

Diocesan Choir School makes gains	6	ACW's annual meeting	8-9	Camp Medley celebrates 80 years	10-11	Clergy Spouses' Annual Retreat	16
-----------------------------------	---	----------------------	-----	---------------------------------	-------	--------------------------------	----



# THE NEW BRUNSWICK ANGLICAN



A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL

SEPTEMBER 2025

SERVING THE DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON



MCKNIGHT PHOTO

**VBS IN THE PARISH OF ST. ANDREWS** allowed kids to play, eat and learn. For three days, children were busy exploring the seashore, learning about God’s provision and promises, tie dying T-shirts and playing lots of games. Here Judson MacDonald gets serious with some impressive bubbles on the lawn of All Saints Church. See more on VBS in St. Andrews on page 7.



## ORDINATION

**WHEN** SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28. 4 PM  
**WHERE** CHRIST THE KING CHURCH,  
2000 LOCH LOMOND RD, SAINT JOHN  
**ORDINAND** ROBERT PITMAN

*All are welcome!*



DIOCESAN NEWS



# NB Anglican wins two awards

This year's newspaper competition, held by the Canadian Christian Communicators Association, was extremely competitive, with the *NB Anglican* knocked off its four-time top spot as the best Christian newspaper in Canada.

During the May awards event, the *NB Anglican* won two awards, both second place: Front Page, and General Excellence.

The Front Page entry featured a prominent cow facing the camera during Rogation Sunday at Kings Landing.

**Judge's remarks:** The cow is clearly the star of the photo, taking up much of the space and weight of the photo, but is well balanced by the people on the right-hand side and building in the background. The leading lines of the fence also work well to keep the attention on the bovine in the photo.

It is a quirky, fun picture that balances well between the subject and the people in the background. Well composed and taken during a time of day with difficult lighting.

The judge for the General Excellence category studied three editions — February, May and October 2024 — and looked at overall quality of the publication and appropriateness to its audience, variety and quality of editorial content, design, photography, graphics and typography.

**Judge's remarks:** Very clean and readable layout, good use of photographs, interesting articles and columns. The *New Brunswick Anglican* is a compelling



and thought-provoking church newspaper.

The staff at the *New Brunswick Anglican* should be proud of the paper. It's a great tribute and contributor to the Diocese of Fredericton.

The *B.C. Catholic* placed first in General Excellence. It publishes 48 issues a year and has a large staff covering international, nations and local news.

**TOP:** Three editions of the *NB Anglican*, judged during the Canadian Christian Communicators Association annual newspapers competition.

**ABOVE:** The front page of the September edition of the *NB Anglican* placed second in the Best Front Page category of the competition.

## Letters to the editor

We welcome them!  
Send yours to  
[gmcknight@diofton.ca](mailto:gmcknight@diofton.ca)



**DEADLINE** for news and photos for the October edition of the *New Brunswick Anglican* is Sept. 1. Send submissions to [gmcknight@diofton.ca](mailto:gmcknight@diofton.ca)

## THE NEW BRUNSWICK ANGLICAN

[www.anglican.nb.ca](http://www.anglican.nb.ca)

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD 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](mailto: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](mailto:circulation@national.anglican.ca) OR 1-866-924-9192 ext. 259

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

Opinions expressed within are not necessarily those of the Synod.

THE BISHOP'S PAGE

# A reflective visit to a graveyard

As I write this I am still on vacation in the UK.

Earlier today Debbie and I went to put flowers on my mother's grave, in her home village, Kemberton. The graveyard is a serene and timeless place. It is somewhere I remember going as a child to tend my grandparents' graves.

As Debbie arranged the flowers — they would not have looked very nice had I done so — I took the opportunity to explore. There has been little rain this year. The ground is dusty and burnt though it means it is easier to move around and see.

As I walked, I found names from my childhood, forgotten by most, but I could see them in my mind's eye. There are Les and Peggy Morton, brother and sister who moved to the village in the 1940s.

He was a market gardener and she ran the post office. Les was a good friend of my Uncle Tony. Now they lie a few yards from each other.

On the other side of the church are the Rocks. There in gold letters is the name Bill, "Taken too soon," it says. He was killed, having failed to negotiate a bend in the road in the neighbouring village of Brockton.

Even though I was not born when it happened, I can take you to the spot. His misadventure was used by parents in the area



PHOTO BY SIMEON MULLER ON UNSPLASH



as a warning to us all about the dangers of motorbikes.

Just below the church tower

are the ashes of Eric Lee, a gentleman farmer. His farm backs onto the graveyard.

As I stand, I can see the place where he was killed as he turned his car across the road, when leaving his yard.

Then there are those unknown to me who have been there for centuries. John, who has been lying under his obelisk since 1817. The Gough family, their stones lined up like soldiers on parade, none of whom lived after 1911.

In addition, are those from

the Middle Ages long forgotten, with no markers.

They all lie in that peaceful acre, silently pointing us to the hope of the resurrection.

*David*

David Edwards is  
Diocesan Bishop of Fredericton.

## What's in your hands?

I've lost count of how many times I've heard someone say, "I'm not sure what I can really offer," when the conversation turns to faith, calling, or sharing God's compassion in the world.

It's a familiar tension, this feeling that somehow, we're not enough, that the work of God is best left to people with training, a title, or more time on their hands. That, unless you're doing something big, official, or churchy, it probably doesn't count as ministry.

But that doesn't line up with what we know of God's character.

Remember Moses? God called him into something risky and holy: to lead the people of Israel out of slavery in Egypt. But Moses wasn't so sure. He, understandably, felt unqualified, uncertain, and possibly a bit overwhelmed.



In Exodus 4, God asks Moses a simple question: "What is that in your hand?" (4:2)

It was just a staff. A walking stick, nothing fancy. Probably very similar to the one in the corner of your entryway.

This is the tool God will use in powerful ways. That ordinary staff will stretch out over the Red Sea. It will bring water from a rock. It will lead people forward when they're not sure where

they're going. It's not magical. It's just available.

That question echoes through time and speaks to each of us, too: What's already in your hands?

You might not feel particularly spiritual or confident. You might be exhausted, navigating work, family, or health issues, and the idea of "living missionally" feels out of reach. But you carry things with you every day that God can work through.

It might be your job, your hobby, or your experience. It might be your quiet strength, your deep listening, your laughter, or your grief.

It might be the people you interact with in a given week: co-workers, customers, friends, neighbours. It might be your kitchen table, your car rides or your local coffee shop.

You don't need to go some-

where new or add something extra to be part of God's mission. You're already in it!

The Spirit meets us in the everyday. In laundry and emails. In walking the dog. In texting a friend who's having a rough week. In choosing kindness when you could easily walk away. In speaking up when it matters, even if your voice shakes. In quietly holding space for someone who feels like they don't belong.

The early church didn't grow because of professional clergy or elaborate programs. It grew because ordinary people lived differently in the midst of their ordinary lives. They showed compassion. They shared what they had. They forgave. They welcomed. They loved well.

That's the invitation: to follow Jesus — not just in belief, but in practice, along the way, wher-

ever you are.

So, as the fall season begins, I want to ask you a question to carry with you into the month:

What's in your hands? What has God already placed in your life: your personality, your passions, your relationships — that might become part of something holy?

Don't wait until you feel ready. And don't assume someone else would be better at it. God chose Moses, not Betzalel. Bring what you have. Offer it with love.

God has a way of taking what feels small and ordinary and doing something deeply good with it. **Shawn C. Branch is the diocesan Director of Mission & Ministry, supporting the missional life of the diocese and vocations. His new column aims to show how readers can live missionally in everyday life.**

### PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS

**September 7**  
**Parish of Stanley at**  
**Tay Creek**

**September 10**  
**Bishop's Counsel**

**September 14**  
**Trinity, Sussex**  
**(combined**  
**Eucharist for the**  
**parishes of Sussex,**  
**St. Mark's and**  
**Waterford)**

**September 21**  
**St. Andrew's,**  
**Parish of**  
**Newcastle-**  
**Nelson-Hardwicke -**  
**175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**September 22-24**  
**Clergy Conference**

**September 27**  
**Diocesan Council**

**September 28**  
**St. John the Baptist,**  
**Riverview;**  
**Ordination of**  
**Robert Pitman,**  
**Church of Christ the**  
**King, Saint John**

## DIOCESAN COUNCIL

# Diocesan Council highlights

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Diocesan Council gathered at Camp Medley May 31 for its spring meeting. The day began with a service of Holy Eucharist.

Archbishop David Edwards spoke briefly on the day's reading from Luke 1, the meeting of Elizabeth and Mary while both were pregnant with John the Baptist and Jesus.

"The important thing here is the work of the Spirit," he said. "It is the work we, as the Church, rely upon."

David told the members that he used to read the Magnificat, Mary's song, every Sunday evening.

"It's always been a piece of scripture that's foundational to me. The Spirit works through small things in order that big things happen."

"The small things we do make an impact on the people who as yet don't realize where the small things come from."

## MOTION ONE

The first order of business was to appoint Cheryl Jacobs as the acting secretary of synod and acting assistant treasurer of Synod. The bishop appointed her acting executive officer of Synod when David Peer left on sick leave before his subsequent fall retirement.

Synod treasurer Philip Shepherdson gave an update on the April 4<sup>th</sup> Parish Officers Day.

"I think it was very successful," he said. "There was a five-year break. We had 80 to 90 people in attendance — wardens, incumbents and treasurers. There were a lot of new faces."

"Certainly from my point of view, it was helpful to see treasurers face-to-face."

