

Retired
Clergy Tea

5

ACW annual
meeting

8

Diocesan Choir
School annual
gathering

17

Rogationtide
at Kings
Landing

20



THE NEW BRUNSWICK ANGLICAN



A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL

SEPTEMBER 2026

SERVING THE DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON

Camp Medley pool project gets a boost, but it needs your help!

Matching campaign will run until the end of the year

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Fundraising for the new pool and maintenance facility at Camp Medley has taken on some urgency, but for a good reason.

The J.T. Clark Family Foundation, once associated with the Clark auto dealerships that were prominent in New Brunswick for a century, has made the camp an offer.

“They’re doing matching,” said the Rev. John Galbraith, camp director. “I met with the family rep and we walked the camp.”

The goal is \$375,000, to be raised by the end of December. If the goal is not reached by that deadline, there is no matching, and no support from the foundation.

The matching scheme is to ensure the group receiving the funds is invested and serious, as opposed to simply asking for money. It shows interest and effort on the part of the receiver, said John.

However, if this campaign, called A Place Where Everyone Belongs, is a success, it will put three-quarters of a million dollars toward the project, a significant boost.

The project cost is around \$3.4 million and \$1.2 million has already been raised.

The first significant donation has already been received: \$50,000 over five years, from the Parish of Sussex.

“We are blessed to be able to support such a project. We are continually led to deep gratitude as we hear of, and experience first-hand, the wonderful ministries of Camp Medley,”



EMMA DAVIES PHOTO

HEIDI, SEEN HERE, and hundreds of other campers, enjoy swimming at Camp Medley, but the 60-year-old pool, seen behind her, has outlived its usefulness, thus the need for a new pool. A campaign by the J.T. Clark Family Foundation will match \$375,000 raised until Dec. 31, bringing the pool project closer to reality.

said its rector, the Rev. Dan McMullen.
“Just this past week we

received a call of thanksgiving from a teary-eyed mother, whose troubled son found

welcome and joy, as he experienced Jesus in this wonderful community.”

The pool project, first imagined in late 2024, would see a modern pool facility built not only for camp use, but for the surrounding community, which does not have a public pool.

The plan is for a four-lane, 25 metre pool with ramp entry into the shallow end to accommodate those with mobility limitations.

The path from the parking lot to the facility would be accessible, as would be the bathroom and changing facilities.

And with no place to store equipment and tools, a maintenance building has become a must, as much for security as for convenience.

“We’re inviting everyone to become part of A Place Where Everyone Belongs,” said John. “This project is about much more than replacing a pool.”

“It’s about creating a welcoming place where children, youth, families, seniors, churches, volunteers, retreat guests, and neighbours can gather, grow, and create memories together.”

Eligible gifts for this campaign include one-time donations, monthly gifts, pledge commitments of up to five years, gifts of publicly traded securities, and gifts from individuals, churches, businesses, foundations, and community organizations.

You can visit the campaign website to learn more about how the matching gift works, explore the Frequently Asked Questions, or make your donation.

Visit <https://campmedley.ca/donate/campaign/>

You can also donate via e-transfer (finance@campmedley.ca) and note the donation is for the Camp Medley pool project.

Please include your name and mailing address in order to receive a charitable donation receipt.

Lunch Connection says thanks, good-bye

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

A crowd of volunteers and school representatives gathered June 3 with Bonnie Hunt to celebrate the memories made and work accomplished at Inner City Youth Ministry’s Lunch Connection program.

Bonnie is the executive director of ICYM. The group met at St. Mary and St. Bartholomew’s Church in Saint John, the site of ICYM’s new home.

Lunch Connection, a program to feed elementary school children at noontime, will come to an end as the school year draws to a close. The province has decided to run its own lunch program starting this fall.

The site where ICYM prepared hundreds of thousands of lunches, at the Anglophone School District South headquarters, has to be vacated to make room for the new lunch providers.

THANK YOUS

During the June 3 event, Bonnie highlighted the many people and groups for their contributions, and gave out certificates of thanks. They in turn had their own kind words for Bonnie and the program.

Some teachers came with students who gained lifeskills by helping volunteers pack lunches in cloth bags for distribution.

“They were in an environment where they felt welcomed, included,” said Hannah Young, vice-principal of Centennial School. “From the moment they arrived, they felt at home. Acceptance, inclusion and kindness.”

Erica Lane, community engagement coordinator with the school district, had high praise for Lunch Connection and its many helpers.

“It’s difficult to say how much this means,” she said. “Lunch is the product, but its real meaning is a community that cares.”

She had kind words for Bonnie.

“Bonnie has been an unwavering, calm presence. You give so much of yourself to this work,” she said. “Thank you for your care, persistence and belief in the importance of caring for our children.”

Archbishop David Edwards was on hand, and noted he and his late wife, Janet, were some of the early volunteers of the program when it began at St. James on Broad Street in the south end.

“I served the day-old Tim-



MISSION IN MOTION: children

BONNIE HUNT WITH VOLUNTEERS Lucy, Sandra Cormier and Kasey. Sandra's grandkids help wash, dry and sort the fabric lunch bags that are filled for children in Saint John.

Bits,” he said. While some volunteers were on the front lines, packing lunch bags and delivering them to various schools, others worked behind the scenes.

YOUNG HELPERS

SMSB parishioner Sandra Cormier and her two grandchildren, Lucy and Kasey Hanson, have been in charge of washing the cloth bags each week.

“Dave Wall drops off the bags and the kids dump them and look for [pattern] matches,” said Sandra.

Lucy, about to enter kindergarten, has learned to operate the washer and dryer.

From the dryer, the kids separate them into piles of 10.

Once Kasey, two-and-a-half, counts out 10, he informs his grandmother.

“Ten, Nanny!” he says.

“Lucy was his age when she started,” said Sandra.

“I bring the bags to Sandra and take them back when they’re done,” said Dave. “My pals are Lucy and Kasey. These two kids are sharp, and they enjoy doing what they’re doing.”

CONTINUED FOCUS

Bonnie outlined the many ways ICYM will continue its focus on children and families in Saint John.

This summer, their twice-weekly picnics will continue in the south end, as will the backpack program, which fills a backpack with all the ingredients to make a family meal, with step-by-step instruction photos.

“Even if you can’t read

English, you can still prepare it,” said Bonnie. “Broccoli salad is the favourite!”

Table Connection, Family Connection and Youth Connection are all part of ICYM’s scope, much of which focuses on bringing families together for a meal, games and fun.

“The focus of Inner City Youth Ministry is having a relationship with God, families and ourselves; food insecurity and literacy,” said Bonnie.

Morning Connection is new and will see ICYM prepare breakfast for students at St. John the Baptist School. They will choose menus, prepare and serve the food, and sit with children to eat together and chat.

“It’s intentional relationships. I’m looking for volunteers for that,” she said. “I’m excited to get back to our roots in the south end.”

Meal Connection will be like a local Hello Fresh, where families can order ingredients for meals and customized snack packs.

“We can buy in bulk and give the savings to our families,” she said. “It’s open to anyone who wants to order, and you can add a donation to help another family who can’t afford the full cost of a meal.”

A grant will help subsidize the program, and an app will make ordering easy.

Bonnie once again thanked the many volunteers who have made Lunch Connection such a success.

“There is a huge conglomeration of cogs that make this wheel turn,” she said.



FOLKS FROM THE Vocational Training Centre received certificates of thanks from Inner City Youth Ministry during the Lunch Connection wrap-up June 3. Several of the centre's clients were volunteers with Lunch Connection. From left: Bonnie Hunt, Janice, Amy, Kelvin, Anna, Wylie and Tyson.

MCKNIGHT PHOTOS

Letters
to the editor

We welcome them!
Send yours to
communications@anglican.nb.ca

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

THE NEW BRUNSWICK
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A change of direction

Back in June I spent a total of about seven days preparing for the six talks that I had been asked to give at the New Brunswick Christian Ashram.

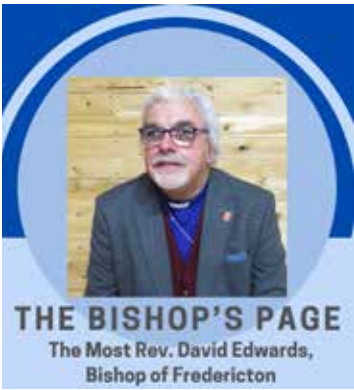
It had been quite a while since I attended the event, more than 10 years, and it was an honour to be asked to speak.

I headed off to the Beulah conference centre with my thick file of prepared notes, ready for action.

The amazing thing was that I did not refer to them all weekend.

On the first evening after hearing participants share with each other the things that were important to them, I knew I had to change what I was going to say. That continued for the remainder of the time.

The result is I have a package of well-prepared notes that I can use at any time. There is



about five hours of material there in total.

With God there is often the need to change direction. Sometimes we realize it, as I did, on the spur of the moment.

At others it becomes apparent over a period that there is a need to alter course.

The issue is this: are we willing to do so? Are we willing to take the risk of moving in another way.

“ The issue is this: are we willing to take the risk of moving in another way?”

Isaiah 55:8-9 says this: “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord.

“As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

This passage is often summed up in the phrase, “our ways are not God’s ways.” God operates on a very different level than we do.

Over the weekend I was thinking about the way God operates. There is omniscience, seeing the beginning from the

end, knowing all things, knowing the beginning from the end.

Then there is immanence — God in the detail of life.

Given this, are we able to trust God with everything and are we willing to move as God’s Spirit moves us?

David Edwards is
Diocesan Bishop of Fredericton.

Some thoughts on becoming more like Jesus

Have you ever wondered what God’s goal for your life is?

When we believe in Jesus, we know that we will spend eternity with him in heaven, but what about between now and then? What is God up to in our lives?

While he may bless us in many ways, I don’t think his end goal is to make us wealthy or even healthy for that matter.

His desires for us go deeper than just making us happy.

It’s not hard to think of a few priorities that God has for our lives. Foremost, he wants us to love him and to love our neighbours.

He’s also given us gifts that he wants us to use to serve him and to bless others. And, of course, he wants us to share the Good News, so others may also come to know Jesus.

These are all important, but I’m convinced that the most important goal God has for each of his children is that we become like his son, Jesus.

As Paul wrote in Romans 8:29, “For those God fore-knew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son...”

