

The picture of empathy!



SUBMITTED PHOTO

After his baptism in Salisbury on April 30, young Ryder Seaward was clearly done with church, wanting his mom and dad and the refreshments downstairs. Here the Rev. Chris Hayes (Parish of Salisbury & Havelock) shows great empathy for him. Ryder's parents are Sara and Jack, and his grandparents are Ron and Cheryl Whitehead, parishioners at St. John's Anglican Church in Salisbury.

A tiny mission idea with big potential

Aspirin in a handy key chain proves popular in Richmond

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

While we all know we should carry 81 mg aspirin with us at all times, just in case we have the signs of a heart attack or stroke, quite likely few of us do.

And even if we do, finding those tiny pills among the clutter of our pockets, wallets and purses can be stressful and difficult.

The Parish of Richmond, near Woodstock, has recognized that need and acted on it to help their friends, neighbours and families.

That solution comes in the form of a key chain containing a small cylinder — two hollow pieces that screw together —

containing four 81 mg aspirin. It's relatively inexpensive, but potentially life-saving, and the parish has made it their mission this year.

"Andy's sister is a doctor in Nova Scotia," said Louise Bell of her husband. "She gave us all one with our Christmas gifts. The lights went on and I thought 'this could be something for our Compassion Fund.'"

The Parish of Richmond's Compassion Fund was founded around 2006 when the Rev. Chris Hayes was rector.

"It was when Andy's mom was ill and someone gave us a loaf of bread," said Louise. "It was so nice, so thoughtful, and I

Key chain continued on page 2

MISSION IN MOTION: community



MCKNIGHT PHOTO

Nancy Clarke and Louise Bell are members of the Parish of Richmond's Compassion Fund, which has begun giving out small hollow cylinders that fit on a key chain. Inside are chewable 81 mg aspirin, the standard first aid measure for people experiencing the signs of a stroke or heart attack.

Help for your heart comes in a key chain

Key chain continued from page 1

thought we should have something for people when they need it.

“So Chris and I came up with the idea of a Compassion Fund. It’s instant. If someone has a fire, we can get money to them within 12 hours,” she said.

Donations to the fund are largely from the congregation.

“We give out between three and four thousand a year,” said Nancy Clarke, another member of the fund.

This year so far, the fund has spent between \$300 and \$400 on the “Help For Your Heart” aspirin holders.

The television commercials and the card accompanying the aspirin holders say if you’re experience the signs of a heart attack or stroke, chew two of the aspirins.

“Even if you take them and it’s not a heart attack, it’s not

going to hurt you,” said Nancy, adding her own aunt was saved by chewing a couple of aspirin during such an event.

When the fund members wanted to try this unique outreach, they didn’t know where to find the tiny cylinders.

“We looked on Amazon,” said Louise. “But they only come in packages of nine. So we just kept on buying them. We filled them with aspirin from Costco.”

“Then we got the cards printed,” said Nancy. “When we see someone, anytime we meet a friend or neighbour, we hand one out.”

In fact, the women travel with a small plastic container full of them. They’ve given away about 150 so far, including to members of all three congregations in the parish. Now they have people calling to request them.

The Compassion Fund gives money to those in need facing travel for medical reasons, fires,

floods, illness and other unexpected events. As well, when the need is great, they donate to help pay for such things as snow-plowing, groceries, snowsuits and electricity bills. And they contribute to men’s and women’s shelters.

“People are so grateful,” said Nancy, adding a compassion fund is a good idea for any parish.

The fund members are pleased with the success of their latest venture, but already have a new one in mind. After visiting a second-hand store and learning bibles are in demand among newcomers to Canada, they are forming a plan to start collecting them to hand out.

As for the “Help For Your Heart” aspirin holders, “It’s something you don’t want to think about, but it’s a great idea,” said Louise. “Even if we save one person.”



MCKNIGHT PHOTO

Inside the key chain cylinders are chewable aspirin, to be taken if one has the symptoms of a heart attack or stroke. These gifts from the Parish of Richmond have the power to save a life, says Nancy Clarke.

MISSION IN MOTION: community

Meet our new PWRDF rep, Debbie Edwards

It was recently announced that I have agreed to fill the role of PWRDF diocesan representative.

I recognize that a big void has been left by Anne Walling since stepping down from this position and I thank Anne for her service. I will admit upfront that I am still finding my way.

As I begin, there are a few things I wish to say. First, I want to make known my reasons for doing this. There are many worthwhile ministries, missions and charities here at home and around the world and I know that many of you give generously.

On a recent Zoom call with a representative of PWRDF, she told me that Maritimers are known for our generosity.

PWRDF works with existing local organizations to meet needs both internationally, as well as here in Canada. Additionally, it is ranked by the Canadian government in their list of top 100 charities.

For these reasons it is positioned to respond quickly and efficiently to emergencies, such as Hurricane Fiona during the fall of 2022.

During the next couple of



MCKNIGHT PHOTO

Debbie Edwards, the new diocesan representative of the Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund, speaks during the ACW’s annual meeting May 2 in Woodstock. At right is diocesan ACW president Jill Stewart.

months, I will be reaching out to parishes for the names of their parish reps. Also, I would like to learn of ways in which parishes are involved or not in the work of PWRDF but, as I’ve said, I know there are many outreaches and ways to give.

It is not my intention to change that but, for my part, to become informed. It likely goes

without saying, but one of the greatest gifts we can give to any project or situation, is prayer.

I thank you for your support and look forward to working together for the ongoing ministry of the Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund.



Debbie Edwards lives in Fredericton and is married to Archbishop David.

Letters to the editor

We welcome them!
Send yours to
gmcknight@diofton.ca



DEADLINE for news and photos for the September edition of the New Brunswick Anglican is Aug. 1. Send submissions to gmcknight@diofton.ca



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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON
A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL

The Most Rev. David Edwards Archbishop and Publisher

Gisele McKnight Editor
Cheryl Jacobs & Ben Bourque Proofreaders

Published 10 times per year. Price of subscription \$10.00

Please send news and photo submissions to:
12 Spruce Street, Sussex, N.B. E4E 1L9
Phone: 506-459-1801, ext. 1009; E-mail: gmcknight@diofton.ca

Please send subscription renewals and changes of address to:
The New Brunswick Anglican, c/o Anglican Journal Circulation Dept.,
80 Hayden St, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 3G2
circulation@national.anglican.ca OR 1-866-924-9192 ext. 259

Printed & mailed in North York, Ontario
By Webnews Printing Inc.

THE BISHOP'S PAGE

'Ordinary Time' should be anything but

As we come into June, we are about to enter the longest season of the Church year.

It is traditionally known as Trinity, but more recently has been given the name Pentecost in some traditions.

Either way, the 20 plus weeks which make up the period are given the rather uninspiring title of "Ordinary Time."

In reality, the season should be one of the most fruitful for those of us who follow Jesus. Since December we have celebrated the three peaks of the Christian year:

- The Incarnation (Christmas);
- The crucifixion and resurrection (Easter);
- and the coming of the Holy Spirit in a new and empowering way (Pentecost).

Each of these seasons draws us to Trinity Sunday, where we



Archbishop David Edwards

recall the fullness of God as creator, redeemer, and sustainer.

What are we to do now? Is the idea that we twiddle our thumbs, waiting for the cycle to begin again on Advent Sunday?

The answer to that is an emphatic "No." The events which we have recalled during the previous months are to draw us closer to God.



Ordinary Time in the church calendar includes a time of planting, growth and harvest.

To help us understand the ways in which God has acted in the past and then, inspired by the Holy Spirit, we are to work out how we are called to live as the people of God in the Spirit.

To put this more simply, in Ordinary Time, the Church works out how to do "God" things in our daily lives — how we are to show faith, hope, and charity (love) in God's creation and to God's creation.

In the natural world, this

season of Ordinary Time covers three important periods: planting/germination, growth, and harvest.

As we are generally urban people, we tend to miss this, but for rural communities in the past, this would have made perfect sense.

During this period of the church year let us all consider what we plant, nurture and hopefully harvest as we seek to be more like Christ.

David Edwards is
Diocesan Bishop of Fredericton.

Some thoughts on the fatherhood of God

I'm grateful for the memories I have of my father, a kind and patient man whose life demonstrated his love for his church and his family.

He was a quiet man, but even though I didn't always know what he was thinking, his actions spoke louder than words and I never doubted his love for me.

I'm certain that the love of my parents is the foundation of my emotional security and stability, though of course my choices as an adult have determined what kind of life I have built on that foundation.

Apart from giving me a happy childhood, my father's love has also given me a good understanding of the fatherhood of God. Though my father was a good man, I know he was not perfect.

On the other hand, my heavenly father is perfect and all his actions are loving and wise.

Knowing that my earthly father loved me and would do anything he could to help me has enabled me to understand and respond to my heavenly father's love for me as his child.

The Bible speaks often about God as a father. The words most familiar to us perhaps are "Our father in heaven, hallowed be your name..." (Matthew 6:9),



when Jesus taught his disciples to pray to God as their father.

As the creator, God is in one sense the father of all humanity. But his love and compassion are extended in a special way to those who respond to his love and seek to live their lives according to his commandments.

Psalms 103:13 speaks of this in terms of the "fear" of the Lord: "As a father has compassion on his children, so the Lord has compassion on those who fear him..."

"Fear" here is not a feeling of dread that compels us to cringe before God, but rather a sense of reverence for him and respect for his authority over our lives.

Another well-known passage that speaks of God as our father is found in the Sermon on the Mount where Jesus says: "Look at the birds of the air;

they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to his life? And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin.

"Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these. If that is how God clothes the grass of the field, which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'"

"For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own." (Matthew 6:26-34)

Implicit in this passage is the invitation for each of us to acknowledge God as our father and to live our lives according to his priorities.

Out of this will grow a confident trust in him to meet all our

needs. When we put God first in our lives and seek to increase our knowledge of him and his love, then we are set free from the greed and worry that can so easily consume our lives.

Sadly, I know that not everyone has been blessed with a good father. Some who read this column may have been raised by fathers who were abusive or cruel. Perhaps some had fathers who abandoned them completely.

No doubt this kind of experience with their earthly father affects their view of God as a father.

