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THE NEW BRUNSWICK

ANGLICAN



A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL

JUNE 2026

SERVING THE DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON



DERWIN GOWAN PHOTO

SPECIAL SYNOD SESSION

THE 140TH SESSION OF DIOCESAN SYNOD, this one a special gathering, took place at Christ Church Cathedral April 18 with one motion on the agenda: saving the Cathedral. After much debate and many opinions expressed, members voted to forego any mention of deconsecration or a foundation that would have allowed it to apply for heritage grants, in favour of allowing the Holy Spirit to guide them in how to proceed. In the photo, Archbishop David Edwards addresses members, while the Rev. Mike Caines approaches the microphone to speak. Read about the gathering and see photos of the day on pages 8, 9 and 10.

Summer camp open houses

June 20 - Camp Medley

June 27 - Camp Brookwood

Come and enjoy a carefree day and discover the beauty, wonder and fun of summer camp! All free, all welcome!

campmedley.ca

campbrookwood.ca



'Accessories for Necessities' in Hammond River

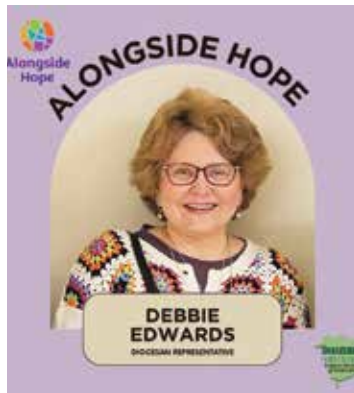
Alongside Hope: Anglicans and Partners working for change in Canada and around the world.

During 2024-2025, Alongside Hope worked with partners in 30 countries on 53 projects. As a result, there were almost 290,000 beneficiaries worldwide.

The total cost of these projects was about \$4.8 million. It goes without saying, none of this is possible without faithful giving from many donors.

Past articles have highlighted ways in which to give, such as being a monthly donor, giving to an urgent request, (such as after Hurricane Fiona hit), or by the purchase of a gift through "World of Gifts."

If you go to Alongside Hope's website, www.alongside-hope.org, you will see three tabs which provide more information, as well as links to donate. These links are titled Ways to



Give, World of Gifts, and Give Today.

Of course, there are many ways individuals and parishes have raised money for the work of Alongside Hope.

In this article I am showcasing an event which was held at Holy Trinity, Hammond River. The event was the brainchild of Kathy Allaby and took place April 18.

Kathy called her event "Accessories for Necessities." For a small donation, used accessories were available to "purchase," giving the event its

name.

My mother, Blanche Prince, who attended the event with me, was delighted to find a gently used brown purse! There was also an opportunity to do a variety of craft projects, while enjoying a snack and fellowship.

In addition, I gave a short presentation on the work of Alongside Hope and how my trip to Kenya made hope, alongside some of our partners, come alive for me.

This is just one of many terrific ideas from around our diocese. Please remember to share what you are doing in your parish so we can all be inspired.

As always, I am available to come to a service or another event and share the fabulous work of Alongside Hope, making a difference in Canada and around the world.

Contact: deborahcollicott@gmail.com



SUBMITTED PHOTO

KATHY ALLABY, organizer of Accessories for Necessities, Holy Trinity Hammond River, crafting during the event.

Alongside Hope Regional Gathering in June

Alongside Hope and the Diocese of Fredericton invite you to a regional gathering of Alongside Hope volunteers in Fredericton.

- Christ Church Cathedral, 168 Church St. Fredericton
- Friday, June 19, noon to 5:30 p.m.
- Saturday, June 20, 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Who's Invited:

- Diocesan representatives from the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada
- Mapping exercise facilitators from the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada
- Parish representatives from the Diocese of Fredericton (Saturday only)

Time together will include:

- Information session on Alongside Hope
- Volunteer networking session to get to know one another, share experiences and encourage one another
- Presentation on Alongside Hope's Kenya partners and experiences from the 2025 Alongside Hope delegation and the 2026 Canadian Foodgrains Bank Learning Tour.
- Mapping The Ground We Stand On (mapping exercise) — Alongside Hope's education for reconciliation workshop
- A focused conversation with CFGB and diocesan reps on collaboration and on encouraging opportunities for Grow Hope projects

For more information, how to register and travel plans contact Debbie Edwards, diocesan representative: deborahcollicott@gmail.com

Letters
to the editor

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

DEADLINE for news and photos for the September edition of the New Brunswick Anglican is **August 1**. Send submissions to communications@anglican.nb.ca

THE NEW BRUNSWICK
ANGLICAN

www.anglican.nb.ca

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New Brunswick Christian Ashram

The NBCA is pleased to welcome Archbishop David Edwards as their main speaker this summer.

The NBCA is an annual non-denominational all-ages retreat, and part of the international ministry of United Christian Ashrams. The NBCA takes place at Beulah Camp and Conference Centre, on the banks of the Wolastoq (St. John River) at Browns Flat, and runs from August 6-9 this summer.



For more information, visit the NBCA webpage (nbca.ca)

Not so ordinary time

We have just entered Ordinary Time in the church's year. As you know, this happens twice, once after Epiphany and again after Pentecost.

Each week from now until Advent we will generally see green hangings in our churches until deep into fall.

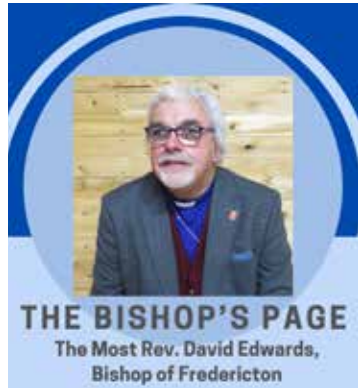
Why is the colour for these seasons green? As often in church, symbolism reflects the natural world. The season begins either in late May or early June.

In the Middle Ages they used a phrase, "Cast n'er a clout 'til May be out."

In other words, it can be cold in May so don't remove any layers of clothing.

It is after May starts that things really begin to grow in our fields, yards and gardens. It is green for growth, but, as always, there is more.

As things grow, it makes us aware of the continuity of life.



It is also a season for spiritual growth.

In a sense since Advent, apart from the time between Epiphany and Lent, our Christian life has been a series of special events.

There was Advent, the penitential lead up to Christmas and the looking forward to the second coming of Jesus. Then Christmas itself.

After Epiphany we move onto Lent, preparing for Holy

Week and the Great Festival of Easter.

We move to Ascension, Pentecost and finally Trinity Sunday as we begin Ordinary time.

It is quite a marathon of events packed into six months.

Now it is Ordinary Time where we can breathe and take time to learn how to better walk with Jesus in the everyday activities of our lives.

The packed seasons from Advent onwards push us in certain directions of penitence and celebration.

But now is the time to reflect and grow in our life in Christ, having been built up by the times that have just passed.

On Pentecost Sunday we were reminded of the giving of the Holy Spirit. On the night when he had his final supper with the disciples, Jesus told them that he would send them the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. This idea of comfort has two

aspects, care and concern; and pushing us on.

During ordinary time, we can explore the ways of the Spirit, taking time to listen.

Perhaps our listening is in silence, reading books and/or scripture, listening to or watching podcasts, walking in the creation to which the green of the season points us.

In a sense, it does not matter how we do it, but more what we do.

What are we doing to learn how best to walk with Jesus day by day over these next months?

David Edwards is Diocesan Bishop of Fredericton.

PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS

June 7
Stone Church, Parish of St. Mark, Saint John

June 14
Trinity Sussex*
combined service

June 16
Retired Clergy Tea,
Christ Church Cathedral

June 20
Camp Medley Open
House

June 25-27
Mothers' Union
National Gathering,
Villa Madonna

June 28
Church of the
Resurrection, Parish of
the Nerepis and St. John*

July 5
Parish of New Bandon
- 125th Anniversary of
Christ Church

July 6 - August 5
Vacation

August 6-9
NB Christian Ashram

Aug. 17-22
St. Michael's
Youth Conference

August 30
Parish of Kent*

*Confirmation

Some thoughts on the Bible

One of the things I appreciate about the Anglican tradition is its focus on the Bible.

This is readily seen by the amount of scripture read during our services — a psalm, a passage from a New Testament epistle and one from a Gospel.

In my church we also include a reading from the Old Testament.

These portions of scripture are not randomly chosen. Rather, they are appointed according to a lectionary designed to give us a comprehensive exposure to the whole Bible over time.

As good as it is to hear the scriptures read each Sunday, it is even better when we develop the habit of reading the Bible for ourselves throughout the week.

But reading alone is not enough either. We are to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them.

Most Anglicans will find those words very familiar! They come from a prayer written by Thomas Cranmer, the author of the Book of Common Prayer, and still found in the Collect for the Second Sunday in Advent:

"Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning; grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn, and



inwardly digest them ..."

If we attend church regularly, we will certainly hear the scriptures being read. But what does it mean to "mark" them?

I think it means we are to pay attention to what is being read — think about the words, imagine the setting, note the commands to obey, the promises to believe or the warnings to heed.

We are to go beyond just noticing things, to learning from what we read.

The Holy Spirit is our teacher, so we can start by asking the Spirit to open our minds to understand the passage. Is God saying something to us? Is there something we need to study more?

Are there other passages of scripture that would shed light on the meaning? Are there commentaries or study guides that can help us understand it

better?

Of course, we benefit from thoughtful sermons that pull out the things that we should be seeing in the passage, what it teaches us about our faith and how to apply spiritual truths to our own lives. But even good sermons cannot do it all!

It is on us to "inwardly digest them." I love this very graphic phrase. It makes me think of a cow chewing its cud!

It emphasizes the need to engage with scripture on a deeper level. Do we take time to meditate on the words we're reading?

Do we read and re-read them? Perhaps even memorize them?

I think of the psalmist's words, "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." (Psalm 119:11)

The Bible is the basis of our doctrines about God, humanity, sin, salvation, eternal life, and so on.

We know about these things because God has chosen to reveal the truth through his servants — the prophets, priests, poets, historians and apostles — who wrote the 66 books of the Old and New Testaments.

More than doctrinal truth, the Bible also gives us instruction on how to live in ways that

please God.

Our values and priorities should be shaped by scripture, not by the world that lures us away from God.

The Apostle Paul warned about that: "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." (Romans 12:2)

Reading the scriptures is not just about gaining head knowledge. The effort we put into understanding the Bible will go a long way to transforming the way we think and live.

Not sure where to start? There are lectionaries available for both the BCP and the BAS.

Or check out daily reading programs from the Canadian Bible Society, Our Daily Bread Ministries or Scripture Union Canada.

May the Lord deepen our hunger for his word and help us to make it a priority to read the scriptures every day, even during the summer!

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.

Have a restful, enjoyable summer!

The New Brunswick Anglican will return with a new edition in September.

In the meantime, stay in touch and informed via eNews, which is published and sent out every other week during the summer.

INNER CITY YOUTH MINISTRY

ICYM moves on to a new model, and hopefully, a new home

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Inner City Youth Ministry in Saint John finds itself in need of a new home as they head in a new direction.

The outreach program that focuses on family and children has been headquartered at the Anglophone South School District office in Saint John's north end for three years.

It was from the large industrial kitchen there that ICYM ran its Lunch Connection program, providing lunch for hundreds of school children each week.

"This space worked well. It was perfect," said Bonnie Hunt, executive director of ICYM. "We're very sad."

Dozens of volunteers met several days a week to prepare food and pack lunches into cloth bags, sewn by hundreds of Anglicans and other helpers in the past few years.

But much of that is about to change.

"It was all good until the province rolled out its plan for a universal lunch program," said Bonnie. "They want this space. They have a breakfast program. Now they'll have a lunch program that's the same throughout the province."

ICYM could have bid on providing lunches. They'd have had to provide 1,800 to 2,000 lunches a day.

"The highest we've done is 700 in a day," said Bonnie.

In considering the option, they made a pros and cons list and did a sample menu.

"It would have meant hiring staff, but running at that volume seemed to be too much," said Bonnie. "That's not our mandate. We're not caterers."

And so Lunch Connection, as a school lunch program, will end in June.

PIVOTING

But that doesn't mean the end of ICYM. They will continue their other programs and even hope to expand some.

They hold Family Connection once a month, in person. Families come for games, activities and a shared meal, and leave with a kit to help with at-home activities like reading together. Usually 30-40 people attend.

Every Friday, ICYM partners with Pennies and Sparrows and the Church of the Good Shepherd for Youth Connection, a youth group that includes a meal, activities and bible study.

In the summer months, ICYM hold a twice-weekly picnic in the south end, where the



MCKNIGHT PHOTO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR of Inner City Youth Ministry Bonnie Hunt with the foods they use to feed hundreds of school children each week at several Saint John schools. But the provincial lunch program starting in the fall has them pivoting to a new model. They will also need a new home as theirs will be taken over by the new lunch providers.

PHOTO AT RIGHT shows the laundry sacks of lunch bags they've used to package student lunches for the past few years. They were sewn by hundreds of Anglicans and friends and ICYM does not want to part with them, at least not yet. Photo also shows the well-equipped facility they must vacate.



BONNIE HUNT PHOTO



MCKNIGHT PHOTO

AT LEFT, VOLUNTEERS pack dried apple slices, which make up part of ICYM's very popular trail mix. The group bought two industrial dehydrators for apples, bananas and carrots that help with making the trail mix. They plan to keep the dehydrators.

MISSION IN MOTION: children

community gathers for lunch and the children enjoy games, reading and other activities.

Bonnie is hopeful that the backpack program, usually held during the summer months

when kids aren't at school, will continue throughout the year.

Each family gets a backpack with a recipe, ingredients, utensils if necessary, a book, and discussion starter questions.

"It's like a local version of Hello Fresh," said Bonnie, adding some families can access it due to convenience (and pay for it), while others already appreciate the much-needed

donation of food and the means to make a meal for their family.

"Families particularly love the discussion starter questions," said Bonnie.

Sample questions include, if you could have any superpower, what would it be; is there anything about you that you'd like me to know; what makes you sad; what would you like to be when you grow up.

EQUIPMENT & VOLUNTEERS

By June, the equipment ICYM has accumulated will be sold or moved to a new location, depending on the new needs.

"Anything not nailed down is ours: the shelving, deep freezers, dishwasher, utensils, bins, pots, popcorn maker, induction stove tops and industrial freeze dryers," said Bonnie.

They also have close to 5,000 cloth lunch bags that they're not ready to give away just yet. They might find uses for them, and if the universal lunch program doesn't work as planned, they could come in handy.

They'll hold on to as many of their volunteers as possible, since they'll still need community help no matter what their new roles are.

"Volunteers will still make the trail mix, portion snacks and pack backpacks and get them ready for distribution," she said.

A NEW ERA

ICYM has been asked by one school to operate their breakfast program, and it will be a sit-down model, not a grab and go, so Bonnie is pleased they'll see and talk to kids once again.

One of the most welcome changes she is anticipating is getting back to interacting with families. With Lunch Connection, the focus was solely on food, not building relationships.

"I'm very excited to be working with children and families again," said Bonnie. "I've missed that on a personal basis.