The word “predestined” may make us wonder if this means it’s automatic or that we don’t have any choice in the matter.

This is a big topic, and I don’t want to get side-tracked, but the way I understand it, God dwells



outside of time and so he sees our entire lives from beginning to end.

But that doesn’t mean he has pre-determined the ending. After all, he made us in his image, which includes giving us free will.

We exercise that free will by making choices that either lead us closer to God or further away.

But back to the verse above, God’s end goal is for us to become Christ-like in our character.

I view the “predestined” part as a promise that we can count on God not to give up on us.

As Paul wrote, “He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 1:6)

Ultimately, our destiny is two-fold — to be with Christ and to be like Christ.

The New Testament lists many characteristics that reflect Christlikeness. For example, Galatians 5 names several fruits

“ God isn’t trying to make us all the same. Rather, he’s trying to help us become the best version of ourselves.”

of the Spirit.

I ask myself, am I becoming a more loving and joyful person? Am I more at peace and more patient with others?

Given human nature’s propensity for self-deception, it’s perhaps better if I ask a friend! If the answer is yes, praise God!

If not, I pray for grace to grow in these areas.

How can we grow? By being part of a vibrant church, by receiving good Bible teaching, by experiencing trials and especially by making a daily habit of praying and reading the Bible.

If we want to be more like Jesus, we should immerse ourselves in his life as recorded in the Gospels.

As Paul wrote, “And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord’s glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.” (2 Corinthians 3:18)

While it’s good to take stock of our lives from time to time, let’s not fall into the trap of condemning ourselves for not

measuring up.

While we are still here on earth, there will always be room for improvement. Thankfully, God is not finished with us yet!

Let’s also avoid the trap of comparing ourselves with others. We are individuals with different gifts and personalities.

God isn’t trying to make us all the same. Rather, he’s trying to help us become the best version of ourselves.

Life is about more than what we do or where we live. It’s about who we are in Christ and who we are becoming.

It’s our choice if we will cooperate with the Spirit’s work in our lives.

Let’s ask God to give us hearts that hunger to know Jesus better so that we can grow to be more like him day by day.

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

PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS

September 2
St. Mark’s
Jackson Falls,
Parish of Richmond

September 6
Parish of Wicklow,
Wilmot, Peel and
Aberdeen; Tay Creek,
Parish of Stanley

September 9
Bishop’s Counsel

September 12
Ordinations, Christ
Church Cathedral

September 13
*** St. Mary’s,**
Parish of Chatham

September 20
*** St. Margaret’s,**
Fredericton

September 21-23
Diocesan Clergy
Conference

September 26
Diocesan Council

September 27
Christ Church
Cathedral

***Confirmation**

Cathedral fundraiser!

Following the April Special Synod and the decision to restore Christ Church Cathedral, our Trinity ACW Sussex decided to hold a pie and fellowship fundraiser in early June.

The ACW advertised the event and people donated pies. Parishioners from the Parishes of Waterford and St. Mark helped Trinity’s ACW.

By freewill donation, people came, enjoyed a piece of pie and lots of fellowship.

The ACW has forwarded all proceeds — \$1,400 — to the Cathedral restoration fund, all raised from slices of pie and the generosity of those who attended. It was a small project with lots of laughter and fellowship.

We were having so much fun, we all forgot to get pictures, but we wanted to inspire other groups that a small event can be a great booster.

CCCA ANNUAL AWARDS

NB Anglican scores seven annual newspaper awards

We're back on top as Canada's best Christian newspaper!

The Canadian Christian Communicators Association annual awards event took place May 15, and the NB Anglican won three 3rd place, two second place, one 1st place and one honorable mention.

The most important category of the awards is General Excellence, which measures the entirety of the paper: its stories, photography, use of colour and fonts, layout and so on. The NB Anglican placed first once again in this category, judging it the best Christian newspaper in Canada.

The NB Anglican has placed first in this category in 2020, 2022, 2023, 2024 and now 2026. It placed second in 2025.

Here are the award-winning entries, along with judge's comments.

3rd Place: News Story - "Alongside Hope's diocesan rep hospitalized in Kenya" by Gisele McKnight

Judge's comments: The narrative pace of this unfolding story is very capably handled as the reader becomes eager to know how Ms. Edwards is going to recover from her personal ordeal. The writing capably shifts gears from narrative to exposition to description, and eventually reflection.

One anticipated a story about the good works of Alongside Hope in Kenya. We got a lot more — and the writer made it interesting and relevant, too.

2nd Place: Column - "Along the Way" by Canon Shawn Branch

Three columns were entered from last fall, when Shawn first launched his new column.

Judge's comments: The Ministry of Small Things: does a good job of linking our small acts to Biblical witness (Zechariah 4:10, the mustard seed parable). Small acts are vital to good ministry as much as "big acts."

Showing Up: Relatable scenarios build empathy, culminating in a "she didn't flinch" anecdote for a memorable impact. The Romans quote anchors the call to imperfect presence, mirroring Jesus' compassion without judgement.

Interruptible: The timing of this article is good (right during Advent), framing the Incarnation as a "holy interruption." Practical applications balance theology with action.



LEFT: One of three editions of the NB Anglican that was judged Canada's best Christian newspaper for 2026 by the Canadian Christian Communicators Association. The NB Anglican has won this honour in 2020, 2022, 2023, 2024 and now in 2026.

BOTTOM LEFT: This edition won second place for best front page.

BOTTOM RIGHT: The story of Debbie Edwards' precarious visit to Kenya with Alongside Hope, which culminated in a hospital stay, won third place for best news story.



Canon Branch's exegetical work and pastoral relevance shines throughout these three articles. In these articles, he makes pastoral invitations for ordinary believers to do extraordinary things.

3rd Place: Photo Essay - "Family Camp" at Camp Medley by Gisele McKnight

Judge's comments: The face painting picture is a great one, capturing the smile on the painter's face and the focus

on the face of the girl being painted. Its placement top left welcomes the viewer into the story, even if the action is looking off the page. It is the strongest image so it makes sense to place it as you have.

The photo essay shows lots of action of camp, which is great to see. The text does a good job of filling in the blanks for the viewer, welcoming them into the breadth of camp life.

2nd Place: Front Page - "Sum-

mer Fun" by Gisele McKnight. The entry included a VBS photo taken in the Parish of St. Andrews.

Judge's comments: This bright, community-focused, image-driven front page does an excellent job highlighting local parish life. It is welcoming and very accessible.

The major strength is the excellent human-centered photo of children at VBS. It is lively, and captures action (bubbles,

play, movement).

There is credibility and recognition in showing "Judged Canada's Best Christian Newspaper..." It sends a signal of trust and reinforces authority and quality.

3rd Place: Feature Layout & Design (Newspaper) - "Advent Activities" by Gisele McKnight - annual Advent calendar

Judge's comments: This is a warm, inviting page that suits both the season and the audience. The soft palette and subtle seasonal graphics set an appropriate tone without overwhelming the content.

The modular approach works well. Breaking the activities into individual boxes makes the piece easy to scan and encourages readers to engage at their own pace. It feels accessible and practical, which fits the intent.

Honorable Mention: A.C. Forrest Memorial Award - "Kids Lead at Stone," by Gisele McKnight. This category recognizes excellence in socially conscious religious journalism that focuses on current news events or trends that raise religious ethical questions.

Judge's comments: This article has all the essential ingredients of a classic Jesus parable.

What happened at Stone Church in Saint John, New Brunswick can be a model for any faith community.

We need to publish more articles about what young people are doing in churches, schools, and other groups to improve the lives of others; certainly children learn by doing and in turn they can also teach adults to do likewise

1st Place: General Excellence (Newspaper), measures overall quality of the publication and appropriateness to its audience, including variety and quality of editorial content, design, photography, graphics and typography. The April, June and October issues were judged.

Judge's comments: Good eye for design — the editor recognizes the value of a good pic, using great art to dominate the front page in all three editions submitted for judging.

Never underestimate the value of a compelling pic to stop a scanning reader and entice them to read the "grey stuff" surrounding the art.

Graphics and layout look good. Clean and airy design. Easy to read – a crucial feature in today's fast-paced, screen-oriented world.

A great publication that gives readers an enjoyable insight into Anglican events throughout New Brunswick. Well-done!

RETIRED CLERGY TEA

Retired Clergy Tea a chance to renew old friendships

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

The annual Retired Clergy Tea was held at Christ Church Cathedral June 16, offering an opportunity for those members of the clergy to get together, renew old friendships and enjoy refreshments. Many look forward to the event each year.

Archbishop David Edwards and his wife, Debbie, hosted the event, which used to be held at their Fredericton home until they moved to the Woodstock area last year.

Here's what attendees said when asked what they enjoyed most about the event:



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS

Susan Black: I like to see everybody and have a chat with them.

Lynne Corey: I'm just basking in the love here.

Vivian Osborne: It's nice to get out and see everyone.

Isabel Cutler: It's seeing everyone and coming together.

Wandlyn Snelgrove: This is my first time. I brought my mom, who would not miss it!

Keith Osborne: I'm energized by the fellowship of the clergy. It's a boost that I miss by being retired.

Albert Snelgrove: I love seeing old friends. I've known Bruce McKenna for 45 years; the Pains for 40 years; the Blacks for 40 years.

Bruce Glencross: I like the people, but the food is pretty good too. I like meeting folks and getting reacquainted with people. I enjoy the social time.

Eva Morton: It's a special time seeing old friends. These are people with shared memories. It's like our support group — our spiritual family, really.

Pat Crowther: I love seeing all the people. We have so much in common. It warms my heart to come here.

Garth Maxwell: It's the renewal of friendships. It's meeting friends I've known for some time.

Leslie Allan: It's to see people we haven't seen in a long time. We kind of drift away in our own bubble, so it's nice to connect.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Eva Morton, Carol Glencross, the Rev. Bruce Glencross and Cheryl Jacobs; Canon Keith Osborne and Canon Albert Snelgrove; Lynne Corey, Vivian Osborne and the Rev. Isabel Cutler; Debbie Edwards, Canon Rod Black and Joan Pain; retired bishop Bill Hockin, Peter Irish and Archbishop David Edwards; Canon Jon Lownds and Canon Wandlyn Snelgrove, while her mom, Pat Crowther, chooses some refreshments.