But whatever the experience with our father may be, whether good or bad, we can be sure that our heavenly father is better than any human father could ever be.

And like the father in the parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15), he is waiting to welcome us back into his loving embrace.

...
Nancy Stephens, originally from Blackville, served with OMF International for over 30 years, including 12 years as a missionary in Thailand. Now retired, she resides in Fredericton and worships in the Parish of Douglas and Nashwaaksis.

PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS

June 2
Anglican Editors Association

June 3
Diocesan Council

June 4
*** Parish of Wicklow, Wilmot, Peel and Aberdeen**

June 11
*** Parish of Rothesay; Installation of Canons and Collation of Archdeacons (Cathedral)**

June 13
Retired Clergy Tea

June 16
RNS Graduation

June 18
Parish of Denmark

June 25
Parish of Millidgeville; * Parish of Fundy and the Lakes

June 27 - July 3
General Synod, Calgary

July 5 - August 9
Vacation

August 13
Parish of Andover; Tay Creek (Parish of Stanley)

August 20
Parish of New Maryland; Parish of Fredericton Junction

August 27
Parish of the Nerepis and St. John

* confirmation

BLESSINGS

Blessings — one final story

by Valerie Stewart

Editor's Note: My heart is full from reading all the stories of blessings readers have sent in this spring while I underwent cataract surgeries. You did more than help me fill the newspapers. You filled many hearts with your wonderful stories. Thank you so much!

In my lifetime I have been showered with so many blessings, too numerous to count. My faith is strong and I have a wonderful family and church family who mean the world to me.

Psalm 46, verse 10 is the cornerstone of my faith: "Be still and know that I am God."

In my journey as a Christian I have heard the voice of God speak to me many times. One of the first times I heard his calm and steady voice was in April, 1970.

I was nearing the first year of my teaching career, teaching language arts and math to two Grade 6 classes of 36 students, mostly huge teenage boys who had repeated several grades.

It was the toughest year of my career. I was 21 and some of those boys were 15 or 16. They were biding their time until they could quit school and go to work in the woods or at the local mill.

I also had two sets of twin boys in my classes. When I stood in front of my classes I often felt like a little mouse.

One of those boys nicknamed me "Underdog," after the cartoon character. Many nights I sat at the kitchen table and cried, I was so overwhelmed.

By the time April rolled around, I was ready to leave Blackville and move to Moncton, where my best friend lived and taught at a school in



MIRIAM G ON UNSPLASH.COM

Valerie Stewart believes that to hear the voice of God, you just have to be still and listen.

“My faith was being tested. I was scared of dying on the table. I had my funeral all planned and I wrote farewell letters to all my loved ones. I wanted to be prepared just in case God took me home.”

Irishtown.

By April 30 I had to let my principal know what I was planning for next year. I prayed to God every night and talked to my family over and over again. I was at my wits end. I felt like life would pass me by if I stayed in this little village.

Four of my sisters were already married and were mothers as well. Unrealistically, I saw myself as an old maid school teacher, living with

my parents and taking care of them forever.

One day after school I sat at my desk staring at the application to the Moncton School board, all filled in and ready to sign. The sun was streaming in through my classroom window. I could hear the children outside, running around, playing tag as they waited for their buses to arrive.

I was tired as usual and I closed my eyes and prayed, "God, what do I do here?"

Time seemed to stop in my mind as I heard someone say, "Don't go."

Before I could change my mind, I balled that paper up and threw it in the garbage pail beside my desk. Immediately a load was lifted off my shoulders.

That summer I went to Calgary on the train and spent six weeks with my sister. When I came home in August, I met my future husband and in October 1971 we were married.

God had a plan for me. I

just needed to listen and hear his voice.

Fast forward to July 2002. I was a 53-year-old wife and mother to three grown children and grandmother of two.

My health had never been very good, and that summer I was waiting for a call to Saint John to have my floppy, leaky mitral valve replaced by a shiny metal valve.

My faith was being tested. I was scared of dying on the table. I had my funeral all planned and I wrote farewell letters to all my loved ones. I wanted to be prepared just in case God took me home.

I was sitting on the back patio of our summer place on the beautiful Miramichi River. It is a place I truly love.

It had rained early, but now the sun was shining and the birds were singing sweetly. I closed my eyes and turned my face to the sun. I felt the sun's warmth slide down my face, past my broken heart right to my toes.

Then a quiet, calm voice said, "Stop your worrying. You will be here next year." What a sense of peace filled my heart and mind. I believe God spoke to me again that lovely morning.

On Aug. 13, I woke up from the surgery and saw my children and husband standing beside me. I thanked God that moment and every day since. I thank him for blessing me with reasonable health and abundant riches. Four more grandchildren, too.

The Bible often speaks of the need to rest and listen to the voice of God. I believe we can surely hear his voice and rest in his blessed assurance if we take the time to be still.

Valerie Stewart lives in White Rapids, N.B.

ORDINATION

Nicholas Saulnier ordained to the priesthood

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Christ Church Cathedral was filled with people there to witness the ordination to the priesthood of Nicholas Saulnier, on April 30.

Archbishop David Edwards presided, with assistance from Dean Geoffrey Hall and Bishop Nigel Shaw.

Nicholas was ordained a deacon at his home church of St. George's, Moncton a year ago, and many from St. George's made the trip to Fredericton.

He has spent the past year under the tutelage of the Rev. Canon Kevin Stockall, serving in the Parishes of St. Mary, York; Marysville; and Stanley.

Nicholas is on an unusual career path. His aim is to become a military chaplain in the Canadian Armed Forces.

Before earning a Masters degree in divinity at Wycliffe College in Toronto, he was a captain in the Royal Canadian Air Force, working as an air battle manager stationed in Rome, New York, as part of the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD).

The chaplaincy requirements included ordination, followed by two years spent in the diocese under the bishop's direction. Nicholas has one year left here before he returns to the Armed Forces as a chaplain.

There were two guests of note at the ordination service: The Rt. Rev. Nigel Shaw, Bishop Ordinary to the Canadian Armed Forces; and the Rt. Rev. Stephen Andrews, principal of Wycliffe College.

Bishop Stephen preached at the service, noting Nicholas was a "one-person altar guild" during his time at Wycliffe, faithfully carrying out chores far beyond those expected.

He spoke of Jesus's call to a life of sacrificial service, which applies to every believer.

"Every Christian is commissioned to declare the works of God," he said. "We must work out how to do that in our lives."

He noted that some church welcome signs give the service times, and under 'minister,' the sign says 'the congregation.'

While all are called to do something, there are others admitted to a different priesthood, after years of study, training and an extra measure



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: group shot of the Rev. Debbie Edmondson, Dean Geoffrey Hall, Archbishop David Edwards, the Rev. Canon Leo Martin, the Rev. Nicholas Saulnier, the Rev. Rob Langmaid, Bishop Ordinary to the Canadian Armed Forces Nigel Shaw and Bishop Stephen Andrews, principal of Wycliffe College; Bishop Stephen Andrews during the sermon; the processional; the laying on of hands; the service concludes with the recessional.

of grace to meet needs.

"Individuals are made priests because somewhere along the line, there was discernment — people saw evidence of leadership and the commitment of faith," he said. "Your calling is reaffirmed by us here at this service."

But Nicholas won't become a priest just because others have recognized his calling, he said.

"He'll become a priest when

the bishop puts his hands on him."

Bishop Stephen then outlined the advent of the priesthood, when in the early Christian era, bishops could not get everywhere to do everything, so they established elders of the church to be priests, to share in the bishop's own ministry.

"Ordained ministry is not merely being a servant of the Church, but a servant of

Christ," he said. "Nicholas, you will experience frustration, your strength will be spent and your heart broken. These are the inevitable wounds of love. May God bless you."

During the service, the Rev. Rob Langmaid acted as chaplain to Bishop Nigel. The Rev. Debbie Edmondson was the liturgical deacon. Tyler McKenna, Samuel Landry and Matthew Way were the servers.

The Rev. Canon Chris

VanBuskirk was the litanist, and with Kevin Stockall, vested Nicholas. Maxine Fullerton read the first lesson, and Harold Staples read the epistle. Presenters were the Ven. Paul Ranson, Kevin Stockall and Carole-Ann McGee.

After the service, a reception was held at Cathedral Memorial Hall. Members of All Saints, St. Mary and St. Thomas prepared the refreshments.

MOTHERS' UNION RALLY

Mothers' Union rally draws 50 members

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

The annual rally day of the Mothers' Union was held April 29 at Christ Church Cathedral with 50 members in attendance. The day began with a service of Holy Eucharist with several members reading scripture. Dean Geoffrey Hall and Archbishop David Edwards presided.

The bishop preached, telling those gathered that the role of a Christian is to reflect the image of God in the world.

"If we want to know what God looks like, look to Jesus on the cross — suffering, broken, humble," he said.

"If we're seeking to reflect the image of God into the world, we are seeking to reflect that image. God is moving us to have greater humility, brokenness."

The Church has a responsibility to show the way forward, to defeat evil and injustice, he said.

In New Brunswick, one of those evils is homelessness. During his time as rector at Stone Church in Saint John, one of his most pressing desires was to tackle the issue of youth homelessness.

"At Stone Church, we asked every high school in Saint John, 'how many youth in your high school are in danger of homelessness?'" he said. "They all came back with the same answer: 200."

Most weren't actually homeless, and some didn't realize they were homeless.

They were couch surfing, staying with friends, leaving home because they were kicked out by a step-parent who didn't like them, or leaving because they couldn't get along with their parents.

"Youth homelessness is a hidden issue in our province," he said, adding that housing youths with homeless adults means exposure to a whole host of problems that can then lead to chronic adult homelessness.

The solution is shelters that provide a bed plus the programs and supports to help them get back on track, get back in school, find a job, learn life skills, learn how to cope and so on.

The Beacon Cove (formerly Safe Harbour) youth shelter uses this model. It was built on



MCKNIGHT PHOTO

Alice Kennedy, Parish of Hampton and the Rev. Ann Fairweather, Parish of Coldbrook-St. Mary, have a "speedy conversation" during the afternoon activities at the Mothers' Union Rally April 29. Speedy Conversations paired members for an informal chat to help them get to know each other better. A list of questions helped get the conversation started.

land where St. James Anglican Church once stood.