While things like location are still up in the air, Bonnie is moving forward with hope and purpose.

"We've always been focused on finding needs and meeting them. We've always flipped to meet the need. COVID expanded that need, but now we don't need that anymore. Someone else is meeting that need, so we'll find the next need.

"I'm excited for a new era." [Learn more here: https://icym.ca/](https://icym.ca/) **Learn about ICYM's specific space needs on page 11.**

Postulant Ellen Kelly chosen for prestigious trip to study ethics

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Ellen Kelly has travelled to many places in the world, but the trip she'll be taking in June promises to be one for the ages.

Ellen is a postulant in the Diocese of Fredericton, the daughter of Fawna (Crowther) and the Rt. Rev. Stephen Andrews, and is on track to graduate with a Masters of Divinity from Wycliffe College in May.

The trip she will take is to Germany and Poland, where she will be immersed in a two-week program in what was Nazi-occupied Europe as an exercise in ethical responsibility.

She is one of 14 clergy Fellows chosen for the all-expenses-paid learning experience through FASPE — Fellowships at Auschwitz for the Study of Professional Ethics — headquartered in New York City.

"I didn't know it existed until a professor forwarded me an email from the Fellowship," said Ellen. "He said, 'I think you should think about applying for this.'"

The application, subsequent interview and the trip itself have been and will be intense, she said.

"One question asked about our weaknesses and vulnerabilities, that, if left unchecked,

could impact a group you're leading," she said. "I gave honest and raw answers."

The interviewer asked if she'd ever been to a place similar to a concentration camp. As it happens, she had.

She and her husband, James, taught English in Japan for three years, and while there, visited the **Hiroshima Peace Memorial**, where the United States dropped an atomic bomb Aug. 6, 1945, which led to the end of the Second World War.

One of the more unique aspects of the experience will be learning about the perpetrators and their role in the rise of Nazism in Europe during the 1930s and 1940s.

"It uses the conduct of professionals in Nazi-occupied Europe as an initial framework for approaching ethical responsibility in the professions today," says the press release describing the trip.

"It will be useful to ask ethical questions and realize we don't have all the answers," said Ellen.

She and the other 13 in the clergy group will travel with two leaders, a rabbi and a Yale Divinity School professor. Her group will travel with similar-sized groups from the journal-

ism and medicine sectors.

Ellen was one of 200 applicants in the clergy group. She is part of a diverse group of 84 FASPE Fellows across six programs — clergy, journalism, medicine, law, business, and design and technology — who were chosen from over 1,400 applicants from across the U.S. and the world for the 2026 program.

She and her group will fly to Berlin June 19, spending time there and in Krakow, Poland. They will participate in other field trips and tours, including Auschwitz, the largest of the Nazi death camps.

"At Auschwitz, they provide space, time and counselling, to give the opportunity to unpack what you're seeing," said Ellen. "It's going to be incredibly emotional, but I expect for God to show up. God was there the whole time."

Despite the subject matter, Ellen is excited about the trip because it's a place she's wanted to visit. Her interest in the Second World War has helped prepare her for it.

In becoming a Fellow of FASPE, Ellen will join an alumni of nearly 1,000. They hold annual reunion conferences, workshops, symposia, and



SUBMITTED PHOTO

POSTULANT ELLEN KELLY will travel to Germany and Poland this summer as a fellow of FASPE, the Fellowships at Auschwitz for the Study of Professional Ethics

continued trips to significant historical sites — all in an effort to maintain relationships and ensure the commitment to ethi-

cal behaviour remains strong. To learn more about FASPE and its programs, visit www.faspe-ethics.org.

Episode 2 ~ THE TRANSCENDENTALS



Marks of Mission can be helpful.

These are summarized as tell, teach, tend, transform, and treasure. Find out more about the Five Marks of Mission here: <https://www.anglican.ca/resources/marks-of-mission/>

To align our lives with the True, praying the daily Examen can be helpful.

This simple but powerful prayer is an excellent way to develop an increasing awareness of God's grace — that is, Christ's presence and action — in our lives.

The Five Movements (5 Rs) of the Examen comprise reverence for the presence of God, recruiting/requesting the guidance of the Holy Spirit, reviewing our day, responding with gratitude and asking for forgiveness, and resolving to move into the next day in closer connection with the Jesus we follow.

Find out more about the

On the first Saturday in May, a group of diocesan layreaders gathered in Fredericton to consider personal prayer practices.

They were encouraged during that gathering to "turn to the transcendentals" — the Good, the True, and the Beautiful — which correspond to Christ as the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

To align our lives with the Good, remembering our promises to love God and others, and (re-) committing to the Five



SHAWN BRANCH PHOTO

ARCHBISHOP DAVID EDWARDS prays during Layreaders' Day on May 2. The theme was personal prayer practises, led by Kurt Schmidt.

Examen here: <https://www.jesuits.org/spirituality/the-ignatian-examen/>

And to align our lives with

the Beautiful, finding ways to nurture creativity and imagination is the key. The "Way of Beauty" is a pathway to

increased wonder and appreciation that recognizes divine fingerprints in creation (the natural world), in the wide range of arts (visual, literary, musical, athletic, culinary, and so on) and above all in Christ, the Beauty of Holiness Incarnate.

At the Layreaders' Day, each participant wrote an original Collect as an exercise in creative, responsive expression.

Read an interesting short article about the Way of Beauty here: <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/the-via-pulchritudinis-or-how-music-saved-my-soul/>

Turning to the Transcendentals can help us stay connected to Christ the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

So, in a contemporary culture that can sometimes (or perhaps often) feel like it foregrounds evil, falsehood and ugliness, let us witness to our deep faith by upholding, uplifting, and celebrating the Good, the True, and the Beautiful.

Kurt Schmidt is the missionary for Christian formation in the Diocese. This is the second in his series called Taking Shape: Topics In Faith Formation.

MU rally celebrates 150 years

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

The annual Mothers' Union rally, held this year at St. Mary and St. Bartholomew church in Saint John April 25, began as all MU rallies do — with a banner parade into the sanctuary.

Worldwide MU president Kathleen Snow, a member of the Cathedral branch, brought greetings to the 61 members in attendance. The service was led by the Rev. Ann Fairweather and the Rev. Caleb Twinamatsiko, diocesan MU chaplain.

The gospel reading was from John 10. It says, "Very truly I tell you Pharisees, anyone who does not enter the sheep pen by the gate, but climbs in by some other way, is a thief and a robber... his sheep follow him because they know his voice."

In his homily, Caleb told of his own experience with thieves and robbers while he was headmaster at Bishop McAllister College in Uganda.

"One of my many responsibilities was to always know where everyone was," he said. "I had to make sure the students and staff followed the schedule — every day, every week, every month, every year. I was the last one going to sleep every night and the first one out each morning."

But on this particular night, after a long day and a long evening meeting, Caleb sat on his bed, planning to get up in a minute and go check on everyone. But soon, without intending to, he was sound asleep.

He was awakened at 2 a.m. by a knock at the door and the news that a dead body had been found.

"We found another one in my office tied with someone who was still alive," he recounted.

In all, three watchmen died that night defending the school from 'thieves and robbers' who were "trying to steal money that wasn't there," he said.

His heart pounding, he was most fearful for the children, so he told the teachers to gather the students for a headcount.

"I wondered how many children are already killed. I prayed a short prayer, 'Lord, take me through this.'"

"The children were in shock. When they saw me coming, there was relief on their faces," he said. "I recall how the children looked at me."

Jesus, the good shepherd, was willing to give his life for us, and someone who doesn't love you is not going to sacrifice

their life, he said.

"The voices of the strangers are more and more today," he said. "This — Jesus — is the voice we need to respond to."