A visit from our Primate, Abp. Shane Parker. Join him at Christ Church Cathedral on Sept. 27, 10:30 a.m.



Upcoming Events of Note

141st Session of Diocesan Synod, Nov. 7 in Fredericton

MOTHERS' UNION

Mothers' Union welcomes members from across Canada

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Villa Madonna in Rothesay was the site of the National Biennial Conference of the Canadian Society of the Mothers' Union.

Thirty-five members from across the country, and beyond, gathered June 25-27, for a business meeting, spiritual enrichment, special speakers and fellowship.

Also in attendance were worldwide president (and member of Christ Church Cathedral) Kathleen Snow; zonal trustee (Zone B - Brazil, Canada, South America, USA West Indies) Ephena Matthew, of Antigua; Archbishop David Edwards and Debbie Edwards; and Canadian chaplain the Rev. David Smith of the Parish of Grand Manan.

DIOCESE OF HO SCHOOL PROJECT

One special speaker was Robbie Griffin of Grand Manan. He is the chair of the Companion Diocese Committee, and has done extensive work with the Diocese of Ho in Ghana, including organizing the procurement of the mobile medical clinic.

In introducing him, Lilian Ketch, conference organizer, recounted her trip to Ghana with Robbie when the medical clinic was in the very early planning stage. She was able to connect with MU members there.

"Eleven different women walked from 11 different communities to meet with me," she said. "Some walked for two days."

After the successful launch of the clinic, Robbie consulted many people, including government officials, and the consensus was the pressing need for a vocational high school.

The Volta region has 2.5 million people, and schooling after grade 9 is difficult to find. All high schools are privately run.

The region is fairly new to the modern conveniences we take for granted. The City of Ho has had electricity for 14 years, running water for 10 years. Rolling blackouts of four to eight hours happen daily. It is common to lose water, sometimes for weeks on end.

"I think of Ho as where we were in 1950," he said. "And there is a lack of skilled workers to keep the infrastructure intact."

The vocational school, based on the British model, would graduate job-ready students skilled in plumbing, carpentry, masonry, electrical, mechanics and more.

The Rotary Club was a huge



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: The members in attendance at the National Biennial Conference of Mothers' Union pose for a group photo; Debbie Edwards during her presentation on Alongside Hope; MU members Lilian Ketch, Diane Nash and Susan Black, all from the Diocese of Fredericton; Table discussions with Susan Watson (Fredericton), Brenda Clark (Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island), Louisa Farrell (New Westminster, BC) and Pat Margeson (Fredericton).



supporter of the mobile medical clinic, and Robbie has already gained support again for the school project, both here and in Ghana.

He's hired a female architect and a contractor, both of whom are Rotarians in Ho.

The proposed design shows a campus-style project, with various buildings for the trades, administration, dorms, kitchen, clinic and so on. About 1,000 people would be on campus daily. The land is already owned by the Diocese of Ho.

Construction funding will come from personal donations, parish donations, Rotary Clubs, foundations, and legacy funds, which would result in named buildings.

"\$100 buys 120 concrete blocks," said Robbie, adding they must be made of concrete to avoid termite damage.

For more information, to donate, or to have Robbie speak to your parish or group, contact him: griffin.robby52@gmail.com or 506-662-4504.

As his talk concluded, MU members had questions and comments. One member noted she was pleased to hear that all buildings would have washrooms, unheard-of in Ghana, because that could cut down on the exploitation of girls and women at outside latrines. Another was pleased to learn that all trades would be open to all genders.

ALONGSIDE HOPE

Debbie Edwards, diocesan representative for Alongside Hope, was another of the guest speakers at the conference.

Debbie started by quoting David Smith from earlier in the conference: 'Compassion changes lives.'

"He was referring to Mothers' Union, but it also applies to Alongside Hope," she said.

She compared the two Anglican entities: both have a worldwide commitment and presence, a focus on prayer, a dedication to families and a hope for a better future for all.

"I added hope because we love God and we love our neighbours," she said. "Many Mothers' Union aims and mandates match up with Alongside Hope's."

Alongside Hope is the Anglican Church of Canada's vehicle for sustainable relief around the world. In 2025, they worked with 70 partner agencies, spent \$4.78 million in 53 countries and had 288,292 direct participants.

In her talk, Debbie highlighted five categories that Alongside Hope focuses on: Health and Healing; Creation Care; Resilient Livelihoods; Indigenous Partnerships; and Humanitarian Response. She gave examples for each, from the Ebola outbreak in Africa to support for midwifery training in Mexico.

She also noted that Alongside Hope works within Canada to bring humanitarian aid in times of crisis like hurricanes and wildfires.

How her group accomplishes

all this rests largely with their partners — the local groups on the ground who know the needs and the lay of the land.

"This is the piece of Alongside Hope that has come alive for me," said Debbie, describing her experience in Kenya, meeting local aid groups and seeing the results of their hard work, with her own group's support.

She described some of the projects she visited: investment in kitchen gardens and drought tolerant crops; a community bank (literally a locked box) to kickstart entrepreneurship; and the results of female empowerment in villages.

"It's not just partnerships," she said. "It's reciprocal in nature. There is no us and them. We're all made in God's image. When we allow ourselves to love, we all improve."

The latest project is Lights for St. Luke's, for an Anglican-run hospital in Nablus, West Bank in Palestine. The goal is to

MU continued on page 7

MOTHERS' UNION



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Debbie Edwards and Archbishop David Edwards are enrolled as members of Mothers' Union, with the Rev. David Smith officiating and worldwide president Kathleen Snow looking on.

WORLDWIDE PRESIDENT Kathleen Snow during her presentation.

TABLE DISCUSSIONS, with Genny Kresnic, Barbara Patterson, Elaine Bishop and Janet Champriss, all from the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

MU is building the Kingdom of God on Earth, says worldwide president Kathleen Snow

MU continued from page 6

buy and install 407 solar panels to keep the hospital open. Thousands depend on the hospital, but with the war in Gaza and frequent power outages, it cannot always operate.

This project is ongoing to October.

The Ebola emergency response in central Africa, and the World of Gifts ongoing fundraiser are also in need of support.

“The World of Gifts is wonderful for people who don’t need anything,” said Debbie. “This is well supported in the Diocese of Fredericton. And while the focus is on Christmas, it’s available year round.”

Besides donating, there are other ways you can support Alongside Hope, said Debbie.

“You can pray, remain informed and check the website for updates.”

Finally, Debbie noted that

Alongside Hope has earned a spot on the list of the top 100 charities in Canada, for the second year in a row.

“That means it actually does what it says it’s doing,” said Debbie.

Check out Alongside Hope here: <https://alongsidehope.org/>

KATHLEEN SNOW

Kathleen’s presentation on leadership began with a song and actions, “Rise and shine, and give God the glory.”

This year, Mothers’ Union celebrates 150 years of service, and it came to Canada a mere 12 years after its formation in the UK.

“It’s a movement, but what it’s really doing is building the kingdom of God on earth,” she said. “That’s our aim, our purpose, and I see it happening every day.”

Kathleen showed clips of six worldwide presidents who were interviewed on the challenges

of leading MU, and the grace of God’s guidance through it, while asking what leadership looks like.

It was a fascinating snapshot of MU leadership over the years.

Challenges mentioned were the COVID pandemic, climate change, the global economic crash of 2009, and The Troubles in Ireland.

One retired president noted that she was pressed into MU membership. She was told, ‘You need to join because we need a lift to the meeting.’

Another noted her love of MU was because it shows practical Christian concern.

One retired president relied on her local parish: “My rector said, ‘this church is here to support you.’”

One spoke on witnessing the empowerment of women, supported by MU: ‘Being literate and numerate — that was just a dream when I joined.’

Advice included these bits of wisdom:

- Let your God-given gifts shine.
- Offer yourself. God will do the rest.
- Talk about MU. Say what we do.
- Don’t get stuck in ‘how we’ve always done it’.
- Let your voice be heard.
- Be proud of what we are and what we’ll do in the future.

After the video, Kathleen asked for reaction from the members, who were clearly touched by what they’d heard.

Members spoke of the humility, wisdom, passion and authenticity they’d just witnessed in the video.

“They are no different than each one of you, or members in your branch,” said Kathleen. “Be thinking about members in your branch. Invite them to take on new roles. Encourage them and pray for them.”

As for Kathleen and her role as worldwide president, her life has taken a big turn, filled with meetings and international travel.

“People say, you must be so tired, but I’m being prayed for by thousands of women — and I can feel it!”

Kathleen gave an update on the 150th anniversary service held at St. Pau’s Cathedral in London in June. There were 21 Canadians in attendance, and Kathleen spoke.

“It was amazing!” she said.

A second 150th anniversary celebration will take place in Durban, South Africa, in late September, with several MU members from Canada, and our diocese, planning to attend.

During the conference, the Rev. David Smith and Kathleen enrolled Archbishop David and Debbie Edwards as members of the Mothers’ Union, a highlight for many in attendance.

ACW celebrates annual meeting in Petitcodiac

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Fifty-six Anglican Church Women in the diocese gathered May 5 at St. Andrew's church (Petitcodiac) in the Parish of Salisbury and Havelock for their annual meeting.

The day began with a service of Holy Eucharist led by Archbishop David Edwards and the Rev. Barb Haire. Readers were Colleen Bannister, Sharon Hopper and Barb. Cheryl Young was the pianist.

The day was organized by the parish ACW members and volunteers, led by Melanie Wade. Several clergy members from the deanery attended.

HOMILY

The theme of the day was Unity In Christ, and Archbishop David began his homily along those lines. He told those gathered that he recently read a report from the World Council of Churches, and asked for guesses on the number of protestant denominations.

Guesses began at a few hundred, then a thousand. In fact, the answer is 35,000!

"That tells us an awful lot on our view of unity in Christ," he said. "Most are divided along very small issues, but we are one in Christ."

David spoke of unity within creation, saying God didn't just love the world, as John 3:16 says. The Greek translates our word 'world' to cosmos.

"Cosmos is the whole of creation," he said. "We're called to love, to be in unity with the whole cosmos."

"What a different that would make in our battered and bruised world."

At the heart of this unity is love — seeking the best for the other person in a relationship, and the best for the cosmos, he said.



TOP: Archbishop David Edwards installs the new executive of the Diocesan ACW. From left: treasurer Cathy Lutes, secretary Carolyn Pellow, past-president Peggy Boucher, Archbishop David, new president Diane Todd and vice-president Melanie Wade.