The Parish Officers Handbook has been updated, with David Peer, Cheryl, Ben Bourque, Susan Jack and Philip adding the updates.

Safe Church training has been updated and he encouraged all parishes to implement it.

Presentations from the day are available on the diocesan website. [nb.anglican.ca/re-](http://nb.anglican.ca/re-)



**TOP:** group shot of Diocesan Council members of 2025.



**LEFT:** Council members Mike Briggs, Julian Pillay, Neil Osiowy and Caleb Twinamatsiko during a break.

## sources/parish-officers

### COMPANION DIOCESE UPDATE

Robbie Griffin, chair of the Companion Diocese Committee, addressed council via Zoom.

He first gave an update on the mobile medical clinic, which plies the rough roads of rural Ghana to deliver medical care. The van has a built-in winch for getting unstuck, just in case.

On the day he visited, he was a couple of hours behind the van, "and by the time I got there, they'd everything set up and washed the van. They take great pride in their clinic."

Normally, an outing to a far-flung village brings six doctors with various specialties, 10 nurses, three pharmacists, three lab technicians and drivers and helpers to set up the tents where patients see the health-care professionals. A priest also travels with the group, and he is very busy.

The operation, run by the Ho Teaching Hospital, now has a full year of statistics from 2024: 7,081 patients seen, most of whom had never seen a doctor before. Of those, 1,606 were referred to hospital for further care.

Robbie receives updates every quarter.

The second part of Robbie's presentation dealt with a possible new project, a vocational high school in Ho. He completed a needs assessment over two visits, and met with

government ministers and people in 14 communities, and the need for a high school came up frequently.

"The Diocese of Ho has 34 feeder schools, but they can only take students up to Grade 9," he said.

In order for any Anglican child to attend high school in the diocese, Bishop Matthais has to strike a deal with the Roman Catholic high school to secure a place, and each place given to an Anglican is one less place for a Catholic student.

Robbie also learned the area is desperate for skilled trades, which are taught in high school, meaning there would be ready work for graduates.

### HIGH SCHOOL PLANS

"My connection to Rotary has always been my salvation in Ghana," said Robbie, adding he found an architect in Ho who belongs to Rotary.

"We sat down and developed a concept of a technical vocational school," he said.

This would be a campus-style school with 14 buildings, with each trade having its own building. It would sit on a 10-acre site the diocese owns in the city of Ho.

Besides the trade buildings, there would be an administrative building, a library, a sick bay, classrooms, dorms and a multipurpose hall to hold 1,000 which would also act as a chapel.

Every building would have its own washrooms, an innovation for the country that

Robbie insisted on.

Robbie and the Diocese of Ho envision half the students living on campus, coming from feeder schools.

The price of this school would be about \$2.5 million, with a half-million for equipment, which is a fraction of what a similar project would cost in Canada.

"Rotary does not build buildings," said Robbie. "So once the building is up, I can apply for funding for equipment and training."

Robbie has a three-step plan for funding: donations; legacy giving, for buildings that could possibly come with naming rights; and foundations.

The Church of England has set up a new foundation dealing with slavery reparations that will be used for projects in western Africa.

"Applications should be ready in 2025," he said. "That's the reason I did the needs assessment."

The Rotary Club of Grand Manan has adopted this as their international project.

"I think with the three planks of funding, we can certainly have a go at this," he told council. "I say these projects are run by God. With the clinic, I thought it was a great project but I didn't see how it could go ahead."

"I can honestly say I got it as wrong as I could possibly be."

Council voted to endorse the high school project.

### MISCONDUCT

Chancellor David Bell presented an update on the misconduct policy, a piece of the Safe Church regulation/package, noting that there is no national policy model for misconduct or safeguarding by churches.

"Our existing policy stands up pretty well," he said, adding it is 11 years old.

But the Anglican Church of Canada has asked all dioceses to review their policies, as he has been doing.

"Our task was not to draft a new policy. It was to suggest improvements," he said.

He and David Peer worked on this for a considerable amount of time.

"For a long time it was the bane of my life, and it played on my conscience," he said. "Now I consider it a source of pride."

He gave the credit for that to David Peer.

"The best cluster of changes we've made is in the procedural fairness for complainants and respondents," he said.

Burden of proof is another area that has been improved.

"The existing policy says the complainant has the burden of proof. It should have said that guilt turns on the evidence."

The proposal includes the burden of proof as being "clear and convincing."

"Clear and convincing" is less than the criminal requirement, but higher than a civil court. It's an intermediate approach to the burden of proof."

Complaints do not go to the bishop; in fact, the bishop has no role in the investigation.

"In most dioceses I looked at, the bishop is a central figure from start to finish," said David. "In our diocese, the bishop is quite removed from the process until the very end."

It is the misconduct complaints officer, not the bishop nor anyone in the Synod office, who makes the determination of guilt.

"It's a message to complainants that there is as much transparency as possible."

"The amount of work David Peer and David Bell have put into this is tremendous," said Mike Briggs. "This has been ongoing for two years."

Dean Geoffrey Hall suggested that parishes need a 1-2 page document as an overview of how to keep people safe.

David Bell's motion to accept the proposed changes was passed, though the revised

**Diocesan Council continued on page 5**

## DIOCESAN COUNCIL

# Diocesan Council highlights, continued

Misconduct Policy will not come into effect until the full Safe Church package is updated.

### FINANCE

Susan Jack noted her time as chair of the committee is at an end. Jim Knight will take over.

The Diocesan Synod has agreed to lend Outflow Ministries, which runs Catapult Coffee from the old Anglican office and bookstore on Princess Street in Saint John, \$60,000 in order to buy a coffee roaster. The term of the loan is seven years.

Council approved motions to tidy up Regulation 5-2 Parish Forms and Regulation 5-3 Investor Transfers to the DCIF and approve a new regulation, 5-5 Shared Ministry.

Council approved sponsoring Threshold Ministries' application to the Anglican Foundation of Canada for kitchen improvements.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Diocesan treasurer Philip Shepherdson gave his report, noting April was a strong month.

"The 2024 financials are under review right now," he said. "We did quite a bit better than predicted."

That has allowed a half-million surplus to be used to help fund the pool project at Camp Medley.



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



**LEFT:** The lunch line, with Julian Pillay and Terence Chandra.

**ABOVE:** Susan Jack, long-time chair of the Finance Committee and lay vice-chair of Diocesan Council, receives an award of merit from Bishop David Edwards.

However, the ups and downs in markets continue, and are likely to during the current US presidency.

"We're deliberately taking a conservative view, with respect to our investment portfolio and this is helping reduce some volatility," said Philip.

Council approved a motion to appoint members to the Finance Committee: the Ven. John Matheson, Michael Briggs, Jeffrey Mills and Susan Jack, each for a three-year term.

### MISSION & MINISTRY

Mission and ministry director Shawn Branch offered an update on his role.

"Life in the diocese is not what is used to be," he told council. "There are realities we face."

He noted that probably everyone in attendance lives in or near a vacant parish. He often

hears the cry of 'why won't the bishop send us someone?'

"Would that he could!" he said. "There is no line-up."

The Western world has a labour shortage, and this includes clergy. The key is how we respond.

"We must explore alternatives to one priest per parish," he said. "Can we try something different?"

The diocese has three students in traditional seminary, one at Atlantic School of Theology and two at Wycliffe College. There are four students in hybrid training, using online resources, and four more lined up to begin in the fall. Five others are in conversation, testing their call. This includes both men and women of various ages.

"Half of those are responding to the call to the vocational diaconate," he said.

Much of Shawn's job is

shepherding people through their call, finding gaps in their plans and lining up mentors to help them.

"There are some really gifted people who just want to serve," he said.

A year ago, Huron College, whose principal is the Rev. Dr. Barry Craig, came asking how they could be a blessing to the diocese.

"I went into that conversation quite jaded, because sometimes they say 'you don't know what you need.'"

The difference was Huron College was focused on rural issues and wanted feedback.

Their licentiate program was almost obsolete, but Huron revived it in response to the needs of the Arctic. This diocese's first student, Rob Pitman, graduated from it in May.

"We're looking at zero cost for ongoing education — only the cost of books. I invite you

to keep praying for God to keep raising people up," he said.

### OTHER

Camp Medley director John Galbraith gave an update on the camp and the pool fundraising project.

"We're edging up to \$1.3 million in funds so far," he said, adding the project cost is \$2.8 million.

He expects 800 kids at camp this summer, including school day trips, rentals and regular weekly camps.

At the end of the meeting, Archbishop David awarded outgoing Finance Committee chair Susan Jack with an award of merit for her dedication and leadership.

The next meeting of Diocesan Council is Sept. 27 in person.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Baby shower!

**THE ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN** at St. John the Baptist, Riverview, partnered with the Hillsborough Women's Institute, held a baby shower for the Pregnancy and Wellness Centre of Moncton. All attendees were generous with useful items for babies and mums. Shown in photo: ACW members Cheryl Kellas; Ruth Anne Robinson; Valerie McCloskey; Dayna Savary; Paula Rideout, executive director of the Centre; Betty Peddle; Barbie Lebrun; Kit Ogilvie, and guest Beth Sears.

**MISSION IN MOTION: children**

## DIOCESAN CHOIR SCHOOL

# Diocesan Choir School makes gains

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

First, the bad news: the planned week-long event had to be pared down to four days due to not enough youngsters signing up.

Now the good news: There were 15 new choristers in attendance, 10 of them young adults.