In closing, Caleb said he is always happy to spend time with Mothers' Union.

"I will stay until you fire me!" he said.

The service also included mention of departed MU members whose names appear in the Book of Remembrance.

ORIGINS OF MOTHERS' UNION

On the occasion of the 150th anniversary of Mothers' Union, 11 Cathedral branch members presented a short play on the origins of MU. Susan Watson fashioned the skit with help from AI. Hymns were sung throughout the scenes.

The play began in the home of founder Mary Sumner, and

her husband, the Rev. George Sumner.

"Mary believed strong families began with strong mothers," said the narrator. "She believed change could begin within families and communities."

From the dialogue, it was clear that George was a strong supporter of his wife's plans. When she asked, 'what if people think my ideas are foolish?' he quipped, 'When God gives someone a calling, He also gives the courage to follow it. God provides.'

"Change cannot happen if we wait for others," said Mary. "There is no greater inspiration in the world than a mother who cares about her family and community."

"From that humble day, Mothers' Union began to grow, across towns, across generations," said the narrator.

"From that first small meeting of mothers, a movement has grown to four million members in over 80 countries. It all began with one member who believed when mothers stand together, they can change the world."

Cast of characters:

Narrator – Bonnie Greenwood
Mary Sumner – Diane Radford
The Rev. George Sumner – John DosSantos
Village Mother – Joanne Barfitt
Young Boy – Rosa Macauley
Young Girl – Isabel Cutler
Lady 1 – Susan Watson
Lady 2 – Lilian Ketch
Lady 3 – Susan Black
Mother 1 – Kathleen Snow
Maid: Michele LeBlanc
Pianist: Diane Nash

Lunch was a delicious assortment of soups, plus make-your-own sandwiches with a

variety of fillings. The dessert was homemade sweets and an anniversary cake.

SESSIONS

Two sessions formed the agenda for the afternoon. The Rev. Jasmine Chandra spoke on the power and authority of women, even in eras and societies where women are seemingly powerless.

The Industrial Revolution in the UK sent men into factories, leaving the wives to run the household, she said.

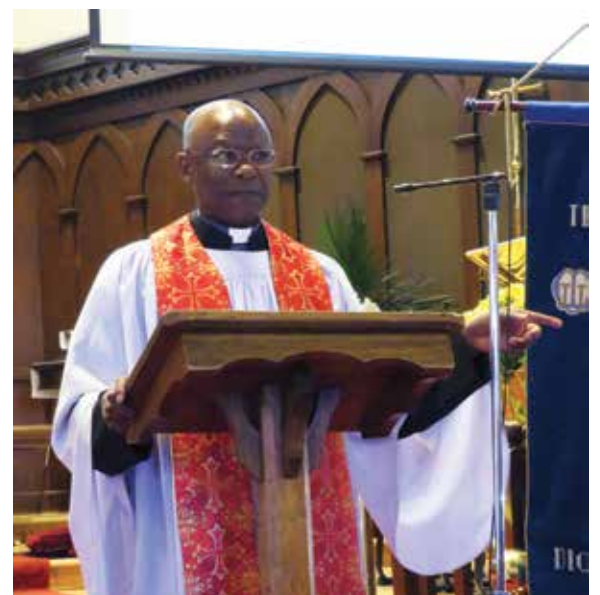
"You might think women had no authority on spiritual matters, but that is not so," she said. "Women were the spiritual centre of the family and household. They were the priests of the home."

Jasmine noted a book writ-

MU continued on page 7



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



TOP: Members of the Cathedral branch of Mothers' Union put on a play that described the origins of the worldwide mission.

ABOVE LEFT: Ready for the banner parade: Diana Brideau, St. Paul's Hampton (far left); Sheila Staples, All Saints Marysville; and Sandra Cormier, St. Mary & St. Bartholomew, Saint John.

ABOVE RIGHT: The Rev. Caleb Twinamatsiko, diocesan chaplain of MU, during his homily.

MOTHERS' UNION

Mothers' Union rally, continued

ten by Marion Taylor, called *Let Her Speak For Herself*, which researched the works of women who had interpreted the bible in the 19th century.

"Women couldn't teach or preach, but they could write!" she said. "And they did this in the middle of all their other duties."

In all this, women understood they were the moral guardians of society and of their homes and families, she said.

Jasmine also gave examples of the mission of Pennies and Sparrows, a ministry run by her husband Terence and herself. The two are also the priests-in-charge at Stone Church, where much of their outreach takes place.

She noted the Human Development Council's annual Child Poverty Report showed the lowest rate in Dieppe, the highest in Campbellton.

New Brunswick's average is one in five children living in poverty — in a household that cannot afford basic needs.

"Saint John's is between 10 and 85 per cent," she said, adding the Waterloo neighbourhood, where Stone Church is

located, has a child poverty rate of 85 per cent.

"Chances are there's a need in our community," she said. "Parents say they sometimes go without food so their kids can eat. Do we have a role?"

She cautioned that before anything else, building relationships — friendships — is key to a successful mission.

"It's important for us to know the people we want to help," she said. "The care might be a relationship, not a bag of carrots."

She noted that single mothers need support and on occasion, childcare.

"Churches can be that grandmother to them," she said. "People are longing for the church to be what it was meant to be."

The other session was a craft — the creation of a bracelet to tell the story of the life of Jesus. Cyndi Norris, of St. Mary and St. Bartholomew's, and an avid crafter, led the session.

Each bead was symbolic, from birth to death and resurrection.

The day ended with a thank you to all, and prayers for travelling mercies.



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



TOP: MU executive members Lilian Ketch (diocesan president), Kathleen Snow (worldwide president) and Susan Watson (Canadian president), all from the Cathedral branch, cut the celebration cake at the MU rally April 25 in Saint John.



LEFT: Making bracelets: Theresa Buck, the Rev. Ann Fairweather and Rita Delaine.



FAR LEFT: The soup line: volunteers Sylvia Clifford and Bob Cormier.

MIDDLE LEFT: Craft leader Cyndi Norris giving instructions.



LEFT: The Rev. Jasmine Chandra during her afternoon presentation.



BOTTOM LEFT: The completed bracelet, with beads depicting the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.



BOTTOM MIDDLE: The MU 150 celebration logo.

Synod resolves to work together to safeguard Cathedral building

'I feel as if we've felt the movement of the Holy Spirit. I feel we're not ready to give up.' **Jasmine Chandra**

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

About 200 synod members, observers, volunteers and diocesan staff gathered April 18 at Christ Church Cathedral with one aim in mind: ponder the future of the cathedral that is in need of upwards of \$18 million in repairs and a \$5 million endowment fund.

The special session of synod, the 140th, was called as the Cathedral's Bishop and Chapter and the congregation debate options for the nearly 175-year-old church building.

Since 2023, the Cathedral congregation has debated the issue, looked at the options and chosen the formation of an independent foundation as the best way forward, noting it was not ideal, but necessary to open avenues for funding not normally accessible to religious buildings.

But at the special session, synod members rejected the notion of a secular foundation that might include deconsecrating the Mother Church of the diocese, instead favouring prayer, discernment, faith and more planning to avoid losing the iconic building.

"I hoped the day would lead to a good discussion about the Cathedral, its position in the diocese and peoples' feelings about the situation," said Archbishop David Edwards. "I believe it did that very well."

FROM THE ARCHBISHOP

During his address to delegates, Archbishop David talked about Bishop John Medley's aims and design for the Cathedral.

In the UK in 1851, the first census revealed only 50 per cent of citizens attended church — a shock that led to a massive church construction project, all in an effort to stop the moral and

to lift us up. It's a sacred place, a building with a message, responding to the age in which it was built.