BELOW: Fellowship during lunch at St. Andrew's in Petitcodiac May 5. **LEFT:** The Ven. Brent Ham and Jill Stewart read names from the Book of Remembrance.



REMEMBRANCE

Jill Stewart looks after the Book of Remembrance, which honours members who have passed on each year. After reciting the ACW prayer, she and the Ven. Brent Ham presented 21 names, read a passage from Lamentations, had a moment of silence for the members and prayed.

BUSINESS

Outgoing president Peggy Boucher spoke as the leader of the group for the last time. She encouraged members to reach out to non-members in their parishes for help on specific events and projects.

While many work, they seldom say no to requests, she said.

Rollcall saw representation from all deaneries except St. Andrews. The Shediac deanery, where the meeting was held, saw the largest number of members present, 27.

"I'm happy with this," said Peggy. "It's very positive going forward."

FARRALINE PLACE

Acting chair Darline Cogwell and director of care and operations Chelsie Ogden were present from Farraline Place, an ACW-affiliated home for seniors in downtown Fredericton.

They have had many challenges since

Chelsie took over for Judy O'Donnell last fall. Vacant rooms, the emergency need for a partial new roof, staffing shortages and overdue upgrades have all hampered the smooth running of the facility.

"But things are looking up," said Chelsie. "Every day last week I had viewings."

With winter over, people are now more willing to move, she said.

One of the issues that has come up during viewings is the quality of the surroundings when potential residents and their families come for a visit.

To make the house more presentable, they've embarked on deep cleaning, painting, rearranging furniture and so on.

"Chelsie has been pounding the pavement, getting donations and donations in kind," said Darline. "I'm optimistic by the time we come to the garden party, you'll be amazed."

The garden party, cancelled last summer due to extreme heat, is planned for Aug. 13, with a carnival theme.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Diocesan ACW treasurer Cathy Lutes began her report with a motion to change the Farraline Flooring Fund to the Farraline Refurbishing Fund. That

way, branches will know when they donate that the money can be used for more than just the original carpet project. Members approved that change.

Secondly, after attending the special synod session on the future of Christ Church Cathedral, Cathy asked that members pass a motion to include the Cathedral Restoration Fund in the annual budget. She also suggested adding it to the branch financial report so they can contribute as well.

"It's a beautiful church and we have to do something to keep it," said Cathy.

The motion passed unanimously, as did the annual budget.

LUNCH

Many hands contributed to the presentation of an impressive spread of cold meats, salads, coleslaws, pickles, rolls and a wide variety of desserts. There were many leftovers and members were encouraged to take some home with them.

DIocese OF HO

Robbie Griffin, chair of the Companion Diocese Committee, was the afternoon guest speaker. He spoke briefly on the success of the mobile medical clinic, which in its first year of visiting outlying villages, saw 7,081 patients, many of

whom had never seen a doctor in their lives.

This project was supported by parishes, ACW branches, the Diocese and the Rotary Club and has been a huge success. Robbie is a Rotarian in Grand Manan.

Now Robbie is on to another project for the Diocese of Ho, a vocational high school. All schools in Ghana are run by churches. The City of Ho has a population of 270,000 in a province of two million.

"It has three high schools but no vocational schools at all in the region of Ho," said Robbie.

At the same time, there is an extreme shortage of tradespeople, and their school system is much like ours was from the 1980s and before, with shop, business and home economics programs, making graduating students ready for the work world.

The Diocese of Ho welcomes the project and has set aside a 10-acre plot of land for the school. As with the clinic project, Rotary will be heavily involved. An architect in Ho who is a Rotary member, has designed a school, while another Rotarian, a contractor, hopes to build it.

ACW continued on page 9

ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Robbie Griffin, chair of the Companion Diocese Committee, speaks about the latest project in the Diocese of Ho, a vocational high school; singing during the opening hymn; Chelsie Ogden and Darline Cogswell of Farraline Place in Fredericton; fellowship during lunch at St. Andrew's, Petitscodiac on May 5, where ACW members met for their annual meeting.



Next year's AGM will be in the Archdeaconry of Chatham

ACW continued from page 8

The aim is to have a student population of 800, with 504 housed. It will be a campus-style school, with various buildings housing the trades, plus buildings for administration, an auditorium, dorms and so on.

Concrete blocks will form the buildings. In Canada, they are \$6 apiece. In Ghana, they cost 80 cents each.

"\$100 buys 120 concrete blocks," said Robbie.

"The masonry building will be built first," said Robbie. "Once that's operational, it can create the blocks for the other buildings."

The project will be a phased-in approach, with buildings constructed as money allows.

"The Rotary Club of Grand Manan and the ACW of Grand Manan have donated \$10,000 to get the project going," he said.

To support this project, you can do-

nate via eTransfer to finance@diofton.ca

IMPORTANT: When using e-transfer for any donation, include a note specifying the recipient (Ho school) and include your name and mailing address so a donation receipt can be sent.

You can also send a cheque, made out to the Diocesan Synod of Fredericton, and include the same information as above. Mail to 168 Church St, Fredericton E3B 4C9.

INSTALLATION

Archbishop David installed a new executive during the annual meeting. The new president is Diane Todd, with past president Peggy Boucher. The new vice-president is Melanie Wade. The treasurer and secretary remain the same: Cathy Lutes and Carolyn Pellow.

OTHER

Rosemarie Kingston gave a short update on the Pickett Scovil Fund, which is more than 100 years old. She encour-

aged members to read Canon Paul Jeffries' report (Bishop McAllister College) in the meeting guide.

Lilian Ketch brought greetings from Mothers' Union, including news from their rally, held in late April, celebrating the 150th anniversary of MU worldwide.

This June, there will be a Canadian conference of MU at Villa Madonna, which Lilian is organizing.

Diocesan representative Debbie Edwards gave an update on Alongside Hope, formerly PWRDF, explaining the name change.

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund was confusing for the public, some of whom assumed it was a fund for monkeys. It was also a top-heavy sounding name and a throw-back to an earlier era.

"The new name came alive for me in Africa," said Debbie.

There are ongoing projects in Canada and 30 countries. The Canadian Response Fund helps with relief at home after such things as hurricanes and

wildfires.

"And you can trust that your money will go where you intend it to go," she said.

Alongside Hope has been named one of the top 100 charities in Canada, a designation many non-profits wish they had, she said.

The annual Quiet Day is planned for Sept. 9 at St. Mary's in Chatham. The day will include a hot meal, craft, and perhaps even a biblical auction. Gwen McConnell is one of the organizers.

Next year's AGM will be somewhere in the Archdeaconry of Chatham, though the exact location is not yet known.

The day's offering of \$570 was topped up to \$600, and members voted to split it three ways: Farraline Place, the Ho school project and Christ Church Cathedral restoration.

The day ended with huge applause for all the parish organizers, including Melanie Wade and Sharon Hopper.

"SHARING HOPE & HELP"

FUNDY FOOT PATH

Go take a hike — on the Fundy Footpath

A casual sermon comment leads to a grueling adventure on an epic trail

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Mike Caines had better watch his mouth!

The rector in the Parish of the Nerepis and St. John made a statement in a February sermon that led to a challenge from congregation members.

He fulfilled that challenge in early June by walking the Fundy Footpath — successfully.

But let's back up to the sermon that started it all.

"The sermon was on the Beatitudes," said Mike. "I reflected on how tough a path it is to walk the Beatitudes, but at least every Beatitude comes with a promise."

Not so with the Fundy Footpath, he said, by comparison.

There are no promises — only hardship and danger: two tidal streams to cross, 12 ravines to negotiate, over 10,000 feet of elevation change along 52 kilometers. It's Double Black Diamond strenuous.

"I made fun of the Fundy Footpath and said, 'at least God gives promises,'" he said.

Then came the turning point. In jest, he said, "So who wants to take on the Fundy Footpath?"

"Five hands went up!"

PREPARATION

After church, these five men tried to talk him into the hike. The next week, it was the same thing.

"I said no. I didn't want to. I was not in shape for it," said the 46-year-old. "But it turned into me and five guys, so we started training."

Once a week during Lent, he hiked with a 30-pound rucksack, because one has to carry in all food and necessities for the hike. While hiking, he meditated on the Beattitudes — the very passage that got him into this situation.

Mike also runs three times a week, and in April, on a run, he was bitten by a dog.

"I wrenched my back shaking the dog off," he said, adding he seriously considered cancelling the hike.

you in the prep and the path."

Finally, June arrived and the guys were ready. But one had a family obligation, so they were down to five. Another, Martin, had an exam and could only join them after that was taken care of.

ON THE PATH

So the four set out on June 4 from Point Wolfe in Fundy National Park.

Early on, Mike's son, Ben, twisted his knee badly. He could bear no weight, so he was out.

Fortunately, it happened only a few metres from one of the few access roads, and it had rare cell reception, so a friend was able to come collect him.

Mike shudders to think of the difficulty that would have ensued, had they needed to carry Ben up and down ravines to get him help.

So the original six were down to three: Tim, Josh and Mike. But by the end of day two, Martin turned up, with steaks, no less!

The first three days came with perfect weather for hiking: sunny, breezy, with magnificent views.

"It was stunning," said Mike.

"It's rare beauty you don't ever see because you have to do very hard hiking to see it. I bent my trekking pole three times."

Day four, the last day, came with unrelenting rain.

"When we got to the Fundy Parkway Interpretation Centre, we were drenched and sore," said Mike.

It was 4:50 p.m. Though they wanted to change into dry clothes and get their gear into the car that was left for them, they were told the gates closed at 5 p.m. and if they didn't hurry, they'd be shut in for the night.

Quickly on their way, they made their way back to Grand Bay.

"The trail is so technical," said Mike. "It's relentless the whole time. We can't believe we did it. But we trusted God that we'd be OK."

Mike has learned another lesson from this odyssey.

"It all started with a throw-away sermon that I've paid dearly for," he said. "Be careful what you preach!"

JOSH KELIHER

Josh Keliher, 47, wasn't sure



ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIKE CAINES.

"I'd heard about it and was curious," he said. "Was it really that hard?"

Nevertheless, it was always tucked away on the software product manager's bucket list.

"It's a little bit scary, but it's useful to get off the couch and push yourself," he said. "So a bunch of us fools raised our hands!"

