold-out farewell luncheon was held in the Performance Room at the Nutrean Wonderhub (formerly the Mendel Art Gallery), Saskatoon on Jan. 14 in celebration of Bishop Chris Harper and his wife Tracy's ministry in the diocese and to wish them well and adieu as they prepared to leave.

Bishop Harper had previously announced his intention to resign as our bishop, effective the end of January, to allow him to assume the position of National Indigenous Archbishop.

Master of ceremonies for the event was the executive archdeacon, the Ven. Alex Parsons, while tributes were provided (and responded to by Bishop Chris) by Bishop Michael Hawkins (Diocese of Saskatchewan) and Bishop Tom Morgan (retired).

Also present for the event were Bishop Rod Andrews (retired) and Bishop Helen Kennedy (Diocese of Qu'Appelle). The Ven. Ken Watts also spoke and provided prayers for Chris and Tracey.

Gifts were presented by the people of the diocese:

Continued on page 5

Feeling the Holy Spirit

Submit to the Holy Spirit for a holy Lent

By Rev. Gene Packwood

To observe Lent at all, let alone a Holy one, by self-examination, penitence, prayer, fasting, almsgiving, reading and meditating on the word of God (BAS, p282; BCP, p612) can only be done in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Without the Spirit's power and revealing of truth, we're just being "religious" in our feeble attempts to fashion some kind of standing and self-justification before God.

Our Anglican Prayer Books are a great help because they keep the Holy Spirit in the frame.

For example, in the Collects for the First Sunday in Lent, we prayed that we would be *subdued to the Spirit* so we *may ever obey thy godly motions in righteousness and true holiness* (BCP, p140) and that we would be given *grace to discipline ourselves in submission to your Spirit, so that as you know our weakness, so we may*



know your power to save (BAS, p286).

Subdued and submitted leads to Spirit-filled.

Only as we are able to submit ourselves to the Holy Spirit and allow Him to expose, identify and subdue the sinful desires that always draw and twist us away from the love and truth of God, are we freed and able to fully participate in Easter's coming joys.

Just as Jesus said, the Holy Spirit, the Helper, the Spirit of Truth came to *convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment* (John 16:8).

Taking prayers such as

these to heart, bends us into the perfect will of God and shows us what is right and what is wrong.

Lent is for getting real in the power of the Spirit.

The use of the penitential Psalm 51 in the BAS Ash Wednesday rite attests to this:

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

... sustain me with your bountiful Spirit! ... and sinners shall return to you.

... The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Amen. The Holy Spirit is given and can also be taken.

We don't need to force anything, or somehow

ramp up our feelings artificially.

We simply take to heart and use the wise life-giving words of Scripture in our Prayer Books.

Be honest.

The Litany of Repentance helps: *We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit. Have mercy on us, Lord.* (BAS, p284) Have I grieved the Holy Spirit?

And on Good Friday in the Meditation on the Cross of Jesus: *I sent the Spirit of truth to guide you, and you close your hearts to the Counsellor. Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal one, have mercy upon us* (BAS, p315).

How closed has my heart been recently? What do I need to do, or not do, to open it again?

O LORD of life, please infuse my sin-closed and troubled spirit with your bright and bountiful Spirit!

DIOCESE OF SASKATCHEWAN

Diocese suspends search for new bishop

At its meeting on Jan. 27, the executive committee made a motion to ask Archbishop Kerr Wilson to suspend the timeline for acquiring a new bishop.

They also voted to appoint an administrator in the absence of a bishop. They will name the administrator at their March meeting.

Six members of

the committee were appointed to attend a tri-diocesan zoom meeting and to report to the executive on the results of the meeting.

The Rev. Canon Brent Stiller died on Jan. 13 of post-transplant lymphoma on his brain. He underwent a kidney transplant in August thanks to a donation from his first cousin, Diane Gingrich.

He lived in Ottawa and was the canon for Clergy Care along with his duties at St. Peter and St. Paul. Brent's first parish was Holy Trinity in Meadow Lake.

Brent and Karen have three children, Thomas who was born in Saskatchewan and Holly and Erik. He was only 59.

The Rev. Canon

Donald Skinner was appointed to the Bishop Lloyd Canonry.

From March 10-12 there will be a Lenten Youth Retreat at the Quest Camp at Christopher Lake at a cost of \$50 per person.

On March 17 and 18 there will be a fifth annual Prayer Conference to be held at the Hawood Inn in Waskesiu.

Registration forms are available at the Synod Office.

Call Barb at 306-763-2455 for more details. Registration deadline is March 10.

Bishop Michael Hawkins has appointed the Rev. Wendell Brock as his curate for Diocesan Mission.

The bishop stated that he was incredibly

grateful to Wendell for his kindness and generosity to the people of James Smith Cree Nation in the time of their need, as well as his work with the Indigenous clergy and congregations in the central north.

The congregations of Emmanuel, St. Louis and St. Stephen, MacDowall are grateful to St. David, Prince Albert and their priest, the Rev. Rick Reed, for agreeing to provide half-time ministry in their churches.

The parishes of Leask/Shellbrook/Canwood and St. George's, Prince Albert are grateful to St. Alban's, Prince Albert and their Dean, the Rev. David Butorac, for agreeing to provide half-time ministry in their churches.



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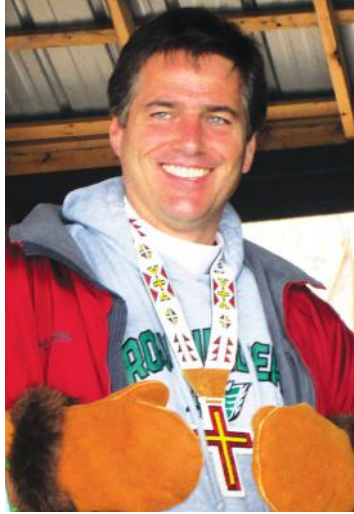


The Bishop's Corner

We have left undone those things which we ought to have done

Editor's note: This is Bishop Hawkins' final bishop's column for the Saskatchewan Anglican because he is resigning in May.

By Bishop Michael Hawkins



Lent is a necessary and welcome retort to all our proud, self-righteous, and self-serving distinctions. There is no distinction. All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. All of us go down to the dust.

It is a sign of spiritual maturation when we begin to recognize that our sins of omission are most often more serious than our sins of commission.

Confess your faults

In our Prayer Book tradition, we are taught to recognize and confess first that we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and second, that we have done those things which we ought not to have done.

In the Last Judgment as described by Jesus in the Parable of the Sheep and Goats (Matthew 25), the fire of eternal punishment is prepared for those whose sins of omission catch the attention and wrath of our Judge.

"Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me."

In what must be the best part of the *Book of Alternative Services*, the Ash Wednesday Litany of Penitence, there is a Litany of offences including our failure to follow Christ's example and to serve, to care for creation, to pray and to worship, and to commend the faith that is in us by lives of holiness, humility, and compassion.

That Litany of Penitence is a summary confession of our failure to live and follow as disciples of Jesus Christ. I want to suggest that as a theme for your Lenten self-examination.

Imitating Jesus

One end of Lent, in preparation of the celebration of the Paschal mystery of Christ's death and resurrection, is to make us wake up, hear the cock crow, have our conscience pricked and know how we have denied Jesus, our sisters and brothers, and ourselves.

Like Peter, we need to recognize how we have followed Jesus "at a distance." That was Peter's undoing and it is ours as well.

Peter and you and I need to be renewed in our call to follow Jesus, to learn of Him and to

imitate Him.

For many the Easter renewal of Baptismal Vows is one of the most moving parts of our annual celebration of Christ's resurrection. We renew those vows at Easter because we

know, as we recognize on Ash Wednesday, that we have been wandering followers and erring sheep.

As disciples we have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and done those things which we ought not to have done.

Baptismal grace

The Church has long seen in Jesus' washing of His follower's feet and his call for us to wash each other's feet, a sign of that renewal in Baptismal grace which is confession and absolution and mutual forgiveness.

When we confess our sins and accept absolution, we are allowing Jesus to wash our feet and when we forgive one another, we are washing each other's feet.

A growing focus on discipleship is sweeping across the Church and is bringing revival and renewal in mission. This is a happy focus in our Anglican Communion. It is a focus for all three of our dioceses.

It is a focus of our Lutheran, Ukrainian Catholic and Roman Catholic sisters and brothers in Saskatchewan Jesus' followers have been called disciples since the beginning. He is the Master and we are His students. He is The Teacher and we are His pupils.

