

From the Bishop's Desk...

Companions on the Journey

I had the opportunity to join our Companion Diocese of Montreal the first weekend in October. I was there on the occasion of the consecration and installation of their next bishop Victor-David Mbuyi Bipungo.

It was an absolute joy to participate and witness the consecration and installation of Bishop Victor-David. It brought back memories of my own consecration. The bishops gathered ahead of the service to sign and seal in wax their respective insignia. This ancient ritual reminds us that the bishops are tasked with maintaining the unity of the church through their commitment to be in relationship with each other. Unity doesn't mean conformity. It means we strive to walk, pray and serve together in the name of Christ. We do this because our relationships and our capacity to share the love of God gives witness to what matters most – our relationship with God and each other.

Partnership or companion relationships are just that...a relationship. It's an opportunity to connect, spend time together, pray and learn from each other. Visiting each other's diocese allows us to experience the Anglican Church in its many forms and expressions.

Some of us had a chance to connect with the Montreal delegates when we attended General Synod in June of this year. This was my second visit to Montreal and it felt very much like coming home. Folks remembered my last visit and were eager to hear updates about life in the Territory. I attended their one-day business synod on the Saturday between the consecration and the installation that followed on Sunday. I was given a short time to speak about what is happening in the Territory and to talk about some of the ways that we might continue to grow our relationships.

They were eager to hear more and several folks made a point of coming to me to say that they prayed weekly for us in the Territory, and I was able to say that we too did the same. Some of the ideas included youth exchanges, having our Licensed Lay Ministers of Word and Sacrament and their Lay Readers come together (on Zoom) to learn from each other, having postulants or newly ordained clergy spend time in each other's diocese/territory to expand their knowledge of the Anglican Way in different parts of the country. The possibilities are endless!

I came away excited and eager to bring together a group of people in the Territory who might want to be a part of this Companion Dioceses relationship and be a part of dreaming/creating ways that we might learn and share in ministry together. If this is something that intrigues you, let me know!

In Christ's Service,

+Clara

Bishop's Schedule September-October

October

Oct 2-7 – Diocese of Montreal visit (Consecration/Installation Bishop-elect Victor-David Mbuyi Bipungu)
Oct 9 – Deconsecration of St. Andrews Boothroyd
Oct 12 – St. Paul Cathedral Parish Visit - Thanksgiving
Oct 14 -17 – Council of General Synod (CoGS) Planning/Agenda Team in-person mtg Toronto
Oct 18 – Fraser Basin Properties Society AGM - Kamloops
Oct 19 – St. Alban's, Ashcroft Parish Visit – Confirmation Service
Oct 20-23 – Clergy Conference Sorrento Centre

November

Nov 2 – Administration Committee Mtg (Zoom)
Nov 3 – 6 – National House of Bishops Mtg – Niagara Falls
Nov 7 – 9 – Council of the North Mtg – Niagara Falls
Nov 15 – Coordinating Council Mtg (Zoom)
Nov 18 – Clericus 3 pm (Zoom)
Nov 24 – Bishop's Advent Bible Study 3pm Mondays (Zoom) – 4 weeks
Nov 26 – 30 – Council of General Synod – Toronto