"We had to shorten it because we didn't have enough kids," said co-chair Mary Louise Belyea. "But that spurred us on to open it up to young adults 16 and over."

In total, 62 choristers and staff, from ages 15 to 95, were on hand at Rothesay Netherwood School to learn new music in record time, and perform it all in a Sunday afternoon service of Evening Prayer at Trinity Church in Saint John on July 13.

The increase in new faces bodes well for the sustainability of the much-loved Choir School, which, like many other annual events, had difficulties rebounding after the pandemic.

But it continues to have some very stalwart supporters and members, including co-chair Robert Taylor, who is marking 42 years of Choir School. Two other members, Linda Pitman and musical director Spencer Belyea, also wear 40-year medallions.

Medallions are a way of rewarding longevity and keeping track of the years, with presentations each year. The 15 got their first-year medallions in a supertime ceremony July 12, as did others for achieving various landmark anniversaries.

## LONGEVITY

"I'm hoping Choir School grows," said Mary Louise. "We have pub choirs popping up. Lots of people want to sing. Here you live and breathe music."

Mary Louise began attending as a child, with her father directing the music. She's been a chorister, a counsellor-in-training, counsellor, head counsellor, board member and now co-chair.

She describes Choir School as more of a camp than a school, with plenty of time for making friends, recreation, good food and fun.

"It's an intensive week, to-



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** Spencer Belyea directing choristers; Jasmine Chandra during a presentation; Cressida Campion, Peter Campion; the 15 new choristers with their medallions.

gether all week," said Spencer. "We make great friends that turn into life-long friends. It's a positive experience in our lives."

Robert noted that Choir School has become a bit more relaxed than in the past.

"There's more degree of informality these past few years," he said. "For example, we're not going to show up in choir gowns."

Choir School T-shirts will suffice, he said.

Julia Nixon, 19, and Lily Cyr Ouellette, 18, acted as head counsellors this year. They've both been coming since 2016.

"I had to take time off work, but you just have to," she said. "It means so much to me, still does. There's such a sense of community."

"It's the people that keep me coming back," said Lily. "We're a little family. These are friends you can be away from for a long time, but when you see them again, it's like we've never left."

Julia studies music at Mount Allison University.

## LONG DISTANCE CHORISTERS

Peter Campion and his daughter, Cressida, make the annual trek to New Brunswick each summer to visit family, and make time for Choir School.

Peter, born in Fredericton, is chaplain at Kings Hospital School in Dublin. He's lost count, but figures he's close to getting a 20-year medallion.

"My father, Brian Campion, was rector at St. Paul's Rothesay. He was involved in Choir School."

But the family moved to Montreal before Peter could join. Education took him to the UK, but he and his family returned to New Brunswick in 2000, where he was chaplain at Rothesay Netherwood School for five years.

"During those years I was chaplain to Choir School."

Since leaving Canada, he and his daughter have been back most years.

"It's part of what we do every summer," he said. "It's something I feel is really important for the diocese and I want to support it, and see it grow and thrive. I love singing with people who are now my friends. And I always learn new things."

Cressida, 22, studies early childhood education in Ireland. This is her 10<sup>th</sup> year at Choir School.

"My grandad used to come," she said. "I just love coming back, meeting up with everyone. It's such a community."

## NEXT YEAR

"It's hard to explain Choir School to someone who's never been here. There's something special about singing in a choir with the same people year after year," said Mary Louise.

"The goal next year is a full week like we had in 2019, but no matter what form it takes, Choir School will happen."

Choir School funding comes from the Diocesan Synod, the Fullford Trust, the ACW, the Venner Russell Fund, the R. Douglas Murray Fund and the Jean Taylor Memorial Fund, which provided adult bursaries this year.

Jean Taylor is Robert's late wife. She and Spencer were the first to receive 40-year medallions. Her father, Douglas Murray, was the original inspiration for Choir School.

## CHORISTERS OF 2025

**Sopranos:** Carol Brander, Allen Cuenca, Angie Phi, Anne O'Connor, April Tatton, Ava Christie, Caroline Vanicek, Carolyn Keirstead, Cleo Cyr, Donna Dobbin, Gabi Castillo, Jamelia Moore, Jane Beyea, Jill Lloyd, Judith Snowdon, Kit Ogilvie, Lily Cyr Ouellette, Linda Pitman, Lindsay Crossman Wheaton, Marianne Vanicek, Mary Louise Belyea, Monica Watson, Penny Seelye Sweet, Robyn Cuming, Sabrina McLellan.

**Altos:** Carolyn Nielson, Cressida Campion, Helen Tucker, Julia Nixon, Keira Tintero, Laura Snyder, Lea Warren, Lily Harritty, Louise Lockhart, Lynn Mills, Mary Alice Brown, Mary Marshall, Nancy Scott, Patricia Gallagher, Sandra Barss.

**Tenors:** Barry Snodgrass, Bill Simons, Charles Willett, James Snelgrove, Jarred Beckerton, Joel Tranquilla, John Higgins, Peter Campion, Ruth Anne Robinson, Tom Badiuk.

**Basses:** Andrew Horne, Darrell James, Isaac Phi, Lucas de Freitas Martins, Michael Smith, Paul Mills, Richard Li, Robert Taylor, Spencer Belyea.

**STAFF:** Chaplain: the Rev. Andrew Horne; Christian culture educator: the Rev. Jasmine Chandra; music staff: Spencer Belyea, Joel Tranquilla, Gibson MacMillan, James Snelgrove.

**PLANNING TEAM:** Administrative co-chairs Mary Louise Belyea & Robert Taylor; recording secretary James Snelgrove; registrar Mary Louise Belyea; treasurer Linda Pitman; print media Darrell James; librarian/medallions Lynn Mills; music co-ordinator Spencer Belyea; nurse Sabrina McLellan

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

# VBS a first in St. Andrews

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

The Parish of St. Andrews made some history this summer.

"Nancy [Carson] did some digging," said Jarred Beckerton, youth & family ministry leader in the parish. "This might be the first time All Saints has done a VBS."

When Jarred was hired two years ago, VBS was on the list of things the parish wanted to try, so this summer seemed like the right time.

The first day saw 14 kids; the second, 17. The youngest was nine months, the oldest 14 years.

"A lot of these kids do not come to our church," he said.

Jarred and his volunteers researched VBS themes, but just couldn't find the right fit.

"I had one picked out but then we thought, 'let's just do our own.' I'm really glad we did our own. I wrote all the lessons myself."

They built a three-day VBS program, held July 23-25, based on God's provision.

"We started with creation. Today we're doing Noah and God's promise. Tomorrow it will be the feeding of the 5,000."

For day one, the group took a walk to the seashore, a block away, with Matt Abbott, Fundy Baykeeper and Marine Program Director with the Conservation Council of New Brunswick.

There they learned about all the sea creatures at the shoreline and how to care for them. Basic to that list was putting

them back where they were after having a look at them.

Keeping to the seashore theme, the snack was Goldfish crackers.

On day two, when the *NB Anglican* visited, they began with story time under a tree, where Jarred told them about the great flood and the rainbow that God sent afterwards as a promise.

The main craft was tie dying T-shirts, in keeping with the rainbow theme. Colourful melons, apples and Freezies made up the snacks.

For day three, the snack plan was Rice Krispie Squares representing loaves, and cheese sandwiches cut in the shape of fish.

Tie dying proved to be very popular. While four or five kids at a time worked on their shirts, the others played games on the lawn. Red light, bubbles, horseshoes, badminton and soccer were popular.

Then volunteer Shelley Chase took the T-shirts home to finish the process, and returned the following day to give out the T-shirt creations.

Shelley and her husband, Mark, plus Piper Scalabrin led the VBS with Jarred.

"Crafts are my thing," said Shelley. "I'll do any craft any time, anywhere!"

"I teach Sunday school here, and have since my son was five. He's 26 now. I think it's important to give back."

"I feel like it's been really good," said Jarred of the parish's first foray into the world of VBS. "The kids are having a lot of fun."



SUBMITTED PHOTO



**TOP:** Jarred Beckerton tells the story of Noah and the ark to the children. Volunteer Piper Scalabrin is seen in the foreground.

**ABOVE:** Matt Abbott leads the children to the seashore to learn about caring for marine life; Jarred Beckerton tie dyes his T-shirt.

**RIGHT:** Mark Chase helps the children with tie dying their shirts.

**BELOW:** Jarred lines up the children for a game of Red Light; Volunteer Shelley Chase hung the T-shirts out to dry at her home before returning them to the children the next day.



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



## MISSION IN MOTION: children



SUBMITTED PHOTO

"SHARING HOPE & HELP"

## ACW ANNUAL MEETING

# ACW hosts annual meeting in Fredericton

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Fifty ACW members and guests converged on St. Margaret's Anglican Church in Fredericton on May 8 for the annual ACW meeting. The theme for the day was "Staying the Course."

After registration, coffee and snacks, the day began with a service of Holy Eucharist, with Archbishop David Edwards preaching.

Bishop David illustrated the concept that things don't always go according to plan by telling a story of his sailing a boat, only to have it capsize — not once but twice.

There are many bible stories with that same theme. Saul was one of the great Pharisees, a prominent persecutor of Christians, "yet an encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus changed his course," said David.

Peter was chosen as the rock upon which the Christian church would be built, but on the night Jesus was arrested, he flatly denied even knowing him, not once, but three times.

"The rock upon which I will build my church' changes to mush," said David.

"Jesus calls us all to stay the course, to follow him wherever that leads."

While we don't always know where we're going, we follow a God who can calm the storm and walk on water, he said.