Being student-followers

We learn from His word and example and we seek to imitate Him in our speaking and living. Christ is the Headmaster and we are His disciples, Christ is the Principal and we are His students.

Disciples are student-followers of Jesus Christ. In our baptism we were enrolled into His school, we were committed to lifelong discipleship, to a life of learning and following, learning and following Jesus.

There are a variety of guides or checklists for disciples, the Sermon on the Mount and the entire New Testament are exactly this, a student handbook for followers of Jesus Christ.

Discipleship as a growing and grateful response and commitment to Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, has been variously summarized, first of all in the Acts of Apostles which tells the story of the first Christian converts who devoted themselves to the Apostles' Teaching and Fellowship, to the Breaking of

Bread and the Prayers.

Breaking of bread

Their commitment in response to receiving the Gospel, the good news of forgiveness and life through Jesus who died and rose again for them and us, was to give themselves whole heartedly to learning more, for a disciple is a learner, a student, to learning more of Jesus from the Apostles

(which is the New Testament), to gathering in fellowship, for worship and study and mutual care and support and sharing of resources, to the breaking of bread, the Holy Communion.

The Eucharist in earliest times seems to have always included a physical meal as well as a spiritual, a joining in altar and table fellowship, and to prayers, to a life of daily prayer.

There are other subsequent and

a number of helpful summaries, an assortment of Canada food guides for Discipleship, including the Baptismal Covenant in the BAS, which begins with our faith in the Holy Trinity in the Apostles' Creed and speaks of teaching and fellowship, breaking of bread and prayer as well as a life of growth in repentance and holiness, of sharing the good news in what we say and how we live and in showing respect to everyone and all of creation.

The prayer book's advice

I recommend all of these to you. The particular guide we have in our Prayer Book speaks of how Christian disciples are called to a life of weekly worship, daily prayer, following the example of Jesus in our lives, of speaking of our faith, of service and of generous giving.

Disciples are worshipping, praying, following, speaking, serving and giving students of Jesus Christ. To this we are all called. So, I draw your attention once again to the Five Marks of Mission and to those Six Disciplines of Disciples.

These say a lot about who we are and who we are meant to be as the Church, disciples following Jesus, drawn together in our congregations and diocese, drawn together into that great company, the blessed company of all faithful people, one bread, one body, one Lord of all.

Remember always that baptism represents unto us our profession; which is, to follow our Saviour Christ, and to be made like unto Him.

To follow Jesus and to become like Him, full of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

Draw your Church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our Lord Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving him in his mission to the world, and together witnessing to his love on every continent and island.

Through him who lives and reigns with you, Father, and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Draw your Church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our Lord Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving him in his mission to the world, and together witnessing to his love on every continent and island.

Through him who lives and reigns with you, Father, and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

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Obituary

Gladys Cunningham was a dedicated altar guild member

By Mary Brown

PRINCE ALBERT — After 74 years of marriage, Percy laid to rest his wife Gladys on Jan. 8.

Gladys and Percy received the Order of Saskatchewan in 2007 for their faithful work at St. Alban's

Cathedral.

Gladys was a dedicated member of the altar guild who would always have everything ready for the next service. Percy helped her with her duties with the altar guild.

But Gladys also helped Percy.

If he needed to do any construction or painting Gladys would be by his side giving him a hand. In her final years, Gladys lived in a care home where Percy came every day to be with her.

In his time of sadness may the Lord lead him to a place of peace.



Gladys and Percy Cunningham. Photo by Mary Brown

DIOCESE OF SASKATOON EVENTS

Announcements for March 2023

■ **Saskatchewan Anglican online!** Did you know you can read current and past issues of the *Saskatchewan Anglican* online?

Visit www.anglicandiocesesaskatoon.com/saskanglican or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/saskatchewananglican.

■ **Please note that if you are considering attending any church service in person,** please check on service availability and any requirements for pre-registration that may exist.

If attending services, please follow all the indicated seating, movement, distancing, masking, and sanitization instructions.

■ **Service Books available:** Emmanuel Anglican Parish, Saskatoon has changed its service format to an audio-visual one and as a result has a large number of service books to be given away.

If you would like to pick up a small or a large lot of copies of *Common Praise*, *Book of Alternative Services* or others please contact Loretta Hartsook at 306-321-5087 or hartsook@sasktel.net.

■ **Clergy Retreat 2023:** A tri-diocesan clergy retreat with retreat leaders Archbishop Linda

Nicholls and Steve Bell has been set for Monday, March 20 at 10 a.m. until noon on Wednesday, March 22 at Queen's House Retreat Centre, Saskatoon.

To register please contact Canon Lorea Euphemia at 306-244-5651 or anglicansynod@sasktel.net.

Cost for this retreat is \$126 for commuters and \$300 with room. Registration deadline is Thursday, March 9.

When registering please provide: name, mailing address, email address, phone number, parish you are serving in and diocese, and dietary restrictions if any.

A poster for this event may also be found elsewhere in this issue.

Please mark your calendar now and plan to be present for this spiritually enriching time with our Primate Linda and Steve Bell..

■ **School of Discipleship Ministry Preparation Program:** The Diocese of Saskatoon's School of Discipleship Ministry Preparation Program is a part-time three-year licentiate.

Students may take a course part way through the three-year cycle unless pre-requisites for a specific course are stated.

The first full complement for the ESC licentiate in theology is

planned to be completed by spring 2023.

People wishing to take one or more of these courses should consult with the School of Discipleship co-ordinator.

People who sense a call to diaconal or priestly ordination will go through the diocesan discernment process at some point before the midway point.

See the notices of the WECAN and Evangelism courses posted elsewhere in this issue.

If you have any questions about our Ministry Preparation Program, please contact the School of Discipleship co-ordinator, the Rev. Dr. Trish McCarthy, at tmccarthy@sasktel.net, 306-370-8378 and see the course listings posted elsewhere in this issue.

■ **Courses at the College of Emmanuel:** The College of Emmanuel & St. Chad welcomes inquiries and applicants for its courses.

For information on courses available from Emmanuel & St Chad and through the Saskatoon Theological Union, please contact their office at 306-975-1550

■ **75th Synod of the Diocese of Saskatoon:** Notice is hereby given that the 75th Synod of the Diocese of Saskatoon will take place on Friday, May 5 and Saturday, May 6 at St. John's Cathedral – 816

Spadina Crescent East, Saskatoon.

This is a regular meeting of Synod for the purpose of electing officers, receiving reports and other business.

Members of Synod are invited to submit notices of motions to the Synod Agenda and Resolutions Committee, in care of the diocesan office.

Notices received by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, April 3 will be included in the materials distributed to Synod members in advance of the meeting. Notices of motions may be accepted after May 5 with the consent of Synod.

You may submit either electronically to anglicansynod@sasktel.net, or by post by mailing them to Diocese of Saskatoon, 1403 – 9th Av North, Saskatoon, SK S7K 2Z6.

In keeping with protecting our environment and “going green,” the convening circular will be e-mailed.

■ **General Synod 2023:** It has been announced that the next General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada will be held from June 27 to July 2 at the University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta.

Delegates to Synod 2023 should be receiving information packages by e-mail or regular mail over the next several months.

■ **Q.E. II Platinum Jubilee Medal:** A number of parishioners and clergy of this diocese have been nominated for and have been or will be awarded this medal.

Some of the names of those so awarded have already been announced in the February issue and this issue of this paper.

If you know the names of additional people in our parishes so honoured, please provide these names to this paper and we will include them in future issues.

Announcements:

■ **The Rev. Dr. Ann Salmon** has been appointed interim priest at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist.

■ **To be included in a timely manner, brief notices should be supplied to the associate editor by fax, email or “snail mail” by the end of the month, one month before the month in which the insertion is desired (i.e. February entries will be in the April issue).**

Detailed and longer texts of upcoming events will not be included in this section, but should space allow, could be the subject of articles and notices elsewhere in the Saskatchewan Anglican.

... A fond farewell to the bishop of Saskatoon

Continued from page 1 the Rev. Victoria Luke presented a Care Bear and flowering potted plant to Tracey and a box that contained gift cards to Temple Gardens Spa and cash, while Rob and Ann Maguire presented a gift

of braided sweetgrass from the Cathedral Parish. In closing, Bishop Chris thanked all those present for their work, commitment, spiritual support and sharing of the gifts and burdens of ministry with him and

Tracey over the past five years that he had been bishop. He had looked forward to many more rewarding years with the diocese but, this new calling of the Spirit, which was unsought and both sudden

and unexpected, could not be refused. He and Tracey will continue to reside in Saskatoon, and he will have offices in both Saskatoon and Toronto so he will not be leaving us. The luncheon closed

with acknowledgements for those involved in setting up and running the luncheon, the speakers and presenters, as well as several in attendance given by Alex Parsons and prayers for safe travel.