"We know it works," he said. "We know this is reflecting the image of God in our world. Suffer the little children..."

"Therefore, Mothers' Union, I am challenging you to ask how you can advocate around youth homelessness.

"How do we as a church advocate around youth homelessness. If we don't, we will have it for generations to come."

The example of Jesus, when he ate with sinners, was to help outsiders become insiders because his heart was broken for the lost.

"If we look at the man on the cross, his heart is broken for these kids," he said.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

Members Shara Golden and Susan Colpitts-Judd (co-president) gave a presentation on gender-based violence using the Silent Witness project as the illustration.

It began with a song called "I'll stand in the rain" by Leslie Monaghan of the New Brunswick chapter. It is sung by Joan Kennedy, and has been translated into French and Spanish.

The Silent Witness Project's aims are to remember the women murdered by their intimate partner, to create awareness of family violence and to promote action to help women coping with violence and spur communities and governments to action.

It began in the U.S. and spread to Canada in 2001.

One of the ways they re-

member is with the silhouette program — life-sized wooden cut-outs of the women murdered in New Brunswick.

There are 34 silhouettes of the 50 women murdered since 1990 here, with more planned. There were five silhouettes set up in the Cathedral for the presentation.

A list of the 50 women was read during the presentation.

"Each of these silhouettes represents a woman who once lived among us — a mother, a daughter, a sister, an employee," said Shara.

Each silhouette includes a biography of the woman, and each is painted red. The silhouettes move around the province as part of the education program.

The silhouettes also re-

member the women who chose suicide as a means of coping, unsolved deaths, and the others who also died from domestic violence: the parents, and children of women being abused.

There are many ways to become involved: supply the wood and paint; offer translation services; advocate for change; support the families involved.

"All of it creates awareness, which is what we are doing today," said Susan. "Although these women are now silent, we have learned they have a strong voice."

Shara noted that ending the relationship does not always end the violence. About one-third of the murdered woman in N.B. died after separation.

The presentation included a video that told the story of two New Brunswick murdered women.

A moment of silence was held for all the murdered women, "and anyone you know or think is a victim," said Susan.

Former parish nurse and Newfoundland-ordained deacon, Isabel Cutler, was on hand to help anyone present deal with the implications of the presentation.

SPEEDY CONVERSATIONS, MU JEOPARDY

Co-president Joanne Ham led the afternoon program, which began with "speedy conversations."

This was an effort to help members better get to know each other.

They were asked to go table to table to have a short chat with whoever they found there, using questions provided.

The second activity was MU Jeopardy. Joanne tested each team's knowledge on Mothers' Union trivia and the morning's presentation, with Ginny McEwen keeping score and Lilian Ketch as judge.

Team 5, made up mostly of Hampton members, won with 2,900 points. The prize was chocolate, which they generously shared.

The day's collection amounted to \$729, which will be shared with the Northern Clergy Family Fund and Mary Sumner House in London, UK.

MOTHERS' UNION RALLY

Mothers' Union Rally - a day spent in friendship and learning



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Group shot of members present; lunch; members during the afternoon activities; the Silent Witness program silhouettes; co-president and co-presenter Susan Colpitts-Judd watches as Shara Golden speaks during the presentation on gender-based violence; Co-president Joanne Ham outlines the afternoon's activities at Cathedral Memorial Hall.

"SHARING HOPE & HELP"

INNER CITY YOUTH MINISTRY

Move to new site means more kids will be fed in Saint John

Inner City Youth Ministry's Lunch Connection expands its role

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Inner City Youth Ministry's Lunch Connection program, which feeds hundreds of school children in Saint John each week, has a new, spacious, permanent location that is already making life easier for its fleet of volunteers.

ICYM moved into space at the Anglophone South district office in Millidgeville in March and will celebrate with an official opening the end of May.

This story really began decades ago, when Millidgeville North High School was built. It was supposed to be a "super high school" for all Saint John students, but that plan did not come to fruition.

However, a very large industrial kitchen was built to feed those thousands of potential students.

The outdated 1970s kitchen operated for the Millidgeville school until a few years ago. Then the pandemic arrived and the space was all but forgotten.

Thankfully, not quite. In a meeting a year ago, Erin Rideout, executive director of ICYM was negotiating with Food Depot Alimentaire in Moncton, a large food bank hub, to become the Saint John centre for a universal breakfast program the province wanted in its schools.

Food banks typically don't have the infrastructure to take on such a task, so that left Erin wondering how it could be done.

"We were brainstorming in a meeting and Erin said, 'if only we had a space,'" said Erica Lane, community engagement co-ordinator for Anglophone South, who works closely with ICYM.

"Well, we do," replied Erica, although it wasn't functional, it was full of supplies and everything needed an upgrade.

A NEW HOME

A great idea was born, and the Province of New Brunswick, eager to expand its breakfast program, paid for the retrofit.

All the kitchen equipment was tested, but hopelessly outdated.

"The stoves, the grills, the



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Bonnie Hunt, interim director of Inner City Youth Ministry, and Erica Lane, community engagement co-ordinator for Anglophone South, in the new Lunch Connection kitchen; Janice Stafford, Ann Irving and Sharon Newdick measure ingredients for the bagged lunches; lots of storage space is a real bonus for ICYM at their new location; the lunch line, packing lunches into cloth bags.

MISSION IN MOTION: food security



deep fryers — none of it was salvageable," said Bonnie Hunt, ICYM's interim director while Erin is on maternity leave.

So the cooking implements were removed, as was the gigantic conveyor dishwasher that took up an entire room.

A new floor had to be constructed after the removal of the infrastructure that ran through it.

As a result of all that, ICYM is now at home in a large kitchen that has lots of sinks, upgraded refrigerators and freezers, and more than enough storage space.

"One of the real blessings is

we can get stuff by the pallet, so now I only have to get the fresh food at Costco," said Bonnie. "We have a partnership with the district and they pick it up for us."

"But it's a bit like moving into a new house," said Bonnie. "Trying to decide the best place for everything."

LUNCH PACKING

The removal of equipment has left lots of room to set up an assembly line of tables for volunteers to pack hundreds of lunches each week. The morning the *New Brunswick Anglican* visited, 402 lunches

were packed in 45 minutes.

Four days a week, volunteers arrive for one of two jobs: preliminary work such as vegetable prep, making trail mix, popping popcorn and whipping cream cheese for bagels; and working the line to pack food into cloth lunch bags.

This bagged lunch model is a direct result of the pandemic. Before COVID-19, ICYM had a presence in schools and prepared hot lunches for children on-site. It seems bagged lunches are here to stay, and there is one distinct advantage.

"People have asked why there is so much food in our

lunches," said Bonnie. "The kids can take home what they don't eat. The fact is, without it, some kids wouldn't eat again until they came to school the next day."

The lunches contain a fruit and a vegetable (apple, orange, carrots, cucumbers.), a protein or dairy (yogurt, hummus, cheese string) and much more: pop corn, half a bagel with cream cheese, naan bread, trail mix, crackers, and/or a granola bar.

All meals are Halal and peanut-free, which are pricey but necessary. Bagels, pop
Lunch continued on page 9

INNER CITY YOUTH MINISTRY



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Taking a break after packing hundreds of lunches are several of the volunteers at Inner City Youth Ministry's Lunch Connection, including Vince Galbraith, who says he hates to see anyone go hungry; Carol McNamee and Sandy Piekarski measure out ingredients for the bagged lunches; the cloth bags are a real hit with kids, who wait in anticipation every day to see which pattern they'll get; Dave from Universal Sales arrives to load his van with the packed lunches to be delivered to area schools.



Lunch Connection moves to new kitchen, continued

Lunch continued from page 8
corn and homemade trail mix (dried mangos and cranberries, chocolate chips, pumpkin seeds, goldfish crackers, Cheerios and mini pretzels) are the most popular.

LUNCH IS SERVED

It is after the lunches are bagged and packed in cooler bags that a corporate partner steps in. On the day of our visit, Dave from Universal Sales pulled up at the loading dock, packed all the cooler bags in a large van, and delivered each bag to the schools on the day's list.

It is the job of the community school co-ordinator in each school to meet the van and deliver the lunches to each classroom.

"The kids wait at the window to see which lunch bag will end up on their desk," said Bonnie, adding they love all

the patterns and colours of the cloth bags.

After lunch, the bags are collected and brought back to ICYM, where they are loaded into laundry bags and taken to the people who do the laundry: a lady named Sandra, and the Vocational Training Centre.

"It's a well-oiled machine," said Bonnie of the process of feeding hundreds of children three days a week.

Erica is thrilled with the Lunch Connection program for various reasons. It frees up the community school co-ordinators to do work other than providing meals for students, which had been a huge part of their job.

As well, it empowers so many people along the way, from the seniors — including her own parents — who find purpose in volunteering, to the employees at the Vocational

Training Centre who are contributing to the betterment of their community.

"It's doing much more than feeding children," she said.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM

The new breakfast program was earmarked to roll out in late April.

"All the food will come from Moncton," said Bonnie. "The volunteers and I will package it up. It's not cooked food, but based on lists from the schools."

ICYM will act as the middleman between the Food Depot Alimentaire and the schools.

"We're starting with the three neediest schools and eventually we want to offer it across the district," said Bonnie.

LUNCH BAGS

It was a year ago, on Earth Day,

that ICYM launched its cloth lunch bag initiative. Paper bags were costly, one-use and environmentally unfriendly. So they asked parishioners who sew to make lunch bags. They thought 1,000 would be a good goal.

"People thought Erin and I were out to lunch," said Bonnie. "Who'd have thought they'd have taken off?"

As of mid-April, ICYM had 3,489 cloth bags. It's enough to keep them in bags without worrying about running out.

"We are no longer actively seeking bags, but we'll take them if they're done," said Bonnie, adding the early models are too narrow for the pop corn and bagels. "We're weeding them out and finding a new use for them. Now we have a two-week rotation."

The official opening of the ICYM site was planned for May 31.

VOLUNTEERS

ICYM's Lunch Connection has 60 volunteers, including 11 new ones who have come onboard since the move in March.