"What is the message we wish to convey now? In this age, with the breakdown of relationships, I believe we must proclaim the message of Christ."

The archbishop told those gathered that he believes the Cathedral can become an even greater place of community — a place of worship and a community hub.

But getting there is an issue. "It's easy to be overwhelmed by the scale of what lies before us. I know I am," he said. "But as we make our deliberations, we need to invite the Holy Spirit."

Archbishop David referred to the gospel reading of the day, where Jesus calmed the Sea of Galilee.

"Do not be afraid. I believe we are to be faithful and active in seeking God's will as God guides us."

THE BUSINESS

Chancellor David Bell gave a primer on the three types of synods, this one being "special." He also noted any voting required only an overall majority, rather than a two-thirds majority among both the laity and clergy.

There was one motion before synod, which was introduced. Then David Bell suggested the usual rules be suspended so delegates could speak during what he called "a period of informal discussion."

The original motion read as follows: **Motion 2026-140-01 – Safeguarding the Fabric of Christ Church Cathedral**

MOVED THAT this Synod advise the Bishop that, after such further consultation as he considers useful with the Cathedral Bishop and Chapter, Diocesan Council and Synod Finance Committee, and any other stakeholders, and with the agreement and cooperation of any of those bodies as necessary, the Bishop (current or successor), take such steps as s/he considers proper for safeguarding the fabric of Christ Church



GARY BARFITT PHOTO



GARY BARFITT PHOTO

Special thanks to synod photographers Derwin Gowan & Gary Barfitt.



DERWIN GOWAN PHOTO



GARY BARFITT PHOTO



DERWIN GOWAN PHOTO



DERWIN GOWAN PHOTO

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Archbishop David Edwards addresses members during the Special Session of Synod on April 18; Members listen during the proceedings; the Rev. David Turner makes a point; Trevor Holder, Parish of Portland, speaks; The Rev. Maria Shepherdson gestures during her time at the microphone; The Rev. Jasmine Chandra speaks, with Cathedral member Ethan De Jong next at the microphone.

measures as transfer of the Cathedral (deconsecrated, if necessary) and surrounding property to a secular foundation, sale of Cathedral Memorial Hall, development of the vacant lot on Church Street, and/or reconfiguration of the Cathedral nave.

Secretary of Synod Cheryl Jacobs noted that at the seven Greater Chapter meetings held in the month before synod, there was support for helping in some way; a lack of overwhelming support for a foundation; and a desire to make the building more relevant to the community.

She noted that the original study on fundraising options referred to "enlarging the vision of the Cathedral."

With that, members lined up at the microphones to speak.

The Rev. Mike Caines: I plan to vote in favour of the motion,

Tom Fetter, Christ Church Cathedral: We wanted to have happen exactly what is happening today... We need to be saying this is a diocesan resource...

At the Greater Chapter, I heard someone say, 'I haven't been in the Cathedral for the last 15-20 years.' That suggests we haven't been thinking of it as a community hub...

I'm terrified at the dollar figure like everybody else is. I'm also terrified by the demographic. We need to look at the demographic as an asset, in legacy giving.

Canon Chris VanBuskirk: I will be voting against the motion... What is our duty? Is it too difficult a task? Is it too expensive? ... We will be judged on how we deal with this building, on our faith or lack of faith. Maybe the Lord is setting this thing before us to say, 'do you have faith to be

The Rev. Chris Ketch: I find myself feeling overwhelmed, but mostly excited and hopeful. I feel it's the Lord forcing an opportunity — to explore what we are in the family of Christ.

Instead of fretting over the building, let's explore how God will use this as an opportunity... Do we have faith to explore how we might exist differently in the Body of Christ?

The Rev. Jasmine Chandra: We've been through a renovation project at Stone Church (Saint John). The tower needed immediate repairs. During COVID we had 30 people attending. We felt panic, sleepless nights.

What was happening was fearful, but it freed us to reach beyond ourselves to reach out to the community. What we've seen is our congregation more than double.

There was huge interest from

sage.

We found the right contractors, and some have come back to work at a discount or free, saying they like what we do.

Our message is this: the only way it's come together is divine intervention. Even the contractors say it.

We have an incredible opportunity. What we see today is a coming together as a diocese to see the Cathedral as a hub, a centre of excellence in worship. This is not just the responsibility of the Cathedral congregation. This is something we take on as a diocese.

I'll only be in favour of the motion if you take out the parts about deconsecration and the secular foundation. The answer is not in grants available to a foundation.

Ethan De Jong, Christ Church Cathedral: There is an impor-

I went to school in a Catholic school gymnasium. It was very different from here. For me it's been revolutionary [being here].

Young people feel the old things are being cast away before we get a chance to experience them.

The Rev. Christopher Tapera: In 2008 in Zimbabwe, we had a bishop who decided to run the diocese like a military camp. He went to the president. We were forced to leave our church buildings.

We started worshipping under trees, in parks, in schools. It took eight years to get our properties back.

We were able to build new churches. Where did we get the money from? How did we pay salaries? Only God knows.

When we got our properties back, there was no money. The bishop had spent it all. So we

We were able to build 26 new churches, but we had no money.

Your grace, I plead with you, keep this church going until Kingdom comes. Let us not sell the Cathedral, let us not deconsecrate it. Let us ask God to guide us to save this sacred church.

Trevor Holder: Collectively, the diocese has failed to drive home the importance of the Cathedral ministry.

We have to come together to explain and enhance the mission and ministry of the Cathedral or we'll be here in five or ten years time doing this again.

After lunch, the meeting reconvened with the rules of order in place.

An amendment to the motion was offered by Jasmine and Christopher Tapera. The motion to amend passed by a strong

Two motions passed at Special Synod

Synod continued from page 9

majority and then the amended motion passed almost unanimously.

A second motion was then offered by Trevor and Jasmine, and after some friendly amendments, was overwhelmingly accepted. All of this business was not without more discussion, however.

Jasmine: I feel as if we've felt the movement of the Holy Spirit. I feel we're not ready to give up. We don't yet want to look at deconsecration, and we don't yet want to look at a secular foundation. We want to see where God guides us.

Canon Greg McMullin: I trust my bishop and those who give him wise counsel. Deconsecration and a secular foundation make me nervous.

The Rev. Chris McMullen: This [motion] doesn't preclude a foundation... They simply aren't the focus. So I support this amendment.

In his closing remarks, Archbishop David thanked everyone who participated in any way, from the members to the volunteers. He also gave his assent to the motions.

And he cautioned members, and the entire diocese, to pray and discern in the coming day, weeks and months.

"As we have been reminded, our hope is in God, not in ourselves. The other thing to remember is we cannot dictate to God what God wants.

"What we've said is we want to retain this building. We have to look at this as a diocesan issue and work together. We have to be committed to that.

"We believe this is what God wants, and we believe the Spirit has led us to this point. But we still have to listen to the Spirit.

"The way forward, even in a way we think God wants, can become uncomfortable. God will lead us in ways we never imagined. I ask for your prayers. What has been said is in some ways easy. To live up to that will require a work of the Spirit."

The gathering ended with Evening Prayer.

Canon Jon Lownds, an honorary assistant at the Cathedral, was encouraged by what took place.

"The significant thing about today is the number of people who showed up," he said. "The



GARY BARFITT PHOTOS



FIRST ROW: Members during lunch at Cathedral Memorial Hall; member Joni Richardson of the Parish of St. George, speaks while the Rev. Dan McMullen awaits his turn at the microphone.

SECOND ROW: The Rev. Christopher Tapera told the story of events in his home diocese in Zimbabwe which became a trying journey of faith. Members Wayne Knorr and Paul Mills speak.