Tracey (left) and Bishop Chris Harper (centre) receive a Care Bear and a potted flowering plant by the Rev. Victoria Luke. Photo by Rev. Peter Coolen



Bishop Chris (left) and Tracey Harper (right) received a gift of braided sweetgrass from the Parish of the Cathedral of St. John, courtesy Rob and Anne Maguire.

AFC celebrates over \$257K in support of northern clergy housing fund

Submitted

According to Dr. Scott Brubacher, Executive Director of the Anglican Foundation of Canada (AFC), "There has never been a swifter or more generous response to the establishment of a new fund than the ACW Council of the North Retired Clergy Fund to provide financial support for housing and living expenses to retired non-stipendiary clergy in the Council of the North." As of the end of December, more than \$257,000 had been donated, with \$250,000 having come from two donors. "The Diocese of New Westminster ACW provided \$100,000 this past spring to launch the fund. Other ACWs across Canada then took up the

challenge to do their part to support it as well. "And then an incredible \$150,000 arrived in early December as a memorial gift, from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous," says Brubacher. Brubacher says the speed with which this fund was established and the subsequent momentum to build it up has shown the power and potential of AFC to connect generous people to the philanthropic goals that are important to them. "In 2023 we will continue to work through the granting and disbursement process in partnership with the Council of the North. We expect to receive requests from retired clergy in need of assistance through the Council, and our goal is to

Continued page 7



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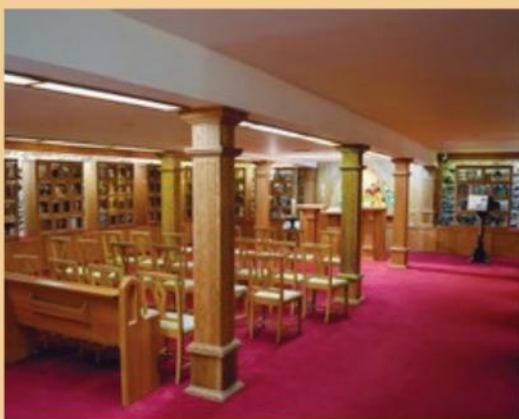
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A Bible. Photo by Aaron Burden/Unsplash.com

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Todd Lumbard
President

Psalms of Ascent offer a vision for the future

By Mary Brown

PRINCE ALBERT — At their Diocesan Clergy retreat, Bishop Michael Hawkins spoke of their need to engage in reflections on the future of the diocese and to look at possibilities and to determine a way forward.

As one of the clergy at the retreat noted, "We know that God is living and active, and already has a vision and a plan for us. As we look to the future of our diocese, what we need at the outset is to discover 'what God is up to?'"

To the Rev. Canon Don Skinner, this observation had the effect of immediately releasing hope within him.

He referred to an Old Testament reading from the book of the prophet Habbakuk 1;1-4, 2;1-4 where it spoke first of the prophet's distress, then of his waiting upon God and finally of God's response.

In 2 Timothy 1:1-14 he quotes selected verses.

St. Paul wrote, "Join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. ...for I know the one in whom I have put my trust and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him."

Out of this reflection Skinner prepared a Bible study for the parishes of the diocese based on the Psalms of Ascent (Psalms 120 to 134) a study that would provide a framework for listening to God for a diocesan vision, the results of which could be subsequently shared with one another more widely.

This study is very easy to follow with everything you need included in the print out. It begins with a prayer, then participants read the psalm a first time and answer their first question (What is the most immediately striking thing, word, or phrase, something really important, which I see in this Passage?).

Then, follows a time of silence and next answers to the first question. After reading the psalm again there are two more question (a) What questions does this psalm raise for me? (b) What insight have I gained; what is one new thing I've learned from this Psalm?

Is there something that I have had re-emphasized for me?

Responses to the second and third questions are read. The psalm is read for a third time with the final questions Where is the point of contact between our personal and diocesan circumstances and this Psalm?

Where does the rubber hit the road here? How am I/how are we being called to respond in obedience? Followed by a time of silence before responses to the fourth question are read.

All responses are specific that there be no interruption from others. Before the closing prayer there is a time for discussion.

The theme of the upcoming prayer conference this year is the Psalms of Ascent. If you plan on going to the prayer conference this year it would be a good idea to do this Bible study.

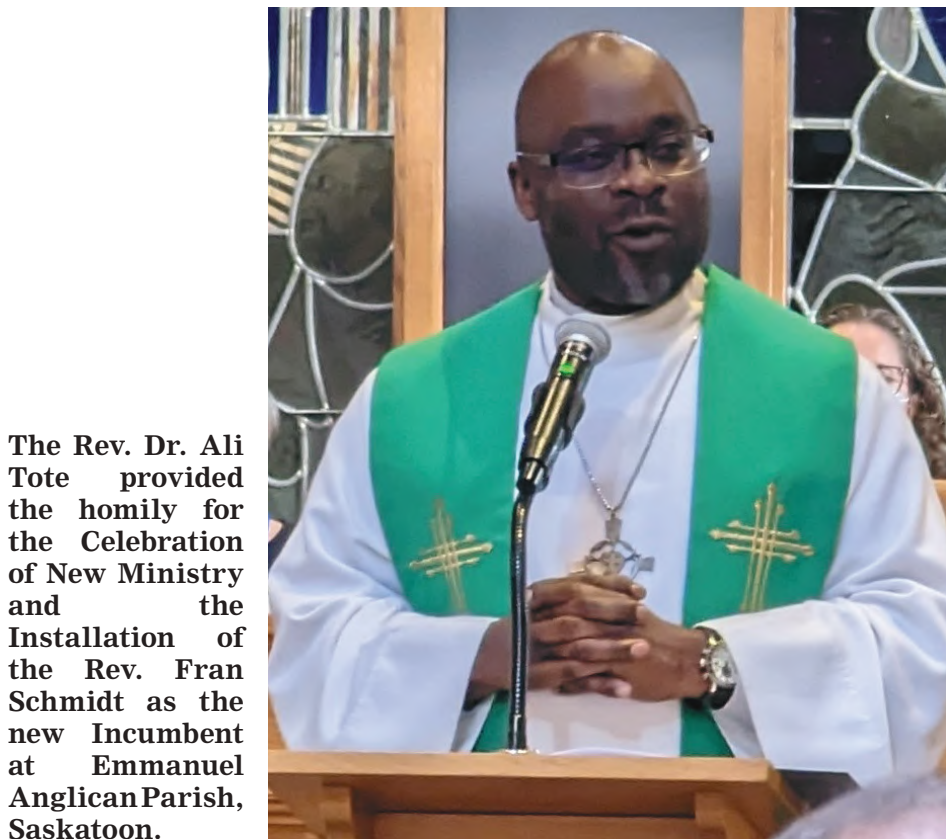
Delegates attending the Diocesan Synod in October did a similar exercise that resulted in a shared vision that was so heartening.