We are living in trying times, "and this is not the first time we've been in this shem-ozzle. The Church gets itself into a mess every 500 years or so. It takes 100 years to sort itself out, and we're on the front end."

Nevertheless, we stay the course because we are told the gates of hell will not prevail against it.

The best course of action in staying the course is to listen to God the Holy Spirit, he said.

"Take time to be quiet, be still, so we can hear where we're being called."

## BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE

ACW members who have passed on in the year prior to the meeting are always honoured in a short prayer service of remembrance.

Scriptures were read and prayers prayed for the departed. The names of the members,



**ABOVE:** A good crowd of 50 ACW members attended the annual meeting May 8 at St. Margaret's in Fredericton.



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS

**LEFT:** The ACW executive: vice-president Diane Todd, president Peggy Boucher and treasurer Cathy Lutes.

numbering 47, were read aloud.

## FARRALINE PLACE

Administrator Judy O'Donnell spoke of the ACW-affiliated Farraline Home in downtown Fredericton. The large house next to the NB Legislature has 20 bedrooms housing seniors.

Judy spoke of the ACW activities that enrich the lives of the residents: birthday cards sent, lap quilts given, gifts at Christmas time.

"We try to make it a home for them," she said.

Upcoming events include the annual garden party on Aug. 14, held as a summer gala that residents, family members and guests always enjoy. It is held in the yard and includes entertainment and treats. This

year's theme is the 1950s and 60s.

The annual fundraising dinner is set for Oct. 18 at the Fredericton Inn. It will include an auction and food table. Tickets are \$100, with a \$50 tax receipt.

The home's current project is finding funds for new carpeting throughout the public areas. The home has no government funding and relies on rents, fundraising and donations to operate. It has a staff of 10.

"You are a very important part of our growth, and hopefully, you will be there for a long, long time," she told the group.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Cathy Lutes gave a

report on the first quarter of 2025.

"We're doing pretty good," she said. "We're holding our own. The branches that are still open are very generous. It's amazing what branches are doing."

The bank balance as of March 31 was \$51,113. The ACW has \$214,563 in investments and use the interest to help fund projects.

There are five funds under the ACW: William & Mary Quinn Fund (\$170,636 in investments); Helen Burton Fund (\$15,539 in investments); General Fund (\$16,437 in investments); ECD Fund (\$1,268 in investments); and the Fannie Billings Fund (\$10,682 in investments).

The diocese manages these

investments, and the income is used to fund the operations of the ACW.

The income from the above funds allows the ACW to donate to many different agencies and causes. They include the 10 provincial transition homes, Kara & Nelson Mejia Honduras mission, Canon Paul Jeffries, Camp Brookwood, Camp Medley, Inner City Youth Ministry, Threshold Ministries, St Luke's Loaves and Fishes, Diocesan Choir School, Council of the North, and tuition for two students at Bishop McAllister College.

Cathy noted the banks are getting picky about cheques being properly filled out. Make cheques payable to "ACW

ACW continued on page 9

## ACW ANNUAL MEETING



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** The Rev. Debbie Edmondson, right, leads in the installation of officers, which this year was only Jill Stewart (centre) as custodian of the Book of Remembrance and Roll of Honour. The ACW executive looks on at left; coffee break and lunch time were opportunities to catch up with old friends; Camp Medley director John Galbraith was the guest speaker. He spoke on the upcoming 80th anniversary celebration at the camp.



# ACW annual meeting held at St. Margaret's in Fredericton

## ACW continued from page 8

Diocese of Fredericton."

Each branch is required to pay into the administration fund and the social action fund. Support for all other funds is optional, and of course, encouraged, she said.

Cathy outlined the steps to take when closing a branch.

"You have to send in an official letter," she said. "If you have funds left over, we have to find out where the money is going."

Rosemarie Kingston gave a short report on Canon Paul Jeffries, who has been the head and rector of Bishop McAllister College in Uganda for decades.

"Paul no longer has a paid position with the diocese, so all he gets is what the diocesan ACW and branches send him," she said.

A motion was passed to give

Paul an extra \$1,000 this year, totalling \$4,000. The budget for 2025 was approved, with the change to Paul's stipend.

## REPORTS

Rosemarie reported on the Pickett-Scovil Fund, which survives on the interest from its investments. It helps retired clergy and spouses with medical expenses not covered by government or insurance, usually glasses, hearing aids and dental costs.

In the past year, the fund has given out \$22,534, most of which was for dental costs.

Rosemarie reported that at Bishop McAllister College, the Rev. Joseph Tusingwire is the headmaster.

Gisele McKnight gave a report on the ACW newsletter, *Launching Out*. She noted she plans to retire in one year, and that change will require a new editor for the newsletter.

This year's Quiet Day will be held in the Shediack deanery. The date is Sept. 10 at St. Mark's church in Mount Watley near the border with Nova Scotia. Linda Fury, a former diocesan president, is helping coordinate the day.

The offering of the day, \$522, was bumped up to \$600 via a motion. It will be split between Farraline Place and Camp Medley's new pool fund.

The new custodian of the Book of Remembrance and Roll of Honour is Jill Stewart, past president of the diocesan ACW. The Rev. Debbie Edmondson installed Jill in a short ceremony.

All other officers remain the same this year: president Peggy Boucher; vice-president Diane Todd; treasurer Cathy Lutes; secretary Carolyn Pellow; past president Jill Stewart. Rosemarie Kingston is the liaison with Bishop McAllister College and

the Pickett-Scovil Fund; Cathy Lutes and Peggy Boucher are the liaisons with Farraline Place.

## CAMP MEDLEY

Camp director John Galbraith was the day's guest speaker. He focused on the planned 80th anniversary celebration on May 24, and the pool project which would replace the almost 60-year-old pool.

The \$2.8 million project, which includes a maintenance facility, has about \$1.277 million in cash, pledges and promises.

"The intent is to build a racing pool that would accommodate synchronized teams as well," said John. "The focus is to build not just a pool, but a destination."

The pool would also be open to the surrounding rural community, which does not have access to a public pool.

Last year, there were 34 user groups outside the summer camp schedule, which helped boost revenue. That included weddings, school outings, water ski school and many other groups looking for a place to gather.

But the summer camp continues to welcome hundreds of children each year for a week of fun in the form of swimming, kayaking, games, sports, crafts, campfires, songs, good food and friendships, along with daily chapel.

"Ninety-nine per cent of the kids coming to camp are unchurched," he said.

John's talk prompted several ACW members to share their memories of Camp Medley. Debbie Edwards, honorary president, came forward to pray for the summer ministry, the staff, campers and the 80th anniversary event.

CAMP MEDLEY

CAMP MEDLEY

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Drizzly, cool weather did not stop more than 200 people from returning to a place close to their hearts — Camp Medley.

On May 24, they gathered to celebrate the camp’s 80th anniversary. After registering, guests were invited to stop at the donation table, where funds were being raised for the \$2.8 million pool and maintenance facility project. More than \$8,000 was raised during the day.

In the dining hall, projected videos and photos from years past — some long past — transfixed guests as they saw themselves and their friends on-screen.

In the old dining hall, Lynn Mills had created a walk down memory lane with photos, clippings and memorabilia, all categorized by decade.

“I sorted over 1,000 slides,” she said. “It was a pile of work, but I learned a lot about Camp Medley.”

The day formally began with an opening ceremony, with camp director John Galbraith and former staffer Chris Brittain, dressed in Hawaiian shirts, performing a skit and leading the crowd in a rousing rendition of the camp song, “Oh, we’re from Camp Medley and we’re on the best team...”

Then Archbishop David Edwards recounted his first visit to the camp during his first summer in Canada. With Rob Marsh, he drove to the camp to pick up a boy from Saint John, but just before they arrived, the boy had kicked a skunk, with predictable results.

“Rob threw him in the shower, with his clothes on,” he said. “This was before Safe Church.

“I had never seen a skunk before or smelled a skunk before. It was a rough ride home!”

**POOL PROJECT**

John acknowledged the help of Richard Crowe, with the two working with the Regional Development Corporation of New Brunswick to help bring the pool project to fruition.

The rural community of Arcadia, where Camp Medley is located, was represented by Mayor Clinton Sharpe.

“We’ll try to do everything we can to help Camp Medley in the next 80 years,” he said.

When built, the pool will offer community swims, something the rural population does not enjoy.

Allen Partridge, warden in the Parish of Shediac, announced a donation to the pool project.

“We have been prayerfully following the project’s development,” he said, reading a letter from Archdeacon Brent Ham. “We are pleased to pledge \$100,000.”

This news was met with thunderous

applause.

He quoted Psalm 118:23: “This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.”

John recounted the various pledges so far, from the Diocesan Synod (\$500,000) and the Regional Development Corporation (just under \$500,000) and others, for a total of \$1.136 million.

In 2024, there were 34 user group rentals outside of summer camp, and while most are not Christian, John relies on God to use the camp in ways that glorify his name.

“We do what we do because of what and who God is in our lives,” he said. “Everyday I am amazed at what God is doing in this place.

“Our whole heart’s desire is to grow people, that we all grow in our walk with Jesus,” he said. “I believe God brought you here today for you. Don’t miss that opportunity.”

Roger Buckland was present, and was the oldest camper. He is the son of Canon Basil Buckland, who was instrumental in building the camp.

After everyone had time to browse through the memorabilia, they gathered on the lawn for group photos, of each decade’s campers and staff, and a large group photo of everyone present for the day’s celebration.

Lunch was barbecued hot dogs and hamburgers, potato chips and watermelon.