Why do they help with Lunch Connection?

- *Even though we don't do a whole lot, it makes a difference* - Sharon
- *It's the comfort of knowing kids are getting a meal* - Sandy
- *It's a nice thing to do* - Ann
- *I'm here because I hate to see people go hungry* - Vince
- *It's a nice feeling knowing you're giving back to the community. I suppose it's a selfish reason but it's for the kids* - Hilda
- *I started volunteering with the food program because I had moved here from Ontario. It's a good place to meet people and it's a good cause* - Janice
- *I'm trying to back my way into heaven* - Carol

FACTS

- About 1,400 bagged lunches are prepared and delivered each week to 10 schools in Saint John.
- Parents pay about \$10 a month for their children to be part of Lunch Connection, though not all parents can pay that fee every month. In any case, their children still get a lunch.
- There is a two-week rotation with six different meals, so students know what they'll be having for lunch.
- Volunteers work Monday and Tuesday afternoons; and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings.

CLERGY SPOUSES



Iris Collett

Iris Collett is married to the Rev. Wally Collett. They have six children: Peter, Jeffrey, Christopher, Heather, Gregory and Pamela; 14 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Growing up in Newfoundland
Both Iris and Wally grew up in the outport of Harbour Buffett, Newfoundland & Labrador, where a hospital was no where to be seen.

"I was born right in the house. We had no electricity, no running water. But in our home, we had lots of love and lots of food," said Iris.

"Mom made all my clothes. She was a seamstress. She made her own patterns. She made everything I wore. I could open the catalogue and say, 'Oh that's really pretty.' And she would get a little piece of material and next thing I had it just like the picture.

"We went to church three times a day, where we grew up. And if we went to communion at 8 o'clock in the morning, we went four times a day. Main service at 11; Sunday School at 2 in the afternoon. And we always had an evening service.

"After the evening service, a bunch of guys and girls came into our house. I had a pump organ, and we had a hymn sing. It was fun."

Love of music

Iris's mother arranged to give her daughter the music lessons she never had. They had a neighbour and friend who studied music at the convent in St. John's and she taught Iris piano.

"She taught me the basics and zeroed in on hymns. I was

13 the first time I ever played in church."

Dating

Wally moved to Corner Brook after school. When he came home, he asked Iris out.

"We got together. It was a long-distance relation. Wally joined the RCMP out of Corner Brook.

"My dad passed away when I was 16. And when I graduated, I taught school, stayed with Mom for four or five years. And Wally was all over the place."

They got engaged and she joined him in the Miramichi.

"We got married in the Miramichi in 1960. My mother came. And then we went home to Harbour Buffett, let's say for our honeymoon."

Early years and children

After Wally and Iris married, he was posted to Fredericton. Iris loved it. They bought a house and their first son, Peter was born.

Then they were transferred to Campbellton and Jeff was born.

"That was out of this world. No one came to visit us. It was too far away."

They returned to Fredericton and completed their family.

Christopher was born. And then they adopted Heather, a little girl from Newfoundland, with help from Bishop Nutter's wife.

"Nine months and four days after, we had twins – a boy and girl. So that gave us six."

A minister's wife

Wally had always wanted to be

The Collett family: back row from left - Christopher, Gregory, Peter, Iris, Wally, Jeffrey; front row: Heather and Pamela.

At right, Wally and Iris Collett

a minister.

"He had that calling even when he was young," she said. "But I did not want to be a minister's wife. I don't know what I thought a minister's wife was, what I was expecting. I just didn't want it."

Knowing Wally really wanted it, Iris "thought maybe I can do this because I knew he really wanted it."

They talked about it and Wally went to see Bishop Nutter.

He said to Wally, "If a door closes, stop, and consider why. If the door opens, walk through. We can say they fell off the hinges."

Halifax

They moved to Halifax so Wally could attend Atlantic School of Theology. Iris studied music for the three years they were there.

The family struggled to find a place to live in Halifax. After many attempts, they were discouraged. Wally thought maybe this is the proverbial door closing. But Iris encouraged him to make one last call.

"The last phone call we made was perfect. We found a townhouse within our budget.

"We put our house in Forrest Hills, Saint John, up for sale. It didn't sell. It was when interest was so high. And we really needed that money; Wally wasn't working now. And we still had four teenagers.

"And then we got a phone call and got an offer. We took that money and put it an account we called our rent account. When we left Halifax there was \$2.74 left in that account."

Ministry

The family returned to Saint John. Wally was ordained at Stone Church in Saint John, with Bishop Nutter officiating.

"Our first posting was Lepreau. We had four churches: Lepreau, Musquash, Maces Bay and Prince of Wales. We lived in the rectory and the kids bused into high school.

"We always did our vestry,

bible studies and meetings in our rectory. We always served coffee and a sweet treat."

Iris always provided the music at these events.

"We had a lot of good times. And we enjoyed using the rectory."

They went from Lepreau to St. Jude's in Saint John. With the help of parishioners, they started a Sunday school and a nursery.

"And I used to go around in the morning and pick up the kids if the parents didn't come to church. We made a nursery and started a choir.

"We met once a week for choir practise in our house. I would pick up the kids after school and the parents would pick them up later."

Then from St. Jude's they moved to Pennfield.

Clergy spouses continued on page 13



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Ukrainian Easter celebrated at Christ Church Cathedral

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

More than 100 members of the Ukrainian Catholic Church met for a joyous Easter celebration on April 15 at Christ Church Cathedral in Fredericton.

Their usual spot — St. Anthony's Catholic Church on the city's north side — was already booked, so the Ukrainian Community of Fredericton approached the cathedral.

"We started shopping around," said Oksana Tesla, president of the association, adding she had been to concerts at the cathedral in the past.

"Having the service in this beautiful cathedral, everyone was amazed," she said. "The cathedral looks very European. It feels closer to us."

The service began outside with the priest, who travelled from Moncton, blessing the traditional Easter baskets. They contain such items as Easter bread, sausage and smoked ham, butter, cheese, salt, horseradish, and painted eggs. They also contain a candle and a green branch to symbolize new life.

"The priest goes around with holy water, saying 'Christ is risen' and we reply 'Indeed, he is risen,' three times," said

"Having the service in this beautiful cathedral, everyone was amazed. The Cathedral looks very European. It feels closer to us."

Oksana.

For worshippers, having the service delivered in their native language meant a great deal to them, said Oksana. Many dressed in traditional costume for the occasion.

For both those Ukrainians like Oksana who have lived in Canada for several years, and newcomers forced out because of the Russian invasion last year, the day was a special one meant to bring everyone together in celebration.

"When you are far from home, you sometimes value things differently," she said. "It was quite emotional. We were looking forward to it for a very long time."



SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Both photos show the Ukrainian Catholic priest, who travelled from Moncton, leading the blessing of the Easter baskets outside Christ Church Cathedral on April 15. Then the congregation went inside for the Easter service, which usually falls one week after the Western Easter date.

Clergy spouses: Iris Collett

Clergy spouses continued from page 12

"In Pennfield, we had a choir. We made gowns for them. Took them on The Empty Stocking Fund and then we took them to McDonalds.

"We had a sleepover at the rectory for the choir before we ended for the summer. We had games, treats and some fun. We had dinner for them and served them breakfast in the morning."

From Pennfield, they went to All Saints, East Saint John.

Behind the scenes, Iris played the organ, filling in for the organist at Lepreau and St. Jude's. In other churches she was the organist.

"Together, we had a good partnership. I played the organ. I knew what he wanted.

He could give me a look and I knew."

Retirement

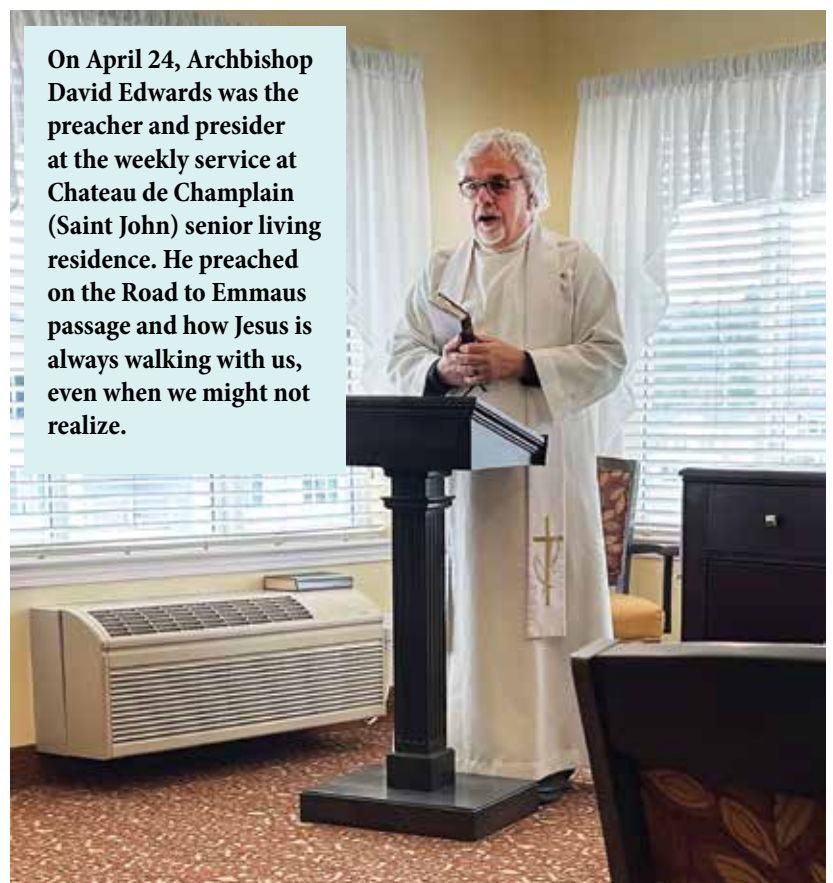
After Wally retired, they filled in at Good Shepherd in Lancaster, and in Hampton, Apohaqui and Belleisle. Iris played the organ for five years at Loch Lomond.

"We had a good ministry. We had a fun, fun ministry. We really did."