THIRD ROW: The Rev. Chris Ketch

FOURTH ROW: Chancellor David Bell and Archbishop David Edwards. Fellow knitters Sheila Colbourne from the Parish of the Six Saints in Moncton and Jarred Beckerton, Youth & Family Ministry leader in the Parish of St. Andrews, show off their knitting progress.



DERWIN GOWAN PHOTO

number of people who showed up is a sign. This is a diocesan problem and they owned it"

Motion 1, as amended:

THAT this Synod advise the Bishop that, after such further consultation as he considers useful with the Cathedral

Bishop and Chapter, Diocesan Council and Synod Finance Committee, and any other stakeholders, and with the agreement and cooperation of any of those bodies as necessary, the Bishop (current or successor), take such steps as s/he considers proper for safeguard-

ing the fabric of Christ Church Cathedral for the present and future.

Motion 2:

THAT
1. This Synod reaffirm that the mission and life and facilities of the Cathedral are part

of the responsibility of all New Brunswick Anglicans.

2. This Synod request the Diocesan Council take steps to enable the Cathedral to widen its presence and ministry throughout the Diocese of Fredericton.

A POEM FOR SYNOD

**Not One Stone,
by the Rev.
Rob Montgomery**

Inspired by the results of the Special Synod Session on the future of Christ Church Cathedral

Not one stone upon another
Thus You spoke Lord, long ago
That we serve not what must falter
But Your Kingdom's glory know.

Long we laboured in days gone by
Trusting in Your gracious hand
Gathered from quarry and quarters
Stones and servants of this land.

Every stone an act of worship
Placed atop the one below
Drawing eye, mind, and heart upward
Signs of paradise to show.

Bound by something more than mortar
And aligned by wisdom true
So that those who come long after
May come face to face with You.

In these stones we found Your shelter
Voices lifted up in prayer
Sinners gathered at Your table
Grace and love You give to share.

Rainbow light shines down upon us
Scripture stories all around
Windows into sweet communion
With Your saints warm welcome found.

Here were countless humble hands laid
To the trowel and to ordain
Workers for Your harvest ready
Sent to labour not in vain.

Stone on stone has caused the stranger
To ask questions or admire
Amid all life's many worries
For what purpose we aspire?

Not one stone upon another
Will endure forevermore
Yet as Living Stones we gather
In hope for what lies in store.

And so Father, keep us faithful
Jesus Saviour bound to Thee
Spirit breathe new life into us
Built together to be free.

Not one stone upon another
Thus You spoke Lord long ago
That we serve not what must falter
But Your Kingdom's glory know.

And 'til New Creation coming
Keep us steadfast in Your way
That as Stones we point all to You
Built for love's eternal day.



JARRED BECKERTON PHOTO

**ARCHDEACONRY OF
ST. ANDREWS**

LEFT: ON MARCH 21, members of the Parish of St. Andrews youth group planned to go skating, but youth leader Jarred Beckerton learned the ice had been removed for the summer. Then he remembered a standing offer from a curling club member. The arrangements were made and off they went. Volunteers Jeff and Roger showed the kids the basics of curling. Afterwards, everyone enjoyed hot chocolate in the clubhouse.

RIGHT: THIS YEAR'S ST. PATRICK'S DAY extravaganza beneficiaries were the St. Andrews & Area Open Door Program (food bank) and the IWK. The event is organized by the Youth and Family Ministry Committee at All Saints, Parish of St. Andrews. The MC and entertainer was David Humphreys. The other entertainers were Terry Hatty, Josh Osborne, and the Eastern Charlotte Ukulele Group, shown here. The finale had everyone singing *Danny Boy!* It was a great night, celebrating St. Patrick's Day and raising money for great causes as well.



NANCY CARSON PHOTO

MISSION IN MOTION: community



DERWIN GOWAN PHOTO

LEFT: KIRK-MCCOLL UNITED CHURCH hosted the annual World Day of Prayer services in St. Stephen on March 6. Four local churches — Anglican, Baptist, Roman Catholic and United — took part in the services which focussed on Nigeria this year. Participants gathered for fellowship and refreshments afterwards.

**ICYM needs
a new home!**

Inner City Youth Ministry is looking for new facility space in Saint John or the surrounding areas where we can safely store equipment and food, prepare for programs, and coordinate volunteers.

Essential needs:

- Approximately 700–1,000 square feet
- Ground-floor access strongly preferred
- Reasonably secure space (not open public access)
- A space where large equip-

ment can remain in place

- Access to parking
- Sufficient electrical capacity, or permission to complete electrical upgrades

Church basements, classrooms, shared nonprofit spaces, or unused commercial areas could all potentially work.

If you know of a space and would like more details, please reach out to Bonnie Hunt at: info@icym.ca or 506-647-9813.

If you cannot help with a new space, we invite and encourage your prayers for an affordable, suitable home where we can continue the ministry in Saint John.

SEND A KID TO CAMP!

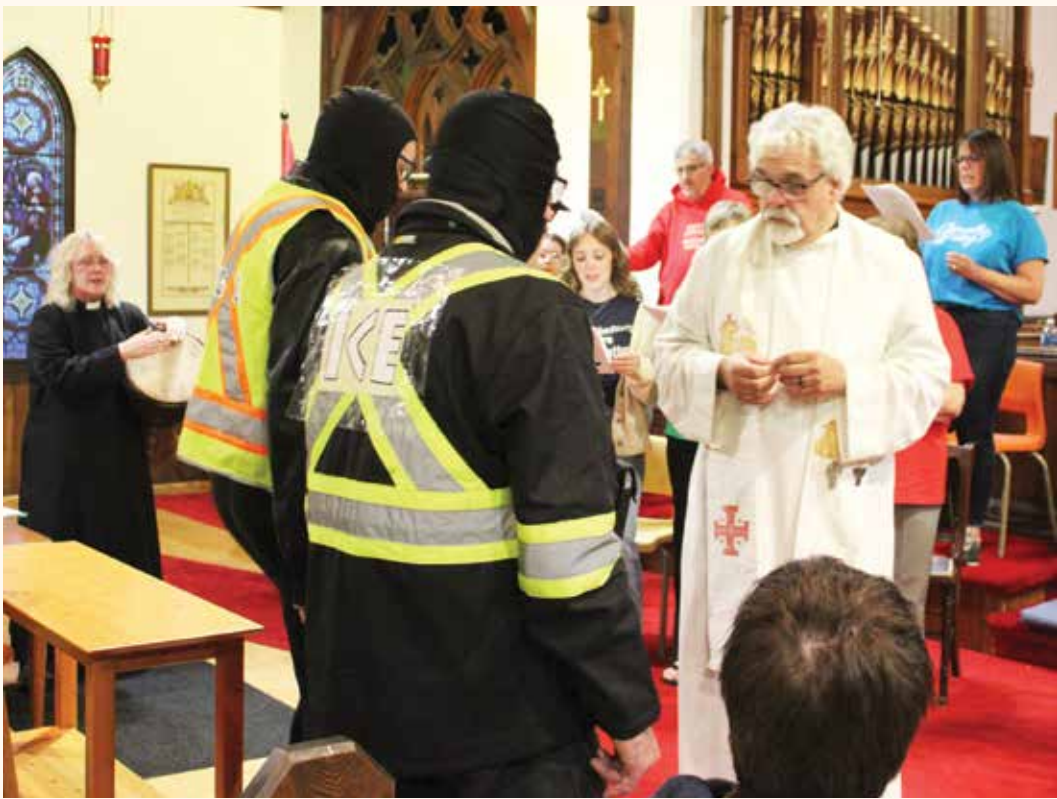
Give them the joy of new friends, the enriching word of God, and memories to love for a lifetime

For Camp Medley: <https://medley.campbraingiving.com/>
For Camp Brookwood, Diocesan Choir School and St. Michael's Youth Conference: e-transfer to finance@diofton.ca or mail a cheque to Diocese of Fredericton, 168 Church Street, Fredericton, NB, E3B 4C9.