Prayer Corner



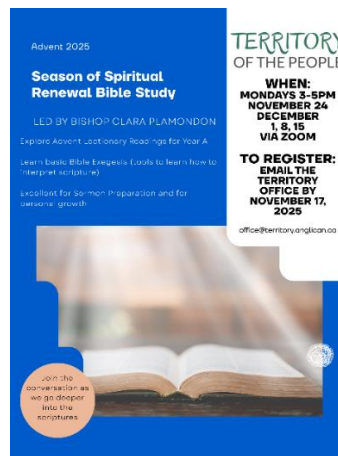
- * We pray for our neighbours, families, and friends that they may experience the love of Christ in and through us.
- * We pray for our Pastoral Elders: Ursula Drynock, Amy Charlie, Pauline, and Ernie Michell
- * We pray for The National Church House staff team including the newly appointed General Secretary, Dr. Andrea Mann.
- * We pray for the next Archbishop of Canterbury, The Rt. Rev. and Rt. Hon. Sarah Mullally.
- * We pray for leaders around the globe that their hearts will be softened and willing to work for the common good.
- * We pray for wisdom and courage as people of faith that we will seek hope and practice hope wherever we are.
- * We pray for all who are confined by illness, praying they may find peace and strength in the love and care they receive from others.
- * We pray for those who are discerning a call to a vocation in the church.
- * We pray for peace in the world, especially in the Middle East (Gaza, Israel, Iran), Ukraine, and Russia.
- * We pray for those who suffer through environmental disasters such as earthquakes, fire and floods.
- * We pray for those who are nearing death or have died, and for those who mourn.

A Thanksgiving Prayer

O gracious God, who so generously lavishes our lives with goodness, create in our hearts a deep center of gratitude, a center that grows so strong in its thanksgiving that sharing freely of our treasures becomes the norm and the pattern of our existence. Remind us often of how much you cherish us, of how abundantly you have offered gifts to us, especially in the hours of our greatest need. May we always be grateful for your reaching into our lives with surprises of joy, growth, and unearned love. Amen.

~Joyce Rupp, Fresh Bread: And Other Gifts of Spiritual Nourishment, pg 147

Bishop's Advent Bible Study – Nov 24 – Dec 15, 2025



What: Season of Spiritual Renewal Bible Study with the Bishop
When: Mondays from 3-5 pm on Zoom – November 24, December 1, 8, 15

Territory News

Provincial School for Congregational Development Resumed in Whitehorse Yukon.

Shantel Windt (St. John the Divine Quesnel), Karen Rooke (St. Alban's Ashcroft) and the bishop travelled to Whitehorse to participate in the next training session hosted by the Ecclesiastical Province of BC/Yukon. This course is held twice a year and rotates being held in all six dioceses/territory. It is an opportunity for learning, relationship building amongst participants and to equip them for leadership and congregational development. The Territory was able to secure a grant through the Special Projects grant with the Council of the North, and received an additional grant through the Provincial School that allowed our participants to attend.



Cathedral draws a crowd for a Nigerian Style Service!

On October 5th, over 200 people gathered in St. Paul's Cathedral for a Nigeria-led service. The service was led by Mr. Idowu Aina, who is the Lay-Pastoral Associate at St. Paul's, and involved participation from many of the African parishioners at the Cathedral.

Notable additions to the regular worship at the Cathedral were a "Praise and Worship Time", as well as "Thanksgiving" in which members danced up to the front of the Cathedral to receive a blessing. The service was followed by an incredible lunch, which included Nigerian dishes such as Puff Puff, Swallow, Jollof Rice, and Pepper Soup. The service was enjoyed by everyone. No doubt we will see this happening again!