These days, Wally is fully retired. The couple lives in Quispamsis and worships at St. Luke's, Gondola Point.

Anne Lee holds an English degree from Dalhousie University. She has worked as a book buyer/seller for Munro's Books of Victoria. She lives in Quispamsis and worships at St. Luke's, Parish of Gondola Point.

On April 24, Archbishop David Edwards was the preacher and presider at the weekly service at Chateau de Champlain (Saint John) senior living residence. He preached on the Road to Emmaus passage and how Jesus is always walking with us, even when we might not realize.



CATHY LASKEY PHOTO

ACW gathers in Woodstock for annual meeting

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

St. Luke's Anglican Church in the Parish of Woodstock was the setting for the annual meeting — one day only — of the Anglican Church Women on May 2.

The meeting was a chance for 44 members to come together to worship, learn and debate the issues of the day.

The Rev. Canon Walter Williams and Archbishop David Edwards presided over the service of Holy Eucharist.

In his sermon, Bishop David noted the theme of the day: Serving God in spirit and in truth. He told the women the theme harkens back to the creation story, with God literally breathing life into — or spiriting — Adam.

Skipping ahead, it was the arrival of Jesus who promised the advocate, the Holy Spirit. David described the dual roles of the Holy Spirit.

"The Spirit brings us comfort and direction when we need it, but the Spirit also drives us forward," he said.

David talked about the state of the Church in the Western world, pushed to the margins.

"The Church is becoming depleted, but the good news is the Holy Spirit does not become depleted. The Holy Spirit still inhabits the Church, the world and us," he said.

The challenge today, while serving God in spirit and in truth, is trying to understand the mind of God. Where is God taking us?

"A year or so ago, I had no idea where God was leading us," he said. "Now I think I can see that we're part of something much bigger — a huge web of life inhabited by God.

"We are called to show the love of God in this place."

How can we do that? David took out his keychain and showed those gathered a tiny cylinder with chewable aspirin inside. It's a project of the Parish of Richmond, which is meant to aid a person experiencing the signs of a heart attack or stroke.

"It's a very simple way of caring and showing the love of God. These are the kinds of things we're called to do," he said.

"When we show the love of Christ, we become credible, and we can share the good news of Jesus Christ."

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

A service of prayer and remembrance during the day included the reading

of the names of ACW members who have passed on in the previous year. The list had 77 names.

BUSINESS MEETING

Much of the business meeting was taken up by the budget, both an explanation of it and some debate on how to spend ACW money.

BUDGET Treasurer Cathy Lutes noted 33 branches made contributions to the ACW funds, and three closed in the past year.

"It's sad," she said. "I know they don't want to close, but with fewer people, those remaining just can't do what they used to. Thank you to all who are continuing.

"Fundraising is not the main goal of the ACW, but it's something we're constantly talking about."

Fewer members mean fewer dollars, and trying to keep up with the donations they have historically made — to the province's transitions homes, Bishop McAllister College, Farraline Place, Council of the North, Kara & Nelson Mejia, summer camps and so on — is a balancing act.

The diocesan ACW pays the school fees of three BMC students in Uganda. A motion was passed to continue paying for these three children, but not to take on any new students once they are graduated.

Cathy reported the Extra Cent A Day balance is \$21,000. This fund is earmarked for rectory improvements, and she encouraged parishes needing small upgrades to contact the synod office for guidance on how to apply for financial aid.

Farraline Place was a much-discussed topic, with administrator Judy O'Donnell advocating for continued support from the ACW.

"Farraline Place is yours," she told the group, noting it was more of a moral obligation than a legal one.

The ACW seems to be stepping away from the seniors residence, with no representation on the board, she said.

There was a suggestion of fundraising to create a large pool of money that could earn interest, thereby helping Farraline Place pay for whatever repairs and upgrades it needs.

President Jill Stewart noted the value of such a fund and said the executive will take that into consideration. Farraline Place will receive the same amount of funding from the ACW as it did last year.

DEANERY REPORTS One branch in the Deanery of Kingston & the Kennebecasis noted that, contrary to others, their numbers were going up. They quilt every week, with a business meeting once a month. They've attracted non-Anglicans and one Muslim woman to their group.

LAUNCHING OUT Editor Gisele McKnight noted more articles and photos could be included in the newsletter, and encouraged branches to send in their news. She also noted the deadline dates for submissions, and requested an updated email list of all members.

HONOUR ROLL Jill outlined the aim of the honour roll, and showed members the newly created certificates that can be given out for dedicated service to the ACW.

FARRALINE PLACE Judy described the seniors residence she manages as "one of the best places to live in New Brunswick." She noted some upcoming dates: July 14 for the annual yard sale, and Aug. 10 for the garden party.

The yard sale is taking donations, and its proceeds last year helped buy the blinds for the sun porch. The garden party is a festive occasion that residents always look forward to.

Judy noted that while the exterior of the house has been well maintained, the inside is starting to look tired. The residence has four vacant rooms, "but I am certain God will send those who are meant to be there." She commended the staff for their outstanding dedication and the board for its continued support.

MOTHERS' UNION Patricia Margeon gave a report on the other female-dominated Anglican group, the Mothers' Union. There are eight branches and 95 members in the diocese. It has four million members worldwide in more than 80 countries. Its mandate is focused on the support of marriage and family life. This year, the MU annual rally had a presentation on gender-based violence and the Silent Witness project in New Brunswick.

PWRDF Jill introduced Debbie Edwards as the new diocesan representative of the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund. Debbie is in the early stages of her new post, but noted

that what she learned from her trips to the Lambeth Conference and the Diocese of Ho in Ghana is that, "we're a big world but we have so much in common."

OTHER Jill instituted a new aspect to the annual meeting. After each presentation, for example, from Mothers' Union, Farraline Place and so on, an ACW member rose to offer a prayer written for that particular group.

The collection of the day amounted to \$177.60. A motion was passed to top it up to \$300, and split it evenly between Farraline Place and the Salvation Army.

According to Jill, the Constitution and Bylaws booklet, updated in 2017, is overdue for an upgrade, and she needs

volunteers to help with that task.

"Go home, think about it, pray about it," she said. "It's not a hard job, it just takes a bit of time. Hopefully next year we'll have a new edition."

The evening banquet took place at St. Luke's.

GUEST SPEAKERS

The guest speakers for the afternoon session were Majors Marlene and Angel Sandoval, officers with the Salvation Army in Woodstock.

The couple came to Canada in 1987 with their infant daughter, escaping the civil war in El Salvador. Angel had been a school principal, Marlene a teacher, but they started from scratch in Hamilton, Ontario.

"We didn't know anybody. We

didn't know the future," said Marlene. "We put it all in the hands of the Lord."

Their first contact with the Salvation Army was through its English language classes. A woman there invited Angel to church, and his reaction was 'this is a school, not a church.'

But they enjoyed the church, and in 1991, became soldiers, or members, of the church. In 1997, they became officers, or pastors.

Since then, they have served in churches across Canada, and spent four years as missionaries in Italy, even being among the few in Rome to speak to the newly elected pope, Francis, in his native language.

They've been in Woodstock for almost eight years.

"I really fell in love with this place," said Marlene, who told the women New Brunswick is their retirement destination. "I call Canada the promised land."

The two outlined the history of the Salvation Army and its core beliefs and values. Besides being a Christian church, the Salvation Army operates addiction rehabilitation centres, shelters, daycares, and nursing homes and offers services to single parents, newcomers, ex-offenders and many other marginalized people.

In Woodstock, they serve the population between Perth-Andover and Nackawic, and help people with overdue rent, power and medical bills, emergency shelter, clothing and food.

The Christmas Kettle program

helps fund much of their social work. Many members of Anglican churches man the kettles each year.

"Without volunteers, it's impossible," said Marlene. "With help from the community, we are there for the needy."

Last year, their fundraising goal was \$60,000. They received \$65,000, and every dollar of that is spent helping in the community, said Angel.

They noted that the church is a separate entity from the social work arm of the Salvation Army, and the money raised through kettle donations does not support the church.

"Being part of the Salvation Army means fighting for good," said Marlene. "We love God and we love people."



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: The lunch line-up in the parish hall; guest speakers, Majors Marlene and Angel Sandoval of the Salvation Army in Woodstock; lunch included a variety of sandwiches, sweets and fruit; Archbishop David Edwards during his sermon; ACW members as the meeting began; fellowship at the annual meeting; the head table, with Farraline Place administrator Judy O'Donnell, diocesan ACW president Jill Stewart and secretary Diane Todd.

BOOK REVIEW

Book review: *It Remains For Me To Say*, by Harold Lee Nutter

BY THE REV. CANON GERRY LASKEY AND SIOBHAN LASKEY

It's right there in the subtitle — this is a memoir, not an autobiography, which, by definition, is a collection of a person's memories.

Archbishop Harold Lee Nutter's life spanned some of the most tumultuous decades of recent history. From childhood in Depression-era rural New Brunswick, through the upheavals of war, dramatic changes in technology, politics and society, Nutter was more than a bystander.

In his personal life, he takes us from the early death of his mother, school, university, ordination, marriage, and successive positions in the church of what was always "his Diocese."

Since the Diocese encompasses the whole province, his reflections touch on the social, economic and political history of the same. He was deeply involved in significant public service, including acting as co-chair of the Task Force on Social Development while dean of Christ Church Cathedral, and in later years, as the co-chair of Dialogue NB.

His civic roles during his episcopacy included chaplain to the provincial Legislature, and member of the provincial police commission.

His love of God, the church, and the people of this province is palpable. It is a testimony to God's call on his life (as emphasized in the preface by writer David Adams Richards).

Those expecting a tell-all will be disappointed. At one point he recalls with devastating good humour the jockeying for position by his would-be successors and his skillful pastoral handling to ensure a less politicized transition, while never mentioning a single name!

Watching Nutter at a funeral reception, someone said, "You watch! He works this room better than Frank McKenna." (This funeral was in the then-Premier's riding.)

He was always able to make a connection to anyone whose path he crossed, regardless the context of their meeting.

What becomes clear is that his interest in the people under his care was genuine, deep, and



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANDREW NOTERE



TOP: The cover of the memoir by Archbishop Harold Nutter, published in 2023. His son, Andrew, compiled his father's memoirs for the book.