In all cases, add a note with your name and address and specifying which camp in order to receive a donation receipt.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

NEWS FROM UP RIVER



DORINE DENNIQUE PHOTOS



MISSION IN MOTION: community



TOP ROW: A large audience turned out to watch the Parishes of Richmond and Woodstock's Maundy Thursday musical drama at St. Luke's. The script was written by the Ven. Maria Shepherdson, covering the Last Supper and Christ praying in Gethsemane. The musical selections were set to music from Les Miserables, with lyrics by Rev. Maria. The pianist was choir director Marjorie Burt Lyons. First photos shows ICE agents and police arresting Christ (Archbishop David Edwards). Second photo shows David (Christ) washing the feet of Naomi Sharpe (disciple Peter). It was a night of blessings. Various attendees later shared that it was a very moving presentation, with some people brought to tears.

SECOND ROW: St. Luke's, Woodstock, held a St. Patrick's Day dinner church on March 24. It was an evening with delicious food, excellent Irish music and great fellowship — lead by the Ven. Maria Shepherdson, who was born in Ireland. Rev. Maria shared the story of St. Patrick, which had facts many had never heard before. Musicians (left to right): Rev. Maria, Marjorie Burt Lyons, LA Henry, Al Campbell.

In March, the St. Luke's ACW in the Parish of Woodstock learned about 'We're Here For You Canada.' Sarah Sherman shared her story as a victim of violence and abuse. She encouraged attendees to be aware of signs of abuse. Photo shows Sarah Sherman (founder) and Jennifer Taylor (St. Luke's ACW). Thank you to Jennifer for arranging for this presentation. We presented Sarah with donations of money and items to help fill Care Kits. The kits are given to women when they are discharged from hospital following forensic examinations. These are needed, as they often arrive at hospital with nothing.

BOTTOM ROW: Alissa Stairs and Kayla Kinney are outreach workers (Nackawic to Plaster Rock), ministering to those unhoused and precariously housed in our region. The Parish of Woodstock supports their ministry and our ACW answered roll call with items for those they serve. Please continue to help in providing for these needs.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

LENT & EASTER IN STANLEY



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

LEFT: NEITHER RAIN NOR SNOW nor wind nor hail... could keep Kirk and Doug MacDonald of St. Thomas Anglican Church in Stanley from carrying the nine-foot by five-foot cross on Good Friday. At extreme right, leading the procession, is Canon Chris VanBuskirk, followed by the people of several churches in the village.

During Lent, the parish held four ecumenical services, with about 55 people attending each, including Archbishop David Edwards. The season culminated in the Way of the Cross, despite the inclement weather.

...

BELOW LEFT: DURING LENT, at the suggestion of Marcia Landry, fellow parishioners in the Parish of Stanley decided to raise money for the people of Jamaica who were impacted by last October's Hurricane Melissa.

They decorated paper plates to take home, each with reminders to set aside a toonie for different occasions during the season. In all this small parish raised \$1,000.

The Rev. Robert McLean, now of the Parish of New Maryland, but originally from Jamaica, was helpful in guiding the priest-in-charge, Canon Chris VanBuskirk, to connect with the Diocese of Jamaica to send the money.

MISSION IN MOTION: international



BREAKFAST FOR KIDS



SUBMITTED PHOTOS



ABOVE AND LEFT: WITH THE HELP OF THE PARISH, the ACW of St. Luke's Gondola Point collects foods for several school breakfast programs in the community. The schools are always so appreciative of the efforts.

Above, ACW members Joyce McElman, Heather Hynds, Dale Guitard, Bronwyn McIntyre, and Laverne Legge, carry cereal from the church for delivery. At left, Rosemarie Kingston delivers cereal to Kristi Young, principal of Quispamsis Elementary School.

MISSION IN MOTION: children

CAMP BROOKWOOD

Meet Brad Brymer, Camp Brookwood's director

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

The Rev. Brad Brymer is a busy guy. But he's not one to ignore God when the message is clear: Go to Camp Brookwood.

Brad is a Pentecostal minister at Saving Grace Ministries in Simons, N.B. He's a husband and father of three. He's the chaplain at the Centreville branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. He even works a few shifts at the local Irving stores.

And this summer, he is the director of Camp Brookwood, on a journey that has him following God's lead.

His connection to Camp Brookwood began when he was a child. He was a camper there, and an altar boy in what is now the Parish of Wicklow, Wilmot, Peel and Aberdeen.

"I grew up Anglican," he said. "Chris VanBuskirk was our priest."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

A FORMER CAMP BROOKWOOD camper is this summer's camp director, Brad Brymer.

Every Sunday, he and Chris set out for three churches to

conduct the service of Holy Communion.

"We went to St. James for the 9 a.m.; Glassville or Florenceville for the 11 a.m.; and St. Barnabas for 1:15," he said.

"In fact, Chris has had a big impact on my life and my ministry. Most of my ministry type has been from him — just the way he would deal with things."

Eventually, his family began attending a Pentecostal church nearby, hence his role in founding Saving Grace Ministries, with his wife nine years ago, and his position as senior pastor at the age of 35.

FOLLOWING GOD TO CAMP BROOKWOOD

Brad's denomination has a summer camp that is thriving.

"I realized a couple of years ago that I'm no longer needed at our camp, and at the same time, I felt the Lord directing

me to Camp Brookwood," he said.

Then the Rev. Chris Ketch asked him to be a chaplain for a week. That led to another week as chaplain last summer. He also joined the oversight committee, and was voted in as vice-chair.

"I just felt the Lord saying, 'this is the camp to be in right now,'" he said.

SUMMER PLANS

Brad is already busy making summer plans for the camp. A grant from the Anglican Foundation of Canada is funding renovations in the dining hall — the installation of insulation and mini-split heat pumps.

"We're hoping they'll be done by the beginning of June," he said.

As of late April, they were short a groundkeeper and a program co-ordinator (formerly

the assistant camp director).

In an effort to boost their camper numbers, they are holding an open house on Saturday, June 27. The pool will be open, and there will be a hot dog and hamburger barbecue. Musicians will provide live music and lots of singing is encouraged.

Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the day, particularly families with children.

The hours are 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., at which time they will walk the grounds and pray over the camp and the children who will attend.

Brad is excited to be back where his camping experiences began.

"What I've noticed is that even people outside of the Anglican church fall in love with the camp," he said.

Learn more about Camp Brookwood at the website: www.campbrookwood.ca/

Sent, not just gathered

For many people, church is something they attend. It takes place at a set time, in a familiar building, following a pattern that is both meaningful and reassuring.

Week by week, people gather for prayer, scripture, and community before returning to the responsibilities of daily life.

That rhythm is important. Gathering shapes identity, offers grounding, and creates space for worship and reflection.

But it is only part of the picture.

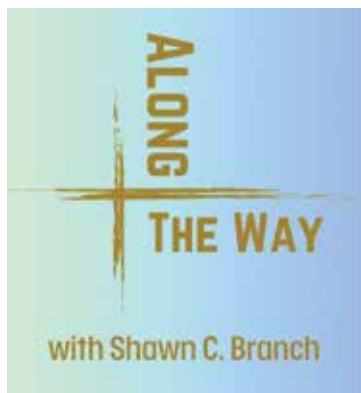
The life of faith is not confined to what happens within the walls of a church building. It extends into the rest of the week, into the places where people live, work, and relate to others.