**WORSHIP SERVICE**

The day wound up with a service of Holy Eucharist led by Archbishop David. The Rev. David Smith, former camp director, preached. The house band of the Rev. Mike Caines, the Rev. David Turner, Anna Caines, Kate Turner and Jamie Morell led the worship, including popular camp songs.

David Smith recounted some of his memories of Camp Medley, saying, “I still remember Camp Medley’s phone number!”

He began his sermon with the why of Camp Medley, remembering registration day each week during the summer. It was either blisteringly hot or rainy, with about 110 children arriving at the camp.

“Some were excited, some were already homesick,” he said.

He recalled a lifeguard named Joyce who was very pretty and was often the centre of attention, surrounded by young men.

On one particular registration day, he noticed a man approaching with a bouquet of flowers, heading straight for Joyce.

In his mind, this was another example of Joyce being sidelined from her role, and he was having none of it. He was about to rush off to read the riot act “when someone saved me.”

The man was her brother, and he



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



# Camp Medley celebrates 80 years



**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:**  
Guests gathered for various group photos. This one shows them waving to the drone that was taking photos.

Cath Coombes, Nancy Wiggins and Debora Kantor share their camp memories.

Rachel Ranson visits the Tuck Shop overseen by Ellie Galbraith, Charlotte Kennedy and Isabel Johnson.

The house band entertained throughout the afternoon and included the Rev. Mike Caines, the Rev. David Turner and Jamie Morrell. Not seen: Kate Turner and Anna Caines.

Former camp directors the Rev. David Smith and Dr. Chris Brittain.

Charlotte Vautour and Molly Mabey look for photos of themselves when they attended as campers and then as staff. Both first arrived to camp in 2013. Lynn Mills worked for months to create the many displays that filled the old dining hall, with photos and memorabilia that everyone enjoyed.

was bringing her flowers, as he did every year on the anniversary of her life-giving gift of a kidney to him.

“It reminds me of our saviour and his gift to us,” he said. “Like Joyce’s brother, we are called to receive it. That’s the why of Camp Medley.”

The how is the time spent in nature, “In God’s great cathedral. We are on the Rhine of North America here. This place is the gift of a week outdoors.”

David recounted many memories of camp, for example, the ‘invention’ of Christmas in July during a wet and miserable week; and a community parade using wagons from the area farmers.

“One of the reasons I became director was because I couldn’t do any of the jobs!” he said.

He noted the hard work of the staff, in particular, the counsellors.

“It’s exhausting work loving 12 or 13 kids 24/7,” he said.

David remembered a young boy who arrived with his father in a flashy sports car.

“The boy’s parents had recently divorced and he was looking forward to a visit with his father,” he said. “Instead, the dad dropped him off here. He was so sad.

“But we got on with the business of love. He had fun. He felt loved and

**VISITOR COMMENTS**

**Shelly Morell, camper 1985-92:** The people kept me coming back, especially John and Chris Brittain.

I think my favourite memory was my CIT (counsellor in training) year. John David Dauphnee and I were put in charge of field duty while the staff meeting was going on. We raided the tuck shop. I think I ate 50 pounds of candy!

I wanted to come today to reconnect with people.

**Angie Morell Kennedy, camper 1988-94:** I made lots of friends but for me, Camp Medley is the chapel. I

feel a sense of peace when I’m in the chapel.

Both my kids went here as campers and now my daughter is on staff. When I drop them off, I go into the chapel and say a prayer for them.

**Rosalie Brown, camper in 1947:** I’ve always been interested in Camp Medley. I came here. My kids came here. I have very good memories, especially the homemade bread.

**Deborah Kantor:** A big part of my faith started here. Reading the bible, I said, ‘this book is speaking to me!’ We got our swimming qualifications through Medley. I was here seven summers. My kids all came here. I was

also a counsellor and a chaplain. I did a stint on the board of directors too.

**Sue Machum, camp cook:** It’s been great being here and I very much enjoyed my time. It was nice seeing everyone.

**DIRECTOR JOHN GALBRAITH’S COMMENT:** It’s a great turnout! We have over 200 people here, from all over — England, Ontario, British Columbia, Grand Manan. It’s been a really good day for connecting, and for God. He is speaking to people’s hearts.

## CELTIC SPIRITUALITY

# Celtic spirituality scholar visits Cathedral

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

He describes himself as a wandering teacher, and on May 7, Dr. John Philip Newell was at Christ Church Cathedral teaching about 120 people in person and another 140 online about the sacredness of Earth and its inhabitants.

He is an internationally celebrated teacher and author whose message is one of Celtic spirituality: a call for us to recognize and embrace the sacredness of Earth and every human being in it.

John Philip is Canadian, and lives in Findhorn, Scotland with his wife, Ali. Findhorn is an ecovillage that teaches sustainable living.

"It is good for my soul to be back in my home and native land of Canada," he told the crowd.

Kurt Schmidt acted as host for the evening, which featured a talk by John Philip entitled "Celtic Spirituality - Why it Matters Now," and a short session with his colleague, Cami Twilling.

She is the director of Earth and Soul, an organization dedicated to "the study, spiritual practice and compassionate action inspired by the teachings of John Philip Newell," says the website [earthandsoul.org](http://earthandsoul.org). She also leads spiritual retreats, in particular, to Iona, Scotland.

Kurt noted the many people online from the Black Mountain area of western North Carolina. They were to host John Philip last fall, but the arrival of Hurricane Helene cancelled the event.

Others tuned in from Toronto, British Columbia, California, Wisconsin, Indiana, Missouri and beyond.

Kurt acknowledged the financial help in bringing John Philip to Fredericton: the Diocesan Synod, and a bequest from Harry Palmer, "to support events just like this one," said Kurt. This was John Philip's only Canadian stop on his current tour.

Much of John Philip's lecture was based on his book "Sacred Earth Sacred Soul."

"We're living in a very challenging moment in time," he said. "It's also a deeply exciting time, with the convergence of new science and ancient beliefs."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**CAMI TWILLING, Kurt Schmidt and Dr. John Philip Newell at Christ Church Cathedral. Kurt acted as host for the evening event.**

He began by giving some context to the topic.

"The lineage of Celtic wisdom comes down from the second century," he said. "It focuses on the sacredness of the Earth... the sacredness of earth and person intertwined."

He cites the Gospel of John, noting the opening lines, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

"Everything is an expression of the Divine," he said. "Do you know that's what you are — born, not by accident, but by divine manifestation?"

## Irenaeus of Lyons

The first teacher of Celtic wisdom was Irenaeus of Lyons (ca. 140-202) a student of Polycarp, who himself was a student of St. John in Ephesus.

"Only one teacher separated John and Irenaeus," he said.

Irenaeus took the words of John — 'in the beginning was the word' — and added a twist: in the beginning was the sound.

That sound was perhaps the sound of Jesus's heartbeat as John leaned into him in Davinci's famous *Last Supper* painting. It is the heartbeat of creation, the very heartbeat of

God.

Irenaeus saw Jesus as the re-sounding of the Divine, the deepest sound, the vibration of all things, said John Philip.

"It is the vibration of the sacred at the heart of everything," he said. "And there is a great yearning to come back into relationship with Earth, with everything vibrating in step with the Divine."

It was in the fourth century that "Christianity got into bed with empire," he said.

That led to "Imperial Christianity," the belief and practice that stretches from the Roman Empire to those of Britain

and the United States: that it as a nation has the right to do whatever it wishes with the resources of another nation.

## John Scotus Eriugena

John Scotus Eriugena (ca. 815-877) was perhaps the greatest of the *scotus vagans*, or wandering Irish teachers.

"John said God is speaking to us through two outward books, the little book of scripture, and the big book, the sacred text of Earth and nature," he said.

"If we listen only to the big book, we will miss hearing the intimacy of the voice of the Divine. The little book includes prophetic voices calling us to be in relationship with the hungry, the homeless."

John Philip told the story of a woman from Florida on a spiritual pilgrimage to Iona. She told John Philip of a pivotal event in her life when she was an adolescent. In church one Sunday, a dog wandered in, walked up to the altar and smelled all around, then turned and left the church.

"It didn't like what it smelled. It didn't smell right. It didn't smell natural," he recounted.

The woman got up and followed the dog out and never returned to church, yet she was on a spiritual journey some 50 years later.

"It's an eccentric story, but this is the story of millions. I believe she came sensing that Celtic tradition would understand her story," he said. "She's not alone. There are many seeking a sense of community around a new spirituality that deeply honours the natural."

## Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955) was a French scientist, mystic and Jesuit priest, whom John Philip calls a modern prophet. His beliefs were unwelcome in the Vatican.

He believed the whole universe is like a burning bush.

"Everything is on fire with divine presence. We are being invited to glimpse the light and the fire of the Divine — to glimpse that fire in every creature."

"That is a critical issue

**Celtic continued on page 13**

## CELTIC SPIRITUALITY

# Cathedral hosts world-renowned Celtic spirituality ‘wandering teacher’

Celtic continued from page 12

facing Christianity,” said John Philip. “Will we seek that light? Will we protect it in every life form, adore it, cherish it, serve it, or will we continue to give the impression that the light we love in Jesus is somehow essentially foreign to Earth, and foreign to what is deep within every human being?”

“This, I believe, is the critical defining feature of the Christianity of the future. If we do not rise to this challenge to seeing Christ, not as an exception to humanity, but rather what is deepest in humanity, that will determine whether Christianity can again carry the profound blessing for Earth and the human journey today.”

In trying to silence Teilhard, the Vatican sent him to China in 1926 on a paleontological dig.