ABOVE: Archbishop Harold Nutter and his son, the Rev. Andrew Notere on the occasion of Andrew's ordination to the priesthood at Christ Church Cathedral on St Francis Day, Oct 4, 1986. This photo first appeared in the *Telegraph Journal*.

never simply political manipulation. He knew God's call requires us to be aware of more than just our own interests.

Writing a few short years after his retirement in 1989, some of his observations may seem quite dated. But it is very telling how many are still very timely — and, not a few, even a little prophetic!

Readers may be a little frustrated that some of the things they wanted to know more about were either not touched upon, or not to the depth they had hoped.

Serving as the long-time dean under Bishop O'Neil, and by his own admission, thus acting as a sort of 'handler' for the Bishop (often being

requested to have pre-meetings with those coming to see the Bishop) as well as his own long episcopate, there is a certain diplomatic guardedness in much of what he tells us.

He makes a very strong statement about something and then in the 'next breath' (or another section) makes an "on the other hand" remark that can blunt or almost negate the strength of the original.

Of course, one usually does not become a bishop without a certain endowment of this 'gift!'

Those who had the privilege of serving under him may easily and lovingly recall that characteristic, however frustrating it may have been.

For instance, anyone wishing Nutter's definitive verdict on the ordination of women will struggle in vain to get the 'last word' on his position, either in regards to the decision or its ultimate impact.

You will be able to find quotes to please both sides, but never nail down whether or not he believed the innovation to be edifying for the Church.

Nutter spends significant time dealing with events in the Canadian Church and the wider Anglican Communion, as well as many ecumenical discussions and developments.

His direct involvement with, and deep personal investment in, the union talks with the United Church of Canada

and the Disciples of Christ recur frequently and appear to still leave him in much grief so many years after their break-off in 1974.

While he recalls fondly many discussions and advances in Anglican/Roman Catholic relations, he admits that by the time of his retirement, the ordination of women (as well as other later issues) had effectively closed the door to reunion with Rome or Orthodoxy any time soon.

One rather sad element in the book is the self-critical and regretful admissions — so familiar to all those balancing family and vocational responsibilities — of how often he felt in his calling as son, husband and father, he had fallen short.

He is likely a little hard on himself here, but these regrets show the honesty and humility of the man.

In latter sections of the book the reflections may seem a little repetitive. Perhaps a self-imposed deadline or growing sense of mortality gave him an urgency to 'get it down.' It is all still very worthwhile reading both for those who knew (and loved) him and those who didn't.

His observations, challenges and warnings to the Church and the world need desperately to be heard in an age that is so often adrift.

This memoir whets the appetite for further investigation and writing by historians. In an era where the Church and her leadership are so often relegated to the margins, Nutter's witness shows us that the voice of the Church can be powerful, prophetic and germane to our daily struggles.

His son has done a great service in providing this book to encourage and inspire others to emulate that model of servant leadership so crucial to the Christian mission in all ages.

Nutter is honoured in being allowed to speak so directly to us in his own words. Those who knew him will recognize that voice clearly in these pages, and those who didn't may meet him full on for the first time.

• • •

Gerry and Siobhan Laskey serve in the Parish of Derby and Blackville where Gerry is rector.

MINISTRY UPDATE

Ministry Update: Episcopal Church in Roatán

Kara and I (Nelson) wanted to thank you for partnering with us, for your encouragement, sacrificial giving and especially prayers that make our ministry possible. We highly appreciate it!

We always give honor and glory to our Almighty God who allows us to continue serving him, doing the ministry to which he has called us on the Island of Roatán.

Deputation time in New Brunswick

Yes, we are in Canada this year, and we will be on deputation (home ministry) all the way to July 2 in New Brunswick, and we are excited to visit you in your parishes and share our Honduran ministry experiences with you.

As soon as you can, please contact the Rev. Gordon Thompson (grthompson@rogers.com) to schedule a visit to your New Brunswick parish.

In Ontario, Rev. Kara visited some parishes in March. Thanks to all who coordinated with her to make her visit enjoyable and successful.

Kelly and I (Nelson) travelled to Canada on April 27, and will spend some time with Stephen, his uncle and aunt (Kara's brother who just moved to Wasaga Beach).

We haven't seen Stephen since 2020 when he left Roatán for Canada to study at university.

We know it has been a long time since we last visited you as a family and personally shared with you about our ministry in Roatán.

However, we continue doing the ministry to which God has called us in Roatán, and that has been possible thanks to your prayers and the financial support that you have given us personally and as churches.

Financial Support Appeal

On the financial side, we continue to be very positive and to pray and praise God with faith and thanksgiving.

We also ask you to continue to pray about our finances, that for the next year and in coming years our support will stabilize and be sufficient to cover our needs.

At the moment our balance is very low; in fact, there is a negative balance of CAD \$13,486.



TOP PHOTOS: A couples conference in the parish saw dozens of men and women enjoy a painting event and a buffet dinner at a hotel.

LEFT: The Dwelling Organization recently gifted a family from the Roatán parish with a house, which is a dream come true for Gelin Torres and her family.

this organization and their applications will be approved. Congratulations to Gelin and her children who now enjoy a new home.

Couples Conference

With the purpose of strengthening marriage relationships in our churches on Roatán, we recently held a conference for couples at one of the hotels on the beach.

The event was attended by 19 couples with whom we enjoyed painting. It did not matter if they had ever painted a landscape; at that moment, communication was vital for each of them to do their best work, and produce their best painting.

After that, we had time for a photo session and then we went on to enjoy a buffet dinner at the hotel restaurant.

Finally, we had some time to share the challenges we had during the painting experience and to talk about how we can do better in our relationships.

We continue to strengthen couples' relationships and trust in God to give us wisdom to build healthy families in our church.

Please continue to pray for:

For our family: Nelson, Kara and Kelly as we continue serving the Lord in Roatán, and Stephen who moved to Wasaga Beach, Ontario from Winnipeg with his uncle and aunt on April 1; and pray he can find a university to continue with his studies; and also, he is looking for a job - pray for any contact that will help him to find a job there. (204-558-8712, stephen-mejia13@gmail.com)

Pray for Nelson, in his new ministry as Dean of the churches in the Atlantic area of the Honduras country and Roatán Bay Islands.

Thank you to all who have faithfully prayed and faithfully given to support this incredible work of ministering to the people in our congregations.

"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40.

Your prayers and continued support enable us to continue touching people's lives with Jesus' love.

**Nelson and Kara Mejia
Roatán, Honduras**

Please consider helping us stabilize our balance; we are trusting in God that this will be a temporary challenge.

To donate now, please click on the following link. <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/13778>

Or you can visit the Diocese of Fredericton's website (www.anglican.nb.ca) then go to "Donate" for various ways to give online. Be sure to select "Honduras Mission Fund".

Cheques should be made payable to "The Diocesan

Synod of Fredericton" and sent to: Anglican Diocesan Synod of Fredericton, 168 Church Street, Fredericton, NB E3B 4C9. All cheques should have "Honduras Mission" noted on the reference line.

We greatly appreciate your prayer and financial support to date and trust that you will continue to support us.

What is Happening in the Roatán Churches

It is a dream become true! Many families in Roatán have

received the donation of a free house, through the work of the Dwelling Organization who build houses for the poor on the Island.

On more than one occasion, families in our church have been blessed with a totally free house.

Recently one of our families received one such house. It was a dream come true for Gelin Torres (a single mother) and her family.

We hope that more families in our church will benefit from

Will we become more than dry bones? asks Andrew Horne

COMMENTARY BY
ANDREW HORNE

For one year at university, I shared a residence room with my friend, Johannes.

We had two windows, two closets and two beds on opposite walls, with a large desk in the middle.

A small space for two people, it became even more crowded — and more complicated — when Johannes brought home a third. He handed me a large plastic bucket with a lid on top.

"Have a look," he said.

I took the lid off. Inside was a human skull. I took it out and held it at arm's length.

It was surprisingly light, like a large egg shell. Johannes was studying medicine, and he was to memorize the skull's structure, its bones and muscles and nerves.

I was studying English literature, and my mind immediately leapt to Shakespeare: Hamlet, Act 5.

I had a copy of the play, and together Johannes and I read the scene where Hamlet and his friend Horatio are wandering through a graveyard.

They meet a grave digger at his work, laughing and singing as he labours, and when he lifts a rotted skull out of the ground, Hamlet asks who the skull once belonged to.

"This same skull was Yorick's," the grave digger replies, "the King's Jester."

"Let me see," Hamlet answers, and the gravedigger tosses it up to him.

"Alas, poor Yorick," Hamlet says. "I knew him, Horatio, a fellow of infinite jest, of most excellent fancy. He hath borne me on his back a thousand times. And now, how abhorred in my imagination it is. My gorge rises at it. Here hung those lips that I have kissed I know not how oft. Where be your gibes now? Your gambols? Your songs? Your flashes of wit that used to set the whole table laughing? You don't make anyone smile now."

From that moment, the skull, which lived in its large plastic bucket on top of the bookshelf, became known as

"Yorick." He was our third roommate.

And in time, other pieces of him came to live with us. Yorick's femur, measured against my own, revealed that he had been about my height. Johannes used it as a paperweight when we studied with the windows open.

We also received Yorick's left hand, its many small bones held in place and articulated with copper wire.

Holding it by the wrist, with the digits dangling, the bones clicked against each other unpleasantly.

Johannes and I were 20 years old, healthy and impatient. Death, we wanted to believe, had nothing to do with us. And so, the bones of Yorick came in for a bit of mischief.

We would break into a friend's room down the hall, and place Yorick's bony hand under the pillow, so that he might discover it when turning over in the middle of the night.

But, like the graveyard scene in Hamlet, a comic moment in the midst of tragedy, we joked in part to hide our unease.

We were whistling in the

dark, trying to comfort ourselves, for we understood that Yorick had once been a young man, as we were then, and that we would become in time what Yorick was now: Bones. Dry bones.

Yorick was our "memento mori," our reminder of death. Just as medieval monks used to keep skulls on their writing desks to remind them of the vanity of all human ambition, so Yorick haunted our unguarded moments.