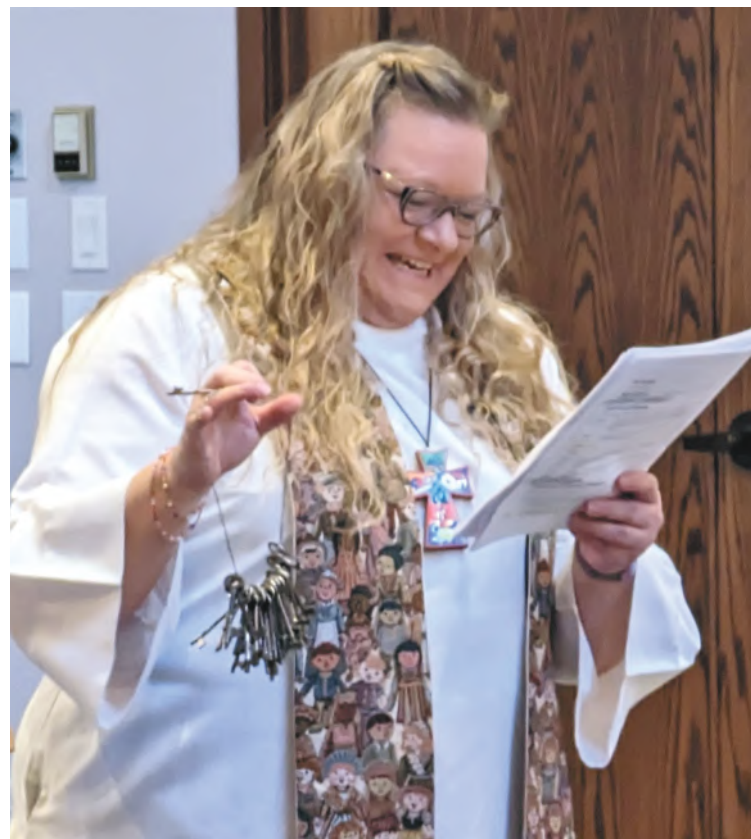
Praying. Photo by Ben White/Unsplash.com



The clergy present for the Jan. 29 celebration of new ministry and installation of the Rev. Fran Schmidt as the incumbent of Emmanuel Anglican Parish pose with Bishop Chris Harper (centre) and Schmidt (right). Photos by Tracey Harper



The Rev. Dr. Ali Tote provided the homily for the Celebration of New Ministry and the Installation of the Rev. Fran Schmidt as the new Incumbent at Emmanuel Anglican Parish, Saskatoon.



The Rev. Fran Schmidt waves "the keys" to the parish at her Service of Installation.

Celebration of new ministry held at Emmanuel Parish, Saskatoon

By Rev. Peter Coolen

SASKATOON — On Jan. 29, the Rev. Fran Schmidt was installed as the incumbent of Emmanuel Anglican Parish, Saskatoon by the Right Rev. Chris Harper in the last public act of his episcopacy.

The service was attended by a large number of Anglican and Lutheran clergy as well as members of the parish and friends.

Bishop Chris presided during the service while the homily was given by the Rev. Ali Tote, assistant to the Lutheran

Bishop of Saskatchewan (ELCIC).

As part of the service a copy of the Bible was presented to Fran by Janice Cook; Lonnie Naylor and children of the parish presented a vessel of water; and Ingrid Pickering presented anointing oil.

Also, Scott Verity presented a copy of the diocesan canons and constitutions; the keys of the church were presented by the wardens, Loretta Hartsook, Wayne Molnar and Cathy Siemens; copies of the prayer books were presented

by Phyllis Virgin and Sandra Wilson; and bread and wine were presented by Cathy Tickner and Colleen Walker. Bev Otsuka gave the Prayers of the People.

Following the service and a photo session, a reception was held in the parish hall.

... Anglican Foundation provides support for northern clergy

Continued from page 5 begin to disburse funds to beneficiaries this year."

It was in December 2020, in the wake of an article published in the *Anglican Journal* entitled "No Room in the Inn," when Canadian Anglicans began to learn more about the plight of northern clergy through the homelessness experienced by Rev. Jonas Alloo, former dean of St. Jude's Cathedral in Iqaluit, Nunavut.

Widespread concern

about this systemic issue prompted the Anglican Church Women in the Diocese of New Westminster to act.

"Non-stipendiary clergy have made the church in the North viable and yet they will not receive a pension from the Anglican Church," says Gail Revitt, past president, New Westminster ACW.

"They have served all these years and have asked very little of the broader church. Our

members felt called to respond to this housing crisis in a meaningful and tangible way."

Proceeds from the sale of a property have put the ACW in New Westminster in the unique position of being philanthropic leaders in the church.

In 2022, after consultations with Bishop David Lehman—Bishop of Caledonia and Chair of the Council of the North—the women voted unanimously to champion this cause.

"We are greatly encouraged by the leadership gifts in support of this new fund, and we looked forward to working with ACW groups and others to strengthen the financial support network for retired clergy in the North," says Brubacher.

"The council is very thankful to the New West ACW and the other visionary benefactors who have helped to launch and grow this fund so quickly," says Bishop Lehman.

"The response to date has given so much hope that we may look to a future where those who have served the church are well-served in their retirement."

To make a gift to the ACW Council of the North Retired Clergy Fund please contact Michelle Hauser, AFC's Development & Communications Officer at mhauser@anglicanfoundation.org or visit anglicanfoundation.org/donate.



Lester Lafond, a parishioner at St. Stephen's, Saskatoon was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal for supporting First Nations' business and commerce, by His Honour, The Honourable Russ Mirasty, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan.

Photo by Rev. Amy Bunce



The Rev. Peter Coolen, associate editor for the Saskatchewan Anglican was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal for volunteerism on Jan. 23, by His Honour, The Honourable Russ Mirasty, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan.

Photo courtesy Protocol Office



The Right Rev. Rodney Andrews, Bishop of Saskatoon (retired), was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal for volunteerism on Nov. 17, 2022, by His Honour, The Honourable Russ Mirasty, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan.

Photo courtesy Protocol Office

Saskatoon parishioners awarded Jubilee medals

Editors note: This is the most recent series of articles regarding the people in our three dioceses (Qu'Appelle, Saskatoon and Saskatchewan) who have been awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal.

As we are waiting on the many and various parishes in our diocese to identify those among them who have been so honoured, we are only naming

those we can identify ourselves, those who have already been identified by parishes or those who have self-identified.

We are more than happy to recognize other parishioners honoured in future issues if supplied the information.

By Rev. Peter Coolen

SASKATOON — The Queen Elizabeth II

Platinum Jubilee medal was created for the 70th anniversary year of Her Majesty's accession to the throne and began Feb. 6, 2022 and ended Feb. 5, 2023.

The design for this award was approved by Her Majesty for use by six provinces.

A total of 7,000 medals were intended to be awarded in Saskatchewan. His Honour, The

Honourable Russ Mirasty, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan said: "This medal allows us to honour Her Majesty's commitment to Service and to pay tribute to Saskatchewan citizens who have devoted their time and effort to serving others in Canada, Saskatchewan and their communities".

Some of the award recipients from within

this diocese are (names are only listed, not titles): Nancy Yee (for education), William Harrison (for education), Rodney Andrews (for volunteerism), Tony Towstego (for film arts), Lester Lafond (for supporting First Nations business and commerce), Stephanie Sydiaha (for community service), and Peter Coolen (volunteerism).

Six more Qu'Appelle Anglicans receive QE II Platinum Jubilee medals



The Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee medals. Photo courtesy Protocol Office

By Joanne Shurvin-Martin

REGINA — Six more Anglicans in the Diocese of Qu'Appelle have been honoured with Platinum Jubilee Medals.

The Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal was created to celebrate the 70th anniversary year of the late Queen Elizabeth's accession to the throne. It was the focus of the Government of Saskatchewan's Platinum Jubilee year until Feb. 5.

A total of 7,000 medals were awarded during the Platinum Jubilee year.

His Honour Russ Mirasty, Lieutenant

Governor of Saskatchewan, said, "This medal allows us to honour Her Majesty's commitment to service and pay tribute to Saskatchewan citizens who have devoted their time and effort to serving others in Canada, Saskatchewan and their communities."

Sally Bishop was nominated by her MLA, Terry Dennis, for her volunteer work in the secular community and the church.

Bishop has been involved in local minor hockey, figure skating, Women in Community

Continued next page

... Platinum Jubilee medals given to more Anglicans

Continued from page 8
Service, Arts Council, a committee to build the rink, Kamsack Economic Development Committee, Eaglestone Lodge Auxiliary, Eastern Star and Kamsack Grows — a Facebook group.

She was a member of the regional advisory committee to set up the community college in the area, and then was Kamsack and District co-ordinator.

She subsequently served on the board of the Parkland College from 1975-78, and again from 2009-19. In addition Bishop has owned and operated small businesses in the community.

Bishop has been a key figure in the ACW, serving as diocesan and deanery president, and currently is treasurer for Holy Trinity Church, Kamsack. She was a delegate to national, provincial and diocesan synods, and was a member of the Women's Unit of the Anglican Church of Canada for six years.

Bishop says she is a proud mother of three, grandmother of nine, and great-grandmother of four Saskatchewan citizens. She and her husband, Dr. Michael Bishop, love their town and its people. Michael has also received the Platinum Jubilee Medal for his service to the community.

Gayle Jones was recognized for many years of community service, especially in the fields of literacy and music. Jones, an active member of St. Aidan, Moose Jaw, received her medal on Oct. 7, 2022, presented by the MLA for the constituency, Tim McLeod.