“Power does not like to be told the Divine is found in all things,” said John Philip. “Little did they realize what China would do to Teilhard.”

There he discovered the



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

sacredness of Earth in its feminine form, and saw how the Church, and Western culture, subordinated the feminine. He began speaking of the fragrance of the feminine, found it in the law of gravitation, in the inexplicable pull and attraction of atoms, in 4.5 billion years of the Earth revolving around the sun.

“It’s not just a relationship, it’s a love affair,” said John Philip of Teilhard’s discoveries. “We are born to love, to serve. Our wellbeing is found in relationships, in being found together.”

Teilhard theorized that love is the greatest energy, and after

humanity learns to harness all the energies of Earth, sea and sky, it will finally learn how to harness love.

“And when it does, it will have discovered fire for the second time,” said John Philip.

Teilhard returned to Europe saying ‘we need to save Christ from the hands of the clergy.’ That prompted a second exile, this time to a Jesuit community in New York City.

“In 1951 he agreed to an act of priestly disobedience,” said John Philip. “He signed over his writings to his personal assistant, Mme Mortier in Paris. In death, his writings would not belong to the Church, but

to Mme Mortier.”

He died in New York in 1955, a relative unknown, with only 10 people attending his funeral. Mortier began releasing his writings and John Philip still meets nuns and priests with stories of how they read his works under the covers in secret and strapped the books to the underside of their mattresses.

His last writings spoke of Christianity being at the end of one of its natural cycles.

“It needs to be born again. It needs to see Christ, no longer as a deserter of Earth, but as a lover of Earth. This birthing is trying to come forth in many spiritual expressions.

“We’re not being called to make Christianity great again. We’re not going back,” said John Philip.

“We being called to be part of a birthing that has never been before, and imagine our way into the sacred inter-relatedness of all things, with the wisdom of Jesus to serve this moment in time.”

### CAMI TWILLING

Cami played music written

by John Philip’s son, called “Arrival” — suitable to the birthing theme — and asked those gathered to “pay attention to what’s been stirring in you. What are we being invited to hear?”

She directed people to put their hand on their heart, to become aware of their heartbeat, their breath and that light within. She asked that each person turn to the two or three near them to share what’s stirring in their hearts.

The groups reported back, and John Philip took questions from the audience, including one on his place of residence, 60-year-old Findhorn, which he noted is not a commune.

“It began as lunatics on the fringe... organic gardeners,” he said. “It has many different religious traditions there. The common ground is the nature of Earth. It is choosing to live a more intentional way, trying to point a way forward that can be shared.”

Afterwards, everyone enjoyed refreshments, and John Philip signed copies of his books.

## Celtic Christian spirituality’s Anglican tradition

### A rebuttal to John Philip Newell’s May 7 presentation at Christ Church Cathedral

BY CHRIS MCMULLEN

As someone who has been attracted to Celtic Christian spirituality since my undergraduate studies, and wrote my doctoral thesis on the topic (Acadia University, 2019), please indulge my need to set the record straight on this earliest root of Anglicanism.

On May 7, the famous author and teacher John Philip Newell spoke at Christ Church Cathedral to a large and appreciative audience about his personal philosophy and mission, which uses many “Celtic” images and quotations from the revival of interest in Celtic Christianity that took place during the Romanticist revival of the 19<sup>th</sup> and early

20<sup>th</sup> centuries, to promote an environmentalist “pantheism” as the answer to today’s ecological crisis, and divisions among people.

His talk was fascinating, addressed vital issues concerning us all, and evidently appealing to folks questioning or even hurt by many modern expressions of Christian authoritarianism and exclusivism.

For that reason I held my tongue. I also spoke to him personally for his influence on my own Celtic Christian pilgrimage in the 1990s.

Whatever the value of his insights and proposals (and I think they have strong merit!), they are not very “Celtic” in the Christian sense.

I would hope inquirers into the “Age of the Saints” (as Nora

Chadwick titled her exploration of the real Celtic Christian mission, 1960) would not be hoodwinked by Newell’s (and many others’) simplifications or even imaginative misrepresentations into thinking that a romantic pantheism is all we can learn from them.

Indeed, Celtic Christians, as Esther De Wall points out (“Celtic Light: A Tradition Rediscovered”, 1991 and “The Celtic Way of Prayer”, 1997) practiced a faith that was, yes, very nature- i.e. creation-based, but was also thoroughly Christ-centered.

Indeed, as Ray Simpson, the founder of the Community of Aidan and Hilda (“Celtic Christianity: Deep Roots for a Modern Faith”, 2017) and Ian Bradley, who has critically studied the Celtic Christian movement over three decades (“The Celtic Way”, 1993; “Following the Celtic Way”, 2018), the faith of our oldest Anglican forbears was thoroughly Trinitarian, focused on our destiny beyond this world, and enraptured with the teachings and invitations to holy lives offered by the Biblical themes of

justification, redemption, and sanctification.

A renewed enjoyment of and care for both people and nature were central to that. But they were the fruit of a determination to know God in all God’s Triune mystery beyond us, the Creator; with us personally in our human experience, the “Son of Mary”; and all around us and especially within each of us, the empowering Holy Spirit.

Newell’s “pantheism” (a modern attempt to add the value of personhood to Eastern pantheism, which sees human individuality as a curse, not a gift) is but a one-dimensional retreat from the depth, height, and engaging adventurousness of the full Celtic Christian Trinitarian faith and mission.

Those interested in being inspired by the real Celtic Christian movement may wish to consult one or more of the works already mentioned.

For an engaging narrative account, I recommend Edward Sellner’s “The Wisdom of the Celtic Saints” (2006).

For collections of primary material, Esther De Waal’s

“The Celtic Vision” (1988) shares and reflects on Alexander Carmichael’s famous anthology of Highland Scottish songs and prayers, “Carmina Gadelica” (1899, but many republications available); John Carey’s “King of Mysteries: Early Irish Writings” (2000); or A.M. Allchin’s “God’s Presence Makes the World: The Celtic Vision Through the Centuries in Wales” (1997).

Nor should we Anglicans leave out the Anglo Saxon church, which had its older roots in Celtic Christianity.

Benedicta Ward has a nice anthology, “Christ Within Me: Prayers and Meditations from the Anglo-Saxon Tradition” (1999). Many reprints of all these classic and authentic studies and anthologies are still available.

So, may God the Father call you into glory! May God the Son guide you on the way! And may God the Spirit inspire, strengthen, and sanctify you in God’s Threefold love and goodness!

**The Rev. Dr. Chris McMullen is the priest-in-charge in the Parish of Upper Kennebecasis.**

## GENERAL SYNOD

# Reflections on General Synod

BY SHAWN C. BRANCH

These are reflections and thoughts as a first-time delegate to General Synod. I've been in attendance before, as an exhibitor, so I had some general assumptions and expectations as I drove to London, Ont. Yes, I drove.

Somewhere around Thursday/Friday, I hit the wall. Too much sitting. Too many reports. Too many carefully worded motions and slow-moving microphones.

It's a lot to take in — mentally, emotionally, spiritually. But then, every so often, the agenda would shift. Just enough to offer a breath. A moment of space.

I don't know if that was intentional or just the Spirit working through tired humans, but either way, I noticed it. And I was grateful for it. It was thanks to the labour and discussions of the Agenda Committee early every morning.

I wasn't prepared for how spiritual the Primatial election would feel. What unfolded felt more like liturgy than governance. We sang hymns. We paused for silence and prayer between ballots.

We sat, clergy in clericals on one side of the room, laity on the other, as if we were step-



CHARLOTTE POOLTON/THE GENERAL SYNOD OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

**SYNOD DELEGATES** the Rev. Canon Leo Martin and Shawn Branch, with the Rev. Katherine Bourbonniere, at General Synod in late June, held in London, Ont.

ping into a rhythm older than any of us, and some carry-over from how the count used to happen.

There was a weight to it. Not heavy in a burdensome way, but in a sacred way. It was as if we were doing something that mattered, as if it had been done before and would be done again.

At the same time, it's clear the national church is experiencing an identity crisis. That's not a critique, just a reality.

We're asking big questions

about structure, purpose, and whether this national expression of church still serves its mission.

There was no secular media coverage of the Synod. No headlines about the election of a new Primate. No cultural interest in what we were doing.

That absence was felt. Not necessarily as a loss, but as a sign of the shifting landscape we're navigating.

However, some moments reminded me of genuine, humble leadership. Watching

Archbishop Anne Germond, our acting Primate, lead the room with prayerfulness and patience was one of those moments.

She knew when to let silence do its work. She knew when we needed to pray, and when we just needed a laugh.

To this cynic, it did not appear as though she tried to force anything. She held the space. And she did it with grace and strength.

And then there were the conversations, the ones that

didn't happen at a microphone. The ones over coffee, in hallways, on walks to the elevator. Reconnecting with people I've only ever seen on Zoom or talked to on the phone. Hearing stories. Telling a few. Realizing that, even across distance and difference, there's still something that holds us together. Not perfectly, but meaningfully.

I didn't leave Synod with a five-point plan or a renewed institutional confidence. But I did leave with a sense that there are still people showing up with faithfulness, curiosity, and a willingness to wrestle.

I saw people holding space for each other — even when they disagreed (and this is a big deal considering past meetings). I saw glimpses of community in the unstructured moments.

And I caught traces of the Spirit, not in every motion or debate, but in the pauses, the prayers, the unexpected grace of being together.