He was Death, not just the word "death" in a poem or a play, but death that we could hold in our hands, our own mortal hands, a human skull light as an eggshell, kept in a plastic box to instruct one student in anatomy and another in English literature.

And is this all that will become of us, we would ask. Bones. Nothing more?

In the Book of the prophet Ezekiel, chapter 37, God asks the same question.

"The hand of the Lord was upon me," Ezekiel says, "and he brought me out by the Spirit and set me in the middle of a valley: it was full of bones, bones that were very dry. He

asked me, "Son of Man, can these bones live?"

Ezekiel, stunned into silence, replies, "O Sovereign Lord, You alone know."

Then the Spirit says to Ezekiel, "Prophecy to these bones, son of man," which means, speak God's truth to them: "Say to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life."

Ezekiel does as he is told. He prophesies to the Spirit, "and there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them."

The valley of dry bones has now become a valley of bodies, but bodies not yet alive. And here is a mystery: that the flesh without spirit is not truly alive.

A human body fired with animal life, but without the life that comes by the Spirit, is not yet fully human. Not yet. So the Lord speaks to Ezekiel a second time.

"Prophecy to the breath, Son of Man, and say, 'Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe into these slain,

that they may live.'"

Once again Ezekiel does as he is told.

"I prophesied as he commanded, and breath entered them. They came to life and stood up on their feet — a vast army."

Ezekiel was granted this vision six centuries before Jesus and he received it as a promise that the people of Israel, who had been conquered by the Babylonians and led into exile, would one day be brought back to life.

"Son of Man," the Spirit tells Ezekiel, "these bones are the house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is gone.' But I will open your graves and raise you up. I will put my Spirit in you, and you will live."

Beyond the immediate historical context of Ezekiel's vision, there is a dream-like quality to the passage that invites larger interpretation.

We can think of chapter 37 as a nightmare, except that it is a nightmare played in reverse, a horror movie run backwards.

It begins with what we most fear, death, but then we witness all the damage of death undone.

Death is reborn. Horror becomes humor. Tragedy becomes comedy.

Or we might think of Ezekiel's vision as a snapshot of salvation history. Here is the whole Bible in miniature, beginning with the third chapter of Genesis.

We begin with the sin and fall of Adam and Eve, and the news of their inevitable dying. Then we witness, slowly but inexorably, how God redeems our sin and death.

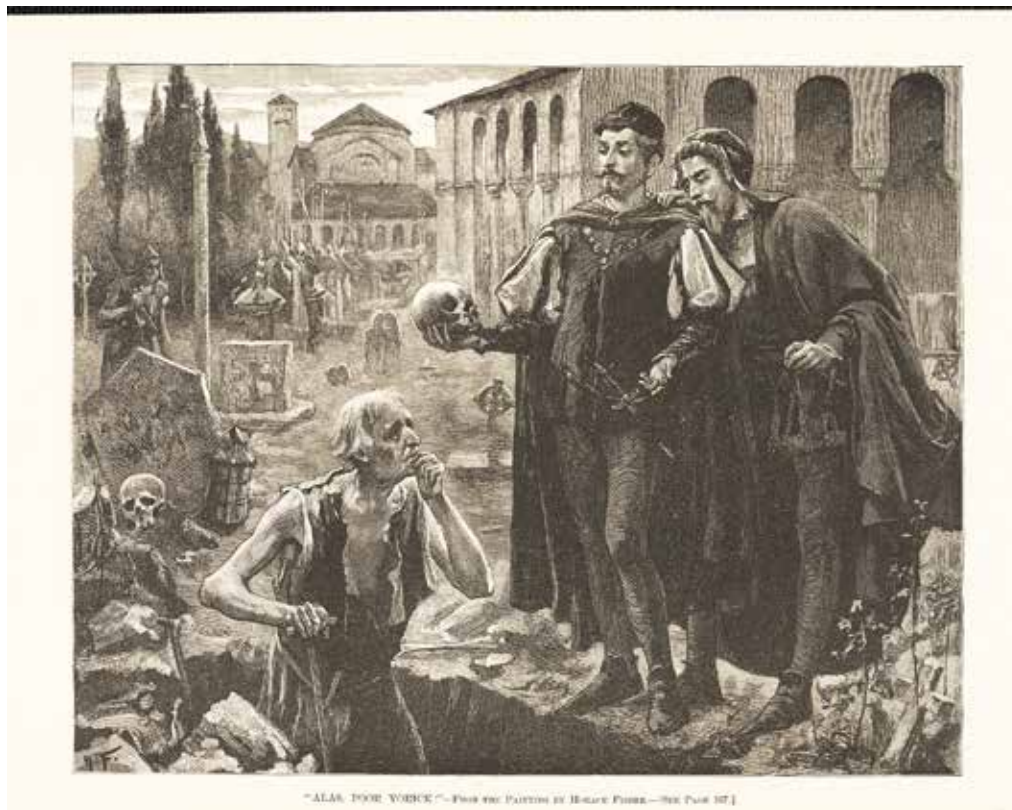
We meet Abraham and Sarah, and receive God's promise that He will, through them, redeem His people.

We meet Moses and Elijah, Deborah and David, and though none of them are perfect, God works his wonders through them even so.

We meet the prophets, who speak of the Spirit, and of the coming Messiah.

Finally, in the New Testament, we meet the man Him-

Yorick continued on page 17



Original title "Alas, poor Yorick!" from the painting by Horace Fisher. Author: Fisher, Horace
Publisher: Hearst Corporation; Date: 1887 / wikimedia commons.

PARISH NEWS



The Rev. Andrew Horne

‘And death shall have no dominion’

Yorick continued from page 16

self, Jesus, who in countless ways — in his teaching of the Kingdom of Heaven, in casting out demons, in pronouncing the forgiveness of sin, in raising the dead bones of Lazarus to new life — demonstrates that the dreamlike vision of Ezekiel is no dream.

We see how Jesus, in his

own death and resurrection, fulfills all the promise of Ezekiel’s vision.

And, in the Acts of the Apostles, and the many letters that follow, we see that we, the church are likewise called to “come to life, and to stand up on our feet – a vast army.”

I can hardly believe, as I write these words, that 40 years have passed since I shared a residence room with Johannes,

my best friend in high school and university.

I remember both the optimism of those years, and its anxiety, and the great question that Yorick, our third roommate, held for us, even as we held his skull in our hands: Can these bones live?

Johannes died last fall. A stroke laid him low, a small but deadly explosion in the delicate eggshell that held his brain, his mind, his spirit.

But I trust that he is risen again in Christ — as you and I,

and all who trust in the Lord, shall be.

It is our privilege to grow old, and the great consolation of growing old is that God does not grow old. God is forever young, and forever making young this beautiful, broken world that He has created and which He loves.

And death shall have no dominion. Amen.

The Rev. Andrew Horne is the priest-in-charge in the Parishes of Gagetown, and Cambridge & Waterborough.

Welcome, Max



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

An Easter baptism service at the Church of Christ the King in the Parish of Fundy and the Lakes, saw Maximillian Vaughan Fotheringham, grandson of Trevor Fotheringham and son of Mark and Elisabeth, baptized. It was a joyous occasion for all.

An Irish lunch



SUBMITTED PHOTO

MISSION IN MOTION: community

Paul Mills acted as the leprechaun who delivered some of the Irish lunches prepared for St. Patrick’s Day by the joint outreach teams of Grace United and the Anglican Parish of Gagetown. They included a take-out lunch for 30 special members of our community, topped off with an Irish blessing!

Major changes to Anglican Foundation grants program

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 enormously positive impact on ministry."

The long-established traditional AFC grants — up to \$15,000 and no more than 50 per cent 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 information on AFC's new grant categories or to apply for an AFC grant, visit anglicanfoundation.org/apply.

Parish events



DEANNA MORRISON PHOTO

ABOVE: The Church of the Good Shepherd (Parish of Lancaster) was blessed during Communion with the beautiful music of the Tintinnabula Handbell Choir on April 16. The congregation was very thankful such wonderful talent was shared with them.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

LEFT: The Rev. Debbie Edmondson held a gathering April 22 at Christ Church Cathedral called Finding Your Sacred Story. Debbie told her own story and guided participants to collect their own pieces to create a story unique to them.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Parish news



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The L.I.F.T. (Ladies in Fellowship Together) group and vestry at the Church of the Good Shepherd (Parish of Lancaster) approved the purchase of about \$500 in toiletries to be purchased and donated to Beacon Cove (<https://beaconcove.ca/who-we-are>). Janet Brown (seen here) and Terry Ricketts purchased and delivered these items to Beacon Cove April 20, and the folks there were very appreciative. Beacon Cove is the former Safe Harbour youth shelter built on land that once housed St. James Anglican Church on Broad Street in Saint John.

MISSION IN MOTION: community



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Eastern Trail District Pathfinders and Rangers had a service project to make 42 lunch bags for the Inner City Youth Ministries Lunch Connection #lunchconnection program in Saint John. Some of the girls had never sewn before. Awesome work ladies; we know the kids love getting their lunches in a unique cloth bag. Anneke is seen presenting the bags alongside acting ICYM director, Bonnie Hunt. The year-long, diocesan-wide (and beyond) sewing project has produced almost 4,000 bags. Hundreds of lunches go in the bags each week for school children. Many thanks to all who have donated their time and talents!

What's new at The Rez



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

TOP: On Maundy Thursday, the evening service at the Church of the Resurrection included a sit-down meal of chili and rolls, sharing the Eucharist together, and the washing of feet. The service was well received with approximately 75 attending. It was very moving and reflecting, as each parishioner lit a candle in front of the cross as the house lights were lowered for the stripping of the altar.

ABOVE: Senior Socials are being held in the Sunrise Play Park area each month, hosted by our Care Connection Team. During COVID-19, our parishioners dearly missed the fellowship of sharing time together. It is wonderful to see this space serving our community in yet another way. There is much laughter, refreshments, and live music. The events have been warmly embraced and enjoyed!