Jones has served on the board of the Moose Jaw Public Library and the Palliser Regional Library, and also belongs to the Friends of the Library, which raises money for the city library. She has served as president and a board member of the Festival of Words.

She was a voluntary piano teacher in a program called Heart of the City, which provided music lessons to underprivileged children.

Jones sings with a local ladies choir, and plays the keyboard at care homes when Deacon Arleen Champion conducts



Moose Jaw MLA Tim McLeod presents Gayle Jones with the Jubilee medal.

Photo courtesy Protocol Office

worship services for the seniors.

An avid traveller, Jones makes travelogues to show in seniors' homes. She served in various positions with the Wakamow Rotary Club, and now belongs to the Friendly City Optimist Club, where she runs the essay and scholarship programs for youth.

At St. Aidan, she belongs to the parish knitting group and helps prepare food for the weekly lunches served to homeless people.

Rev. Michelle Moore was honoured for her "exceptional qualities and outstanding service to our province in the field of religion."

Moore received her medal on Jan. 10 at Prairie Place Hall, Arcola.

After the presentation, Moore said, "I was thrilled beyond words to have been nominated, and as a life-long monarchist, this medal was special not only because of the recognition and appreciation of community and province, but because it was in the name of (the late Queen) who was herself the epitome of duty and service as well as dignity and grace."

Moore is a non-stipendiary, locally ordained priest in the Greater Parish of Oxbow. All Saints, Cannington Manor is the only

remaining active church.

She also serves as pastor-in-charge of Dannevirke Lutheran Church, Redvers, and officiates at many United Church and non-denominational funerals in the area as well as baptisms and weddings.

Moore has led worship in Arcola, Kisbey and Lampman United Churches, and has helped out in Estevan. There are no Anglican, Lutheran or United Church clergy from the Manitoba border to Weyburn apart from Moore.

Moore lives in Manor and works at the Redvers Post Office.

When asked about volunteering in his community, **Erskine Sandiford** says he's helped with "just about everything."

He says he has done canvassing for the Heart and Stroke Foundation for more than 20 years, as well as canvassing for the Cancer Society, Diabetes Association, Kidney Foundation, Salvation Army, and more in Weyburn.

He mentions he volunteered with the local and provincial groups of the Canadian Mental Health Association for many years, and in 2001 received that organization's National Distinguished Service

Award in recognition of his achievements to advance the work of CMHA in Saskatchewan.

He continues his volunteer work with this organization and currently serves on both the local and provincial boards.

In the parish of All Saints, Weyburn, Sandiford sang in the choir for many years, has been warden several times — both rector's warden and people's warden — and currently serves as elected warden. Years ago, he also taught Sunday School.

Sandiford received his medal on Jan. 17 at the Royal Canadian Legion in Weyburn, presented by the local MLA, Dustin Duncan.

Virginia Selby has been a member of the Government House Historical Society since 1997, so it was fitting that she received her medal in Government House, Regina.

The medal was presented by His Honour Russ Mirasty, Lieutenant Governor of Saskatchewan, on Aug. 28, 2022. Selby volunteered in various capacities at Government House, such as playing the piano during countless elegant Victorian afternoon teas hosted by the Society.

She has also volunteered at the information desk for the

teas, and other activities such as helping pack the specialty Government House Tea for sale in the gift shop, helping prepare the society newsletter for mailing, and cleaning donated silverware.

Selby is a member of Immanuel Parish, Regina, and formerly attended St. Luke, Regina.

At St. Luke she had been active on the group committee of the 21st St. Luke Cubs, Scouts and Venturers groups, and in earlier years was a member of the church choir and helped at the church's rummage sales and other activities.

Mercedes Will received the medal from the Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable Russ Mirasty, and Deputy Mayor Andrew Stevens, in Regina City Hall on Jan. 30.

Will founded the Regina Horseback Trail Riders and has volunteered for 25 years as a Horseback Therapeutic Trail Guide, providing the horses and the trails.

In her career she served as an administrative officer at the Wascana Rehabilitation Centre, where she was much loved by patients and staff for providing a kind and nurturing environment for people with disabilities.

Will owns and operates a family business, Mayhill Garden Apartments, which provides 24 low-cost apartments for seniors in south Regina.

Will was baptised an Anglican in Wawota, her godparents Godfrey and Mary Cottrell were of the historical Cannington Manor area. Will joined St. Paul's Cathedral at the age of 23.

She says, "Now at age 60, I am proud to head up the after-service teas, to be held each Sunday after the church service.

"I invite many friends and family in the hope that they may find the peace and beauty, that is so abundant in our beautiful Cathedral."

Editor's note: If you know of any Anglicans who have received the Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee Medal, please pass on that information to your editor. Editors' names and contact information is found on page 2 of this issue.

Two new worship resources that reshape how Scripture speaks

By the Rev. Dr. Iain Luke
Principal, College of Emmanuel & St. Chad



For this month's instalment of sharing from the college, I am excited to share with you two new resources for worship that are becoming part of our community life. My hope is you will be able to consider and discern whether they have a place in your congregation and in your prayer life.

New set of psalms

The first of these is the Liturgical Psalter, prepared by the Liturgical Task Force of General Synod.

This resource was issued in 2016 for trial use, then commended in 2019 for use in worship "where permitted by the Ordinary" (i.e. the bishop). With permission, it can be used in place of the psalms in the *Book of Alternative Services*.

The reason for revising the language of the psalms is straightforward. Prepared in the early 1980s, the BAS reflects the language of the time, especially when it comes

to gender.

The word "man" is used for humankind, individuals are "he" unless otherwise specified, and God too is described with masculine pronouns.

That range of language was close to how the church, and wider society, spoke at the time, but there have been substantial changes in the four decades since.

Regular church-goers may not notice, as we use familiar words week by week, but we are getting out of step once again.

A person coming new to church in 2023 may wonder why we use the language we do, and may well find it clunky, old-fashioned, or even offensive.

The Liturgical Psalter is a gift for communities who want to worship in contemporary language. It incorporates careful

work to maintain the flow and poetry of the psalms, while finding fresh ways to translate the original Hebrew text.

Rather than simply cutting and pasting substitute words, the revisers pay attention to the sense of the whole phrase.

No translation is perfect, and this one is no exception. Occasionally (Psalm 97, for example), there is a shift from the third person to the second, so that God can be addressed as "You" rather than described as "He."

While this solves the pronoun problem, it changes the purpose of the text, from proclamation to praise.

Some readers will be surprised to find God regularly addressed as "Lord," historically a masculine term. The revisers note that this title

"reminds us who is truly sovereign," an important dimension of the faith expressed in both Hebrew and Christian scriptures.

Churches who want to use the Liturgical Psalter will find a digital version on the anglican.ca website, along with the terms on which the General Synod licenses its use. You will need to use that licence to copy sections for use in services.

A First Nation translation

The second text I want to share is the *First Nations Version: An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament* (FNV).

It is important to say that this is not yet widely authorized for use in public worship in the Anglican Church of Canada, though there may be communities that have sought and received

special permission.

The FNV is, however, starting to be used by Christians in our church and others, as a way of receiving the gifts it offers and testing out its strengths and weaknesses.

We use it occasionally in ecumenical worship in the Saskatoon Theological Union, and I have been part of Bible studies and Gospel-Based Discipleship groups where the FNV enhances our sharing.

The introduction to the FNV notes that there are over six million English speaking Indigenous people in North America, with less than 10 per cent speaking their ancestral language.

While restoration of Indigenous languages is vital, the FNV fills a gap for people of Indigenous cultures who read in English.

The FNV is the work of a translation council of 12, representing different Indigenous cultures and regions, and coming from various Christian denominations, age groups and other roles.

The council drew widely on community feedback, cultural consultants, and the advice of elders.

Indigenous readers of the FNV will form their own opinion, and I would be interested to hear from those who are using this translation in their community or in personal devotion.

As a non-indigenous reader, I use it as a reminder to check my own cultural assumptions when reading Scripture.

The FNV text draws out cultural ways of thinking and being, which do not always translate in the words themselves.

It adds occasional words of description, to help the reader understand cultural practices of Jesus' time, in ways that are not filtered through European cultural history.

Names are the most obvious example. In my world, names like John or Lydia are used simply as labels.