"It was a sign that I needed to get up and do it."

In preparation, Josh tailored his gym workout to match the skills he'd need for the climb. Things like balance training became important.

In the end, he had no drama, no unfortunate incidents and no regrets, just a bit of soreness.

"While on the hike, we said we'd definitely do it again," he said. "Who you go along with on the journey matters."

One of the spiritual benefits, as Josh saw it, was the notion of

the church, they'd been reading Richard J. Foster's Celebration of Discipline, and the chapter they tackled before the hike was on solitude.

"Solitude as in listening to God," he said. "I was conscious of that during the hike. The sole task there is what's in front of you. The miles gone past don't matter. The only thing you can do is take that next step and keep going."

There's no email, no phone, no work pressures, no demands — just the enjoyment of the solitude.

"It was helpful for me," he said.

TIM LESLIE

Tim Leslie, 49, is an engineer, warden in the Parish of the Nerepis and St. John, and an avid hiker.

So when his rector, Mike, mentioned hiking the Fundy

a long time," said Tim. "I spend a lot of time hiking, but I don't think Mike was expecting the response."

The Nova Scotia native had heard of the Fundy Footpath long before he ever moved to New Brunswick. After convincing Mike to go through with it, Tim got busy training.

He hiked the woods, he hiked the hills of Grand Bay-Westfield. He carried weight to get used to a heavy backpack.

"I thought I was ready," he said. "I hike a lot anyway, but I was not as ready as I thought I was. I was probably in the worst shape of all the guys."

Still, he had a successful hike, though he was taken aback by the geography.

"The sheer magnitude of the hills and the ruggedness of the terrain were more than I anticipated," he said. "It was hard. Not just going up, but going down



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:

Josh, Mike, Martin and Tim arrive at Seely Beach; the view of the Bay of Fundy, from the wilds of the shore, is one that many New Brunswickers will never see in person; Ben and Mike arriving at Goose Creek; Josh, Tim, Martin and Mike at "The Dragon's Tooth" balanced rock.

FUNDY FOOT PATH

FUNDY FOOTPATH

From tourismnewbrunswick.ca
The Fundy Footpath is a challenging wilderness trail that starts at the Fundy Trail suspension footbridge at Big Salmon River, near St. Martins, and hugs the coastline to Fundy National Park, near Alma.

The eastern and western sections of the Fundy Footpath form a continuous trail from beginning to end.

The rugged Fundy terrain leads up and down from an elevation of 0 to 300 m (984 ft.) across a dozen ravines and two tidal rivers that can only be crossed during low tide.

One of the last remaining coastal wilderness areas between Florida and Labrador, the views and wilderness experience are spectacular. The trail is between 41 and 64 km, depending on your starting point, and can be hiked in four to five days. It is considered strenuous.

Camping conditions are primitive (no designated campsites), water treatment is necessary, fires are not permitted and a backpacker stove is recommended.

All hikers are required to register. The footpath is also accessible from the Point Wolfe parking lot at Fundy National Park.

ered with a thick layer of spruce needles. During their last day, the rain made the paths a slippery mess that had the men falling frequently. They didn't dare lose their focus.

"Everything had to be done with intention," said Tim.

Each morning began with prayer, helping the guys feel grounded and ready for the day, he said.

"It was more than just physical exercise," he said. "It felt different than a normal hike."

He's also still in awe of the scenery.

"Standing on top of the big ravines, you could see God's paintbrush on everything," he said.

MARTIN WIGHTMAN

Martin Wightman, a third-year medical student, has hiked some rather daunting trails in his life: The Chilkoot in Alaska/BC, the

So the Fundy Footpath was right up his alley. However, as experienced as he was, he admits to not being as ready as he might have been.

"I probably undertrained," he said. "I was medical-student busy and kind of lost track."

Even so, he hiked Eagle Rock near his Welsford home, carrying his two-year-old son on his back to simulate a full backpack.

But on the second day of the trip, Martin had a commitment he couldn't get out of: a medical exam.

He wrote the exam, met his family in St. Martins for lunch, and arrived at the meeting point with 45 extra pounds in his backpack: steaks, water and asparagus — all to share.

He found that unlike the Alps trails, there was no place where he felt his life was hanging in the balance. Still, the relentless up and down nature of the hike was

said.

In the end, the 37-year-old came out with just a sore knee.

"I did get out with the help of God, Ibuprofen and lots of cold water," he said. "I think we did well."

Martin especially enjoyed the peace of being in the wilderness.

"The prophets and Jesus went into the wilderness to receive peace, messages," he said.

"I'm not putting us in that category, but it can be incredibly helpful to be away from responsibilities, studies — just focusing on one foot in front of the other."

He also found his friendships from church were further deepened by the experience of the shared challenge.

But he has one suggestion for Rev. Mike.

"The next time he makes fun of something from the pulpit, maybe it should be the Carib-bean!"

Multicultural baptismal service was a joyous celebration in Riverview

BY JULIAN PILLAY

Alleluia Christ is Risen, He is Risen Indeed!

This statement was lived out and experienced at our Easter worship service as six candidates were presented to God in Holy Baptism in the Parish of Riverview.

This was a very meaningful and significant service as candidates, together with their sponsors, declared reverential promises to God.

The Gospel reading was taken from St. Matthew 28:16-20 based on the Great Commission. This was an appropriate reading given the candidates and their sponsors represented many countries and cultures of the globe.

The homily reminded parishioners of Christ's call to discipleship and that the whole church must take the whole gospel to the whole world, baptising new disciples in the name of the Triune God.

The first candidate to go through the waters of Baptism was three-month-old Munachi. The name Munachi is derived from the Igbo people of Nigeria and means "I am in the company of my God" — a very fitting and appropriate name!

Next was two-year-old Paschal whose parents fled the war in South Sudan and ended up living in Uganda as refugees for eight years before landing in Canada in 2024.

After arriving in Riverview, they called our church office, made enquiries and asked if they could attend services.

After praying with the dad

over the phone, Michelle, our parish administrator, invited them to worship.

The next Sunday when they visited, they felt right at home. It turned out that they were members of the Anglican Church in South Sudan!

Four-year-old Laura and her two-year-old brother Lucas, originally from Panama and Venezuela, followed suit.

Mum and dad spoke very little English, as Spanish is their mother tongue. Even though the family currently attend a Spanish fellowship in Moncton, they were determined to present their children to God in baptism.

I was very moved and encouraged by their perseverance. The mum first contacted us a year ago and they waited patiently to celebrate this special day in the lives of their children.

They didn't let language, distance or any other barrier prevent them from presenting their children to God.

I am reminded of the many stories in the Gospels where parents would defy all odds just to bring their children to Jesus.

There was a comedic moment during the ceremony when little Laura, with her mouth wide open, tried to drink the baptismal water. She was very disappointed that she couldn't!

The sounds of "holy laughter" could be heard all over the sanctuary from the crowd. This is definitely one episode that the family will remember for a very long time.

During the offertory, a

pre-recorded Spanish gospel song was played via the sound system. Many of the Spanish-speaking friends and family in attendance were able to sing along and worship God in their

mother tongue.

Cameron and Dan are from the Riverview and Moncton area. They both have amazing testimonies of how God has worked in their lives and how He has brought them to a point of faith.

It excites me to hear stories of grace, forgiveness and new life in Christ. Cameron, a young man, experienced God's grace firsthand when he witnessed his uncle's (a retired priest) joy and humility during his fading health.

The Spirit began to witness and tug at Cameron's heart and brought him to a point of faith.

Dan, whose wife passed away recently, decided to return to church after many years. He felt the warmth and move of God in his life.

Dan, in his 70s, often says he may be the oldest person to be baptised in the parish, to which I gently remind him that no one is too old to become a child of God!

All candidates, together with the godparents and sponsors,

joined in the recessional as flags from their countries of birth or ancestry were jubilantly waved.

This was quite an eventful celebration as the festival continued in the hall. Parishioners presented cards, gifts, notes of encouragement and support to the newly baptised, followed by refreshments and snacks.

Our parishioners were wonderful hosts for this event in generously providing refreshments and snacks.

Our parish is blessed to have a great ministry team who serve in so many wonderful and kind ways.

I give thanks to God that we could all play a small part in the Great Commission!

"There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. - Ephesians 4:4-6

The Rev. Julian Pillay is the rector of the Parish of Riverview.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

CANDIDATES, SPONSORS AND GODPARENTS are shown at the Easter Sunday baptismal service in the Parish of Riverview, with the Rev. Julian Pillay.



GODLY PLAY CORE TRAINING

A workshop to empower and inspire. We will explore Godly Play as a creative approach to nurturing children's faith.

Oct 23rd - Oct 25th

Southwest River United Church

12079 PE-6, Kensington, PEI

questions email [Jenny.Eisener](mailto:Jenny.Eisener@registrargodlyplaymaritimes@gmail.com)
registrargodlyplaymaritimes@gmail.com

Registration is limited, please fill out this form by Friday, September 25th.



CLERGY SPOUSES RETREAT

Clergy Spouses' Retreat highlights

BY GWEN MCCONNELL

From May 7-9, a slightly smaller group than usual got together at Villa Madonna to enjoy one another's company, sing enthusiastically, pray, enjoy delicious food and learn.

This year's organizing committee was from the Miramichi area, with the exception of Carol Glencross in Brown's Yard. Since Carole was on the organizing committee the year before, she kindly offered to help us.

Led by Gwen McConnell and assisted by Marguerite Barry and Gina Quann, the group members got together several times and enjoyed getting to know one another better as we made plans.

Our theme was The Grace of God. Our speaker James Woodford spoke about the utter transformation he experienced because of a near-death experience he had several years ago.

A native of Newfoundland, Jim lost his father at a young age. Consequently, he and his brother were taken in and raised in his maternal grandparents' home, along with his mother.

Although taken to church as a boy, Jim left all thought of God behind and became a pilot who lived "the high life," (pun intended), collecting all that the world has to offer: beautiful women, expensive cars, boats and airplanes, but, as he reminded us, he was never fulfilled by these material things.

Near the end of his career, Jim began to experience numbness in his feet and legs. He was diagnosed with a rare disease, Guillaine-Barre Syndrome or GBS, named after the two doctors who identified it.

To quote Jim, he was "dumb as a brick," still believing that he could handle this without God.