At the conclusion of many services, there is a simple phrase: "Go in peace to love and serve the Lord."

It is often heard as a closing line, a signal that the service has ended.

In reality, it is a commissioning. It assumes that what follows, the ordinary activities of the week, is where faith is meant to be lived out.

We often think of "mission" as something organized and intentional, often connected to specific programs or events. While true, this represents only



a small portion of how mission is expressed.

Most people will not spend their week leading initiatives or attending additional gatherings. Instead, they will return to homes, appointments, responsibilities and routines that are already full.

It is within these everyday contexts that faith becomes visible.

The way a person responds under pressure, the tone used in a difficult conversation, the decision to listen rather than interrupt, or the choice to follow through on a commitment — these moments may seem insignificant in isolation, but over time they shape how others experience them.

They also shape how others understand what it means to be a person of faith.

The earliest followers of Jesus did not separate belief from daily life. Their faith was expressed not only in moments of worship but also in how they treated one another, shared resources, navigated disagreements, and cared for those around them.

Their lives formed a consistent witness, not because they were flawless, but because their actions aligned with what they professed to believe.

That same consistency remains essential.

As the summer months begin, patterns of church life often change. Attendance may fluctuate, programs may pause, and schedules may become less predictable.

For some, this can feel like a time when things slow down or temporarily disengage.

However, the call to live faithfully does not depend on the regularity of a schedule. If anything, a change in rhythm can create space for greater awareness.

Without the usual structure, there may be more opportunity to notice the people and situations that might otherwise be overlooked.

Time spent on a deck, at a campground, in a conversation with a neighbour, or reconnecting with family and friends all

become part of the context in which faith is lived.

These are not interruptions to spiritual life; they are its primary setting.

To understand oneself as "sent" is not to take on additional tasks, but to approach existing ones with intention. It is a shift in awareness rather than an increase in activity.

This may take the form of offering encouragement to someone who is struggling, choosing not to participate in negative or dismissive conversation, or extending simple hospitality through invitation and presence.

It may involve being attentive to someone who feels overlooked or making time for a conversation that would otherwise be avoided.

These actions are not dramatic, but they are significant. Over time, they form patterns of behaviour that become recognizable.

And those patterns contribute to a reputation, not one that is managed or crafted, but one that emerges naturally from lived experience.

We can easily assume that meaningful impact requires something visible or measur-

able. In reality, much of what matters most develops quietly.

Trust is built gradually. Relationships deepen over time. Character is revealed in ordinary, repeated interactions. This is where the life of faith takes shape.

To be sent, then, is not about being busy or strategic. It is about being attentive within the life one already has.

It is about recognizing that the places we go each day are not separate from faith, but integral to it.

As the weeks ahead unfold, the invitation is not to add more, but to notice more.

To approach daily interactions with care, to act with integrity, and to remain open to the needs of others.

In this way, faith is not limited to a particular time or place. It becomes a way of living expressed quietly and consistently.

The life of faith is not defined only by what happens when people gather. It is revealed in how we live — along the way. *Canon Shawn C. Branch is the diocesan Director of Mission & Ministry, supporting the missional life of the diocese and vocations.*

AROUND THE DIOCESE



Bonnie Hunt, executive director of Inner City Youth Ministry, Saint John

- Favourite book of the Bible** - Esther
- Birthplace** - Sault Ste Marie, Ont.
- What you love most about God** – When I feel alone, He is there beside me.
- Favourite place on Earth** - The Rocky Mountains
- Farthest you've been from home** - Petra, Jordan
- Favourite meal or dessert** - Barbecued steak with mushrooms
- Biggest fear** – Mice
- Hidden talent** – I played the clarinet for 13 years
- Favourite movie or book** – Anne of Green Gables
- Your hobby** – Knitting
- Three things always in your fridge** – Diet Pepsi, feta cheese, mustard
- Favourite sports team** - Sports? What's that??



Chris Hayes' music column will return in the fall.

Episcopal Announcements




Archbishop David has accepted the resignation of **the Rev. Christopher Tapera** as rector of the Parishes of Bathurst and Restigouche, in order to be appointed as rector of the Parish of the Six Saints, effective Aug. 1.

Wilmhoff of Saint John has transferred her canonical residency to the Diocese of Fredericton from the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and has been licensed as a deacon in the Parish of Rothesay.

The Very Rev. Geoffrey Hall will resign as Dean of Christ Church Cathedral effective July 31, in order to retire.

The Rev. Keith Joyce of Saint John has transferred his canonical residency back to the Diocese of Fredericton from the Diocese of Toronto.

The Rev. Virginia (Ginny)



By the Grace of God,
in the power of the Holy Spirit,
I, David Edwards, Bishop of Fredericton

will ordain, to the Sacred Order of Deacons
Ellen Kelly
Samuel Landry
Tyler McKenna

&

to the Sacred Order of Priests
Richard Cunningham
J F
Robert Pitman
Virginia Wilmhoff

in the Church of God
on Saturday, September 12, 2026
at 3:00PM
Christ Church Cathedral, Fredericton NB.

Reception follows in Cathedral Memorial Hall.

Clergy Vesting | Colour: **Red**

Seniors' Retreat

September 27-30
Camp Medley
\$175 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

SAVE THE DATE!

ACW'S Quiet Day



- Sept. 9, 2026
- St. Mary's Anglican Church, Miramichi (former Chatham)
- Theme: Standing on the promises of God
- Registration (with refreshments) at 9 a.m.; service at 10 a.m.
- Tea, coffee, snacks and lunch provided in the church hall
- Easy access - wheelchair accessible

AROUND THE DIOCESE



MARGARET LAKING PHOTO

TOP LEFT: During Easter Sunday worship services at many churches, people celebrate the resurrection of Christ by calling out “He is risen!” And people respond by saying, “He is risen indeed!” When we say, “He is risen indeed,” we remind ourselves that Jesus is a living Saviour walking beside us. That’s exactly how the Rev. Arnold Godsoe greeted parishioners, family and friends as they arrived at the parish hall for breakfast Easter Sunday morning. It has been a tradition of Rev. Godsoe’s since he began pastoring at St. George’s, Parish of McAdam, about 16 years ago. After breakfast we gathered at the church for the Easter Sunday service. In photo, Kim Moffitt is being served by Eric Christie, Frank Carroll and Ed Gage.



BEN BOURQUE PHOTO

TOP RIGHT: On April 25 at St. John the Evangelist Church in Fredericton, 42 attendees took in a day full of financial information involving strategies to set up and enjoy retirement. RBC presenters spoke on budgeting, RRSPs and investments, mortgages and housing options, while other topics covered life after retirement, by Bruce Glencross, as well as how the financial information relates specifically to our group, by Philip Shepherdson. Archdeacon Brent Ham emceed the event. Thank you to all who attended, asked questions, and to those who worked to make this day happen. Plenty of feedback was received and will be put into action in future events, and our work in between.

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RUTH ANNE ROBINSON PHOTO



SUBMITTED PHOTO

ABOVE LEFT: The women of Holy Trinity Hammond River, in partnership with the women of the Nauwigewauk Christian Church, honored the Christian women of Nigeria during the 2026 World Day of Prayer Service written by women in Nigeria. The theme was “I will give you rest: Come,” Matthew 11:28. Complete with a song sung in Igbo, to sharing Nigerian butter biscuits, this prayer-filled service touched the hearts of all who attended. We were definitely given the blessing of ‘rest.’

ABOVE RIGHT: A recent meeting of the Parish of Riverview ACW featured member Judy Cairnes, who told us of her spiritual journey in rug hooking and showed beautiful pieces of her work.