While they have an original meaning, that meaning comes from another language and is lost in history. In Bible times, however, Hebrew, Greek or Roman names would still resonate with meaning in the language

Continued next page

Women at a Crossroads
A residential program for women seeking direction in their lives
July 7- July 30, 2023

If you are interested in:

- sharing in an intentional Christian community
- learning how to live a balanced life of prayer, work, study, rest and recreation
- engaging in classes and discussions about Christian life and vocation

then you may be called to participate in this program.

Career
Study
Lifestyle

There is no fee for room and board, but participants contribute to the life of the Community by sharing in the Sisters' work. A monetary contribution (tax deductible) may be made to the Sisterhood but is not required.

Application deadline: April 10, 2023

For more information

Sr. Dorothy, SSJD, 416-226-2201 ext. 301 or convent@ssjd.ca
or: Sr. Dorothy, St. John's Convent, 233 Cummer Ave. Toronto, Ontario, M2M 2E8

The Sisterhood of St. John the Divine



Youth group holds inaugural meeting

By Rev. Brody Albers

PRINCE ALBERT — Seven young adults and two priests met in Prince Albert on Jan. 17 to go bowling. This was the inaugural meeting of the PA Anglican Young Adults group, which will continue to meet together once a month on Tuesdays.

The Young Adults group is a shared ministry between the Diocese of Saskatchewan's Youth Minister, Rev. Brody Albers, and St. Alban's Cathedral, with their minister Rev. David Butorac. The next meeting occurred on Feb. 7 and the group went to an escape room in Prince Albert. More information can be found on the Diocese of Saskatchewan Facebook page. (Photo by Mary Brown)

... ACoC creates new resources for worship

Continued from pg 10 spoken at the time.

The FNV translates names into English phrases that make the name more than a label, for example Titus is "Big Man" (Titan).

This is especially meaningful when the name Jesus is rendered as "Creator Sets Free," a steady reminder that Jesus' name (Yeshua) described how He would "set his people free from their bad hearts and broken ways" (Matt. 1:21, FNV).

The FNV aims high, trying to overcome 500 years of English-language translations grounded in English and American majority culture.

In my use of the FNV so far, I am encouraged by how it rises to the occasion. I hope it will inspire individuals and congregations to think about, and be reshaped by, the way Scripture speaks in and through the cultures of this land.

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Immanuel Parish celebrates birthdays for all

By Susan MacPhail

REGINA — About 90 people attended the parish birthday celebration at Immanuel Church after the service on Jan. 15.

It wasn't the birthday of the parish; everyone was invited to celebrate the birthdays of the whole

congregation.

Twelve delicious cakes were served, one for each month, and some gluten-free options were available as well.

There was lots of laughter and visiting during the celebration, and not much cake left over — a sign that most people managed to sample at least a couple of different types of cake.



Birthday fun. Photo by Lidya Nada/Unsplash.com



Extra tables had to be set up to accommodate everyone at the Birthday Celebration at Immanuel Church, Regina. Photos by Nigel Salway



Sandi Nicholson serves a slice of cake for May birthdays, during the Birthday Celebration at Immanuel Church, Regina.

AFC makes major changes to grants program

Submitted

The Anglican Foundation of Canada's (AFC) grants program will look substantially different in 2023 thanks to some important changes approved by the AFC Board of Directors in 2022.

Effective January 1, 2023, AFC moved from a semi-annual grant cycle to a quarterly one, with application windows open on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 each year.

According to Dr. Scott Brubacher, AFC's Executive Director, "This rolling entry to the grants program will give potential applicants increased accessibility and flexibility, which is intended to result in timelier decisions."

The Board also approved the introduction of Category A grants of up to \$5,000 with no matching local funds required.

"These category A grants were introduced for AFC's 2021 *Say Yes! to Kids* Request for Proposal and proved very effective," explains Rob Dickson, Chair, Grants Policy Working Group.

"That experience demonstrated how the infusion of a few thousand dollars can have an

Quarterly Grant Application Deadlines



Mark your calendars!

- **January 1**
- **April 1**
- **July 1**
- **October 1**



enormously positive impact on ministry."

The long-established traditional AFC grants — up to \$15,000 and no more than 50% of the project budget — will become the new Category B grant.

Lastly, the Board approved the introduction of Category C grants of up to \$50,000.

"This new third category will allow the Board greater discretion in approving larger grants

where the impact will be most beneficial," explains Brubacher.

"It will also allow AFC to be a more flexible funding partner in dioceses where a cornerstone project needs a major boost."

Rob Dickson says the new and much larger Category C grants have the potential to be a game-changer for smaller dioceses.

"The opportunity to

submit a \$50,000 grant request is well-suited to a diocese that may have the capacity to bring only one project per year, but a transformational project the entire diocese can rally around."

Dickson says the Category C grant will be the one application a diocese is allowed to submit in a calendar year.

In terms of the matching funding requirement for such a

project, that will be left to the discretion of the AFC Board.

Dioceses will need to articulate a strong case for merit, and the Board will have to evaluate these applications very carefully.

The Board also approved removing the requirement that grant applicants be current members of AFC. Dickson says, "It is more consistent with our value of generosity to invite applicants to donate out of a spirit of generosity to 'pay it forward.'"

These changes mark the conclusion of AFC's Grants Policy Working Group's year-long review.

"The Foundation's role in resourcing a change-minded church in the wake of a global pandemic is only beginning to be defined," says Brubacher.

"We hope our members and friends across the Canadian church will see in these changes to our grant program a deep and genuine desire to resource the church as faithfully and abundantly as possible, so that we may drive change, together, with hope, courage, and vision."

For more info on AFC's new grant categories or to apply for an AFC grant, visit anglicanfoundation.org/apply.

Discipleship school continues classes for Licentiate program

Submitted

SASKATOON — The Diocese of Saskatoon's School of Discipleship "Ministry Preparation" Program is a part-time three-year Licentiate.

Students may begin courses part-way through the three-year cycle unless pre-requisites are stated.

We will finish the first full complement for the ESC Licentiate in Theology in spring 2023.

People wishing to take a course should consult with the co-ordinator.

People who sense a call to diaconal or priestly ordination will go through the diocesan discernment process ideally before the midway point of the individual's program.

People from other dioceses can participate.

TO REGISTER, send this information to the co-ordinator (tmccarthy@sasktel.net) including: REGISTRATION in the subject line, name and dates of the course, your name, snail-mail address, email, phone number, parish name and town or city of your church.

If you have questions, contact Rev. Dr. Trish McCarthy at tmccarthy@sasktel.net or 306-370-8378, or snail mail c/o School of Discipleship: 1403-9th Ave. N. Saskatoon, S7K 2Z6.

Liturgy and Preaching II

Rev. Dr Iain Luke and Rev. Dr Trish McCarthy Friday, Jan. 14, 7 – 9 p.m. and Saturday, Jan. 15, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. ZOOM and in-person, Zoom

Platform and a physical location: depending on Covid-19 restrictions

Advanced Pastoral Theology & Pastoral Care
Rev. Dr. Trish McCarthy

Thursdays 6:30 – 9 p.m., Jan. 13 – March 31. Via ZOOM interspersed with some in-person meetings


Pre-Requisite: Basic Pastoral Care in Fall 2021

Ethics I and II
ZOOM and in-person Friday, March 4, 7 – 9 p.m. & Saturday, March 5, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Also, Friday, May 13, 7 – 9 p.m. & Saturday, May 14, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

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Safe Church Workshops – Winter 2023

Workshop #2: “Preventing & Responding to Abuse”

On ZOOM only

Part A: Wednesday, March 8, 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Part B: Wednesday, March 15, 6:30 to 9 p.m.