This church is messy. Beautiful. Frustrating. Full of potential. Worn out in some places and surprisingly resilient in others.

We're still finding our way. But for now, I'm holding onto the truth that we're still showing up. Still praying. Still listening for what God might be doing next.

And maybe that's enough for now.

*Shawn Branch was a lay delegate to General Synod. He is the director of Mission and Ministry in the Diocese of Fredericton.*



LYNDA DUPLISSEA PHOTO

## Soup and more!

**THE IODE ATLANTIC CHARTER CHAPTER** in St. Stephen donated a meat slicer to Joyce's Soup Kitchen, an outreach service of the Parish of Saint Stephen. Bishop David Edwards was visiting and working at the soup kitchen when the meat cutter was delivered. Also shown with the Bishop (far right) are, from left to right, Anne Nordstrom, Randy DiPaolo, the Rev. Canon Kevin Borthwick and George Barnes.

MISSION IN MOTION: community

"SHARING HOPE & HELP"

## RETIRED CLERGY TEA



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



# Visiting at the Retired Clergy Tea

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

The annual Retired Clergy Tea was held in Fredericton June 17 at the home of Archbishop David Edwards and his wife, Debbie.

It was a perfect, sunny day for an outdoor gathering — not too hot, not too windy. Diocesan synod staff Cheryl Jacobs and Susan Dickie were on hand to help out with the refreshments.

This well-attended event is much looked forward to as a way to reconnect with fellow clergy who don't have a great many opportunities to get together. Here is how they answered this question: Why did you come today?

**The Rev. Bob LeBlanc:** I'm here because of my wife, Bonnie, and also to see colleagues I don't see on a regular basis anymore.

**Valda McMullen:** I enjoy seeing friends again and catching up, and seeing what they're up to.

**Albert Snelgrove:** They're my colleagues and friends — some almost life-long friends. It's wonderful to see everyone.

**Rosalie Brown:** Pat Crowther and I have been friends since

1961. I'm here to catch up. Our husbands were in adjoining parishes twice — Westfield and Oak Point, and Moncton and Riverview.

**Pat Crowther:** I love parties! These friends have been part of my life for a long, long time.

**Jon Lownds:** I was invited. It's definitely the food! I appreciate Bishop David and I like to support him.

**Eva Morton:** I get to see all my friends. It's a great way to catch up with people I haven't seen in awhile. This is my spiritual family.

**Lynne Corey:** I love to get together with retired clergy and see David and Debbie. These are lovely people and it's lovely to have a chance to see them. It's important to stay connected.

**Richard McConnell:** I enjoy seeing people I haven't seen in a long time.

**Robert Barry:** My wife drove me here. We decided to go. My health is not always good and it's a long trip from Bay du Vin.

**Bill Hockin:** I enjoy seeing fellow retired clergy that I know. We were invited by the bishop and his dear wife. It's definitely very kind of them to offer the hospitality.

Bill, a retired bishop in the diocese, started the retired clergy tea about 25 years ago as a way to meet fellow clergy. He was relatively new to the diocese, from Toronto, and it helped him get to know his colleagues better.

Back then it was held at Bishop's Court.

"It was a grand old house. The idea was to honour retired clergy. I didn't know them, and it was a way for me to meet them."



**TOP ROW:** Pat Crowther and Rosalie Brown.  
Jon Lownds and Val Phinney.  
Joan Pain, Albert Snelgrove and Philip Pain.  
Isabel Cutler, Lynne Corey and Bell Thompson.

**LEFT:** Richard McConnell, Cheryl Jacobs and Debbie Edwards.

**BELOW:** Robert Barry and Bill Hockin.

**BOTTOM:** Charlene Routledge, Bonnie LeBlanc and Bob LeBlanc.

"SHARING HOPE & HELP"

## CLERGY SPOUSES' RETREAT

# Clergy Spouses' Retreat always popular

BY EVA MORTON

The Annual Clergy Spouses' Retreat, May 1 - 3, with guest speaker Kristy Short, entitled "Our Belovedness in Jesus," did not disappoint.

We had enjoyed Kristy so much last year that we invited her back, and I believe all who attended would agree that we were blessed.

Kristy is a Camp Medley alumnus and a senior advisor at Alpha Canada. I was particularly pleased that she chose texts from the Song of Songs / Song of Solomon — a surprising and unusual choice.

The visual aid, which we all were encouraged to make in the course of four sessions, was a banner, reminding us of the verse, "His banner over me is love."

Mine is sitting in my living room reminding me of the themes: a banqueting table, to which all are invited, and which is never ending; my safe place, where I feel most loved; the things in my life that remind me that I am loved of God (sparrows, the hospitality of dear friends); and memories/reminders of God's care and presence in my life.

Everyone's banner was different, so my reminders are different from others who were



MINNA HARJUPANULA PHOTOS



**TOP:** Eva Morton and the Rev. Canon Bonnie LeBlanc enjoy the craft of felting during the annual Clergy Spouses' Retreat.

**LEFT:** The house band, with Kate Turner, Anna Caines, Terence Chandra and Val Phinney.

there.

As well as Kristy's presentations, we were treated to the musical leadership of Val Phinney, Kate Turner, Anna Caines, and Terence Chandra.

Devotionals were: "Memorial Stones," by Val Phinney, a thoughtful meditation on memory, especially those times when we've known for sure we were in God's care, each invited to choose a polished stone as a personal reminder; and "Braving the Thin Places," by Nancy Robinson, with excerpts from a book by Julie Anne Stanz.

We also had an optional "felting" workshop on Friday afternoon, which was a lot of fun and gave us the opportunity to explore hidden talents.

Bishop David and his wife, Debbie hosted wine and cheese evenings each night, which was a good opportunity to get to know one another better. As in the past — and something we always look forward to every year — much time was spent sharing, encouraging, and praying with one another. We also remembered those of us who we were missing, by signing and mailing cards.

An added bonus this year was the presence of a book table, which we hadn't had since the "old days" of Anglican House. It's always nice to pick up a book and actually thumb through it before buying. Among the selections, we had choices recommended by our guest speaker.

We look forward to our retreat every year, and to those clergy spouses out there who haven't had a chance to attend, I hope you will be able to come and be blessed as I have been year after year.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Old friends

**IN JUNE, EIGHT MEMBERS** of the Anglican Parish of St. Stephen enjoyed sharing lunch at Carman's Diner with the Rev. Peter Mills and Trish Mills while the couple was in New Brunswick. The Mills fondly recalled their time in St. Stephen when the rectory housed them and their three children, Laura, Joel and Timothy. While their next parish took them to Ontario, Peter and Trish often returned to N.B. to visit with family and parish friends. Some 25 years later, Peter now serves as one of the retired clergy who occasionally fills in when a parish is in need. Peter was filling in here for the Rev. Canon Greg McMullin in Saint John while Greg was on a RCN deployment. Parish members enjoyed hearing how Laura, Joel, and Timothy are making their own way in the world after completing university studies and how Peter and Trish now spend their time as almost empty nester retirees. Clockwise from left: Yvonne Barnes, Dot Larsen, Mary Essensa, Lynda and Herb Duplissea, Peter Mills, George Barnes, Derwin Gowan, Jean Groom, and Trish Mills.

BIBLICAL COMMENTARY

# Some thoughts on Jesus' words, 'I am the Good Shepherd'

In keeping with the theme of the "I Am" statements in the Gospel of John, this month I'm looking at Jesus' declaration in John 10:11: "I am the good shepherd."

In context, Jesus was continuing a discourse with some Pharisees about the relationship between a shepherd and his sheep.

Being a shepherd was a common occupation in Palestine and well understood by his audience. They also understood the image of a shepherd as it related to their leaders, since the Old Testament often referred to Israel's leaders as "shepherds." (See 2 Samuel 5:2, Isaiah 56:11 and Jeremiah 3:15.)

Unfortunately, Israel's shepherds were frequently negligent in their responsibilities to care for the people's material and spiritual needs.

This invoked God's anger and denunciation on many occasions and was a common theme for the prophets, such as in Ezekiel 34:2: "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sov-



ereign Lord says: Woe to the shepherds of Israel who only take care of themselves! Should not shepherds take care of the flock?"

Such condemnation of bad shepherds was often followed by God's promise to raise up a good shepherd for his people. "I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd." (Ezekiel. 34:23)

While David was indeed an example of a good shepherd, his reign pre-dated Ezekiel's time, making it obvious then that Ezekiel was not predicting the reign of David. Rather, the phrase "my servant David"

is a reference to the coming Messiah, a descendant or son of David.

In prophesying the birth of the Messiah in Bethlehem, the prophet Micah referred to him as one who would "stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God." (Micah 5:4)

So, when Jesus declared himself to be "the good shepherd," he was not only contrasting himself with the bad religious leaders of his time, but he was also revealing himself as the promised Messiah, the true shepherd of Israel.

As the good shepherd, Jesus was willing to lay down his life for his sheep. (See John 10:11 & 15)

Though his listeners did not understand the implication of his words, we certainly do. At the core of our faith is the fact that Jesus willingly laid down his life on the cross.

In addition to being Israel's Messiah, Jesus is also shepherd of the gentiles. "I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them

also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd." (John 10:16) As his "other sheep," we should rejoice that Jesus' love extends to us!

In the middle of this discourse, Jesus made an amazing statement, "I know my sheep and my sheep know me — just as the Father knows me and I know the Father." (John 10:14 & 15) What a comparison!

Earlier Jesus made the point that sheep follow their shepherd because they know his voice. Here he applied that image to his disciples, who were slowly growing in their understanding of who he was. But the startling point for me is that he referred to this relationship between himself and his disciples as a reflection of the relationship he has with his Father!