A prayer for our summer camps:

All-knowing father in heaven, we ask for your blessings on our summer camps, that you would keep our staff and campers safe; that you would open the eyes of campers to your wonders, your great love and your plan for their lives; that you would instill in each staff member a great love for your message and the children in their care. Amen.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

News from St. Andrews



SUBMITTED PHOTOS



ABOVE: Bishop’s Counsel met at the parish hall of All Saints Anglican Church in St. Andrews on April 26. The kitchen crew fed the clergy well with a wide variety: muffins, donuts and croissants with coffee and tea for a mid-morning snack; and for lunch, the rector’s fish chowder, vegetable soup and tomato soup. Dessert was Mary Janet’s excellent rhubarb crumble.

LEFT: All Saints Anglican church in St. Andrews is undergoing Phase I of major upgrades, including the installation of life safety systems (fire alarm, sprinkler, additional barrier-free exit), rewiring and accessibility upgrades (barrier-free exits and pew cut outs for wheelchairs). The project began in late April and is expected to be completed by the end of August. As a result of the ongoing work, the church is closed until late June and Sunday services for that time period are being relocated to the parish hall next door (8 a.m.) and the St. John the Baptist Chapel of Ease in nearby Chamcook (11 a.m). Mid-week services are Communion at the Chapel and choir practice in the parish hall. A special service with a time of fellowship to follow is being planned for Sunday, Nov. 5 to both dedicate the upgrades and celebrate All Saints Day.



The NB Anglican is looking for people to feature in the series called **My Journey Here**. If you’re from far away, but worship and live here in the diocese, contact us! gmcknight@diofton.ca

Task Force on Racial Justice

Can you contribute? If so, contact the Rev. Thomas Nisbett: nisbett@yahoo.ca



AROUND THE DIOCESE



JULIAN PILLAY PHOTO COMPILATION

In the Parish of Riverview, the ACW and Mothers' Union held a joint fashion show fundraiser, complete with a selection of desserts, on April 13 in support of parish ministry. The team did a great job and it was a wonderful evening enjoyed by all.

News from Riverview

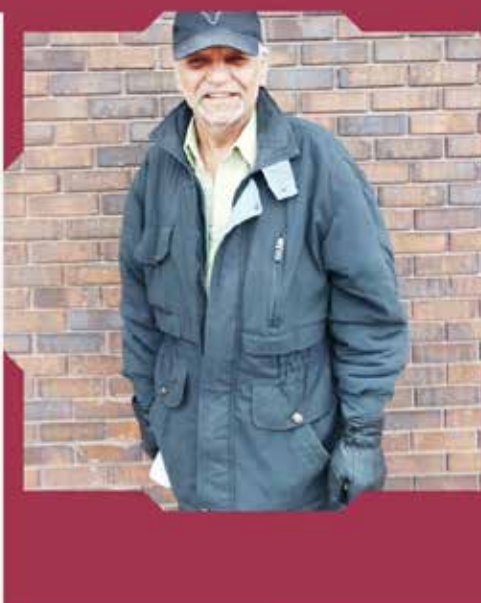
Parishioners at St John the Baptist Church, Riverview, gathered to make palm crosses in the lead-up to Palm Sunday. Some of the crosses were given to residents of a local nursing home during the Eucharist service held March 31.



JULIAN PILLAY PHOTO COMPILATION

Meet Bryant

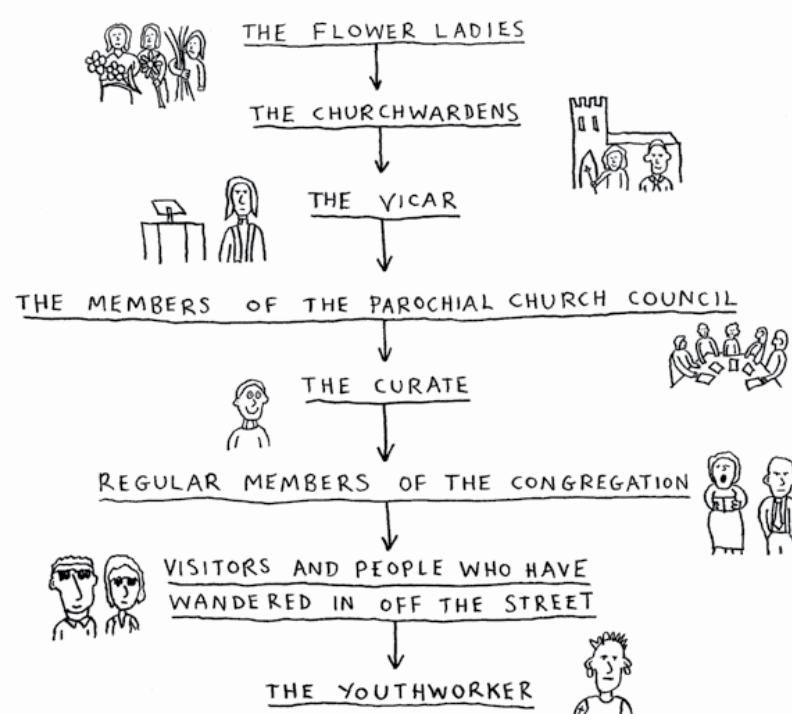
Bryant is originally from Nova Scotia, but Moncton is now his home. He has been out of jail and on his best behaviour for the past eight years, overcoming addiction and avoiding the crimes often associated with addiction. His crimes — and addiction — began while he was just a teenager. Bryant spent five years in the Canadian Armed Forces, serving in Germany. Bryant is a very spiritual man who loves the bible, devotions and prayer.



Fire Watch Ministries of Moncton (Eden & Carolyn McAuley) is devoted to walking beside ex-offenders who want Christian support in their lives. You can help their mission through prayers and through donations. <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/13778>

THE CHAIN OF COMMAND

WITHIN A CHURCH



CartoonChurch.com

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Parish News



JENNIFER STILWELL PHOTO

Three candidates were confirmed at Saint James the Greater in the Parish of Ludlow and Blissfield on Sunday, April 30. From left: layreader Mark Moir, Archbishop David Edwards, Parker Moir, Dawson Moir, Brian Stilwell and the Rev. Neil Osiowy.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

On Saturday April 28, the Parish of Westmorland hosted a community yard sale. Our parish hall was full of tables and we had a barbecue put on by our men's fellowship. People started to arrive at 7:30 a.m. — an hour before the sale started! We all had a wonderful time.

AFC Celebrating More than \$257,000 in Support of Northern Clergy Housing Fund

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 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 Allooooloo, 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 sup-

port 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.

MUSIC COMMENTARY

A little gem from George Herbert

The Anglican Church's "Common Praise" hymn book has been around since 1998 — that's 25 years! But few congregations have sung the book through and through.

There are the well-known hymns, the seasonal hymns, and the ones popular in local contexts, yet there are so many more.

This month, I'd like to highlight one such hymn that hasn't gotten much attention, though it deserves a good look.

It's a beautiful little piece, and though its text is very old, deserves its place in our worship as much today as ever.

Consider George Herbert's beautiful little hymn, "Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life" (#569 in Common Praise).

George Herbert is well-known to poets and Anglican historians, for he served as an Anglican priest in seventeenth-century England. He was ordained in 1629, only three years before he died, having served in the parish of Fugglestone St. Peter, near Salisbury.

He wrote a lot — poetry, books, articles — and was well-known for taking Holy



Communion to the sick and shut-ins of the area. He himself was never a well man, and died of consumption (tuberculosis).

It was in a book of poetry called *The Temple* that Hebert wrote a poem called "The Call" — not the calling of God to His people, but the other way around — the call of us to God.

The poem is short: three verses of four lines each, and after singing the beautiful

melody that Ralph Vaughn Williams paired with it, you might wish there was more to sing! The hymn appears these days by a new title, that of the first line.

This simple hymn is brilliant in its logical structure, for the first line of each verses calls God by three nouns. The first line references John 14:6 (where Jesus declares, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life."). Each subsequent line in the verse further evokes the sense of a noun from that first line.

The second verse references a feast, perhaps calling to mind the wedding feast at Cana, or the parable of the wedding feast in Luke 12.

The final verse serves as a kind of love letter, or invitation, to Christ, whom the heart ultimately seeks.

Musically, this hymn is almost always set to a tune named *The Call* (fitting, for that is the original name of the poem), which is a melody composed by Ralph Vaughn Williams, for his work, *Five Mystical Songs*, of which this hymn is one.

Vaughn Williams intended

Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
such a way as gives us breath;
such a truth as ends all strife;
such a life as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
such a light as shows a feast;
such a feast as mends in length;
such a strength as makes a guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
such a joy as none can move:
such a love as none can part;
such a heart as joys in love.
by George Herbert

it for a baritone soloist, though its relatively small range makes the hymn easy to sing for congregations. Its beautiful lilting rhythm fits the text well, and its melisma (several notes sung on one syllable) is a beautiful way to end each verse.

I hope more congregations discover this little gem in our hymn book. It can be sung at almost any time of the church year, is easy to play as an ac-

companiment, and is a tune easily picked up and remembered by anyone in the pews (choral or otherwise!). Enjoy!

Photo credit: *Hymns For Colleges and Schools*, New Haven (Yale University), 1956

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



Iris Collett, organist, clergy spouse

Favourite book of the Bible – The Psalms

Birthplace - Harbour Buffett, Placentia Bay, NL

What you love most about God – He loves us no matter what happens in our lives.

Favourite place on Earth - Home

Farthest you've been from home – A cruise to the Caribbean

Favourite meal or dessert - Steak and anything with apples

Biggest fear – Dogs

Hidden talent – Being organized

Favourite movie or book – *Mamma Mia*

Your hobby – Music, cooking & entertaining

Three things always in your fridge – Yogurt, apples, eggs and cheese

Favourite sports team – The Leafs

Episcopal Announcements



The Rev. Jonathan Hallelwell will resign from his positions as rector of the Parish of Renforth, effective August 31, to take up a position in the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

and **the Rev. Chris Hayes** will be installed as Canons of Christ Church Cathedral at the service of Installation and Collation on June 11.

The Rev. Kevin Borthwick



SUMMER CAMPS



Save the Date!

St Michael's Youth Conference will take place the week of **21-26 August 2023.**

Stay tuned for more details.

2023 Camper Registration open!

www.campbrookwood.ca

Any questions?
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