As the disease progressed, however, he lost his beloved career and experienced excruciating pain.

One detail that I recall him mentioning was that it even hurt to blink! Given strong pain killers, Jim found that even these became ineffective in controlling his pain.

The turning point in Jim's life came the night he drove to a



TOP: group photo of the attendees and guests.



LEFT: Clergy spouses Carol Glencross, Minna Harjupanula, Nancy Robinson and Debbie Edwards.

After being "dead" for nine hours, he returned to his body. Doctors cannot explain this phenomenon. Jim is one of a very few people on earth to possess his own death certificate!

field and watched the sun set.

He had lost track of how many pills he had taken that day and took a few more that he found in his truck.

He remembers getting out of the vehicle and walking, without pain for the first time in months.

When he looked back at his truck, he could see someone sitting there.

Just as he began to float above the earth, he realized with a shock that the person sitting in the driver's seat was himself, and that the sun was setting on his life.

To hear all about Jim's experiences in heaven, you can look online to watch a video of him describing what happened, or you might like to

order his book, titled *Heaven, an Unexpected Journey*, available online.

Even better, call Jim and book him to speak at your church or in your community. I have included his contact information below.

Suffice it to say that Jim experienced an overwhelming feeling of pure love.

When shown his life book, however, he was shocked to find how little of significance he had done!

Meanwhile, his wife and her family were praying for his recovery. Doctors declared him dead and informed Jim's family.

After being "dead" for nine hours, he returned to his body. Doctors cannot explain this phenomenon. Jim is one

of a very few people on earth to possess his own death certificate!

The most amazing aspect of this whole story is how utterly changed Jim has become, by the grace of God.

Jesus asked him to return to earth and tell others what he had seen.

This would have been impossible, given the extreme pain that Jim had had, but Jesus healed him of this illness.

Although he still has markers of the disease, he is completely without symptoms.

Now Jim spends his energy, time and money to help the destitute, and to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ.

He was convinced by others to write about his experiences,

which he has done, using the income to support two orphanages in Haiti.

He and some like-minded people have begun a mobile hospital in South America, as well as other endeavors.

As he told us, he is determined that when he sees Jesus once again, face to face, he will have a much thicker book of life.

Many thanks to Archbishop David Edwards, who gives this gift of retreat to clergy spouses annually, to the musicians who added so much to the experience, and to Villa Madonna which hosts us each year.

Contact James Woodford at (506) 260-8667.

The grace of beginning again

September has always felt more like the beginning of a new year than January does.

Perhaps it is the school calendar still imprinted on me. Perhaps it is the cooler air or the familiar sight of church programs returning after a summer pause.

September carries the sense that it is time to gather ourselves, settle back into familiar rhythms, and begin again.

Beginning again can be exciting, but can also be discouraging.

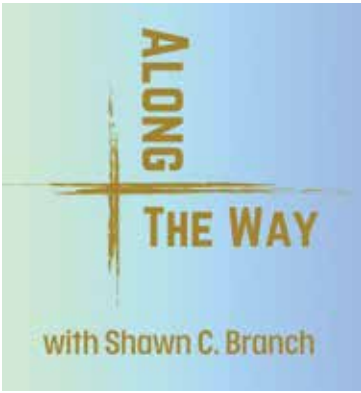
We may enter a new season carrying plans that did not work, promises we did not keep, or habits and rhythms we meant to change months ago.

Perhaps our prayer life has become sporadic. Perhaps we have drifted from regular worship or from people who matter to us. Perhaps we hoped that, by now, life would look different.

When that happens, a new beginning can feel less like an invitation and more like a verdict. We remember every previous attempt and wonder why this one should be any different.

But the Bible offers another way of looking at it.

Through the prophet Isaiah, God speaks to a people who know disappointment and dis-



location: “Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?” (Isaiah 43:18–19)

These are not an instruction to pretend the past never happened. Israel’s losses were real. Their mistakes mattered. Their wounds could not simply be erased. But God would not allow the past to have the final word: “I am about to do a new thing.”

That is the grace of beginning again. We are not asked to manufacture a perfect future from our own determination. We are invited to notice what God is already bringing to life.

Sometimes that new thing is quite small.

It may be the first honest prayer after a long silence. It may be returning to church and sitting quietly near the back

(or the front — there’s always room).

It may be making the phone call we have postponed, admitting that we were wrong, opening the Bible again, or asking for help.

We often want a new beginning to feel dramatic. We want certainty, momentum, and visible results.

God frequently begins with something far less impressive: a seed, a conversation, a single act of trust.

Jesus’ own invitation to discipleship was often just two words: “Follow me.”

Not “Understand everything.”

Not “Have your life completely in order.”

Not “Promise that you will never stumble.”

Simply, “Follow me.”

Take the next step.

Church communities also know something about beginning again. September arrives and parish life becomes busier. Committees meet. Normal schedules resume – study groups, outreach initiatives. Plans are made for the months ahead.

It is tempting to measure the new season against ‘the good ol’ days’ when the pews were fuller, the volunteers more numerous, or the programs easier to sustain.

Memory can be a gift, but it becomes a burden when it convinces us that God’s best work must always be behind us.

Memory can be a gift, but it becomes a burden when it convinces us that God’s best work must always be behind us.

The question is not, “How do we recreate the past?”

The better question is, “What is God bringing to life among us now?”

The answer may not look like what came before. A new ministry may begin around a kitchen table rather than in a parish hall. A congregation’s most important work may happen outside its building.

Leadership may come from someone who has never imagined themselves a leader. A small gathering may offer the kind of welcome someone has been seeking for years.

“Now it springs forth,” God says. “Do you not perceive it?” (Isaiah 43:19)

Perceiving it requires attention. It requires enough humility to let go of our preferred outcomes and enough hope to

believe that God is still at work.

As this new season begins, perhaps we do not need a grand plan for spiritual renewal. Perhaps we need only one faithful next step:

- Return.
- Ask.
- Listen.
- Apologize.
- Pray.
- Show up.
- Try again.

The good news is not that we will get everything right this time. The good news is that God’s mercy is new every morning. The Spirit meets us along the journey as we are, not as we intended to be by now and calls us forward.

September is here. A new season is beginning. Thanks be to God, so can we.

Canon Shawn C. Branch is the diocesan Director of Mission & Ministry, supporting the missional life of the diocese and vocations.



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**



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



Coming soon:
**2026
World of Gifts!**

Get a sneak peek at this year's gifts and learn how your parish can get involved. Join us on Zoom on Tuesday, September 22 at 7 p.m. ET.

Register for the Zoom link at alongsidehope.org/worldofgifts or scan the QR code.



AROUND THE DIOCESE

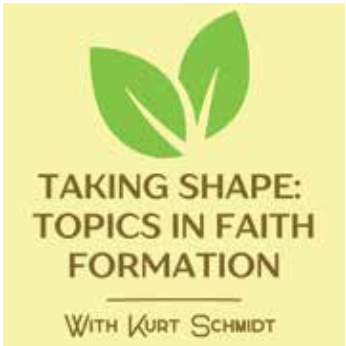


Diane Todd, new diocesan president of the ACW and member of the Parish of Hampton

- Favourite book of the Bible** – Proverbs
- Birthplace** – Saint John
- What you love most about God** – Unconditional grace
- Favourite place on Earth** – Our cottage on Cumberland Bay
- Farthest you’ve been from home** – Australia
- Favourite meal or dessert** – Any kind of cheesecake
- Biggest fear** – Mice
- Hidden talent** – All my talents are in plain view
- Favourite movie or book** – *To Kill A Mockingbird*
- Your hobby** – Gardening
- Three things always in your fridge** – Eggs, butter, cheese
- Favourite sports team** – Toronto Blue Jays

Episode 2 ~ CREATION AND SPIRITUALITY

This month, and reaching into early next month — from Sept. 1 to Oct. 4, we are encouraged to mark and observe the Season of Creation. This period of prayer and action for/on behalf of the environment, recognized by General Synod in 2019, is affiliated with the liturgical colour orange and is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through celebration, conversion, and commitment together. Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I proclaimed Sept. 1 as a day of prayer for creation for the Orthodox in 1989. In fact, the Orthodox church year starts on that day with a commemoration of how God created the world. The World Council of Churches was instrumental in making the special time a season, extending the celebration from Sept. 1 until Oct. 4. Following the leadership of Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I and the WCC, Christians worldwide have embraced the season as part of their annual calendar. The season starts Sept. 1, the Day of Prayer for Creation, and ends Oct. 4, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron



saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations. Throughout the month-long celebration, the world’s 2.2 billion Christians come together to pray and care for our common home. For more information and resources, including liturgical guides and action ideas, please check out the official website: seasonofcreation.org The Season of Creation is also, perhaps, an opportunity for us to explore the long tradition of creation-centered or creation-focused spirituality that is an important part of our Christian heritage. This heritage includes (but is not limited to!) the following:

- Roots and development in medieval (pre-modern) mysticism — associated especially

with figures like Francis, Hildegard of Bingen, and Meister Eckhart;

- Reflective writing and poetry with creation as a major/primary theme — in the work of Hooker, Herbert, Traherne and Donne, for instance;
- More modern contributions in/to creation spirituality — a movement combining mysticism (contemplative prayer), ecological justice, and cosmological science — developed in the work of figures such as Thomas Berry, Matthew Fox, and Jane Shaw;
- A “Creation Matters” webpage on our very own Anglican Diocese of Fredericton site! — <https://nb.anglican.ca/resources/creation-matters--244>

Let us not forget what the evangelist John taught in his gospel: “The Great Spirit loves this world so deeply he gave us his Son — the only Son who fully represents him” (3. 16, FNV). Importantly, the Greek word for world there is *cosmos* — that is, (all of) creation. May we honour and celebrate this astonishing truth and love in a special way during the 2026 edition of the Season of Creation.