In Person and Online *Location will be shared upon Registration*

Part A & B: Saturday, March 25, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Contact: Rev. Dr. Trish McCarthy
saskatoonschoolofdiscipleship@gmail.com (306) 370 - 8378

Please note that: All Diocese of Saskatoon Clergy and Church Wardens are to take Safe Church Workshops 1 and 2 by Saturday, May 1, 2023

Instructions:

- ✓ **Please Register:** 1 week before the first of the two-part classes by sending Rev. Trish McCarthy your registration with: Name, Parish, Locale, Phone Number and Email address.
- ✓ **Workshop #2 Builds Upon Workshop #1:** Pls. start with Workshop #1

Join ZOOM Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87505848232?pwd=Z0l1aUhtZzZBREdtZlBTRjMxaVNWUT09>
 Meeting ID: 875 0584 8232 and Passcode: 182169
 Dial by your location: +1 587 328 1099 Canada / +1 780 666 0144 Canada



Ministry of Supervision Course

Hosted with the Saskatoon Theological Union

Mon. to Thurs., May 15-18, 2023 and Mon. to Thurs., June 5-8, 2023
 9:00am- 12:00pm, 1:00-3:30 p.m. Hybrid Delivery: **in person** and on **ZOOM**

This course is designed for those who have been in the ordained ministry for five years or more with interest in passing on their wisdom and insights to those beginning ministry

Cost: \$500 in total per person for the two four-day modules

Facilitators: Dr. Becca Whitla, Rev. Dr. Iain Luke, Bishop David Greenwood, Dr. Brian Chartier, Ven. Dr. Catherine Harper, Rev. Dr. Trish McCarthy & Dr. Adam Wright

Journey Spiritually and Theologically with Supervisee:

Share Constructive Feedback, Adopt Intercultural Ministry Patterns, Encourage Self-Care in Ministry, Support in Sermon Development, Support Ministry Learning Goals

Adopt More Tools in: Supervision, Leadership Development, Organizational Systems, Group Dynamics, Management of Conflict and Nurturing Healthy Congregations in Supporting those New to Ministry

Course Delivery:

2 four-day modules, three weeks apart with reading and assignments in between. Course could interest experienced clergy in advanced studies.

Registration:

Emmanuel and St. Chad Seminary Registrar:
 (306) 975 – 3753 / esc.registrar@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca

PURSUING THE GREAT COMMISSION

How a small-town church has been reaching (lots of) new people

By Tim Wiebe
 The Institute of Evangelism

“We know that God is always at work for the good of everyone who loves him” (Romans 8:28).

St. Paul’s is an Anglican community of faith located in the small town of Knowlton, in the Eastern Townships of Quebec.

We began live-streaming five years ago, but God was preparing us to impact our broader world long before that. Our story has so many intertwining vines — worship, mission, evangelism, hospitality, pastoral care, weddings, funerals, and stewardship — that it is difficult to know where to begin. However, I am sure that it is not finished yet.

Starting a youth activity group

Although Knowlton is in one of the wealthiest postal codes in Canada, it also contains extreme poverty. When I arrived in 2004, St. Paul’s supported a breakfast program at the local elementary school, and would send volunteers to serve the meal.

When our girls began school there, my wife, Sara, and I became volunteers. One morning as we were handing out breakfast, I looked into the eyes of a girl in one of my daughter’s classes. My heart broke.

“Those are the eyes of a girl who has seen too much,” I thought. She was five years old.

I approached the principal and asked if we might run a youth group for children from Knowlton Academy and St. Edouard’s, the French school nearby.

From this conversation came HipHopNHockey, a group for eight- to 12-year-olds. In a typical session,

we would play sports like soccer, basketball, dodgeball, or SPUD for about an hour.

Then we would have dinner—pizza, hotdogs, lasagne, etc.—and afterwards break up into smaller groups for other activities like hip-hop dancing (that lasted only one year, but the name stuck), floor hockey, crafts, and gymnastics.

The principal of the local high school told us that many of those children treasured those two hours that they did not have to go home.

One of our most loyal, energetic and enthusiastic members was Sebby Call. He was a handful, but he loved HHH. One Friday, Sebby did not look well, and we later discovered that he had leukemia.

Sebby died the following year at 11 years old. The town was devastated. We were devastated. St. Paul’s was asked to do the funeral, but many members of Sebby’s family were unable to come in person.

Rugge Thompson, a local filmmaker, and Justin Kuplinskis, who worked for our internet company, teamed up to find a solution. On March 17, 2017 we successfully live-streamed Sebby’s funeral to his family in Ontario and England.

Leading to live-streaming

That July, we began regularly livestreaming our services. So prior to the pandemic our livestream had already become part of the fabric of St. Paul’s. In fact, when we did not livestream funerals, we would get messages from as far away as Calgary asking why!

We had the joy of live-streaming the wedding of one of our key church leaders. Her mother became ill the night

Continued next page

... Small-town church reaching many new people

Continued from page 14 before the wedding and unfortunately was unable to get out of bed to attend the wedding. However, she was still able to watch the livestream.

When the pandemic hit, livestreaming was not as new to us as it was to some, but the scale of connecting with so many people was unprecedented.

We had over 5,000 views of our 2020 Easter service. Believing that this was God opening another door, we sought to make the best use of our blessing. We began livestreaming not only Sunday morning, but daily.

For four months we rang the “Bells of Hope” at noon everyday and delivered a brief meditation. Also, using our muted bell, we rang “Bells of Mourning” on Fridays, both for those who had died of COVID-19, and when a significant event, such as the massacre in Nova Scotia, took place.

I kept an eye on what other churches were doing for their livestreams, and saw that the Rev. Deepak Sundara’s church in Dallas, Texas had the words of the liturgy on the lower-third portion of the screen.

After investigating on YouTube, I discovered that the presentation software we use, ProPresenter, could also do that. So, on Mother’s Day we began broadcasting with lower-thirds (in English and French—another story), allowing people to follow along without having to download the liturgy.

This helps us keep things very simple, so that we can include as many people as possible (an important part of our mission statement).

Planning ahead for post-pandemic worship

Four years ago, the Board of Management began to investigate how we could best steward St. Paul’s land. We explored many possibilities, then, in July 2020, a local developer who wished to purchase the land behind the church approached us.

We signed an agreement in that December. As a part of this agreement, we were to receive two initial deposits: one on signing,



St. Paul's, Knowlton, Quebec. Photo courtesy Wycliffe Institute of Evangelism

the other on completion of the “due diligence” and rezoning.

In March 2021, it seemed as though the pandemic was finally ending. However, we knew that post-pandemic did not mean post-digital. We put together a plan of several improvements that would help us meet, both in-person and online.

However, we did not want to go ahead if we did not have the money. The very next day, the developer asked if he might have several more weeks to complete his work in exchange for the second deposit.

We arranged for him to write a cheque that was for almost the exact amount we needed for our plan.

On Easter Sunday 2021, we began using our new state-of-the-art system. There have been many sleepless nights, stressful conversations, sighing prayers (perhaps some swearing too!) and we still are working out some bugs.

However, we believe that there is an exciting future for God’s people online with many new possibilities. For example, recently we began the Rev. Dr. Judy Paulsen’s “Bible Study Project” online.

Reaching the world

St. Paul’s has virtual parishioners throughout Quebec and across Canada, the US, Mexico, Hong Kong, Germany and Egypt. In 2020, we had an average weekly Sunday attendance of 933 Facebook views (in

addition to Zoom, Youtube, and Facebook French), up from 144 views in 2019.

We had over 315,000 total views in 2020, compared to 19,765 in 2019. We receive prayer requests regularly through Facebook Messenger.

People are discovering or rediscovering faith online, at their own speed.

We received a Christmas card from someone who wrote, “All of your work amid Covid has been an unexpected gift! Still learning, I would

like to thank you, but I should be thanking God for our crossing paths through Facebook. . . . So here it is: “Thanks Jesus, our Lord for all your love and work!” (Praying is still a work in progress. . . .)”

As Isaiah says, “Rain and snow fall from the sky. But they don’t return without watering the earth that produces seeds to plant and grain to eat. That’s how it is with my words. They don’t return to me without doing everything I send them to do.” (Isaiah 55:10-11).

We believe the same promise holds true, even over the Net. The Bible Study Project invites unchurched or dechurched people to read and discuss three encounters Jesus had with people in the Gospels.

These talks, focused on a few open-ended questions, help new people come to know Jesus and his life, teachings, death and resurrection.

Tri-Diocesan Clergy Retreat

Journey on Retreat with Clergy

from Qu’Appelle, Saskatchewan and Saskatoon Anglican Dioceses

Retreat Leaders



Archbishop Linda Nicholls



Steve Bell

Queen’s House Retreat Centre: 601 Taylor St. W. Saskatoon, SK S7M 0M8

Arrive: Monday, March 20 arriving from 2 p.m.

Depart: Wednesday, March 22 leaving 12 or after lunch

Room: \$300 / Commuter: \$126

Clergy may use their continuing education funds for this event

apply to their parish for retreat funds.