St. Andrews Boothroyd parish Deconsecrated Oct 9th

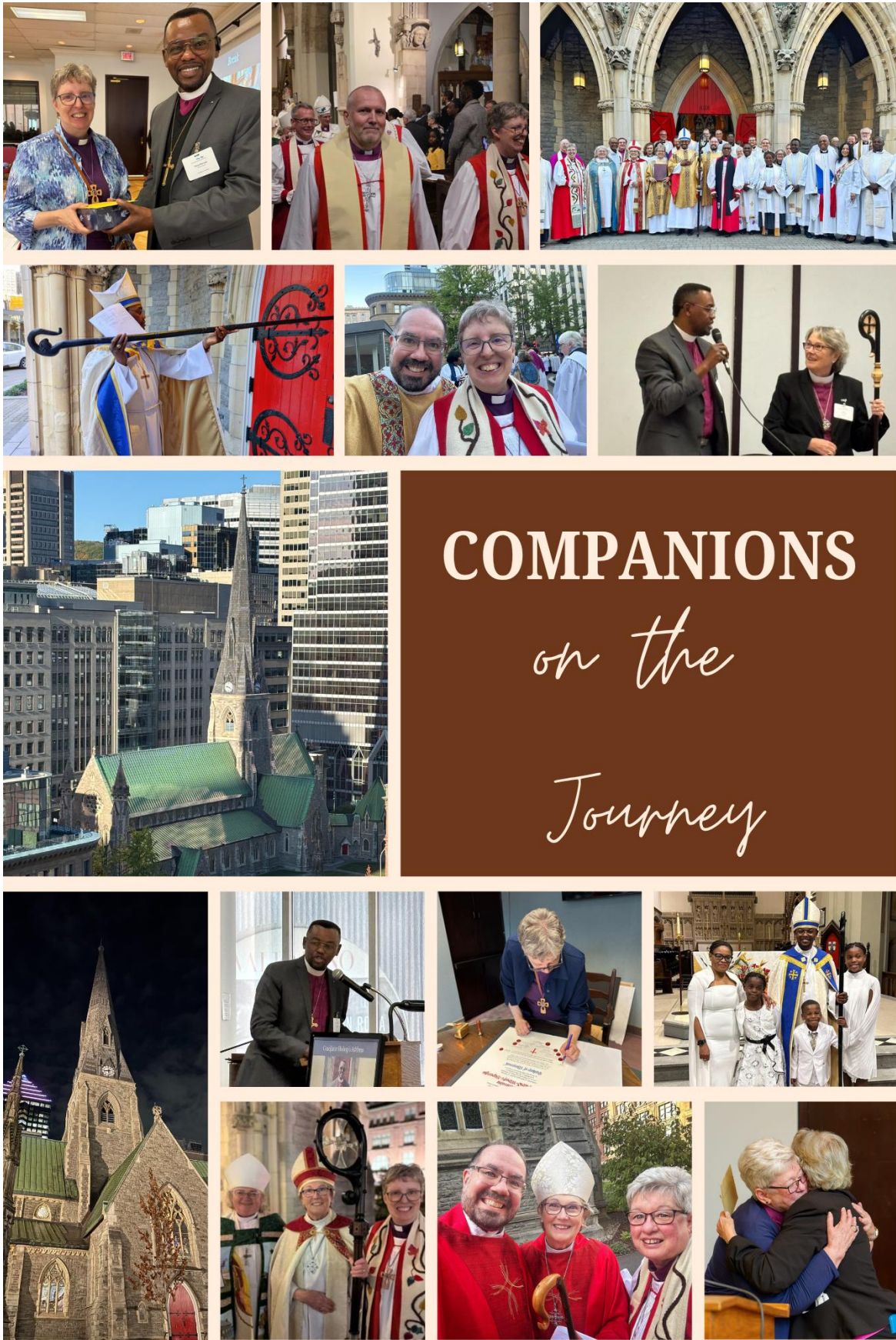
The sign on the wall of St. Andrews Boothroyd says that this parish is a part of the larger Lytton Parishes that were established in 1867. The best we can determine from the archives is that St. Andrews was established around 1964 and has been an important presence in the community. Sadly, the building has deteriorated to the point of no return and is no longer safe for public use. The band has decided to tear the structure down.

Members of the Boothroyd community and several of the Pastoral Elders, Rev. Angus Muir, Rev. Darren Bell and the Bishop gathered to remember and honour the history of this parish, and in particular the ancestors who faithfully served and worshipped in this community. Memories of being an altar boy,

ringing the bell at the start of services or at the beginning of a funeral service, weddings, and youth being encouraged (bribed!) to come to church by promising treats after the service. There were tears and laughter as we remembered together. The doors of the dilapidated church were opened to pray and invite the ancestors to join us as we began the short service of deconsecration. After our time of prayer and sharing, the doors of the building were closed as the Pastoral Elders ended our time with song and drumming. Lunch was shared at the nearby Boothroyd Hall.



Companions on the Journey in photos!



For more news check our website out at <https://www.territoryofthepeople.ca/>