PALMER LECTURE

ON THE EVENING of Wednesday, May 6, Diana Butler Bass was the featured speaker for the 2026 edition of the Palmer Memorial Lecture at Christ Church Cathedral in Fredericton. Diana, a Virginia-based, award-winning author of several books, church historian and creator/curator of *The Cottage*, a widely-read online newsletter on Substack, spoke to those gathered about her most recent book, *A Beautiful Year*. She suggested that we all ought to reconsider time and renew our trust in the (sacred) rhythms of the liturgical year, which is — at its heart and depth — a circle of provision and blessing that can help us better understand and live what it is to be the People of God. She reminded us that the Christian year is a powerfully insightful, spiral-shaped matrix of meaningful spiritual practice. Diana also spoke earlier in the day to all the diocesan clergy gathered for Clergy Day at St. Margaret’s in Fredericton. Top photo shows Kurt Schmidt and Diana. Submitted by Kurt Schmidt, Cathedral director of Christian formation. Submitted photos

ALONGSIDE HOPE

Alongside Hope leads regional gathering in Fredericton

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Alongside Hope diocesan representatives, staff members and partners gathered at Cathedral Memorial Hall June 19-20 to network and learn.

Alongside Hope’s Susanne Rumsey and Kim Umbach from Toronto led the event, while representatives from one of Alongside Hope’s partners, Canadian Foodgrains Bank, gave presentations.

Several diocesan reps from the Province of Canada were in attendance as well, including from Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, Montreal, and Newfoundland and Labrador.

Debbie Edwards, our diocesan rep, hosted the event and spoke of her experiences.

“People are wonderful, but the challenge is a lack of parish reps,” she said. “A lot of our parishes don’t have an official representative.”

Susanne and Kim gave a snapshot of life at Alongside Hope’s headquarters, and the changes that have taken place there, including the name change from PWRDF in recent years.

They have a staff of 26, and have been named one of the top 100 charities in Canada, an enviable distinction in the non-profit world.

The two outlined the various funds one can donate to, and the work done both in Canada and in many other countries to alleviate suffering, build community, invest in sustainability and bring aid after disasters like wildfires and hurricanes.

CANADIAN FOODGRAINS BANK

CFB has been an important partner of Alongside Hope since 2007.

“It’s a coalition of 15 church agencies,” said Kim. “CFB doesn’t have people on the ground. They work through partners.”

CFB’s mandate is to end world hunger, and its work involves emergency food aid, long-term responses to food insecurity and education of governments and others.

“We have a vision of a world without hunger,” said Rebekah Sears, an Anglican who lives in Fredericton and works for CFB. “There is a saying in Africa: There is no bread without peace, and no peace without bread.”

Some of their other partners include the Salvation Army, the Mennonite Central Committee, Baptists, Presbyterians and Lutherans.

“A lot of the work we do is to



ABOVE: The Mapping Exercise, led by the Rev. Cate Ratcliffe (standing) and Gillian Power (at table), at Cathedral Memorial Hall June 20.

BELOW: The Alongside Hope gathering included, from left: the Rev. Cate Ratcliffe, Rebekah Sears, Leah Marshall, Debbie Edwards, Wendy Anderson, Gillian Power, the Rev. Jane Bell, the Rev. Debbie Panton, Suzanne Rumsey and Kim Umbach.



prevent further situations,” said Rebekah.

CFB’s Rick Block appeared via Zoom from a project in Saskatchewan called Grow Hope. Farmers designate land to grow a crop for the project, with help from donors to sponsor an acre or more. One acre is \$350. The resulting harvest is sold and the monies donated, usually a return of between \$400 and \$700.

“Funds are matched by the Government of Canada, usually 4 to 1, and distributed through participating member agencies,” said Rick. “A flat \$350 donation can yield up to \$3,000 in food. We call it turning straw into gold.”

There is an Anglican Grow

Hope project in the Diocese of Rupert’s Land, where parishes raise money to sponsor an acre, said Kim.

“It started small in 2018 with an Anglican priest who was also a farmer,” she said. “It’s grown since then.”

Similar projects exist in Nova Scotia, with various churches helping to grow corn near Truro and Masstown, said Wendy Anderson of CFB.

Two other projects are growing natto beans on seven acres in PEI, she said.

But it’s not just farmers who are involved in growing crops for CFB.

“So much can be done,” she said. “There’s a concert — ‘Sing-

ing in the Grain’ — dinners, the sale of pumpkins.”

Grow Hope’s Saskatchewan project had 508 acres under cultivation last year.

One of the reasons for CFB having such a large role in the gathering is that it is nearly unheard-of in the Maritimes. Discussion centred around opportunities for getting involved and even recruiting farmers and parishes.

MAPPING THE GROUND

Saturday’s agenda included highlights from Debbie Edwards’ trip to Kenya with Alongside Hope last year, and a focus on Alongside Hope’s current projects.

The main project is called Light for St. Luke’s, a hospital in the West Bank of Palestine operated by the Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem.

The aim is to fundraise \$352,000 to purchase and install 407 solar panels to keep the hospital operational for the 455,000 people who rely on it. The current war, unpredictable and frequent electrical outages and expensive fuel all conspire to create huge gaps in delivering healthcare.

The main Saturday event was Alongside Hope’s educational project called Mapping The Ground We Stand On, led by Gillian Power and Cate Ratcliffe.

The mapping exercise is a response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action, and seeks to teach about the Doctrine of Discovery and how the concept of *terra nullius*, or empty land, shaped our colonial history, says the Alongside Hope description.

Here is Debbie Edwards’ description of the exercise:

“It begins by placing the names of Indigenous people groups on a very large map of Canada (Turtle Island).

“One of the justifications for claiming the land, by various European countries, was that the land was ‘empty.’ Clearly, the land was not empty.

“Also, we all had a chance to tell the story of one branch of our own family, saying how and when they came to Canada.

“People said it was emotionally draining and powerfully thought-provoking. During the debrief, each person had a chance to share their feelings regarding the exercise. One person summed up what many people seemed to be saying, by using the expression, ‘when you know better you must do better.’

This exercise is made available to groups and parishes, with expenses covered by Alongside Hope. If your church would like to book a Mapping Exercise, you can do so on the Alongside Hope website, alongsidehope.org, or by contacting Debbie Edwards: deborahcollicott@gmail.com.

Those participating in the Alongside Hope regional gathering included Debbie Edwards, Kim Umbach, Susanne Rumsey, the Rev. Cate Ratcliffe (NS&PEI), Rebekah Sears (CFB), Leah Marshall (NS&PEI), Wendy Anderson (CFB), Gillian Power (NS&PEI), the Rev. Jane Bell (Montreal), and the Rev. Debbie Panton (Eastern Newfoundland).

DIOCESAN CHOIR SCHOOL

Diocesan Choir School: An intergenerational approach

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Unlike many church events these days, the participants at Diocesan Choir School were not exclusively a sea of grey heads.

The directors were a university student and a senior citizen. The music leaders were both younger and older. The choristers' ages ran from 15 to people in their 90s.

The common thread at Diocesan Choir School is a love of singing, and that is not limited by age.

Each year, they gather to learn several pieces of music, practice hard over a few days, and present their program as the culmination of an intense, four-day event.

This year's Choir School, one of the last in the country and now in its 67th year, was held July 9-12 at Rothesay Netherwood School. The finale took place at Portland United Church in Saint John, with 54 voices lifted in unison to praise God and express their love of sacred music.

The selections were a mix of spiritual, modern and traditional pieces to appeal to a broad array of tastes.

This year's leaders were music director Spencer Belyea, accompanist Gibson MacMillan and guest clinician Michael Molloy.

LONGEVITY

One of the unique aspects of choir school is the dedication and loyalty of many members over dozens of years. During each event, medallions are given out to mark the years.

This year, 11 newcomers received a year-one medallion. Jim McKenna, 93, received his 10-year medallion, while Cleo Cyr received her 20-year medallion. As of now, there is no 50-year medallion, but that's going to have to change soon.

Music director Spencer Belyea is at the 48-year mark and the longest running member. A retired music teacher in the Saint John area, and the music director at Trinity Church, he lives and breathes music.

"They can't get rid of me," he joked. "I started when I was a boy. I was able to do music I couldn't do in my own church. And I got to perform at a church like Trinity!"

Spencer cites the unique atmosphere as the key to longevity.

"Here, we're all together on campus. We have our meals together, we socialize together. It's lovely to sit down between

rehearsals and nurture relationships."

He's particularly keen on teaching the young people who sign up.

"I swear we get the best teenagers," he said. "They want to be here. We give them financial help to be here and they're just lovely young people."

"Most are not churched, but for whatever reason, they're here. Young people should have a chance to do something like this."

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Mary Louise Belyea, one of the directors of Choir School, along with Robert Taylor, is happy with the post-pandemic numbers. While Choir School used to last a full week, during the pandemic, it was a one-day

event. Now the four-day session is helping to build up numbers and re-establish itself.

"We're trying to grow to pre-COVID numbers and a week-long event," she said. "Even if we stay with the four-day workshop, that's OK — as long as it happens."

"The fact that we've survived even through COVID is a testament."

In her late 20s, Mary Louise has been around long enough — 19 years — to see kids she knew now returning as adults.

"It's freedom and flexibility, a weekend with friends doing music we love," she said. "We bond with each other over a shared love of music. That's Choir School."

The London-Vanicek family

from Fredericton was at Choir School in full force. Marianne Vanicek; her parents, Sheila and Dalton London; and her children: Sebastian and his fiancée, Talia Kennedy; Caroline and Christian, were all at Choir School this year.

While they've been here before, this might be a first.

"I don't think everybody has been here at the same time before," said Sheila.

Jarred Beckerton of St. Andrews is here for the second time. He describes his reasoning this way: "I love to sing, I love to make music and I love to praise the Lord!"

Donna Dobbin, from the Parish of Gondola Point, is in her 18th year of Choir School. For a long time, she felt she

could never attend, because she didn't have the technical skill.

"I don't read music, but I don't seem to need to," she said. "I learn by hearing, and there's enough support around me to keep me going in the right direction."

Donna finds this is one of the few places where so many singers come together.

"I love hearing all the different voices — from sopranos to bass. Most choirs only have sopranos, or they don't have a choir at all."

For Cleo, from the Parish of Hammond River, Choir School is all about the music.

"It is so spiritual. I love listening to the blend of voices. It's nurturing and healing. I feel closer to God when I'm here."



SUBMITTED PHOTO



MCKNIGHT PHOTO

TOP: Each year, the members of Diocesan Choir School pose for two photos, a serious group shot and a silly one. We trust it is obvious, but this is the silly one!

LEFT: Spencer Belyea, top right, leads choristers during rehearsal.