If Retreat Centre is full when you register, outside options are:

Refresh Inn: 1220 College Drive, Saskatoon (306) 934 - 5555

Sandman Hotel: 2815 Lorne Avenue, Saskatoon (306) 518 – 7263

Registration Deadline: Thursday, March 9, 2023 (contact below)

Registrar: Canon Lorea Eufemia

anglicansynod@sasktel.net / (306) 244 – 5651

Equipping the saints for the work of ministry

'Like living stones ... let yourselves be built into a spiritual house' (1 Peter 2:5)

Ministry courses are now offered collaboratively through **The Western Educational Collaborative Anglican Network**, also known as **W.E.C.A.N.** Below is the 2023 winter course schedule.

By Rev. Dr. Trish McCarthy

Our School of Discipleship Ministry Preparation program has begun again for a new group of students.

In these last three years, a good number of people have taken classes through our School which equips people for any number of lay and ordained ministries.

Now we are collaborating with other western and northern Anglican Diocesan Schools for Ministry to offer a rich and diverse program that can be taken online or in person.

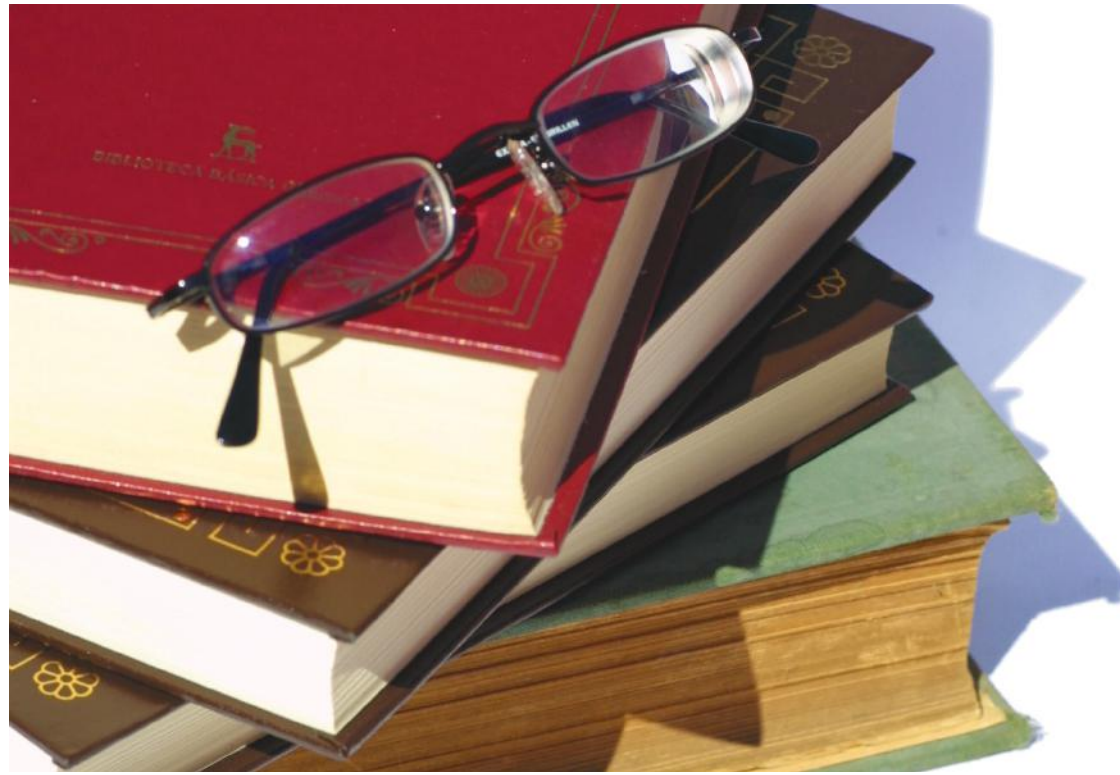
After all, we are all in this together and now we can learn together!

Emmanuel and St. Chad College oversees and grants the Licentiate in Theology to students registered through their diocese. To register for a specific course, contact the ministry school co-ordinator listed for that course and notify your own school of discipleship about it as well.

SPRING 2023

Course: **"Spiritual Practices for Cultivating Resilience and Compassion" (ESC-PE 131)**

School: Saskatoon School of Discipleship (SOD), Core Subject for New Cohort



Emmanuel and St. Chad is overseeing the licentiate in theology program, with classes taking place this fall and next winter. Photo courtesy Freeimages.com

Instructor: Rev. Dr. Trish McCarthy
Time: Thursdays, **Jan. 19, 2023** for 13 weeks (excl. Mar. 9) from 5:30 to 8 p.m.

Time Zone: CST
Added Info: Includes one full-day hybrid retreat Monday, Jan. 23, 2023

Delivery: Hybrid using STU smart classroom three times during the semester

Register: Rev. Dr. Trish McCarthy trish.mccarthy@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca, (306) 370-8378. Please use Trish's STU email for this course. Thank you.

Course: **"Pastoral Leadership" (ESC-PE 241)**

Dates: Tuesdays, **Jan. 17** to April 11 (excl. Mar. 7) from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

School: SOD, Core Subject for New Cohort
Instructor: Rev. Dr. Trish McCarthy

Time: 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Time Zone: CST
Delivery: Hybrid using STU smart classroom three times during the semester

Register with Rev. Dr. Trish McCarthy

Course: **Introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures I and II (ESC)**

S.O.D.: Core Subject
Instructor: Dr. Adam Wright

Time: Friday, Feb. 10 from 7 to 9 p.m. ONLINE ONLY and Sat. Feb. 11 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. ONLINE and IN-PERSON, St. Matthew's, 135 109th Street, Saskatoon.

Also, Friday, March 31 from 7 to 9 p.m. ONLINE ONLY and Saturday, April 1 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. ONLINE and IN-PERSON, St. Matthew's Church.

Time Zone: CST
Register: Rev. Dr. Trish McCarthy

Course: **Introduction to the New Testament I**

and II (ESC)

S.O.D.: Core Subject
Instructor: Dr. Adam Wright

Tentative Time Frame: Friday, March 3, 7 to 9 p.m. ONLINE ONLY and Saturday, March 4, 2023 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. ONLINE and IN-PERSON at St. Matthew's. Also, Friday, March 17 from 7 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, March 18, 2023 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., both ONLINE ONLY.

Time Zone: CST
Register: Rev. Dr. Trish McCarthy

Course: **Preaching in Context**; under consideration

Dates: TBA
School: TBA
Core Subject
Instructor: TBA
Time Frame: Two Friday evening and Saturday couplets in March or May

Time Zone: CST
Delivery: Hybrid: in person and online

Register: To link in, contact Rev. Dr. Trish McCarthy.

Course: **Church History (ESC)**

Saskatoon S.O.D.: Core Subject

Instructor: TBA
Time Frame: Two Friday evening and Saturday couplets in April or May

Time Zone: CST
Delivery: Friday evening online and Saturday hybrid both ZOOM and in person

Register: Rev. Dr. Trish McCarthy

The following course is for clergy who have been ordained five years or more as they begin a ministry of supervision.

Course: **The Ministry of Supervision I and II (ESC - PE 351)**

S.O.D. for clergy ordained over five years

Co-ordinator: Rev. Dr. Trish McCarthy

Instructors: Dr. Adam Wright, Dr. Brian Chartier, Bishop David Greenwood, Rev. Dr. Iain Luke, Dr. Becca Whitla, Rev. Dr. Catherine Harper and Rev. Dr. Trish McCarthy

Time Frames: Tentative Dates

Module One: Monday, May 15 to Thursday, May 18, 2023 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Module Two Monday, June 5 to Thursday, June 8, 2023 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Time Zone: CST
Delivery: Hybrid using an STU tech classroom

Contact: Lisa McInnis, esc.registrar@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca and 306-975-3753.

General Synod occurs end of June at University of Calgary



By Anglican Journal

TORONTO — The 2023 Assembly will take place from June 27 to July 2 at the University of Calgary, General Secretary Archdeacon Alan Perry said in his report to Council of General Synod (CoGS).

Encompassing the Anglican Church of Canada's General Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) National Convention, the Assembly was originally scheduled for July 2022.

Due to concerns over travel amid an upsurge in COVID-19 cases, the Assembly Planning Committee on Feb. 18

decided against holding an in-person event that summer.

At its subsequent March meeting, CoGS passed a resolution for the next session of General Synod to take place in 2023, with the hope for it to be concurrent with an Assembly meeting with the ELCIC and for the Assembly Committee to decide the time.

CoGS also resolved for the following session of General Synod to take place in 2025.

Perry said the original site, the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology, was unable to host the Assembly in summer 2023 and credited event planner Angela Chorney with helping organizers find an alternative venue