This speaks to me of the depth of love and trust that can and should characterize our relationship with Jesus. Experiencing his love and forgiveness in our lives should cause us to follow him more intentionally.

We do that in many ways

— through obedience, worship, prayer, the study of God's word, and regular fellowship with other believers. Over time, these spiritual practices will help deepen our love and growing intimacy with Jesus as our Saviour and Lord.

I think this may be part of what Jesus meant when he said, "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." (John 10:10)

Reading the rest of John 10, we see that the people were divided over Jesus. Some believed he was the Messiah. Others doubted.

The same is true today, of course. But for those of us who do believe, it is a wonderful thing to follow our shepherd and experience his tender loving care in our daily lives.

*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.*

## Woodstock happenings

**JUNE 21, AT CHRIST CHURCH WOODSTOCK**, the Solstice Morning Worship included the "baptism" of Jim Caldwell. Musicians were the Rev. Maria Shepherdson, Richard Wetmore and Stu Fleischhaker. Then on June 22, the parish celebrated the 220th anniversary of the founding of the Parish of Woodstock and building of Christ Church. Archbishop David Edwards attended. This year is the 160th anniversary of the "current" church building.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS



AROUND THE DIOCESE



Around the diocese

**THE MCMULLEN FAMILY** grew from two to seven in the past few years, with the adoption of five sisters. The Rev. Dan and his wife, Sarah Tabor, knew they wanted to adopt when they got married, and the thought of five sisters being split up and adopted to various families convinced them of the need to open their arms to all of them. Here they are enjoying Camp Medley during the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in May. Dan is the rector of the Parish of Sussex.  
Back row: Mia, 4, Dan, Sarah and Rosalie, 7. Front row: Sophie, 5, Brooklyn, 8, and Abby, 11.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**ARCHBISHOP DAVID EDWARDS** presided over a service of confirmation on May 11 at Stone Church in Saint John. Confirmed: Eli Corey, Ella Corey, Ebenezer Osagie and Samuel Chandra.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**COLOURFUL DECOR** welcomed everyone to the annual St. George's Day Spring Tea on April 26th at St. George's Church Hall in Moncton. This year we were delighted to welcome a very special guest: our most senior member of the Willing Workers and our oldest parishioner, Marjorie Sheehan, who celebrated her 103rd birthday on St. George's Day! She was presented with a cake, flowers and many good wishes.  
Held on the closest Saturday to St. George's Day (April 23), the Afternoon Tea, with a variety of delicious sandwiches and sweets and door prizes, was catered by the Willing Workers and enjoyed by many parishioners and friends.  
Marjorie, seated, is seen here with Barb Joudrey.

Want a subscription to the award-winning NB Anglican newspaper? Here's how!

Send your name, mailing address and telephone number (and email address if you have one) to the following, stating you would like to become a subscriber to the NB Anglican:

circulation@national.anglican.ca  
OR CALL 1-866-924-9192, ext. 245



Experience Kings Landing as an Anglican!

Every Sunday at 2 p.m. from June 8 to Thanksgiving, St. Mark's Chapel-of-Ease is the setting of a service of Evening Prayer. You are welcome to attend. No entrance fee. Come as you are!

Directions: Take exit 253 off the Trans-Canada Highway, or take route 102 north from Fredericton and enjoy the beauty of the St. John River along the way.

KINGS LANDING HISTORICAL SETTLEMENT

AROUND THE DIOCESE



ON  
VACATION!

Episcopal  
Announcements



Bishop David has appointed the **Rev. Christopher Ketch** as incumbent in shared ministry between the Parish of Kent and the Parish of Lancaster, effective Oct. 1. Chris will continue to reside in the Parish of Kent rectory but divide his time evenly between the two parishes, with a plan to full-time incumbency in Lancaster within two years.

Archbishop David Edwards has accepted the resignation of the **Rev. Canon Chris Van-Buskirk**, in order to retire, effective Oct. 31 in the Parish of The Six Saints, Moncton. Chris will serve as part-time priest-in-charge in the Parish

of Stanley, effective Nov. 9.

**Rob Pitman**, currently a ministry student in the Parish of Fundy and the Lakes, has been made a postulant in the diocese and a candidate towards ordination to the transitional diaconate. The ordination is scheduled for Sunday, Sept. 28 at Christ the King, Saint John.

**The Rev. Paul Jeffries**, missionary priest and Canon in Uganda, has resigned as principal of Bishop McAllister College in order to retire. He has started a two-year contract as part-time rector of the College.



**Jarred Beckerton, Youth & Family Ministry leader, Director of Music in the Parish of St. Andrews**

**Favourite book of the Bible:** Matthew

**Birthplace:** St. Andrews, NB

**What you love most about God:** Having hope in what's next in God's plan for me.

**Favourite place on Earth:** Anywhere on the water.

**Farthest you've been from home:** Toronto, Ont.

**Favourite meal or dessert:** Anything cooked by my Nan.

**Biggest fear:** Disappointing people I look up to.

**Hidden talent:** I am really good at making bread and biscuits.

**Favourite movie or book:** Not a book or movie, but my favourite TV show is *Mom*.

**Your hobby:** Sailing

**Three things always in your fridge:** Ketchup, cheese, and in the freezer, ice cream

**Favourite sports team:** I'm not a big sports fan, but by family tradition, I am compelled to say the Boston Bruins

**ACW** Wednesday, Sept. 10

**Quiet Day**

9:30 - Registration  
10 a.m. - Church service with Father Kevin Stockall  
11 a.m. - Craft at St. Mark's Hall  
Noon - Lunch  
1 p.m. - Finish craft  
2 p.m. - Guest speaker  
3 p.m. - Depart for home

St Mark's, Mount Whatley, Aulac, NB

Catch up on what's happening in the diocese. Subscribe to eNews today!

eNews is a weekly newsletter sent to you each Tuesday. You'll find a new story, diocesan and parish events, announcements and much more!

Did You Know?

[nb.anglican.ca/subscribers/news](mailto:nb.anglican.ca/subscribers/news)

**Seniors' Retreat**  
September 28-October 1  
**Camp Medley**  
\$150 plus tax

Come, relax and enjoy camp life. Experience archery, canoeing, specialty art projects, hiking, wellness stretching, work projects, games and campfire (storytime) while living in a Christian community. Great food and lodging provided. Arrival Sunday @ 4; departure Wednesday at 2.

Geared to 50+ but all adults welcome.  
Register online: [campmedley.ca](http://campmedley.ca)

AROUND THE DIOCESE



Discernment Retreat – Oct 31 to Nov 2 | Villa Madonna Retreat Centre

The Dioceses of Fredericton and Nova Scotia & PEI are partnering for a weekend of prayerful exploration of Christian vocation. Held at Villa Madonna, this retreat is open to anyone discerning a call to lay ministry, religious life, the diaconate, or the priesthood.

Participants will hear from the bishops, clergy, and lay leaders, share stories of discernment, and spend time in worship and reflection together. Whether you're just beginning to wonder or already on the journey, you're invited to come and listen for God's call. Space is limited. For more information or to register, visit: [nb.anglican.ca/DiscernmentRetreat2025](http://nb.anglican.ca/DiscernmentRetreat2025)


Honour Roll recipient



SUBMITTED PHOTO


**MARY JANET CLIFT** has given about 40 years of her time to various workings of the church. She has supplied summer sales and Christmas bazaars with many tasty bits from her kitchen. Fudge, in particular, is always a highlight, prepared and served at many receptions. She has attended numerous meetings and held various offices within the Parish of St. Andrews. Her decorating talents adorn our church and property for the special occasions of Christmas, Easter and Remembrance Day. She presides over the alter guild and ensures that all linens are properly attended to. The ACW is honored to present Mary Janet with the well-deserved Honour Roll certificate for all she has done to support her church family and ministry. In addition, the award includes a donation, given in the name of the recipient, to a charity of her choice. Mary Janet chose the local Charlotte County Dial-a-Ride, a transportation service provided to seniors, shut-ins and residents who are unable to drive yet require conveyance to hospital, doctor or rehabilitation appointments.

### You can deliver life-saving light to women and babies




**“Will this baby cry?”** asks the mother. Beneath the steady glow of light provided by a Solar Suitcase, midwife Ancha and her team resuscitate the newborn. That light is the difference between life and loss.

Together we can continue to bring safe, reliable light and electricity to health clinics in Mozambique and Madagascar. The Solar Suitcase helps health workers care for women and babies, even after dark.




Scan the QR code to make your gift, or visit [alongsidehope.org/solar-suitcase](http://alongsidehope.org/solar-suitcase), or call 1-866-308-7973.



Alongside Hope

**Be the light. Give today.**

Every gift is matched up to **\$150,000**, doubling your impact.



**Alongside Hope**

Anglicans and partners working for change in Canada and around the world

80 Hayden St.,  
Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2  
416-924-9192  
1-866-308-7973  
[info@alongsidehope.org](mailto:info@alongsidehope.org)  
[alongsidehope.org](http://alongsidehope.org)

[@AlongsideHope](https://www.facebook.com/AlongsideHope) [@AlongsideHope](https://www.instagram.com/AlongsideHope) [@alongsidehope](https://www.linkedin.com/company/alongsidehope) [@alongsidehopecan](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

Getting Ready  
For  
**September**

To advertise your fall events  
please contact Angela  
[nbanglican.ads@gmail.com](mailto:nbanglican.ads@gmail.com)  
905-630-0390