CAMP MEDLEY OPEN HOUSE

Camp Medley open house a hit with new visitors, returning campers

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

The water was too choppy for kayaking, and rain kept a few people indoors, but not much could dampen the mood of those who showed up for Camp Medley’s open house held June 20.

The day-long event was similar to last year’s 80th anniversary celebration, with the old dining hall filled with photos and memorabilia; games for the kids; videos of past years playing; the open tuck shop; a barbecue lunch and just a few speeches.

Camp director, the Rev. John Galbraith, introduced Archbishop David Edwards, who spent time outlining the need for a new pool.

“If you could help us with that, it would be great,” he said, adding the joke around camp is that the only thing holding the pool together is the blue paint.

“This will be a pool for the community. That’s our big plan. We need to get a shovel in the ground to get this going.”

The design includes a modern pool that will accommodate and be accessible to the whole community: campers, seniors, families, and neighbours, since the region does not have a public pool.

The plan is for a four-lane, 25 metre pool with ramp entry into the shallow end to accommodate those with mobility limitations.

It will have accessible bathroom and changing facilities.

Archbishop David noted his granddaughter has told him the river water is warmer than the pool water.

Capt. Tammy Gordon, of the Upper Gagetown Fire Department, a councillor in the community of Arcadia, and a former camper, spoke of her camp memories.

“Camp Medley is dear to my heart,” she said. “On Saturdays, the kids went home and the locals would come on Saturday night to play baseball with the staff. Saturday night, this was the place to be!”

John told those gathered that the neighbours, including Tammy and other firefighters, keep an eye on the camp when it’s empty and don’t hesitate to keep him informed of anything they see at the camp that needs

“ Camp Medley is dear to my heart. On Saturdays, the kids went home and the locals would come on Saturday night to play baseball with the staff. Saturday night, this was the place to be!

his attention.

Staff members led everyone in some camp songs — with actions — after lunch.

Here’s what some visitors had to say about their visit to Camp Medley:

Mark Doyle, Quispamsis: We’re here to check out the camp because we’ve never seen it before. We wanted to bring the kids.

Natasha Jones, Saint John: I used to be a camper, for five or six years, maybe seven. I wanted to bring my daughter and her friend. My boyfriend was a camper here too.

Will Corey, Hanwell, staff: This is my second year on staff, plus one year volunteering. My grandfather, Wally Corey, was the chaplain here, and my dad, Jonathan Corey, worked here.

Kathryn Rains, Riverview: eNews brought us here. It seemed like a fun opportunity for a family day.

Angela Mayes, Westfield: I camped here as a child in the late 80s. My grandparents owned a farm across from the pool, and I came every summer. I filled in as a camp nurse in 2004. We’ve been away but recently moved back. I have three boys and wanted to introduce them to my childhood.

Alyssa Hayter Vandervalk, Fredericton: This is the first year we’ve been able to be out and about with the kids. It’s nostalgia for us. I was a camper in 2004, on staff from 2007-2011 and assistant director in 2013 — and chaplain a couple of times. That amphitheatre — we’d have loved to have had that!



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: Azalea Vandervalk behind the wheel of the much loved go-karts during Camp Medley’s open house June 20; the lunch line-up, with youngsters Violet and Miles Granger at back left; staffers entertain with camp songs: Jeremy Springthorpe, Molly Maber, Emma Campbell, Jordyn Vautour, Charlotte Kennedy and Will Corey; Finnigan Nolan, 6, gets some pointers in archery from Will Corey.

MUSIC & MORE

New / old church? Sagrada Familia nears completion

It is not hard to hear of new kinds of churches coming into being — megachurches, campus churches, and the like. North America has witnessed abandoned sports venues repurposed as church buildings, and new construction that challenges many storage warehouse projects in their size and capacity (and, some would argue, their relative beauty, or lack thereof!).

Where are the beautiful structures of great scope and vision? Where are the new cathedrals and abbeys that speak the glory of God in their artistic architecture?

As you may know, one of them is in Barcelona, Spain, and it has been making the news this year because of the completions of some of the major components of the project.

I'm speaking of the basilica Sagrada Familia, or basilica of the Holy Family.

This project, originally started in 1882, is not yet complete, but already speaks to the incredible vision of its architect, Antonia Gaudi, who did not live to see even half of it completed.

It is a massive building, whose every surface is covered in statues, carvings, and reliefs that convey the word of God to those who gaze upon it.

The building will seat 9,000 people; it is 300 feet long, 200 feet wide, and the spire reaches a height of 566 feet, making it



the tallest church in the world, once the cross at the top was installed in February of this year (see photo).

The building is itself an expression of the word of God. The tallest tower is the Tower of Jesus Christ, and all around the building are 12 Towers of the Apostles.

There is also a Tower of Mary, and four Towers of the Evangelists. No single photo can capture the magnitude, magnificence, and full detail of this creation.

Inside, the church footprint is a Latin cross with five aisles. Vaults (self-supporting "arch" forms that hold up the ceiling) reach 45 meters in the middle of the nave.

Light of many colours from stained glass windows is present throughout the church.

The columns, Gaudi's own design, are meant to remind one of trees. Like the outside, there are almost no flat surfaces or right angles, as ornamentation is featured throughout the



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



THE INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR (under construction) of Sagrada Familia in Barcelona, Spain.

and counting). In response to this, he is said to have declared, "my client is not in a hurry." (Time, Nov. 17, 2010).

He also ensured that the church would not exceed the highest hill in Barcelona, for he did not wish the creation of a man to be higher than that of God.

Pope Francis declared him Venerable in November 2025.

The Church is a UNESCO World Heritage site. It obviously has made an impact on the world, and one can't help but think that it honours our Lord at the same time.

Priest and musician Canon Chris Hayes serves in the Parish of Fredericton. He writes about music and a wider range of art each month.

Episcopal Announcements



The Rev. Canon Chris Hayes has been appointed as Bishop's Commissary for the Diocese of Fredericton, effective Aug. 10.

Archbishop David intends to ordain the Rev. Rick Cunningham, the Rev. Dr. J. F., the Rev. Rob Pitman and the Rev. Virginia Wilmhoff to the priesthood and Ellen Kelly, Samuel Landry and Tyler McKenna to the (transitional) diaconate on Sept. 12 at 3 p.m. at Christ Church Cathedral.

Those Archbishop David intends to ordain to the diaconate are appointed as follows: Ellen Kelly: assistant curate in the Parish of the Nerepis and St. John; Samuel Landry: assistant curate in the Parish of St. Andrews; and Tyler McKenna:

deacon-in-charge of the Parish of Salisbury and Havelock.

Archbishop David has accepted the resignation of the Rev. Michael O'Hara as rector of the Parish of Hammond River and the Parish of Quispamsis, effective Oct. 1, in order to retire.

The Rev. Dr. Chukwuebuka (Peter) Chukwuemeka has been appointed rector of the Parish of Newcastle-Nelson-Hardwicke effective July 7. Peter had been an assistant at St. Paul's, Bloor Street, Toronto.

Archbishop David has accepted the resignation of the Ven. Per-

ry Cooper as rector of the Parish of Chatham and Archdeacon of Chatham, effective Sept. 30, in order to retire.

Gisele McKnight will resign as diocesan Communications Officer as of Sept. 30, in order to retire from full-time work. Archbishop David and the Synod are grateful for the work she has done in excellently communicating the diocesan news these past 12 years.

Connor DeMerchant of the Parish of Kingston and Dr. LA Henry of the Parish of Fredericton have been made postulants in the diocese.

The Rev. Rob Pitman has been appointed incumbent in the Parish of Saint Stephen and missionary for community engagement in St. Stephen, each on a half-time basis, effective Aug. 1.

Farraline Home: Now Accepting New Residents!

Farraline Home is an independent living residence for seniors. Ideal for those who are seeking community, security, and support.

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KINGS LANDING

Rogationtide service an honoured tradition at Kings Landing

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Rogationtide Sunday, held on Father's Day at the Kings Landing Historical Settlement, is a parish rite that mirrors that which took place in England in centuries past, although it still takes place there and in some parishes here.

The ceremony involves choosing a farm, and walking the boundaries of it, all the while singing hymns, reading scripture and praying a blessing on such things as the land, the water, the plough, the beasts and the crop.

The vicar of Kings Landing, Canon Walter Williams, led this year's service, which began at the Prince William School, circa 1870.

Normally, the service begins at St. Mark's Chapel of Ease, but all buildings on the far side of the settlement are off limits this summer as crews work to upgrade infrastructure that is now more than 50 years old.

Staff in period costume were readers, including Dana Coug-lan, Deanna Thornton, Ricarda Bradley, Matthew Martin, Jeff Chamberlain and crucifer Gerry Crawford.

Because of the constraints of the upgrading project, Walter chose the Joslin Farm as the

focus of the service. Afterwards, all 10 people were invited in by Mrs. Joslin, for tea, scones with butter she herself had churned, and cake.

"This event has been very important to staff," said Walter. "Look in your prayer book. Rogation is there!"

Staff usually work every weekend of the season, so being able to attend a service on Sunday afternoons is a blessing for them, he said.

Walter has been the vicar for five years, and is happy to continue in the role. He and his wife, Lorna, enjoy the camaraderie with staff, and Lorna, who has a degree in history, helps school them in everything from the uses of buckwheat and flax to the importance of farm fairs and exhibitions in 19th century society. She also teaches the history of St. Mark's Chapel of Ease.

Services are held each Sunday at 2 p.m. Various clergy and layreaders volunteer to lead the Sunday service of Evening Prayer. There is no charge to attend the service, but you must enter through the visitor entrance.

Kings Landing is 20 minutes above Fredericton in Prince William, just off the Trans-Canada Highway at exit 253.



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



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

Lucy's Sewing Group

at Christ Church Cathedral
Fredericton . NB . Canada

white-on-white embroidery for all your liturgical needs
purificators palls corporals veils credence cloths
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. contact lucysscgc@gmail.com to order, receive our price list, or ask for advice .



TOP: Crucifer Gerry Crawford leads Vicar and Canon Walter Williams and staff of Kings Landing through the village on June 21 as part of the annual Rogationtide service.

MIDDLE: The Vicar of Kings Landing, Canon Walter Williams, prays a blessing on the livestock during the Rogationtide service at Kings Landing.

BOTTOM: Walter, at right, leads the service, which always begins inside before everyone is invited out to the village to walk the grounds as prayers are said and hymns are sung.