Calgary Diocesan Anglican Church Women FALL 2026 Newsletter



Our Theme for 2026

COME AND JOURNEY WITH OUR SAVIOUR –

BEING A PILGRIM HOW IT CHANGES YOU



Anglican Church Women Prayer



Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who sent your blessed Son into the world to be the Saviour of all; Grant us a deep sense of gratitude for your grace and mercy towards us. Enable us by your Spirit to reveal your love in prayer and work and stewardship, so that your salvation may become known to all people, and your Name glorified throughout the earth: through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

President's Report



What a glorious fall we are having! The leaves changing colour and the cool, crisp air reminding us of God's supporting hand in our lives.

1 Peter 4, verses 10 and 11, taken from the First Nations Version of New Testament says: "Each of you have been given a gift, so use it to serve one another, as a good manager of the kinds of gifts Creator gives. If your gift is speaking, then your words should come from the Great Spirit. If your gift is serving, then serve with the strength Creator gives you. In this way, the Great Spirit will be honored by everything you do through Creator Sets Free (Jesus) the Chosen One."

I know that there are many ladies in our diocese, who quietly use their hands to serve others and do not ask for thanks or praise. If you would like to recognize one of these women, who go above and beyond at your church, think of awarding them a Silver Cross. You can find the nomination form for this award in this newsletter.

Please remember our Book of Remembrance. This is another way to honor women in your church by having their name, date of birth and death and a short dedication entered in this book which is housed in the Cathedral.

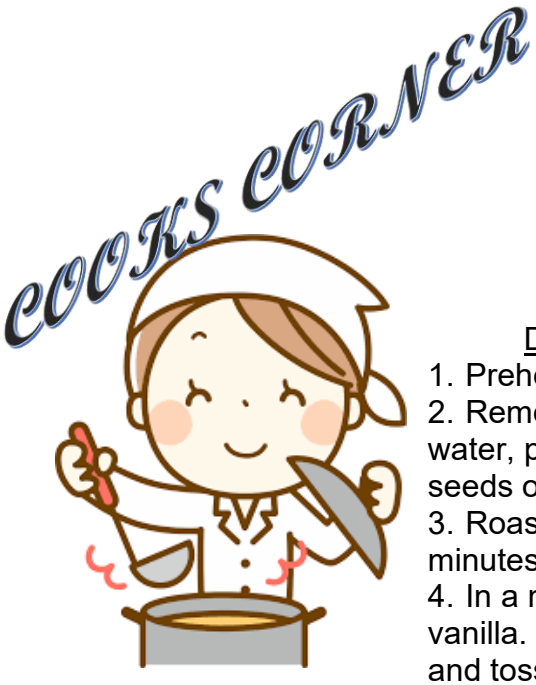
Those who contribute thank offerings during the church services at our ACW Diocese events and those that send in donations also contribute to God's work. Donations to charities such as Alongside Hope Food Grains Bank, the Veteran's Foodbank, and Calgary Homes for Heroes Foundation (Military Veterans at risk for homelessness) have been made using your generous offerings this past year.

We invite all women to join in fellowship and love as we continue to host our Hymn Sing and our Book Club. Look for information in this newsletter for the dates, times and contact information to register to attend.

I would like to thank all the Anglican women in our Diocese for all you contribute to our successes throughout the year.

In Faith,
Valerie Jensen,
President

Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you; everything passes, God never changes. With patience and perseverance, all things can be endured. Whoever has God lacks nothing; God alone is enough. God the Father, who created us, God the Son, who redeemed us, God the Spirit, who strengthens us, Bless and keep us, now and evermore. Amen.



Cinnamon Sugar Pumpkin Seeds

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 cups pumpkin seeds (from 1 large pumpkin or 2 medium pumpkins)
- 2 Tbsp. salted butter, melted
- 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
- 2 Tbsp. sugar
- 1 tsp. ground cinnamon

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 300°F.
2. Remove the seeds from the pumpkin and rinse in a colander under cold water, pulling away the pulp. Spread the rinsed seeds out on an unlined baking sheet.
3. Roast the seeds until they are dry, 30 to 35 minutes.
4. In a medium bowl, mix together the butter and vanilla. Drizzle the seeds with the butter mixture and toss to combine. Sprinkle with the sugar and cinnamon and toss to combine.
5. Return the seeds to the oven and roast, stirring halfway through, until light golden brown, 20 to 25 minutes.





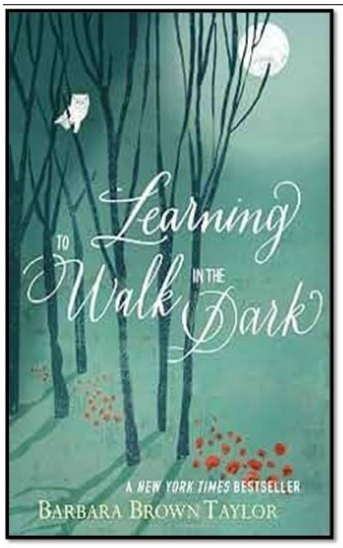
From the Chaplain's Desk

I am excited to tell you that I am attending a conference to celebrate 50 years of the ordination of women in the Anglican Church of Canada. I myself have just celebrated 26 years of ordained ministry last month on Holy Cross Day. Although you can't be in charge of a parish after the age of 70, I have been blessed with this ACW chaplaincy. I love working with you women and hope to be able to continue for the next couple of years. It is a busy chaplaincy with preparing for services and conferences, but it has been a gift for me. I began my ministry in hospital chaplaincy at Foothills before and after being ordained, and am still a Legion Chaplain and an honorary assistant at a church in Calgary.

You as lay people are engaged in important ministries of the church. Since my grandmothers' time and my mothers, first WA and then ACW have had a strong ministry in the greater church. Women have advocated for churches in pioneer communities and raised monies to keep them afloat. We owe much to our foremothers. I am proud to be your chaplain!

Betty+

Save the Date:



Diocesan ACW
Book club
On Zoom

Choose to join
Rev. Betty Piwowar
on either
Tuesday at 1:00 pm or
Wednesday at 7:00 pm

Beginning on
January 12th (13th)

Everyone is invited to join us!

To Register, email:
dioceseofcalgaryacw@gmail.com

National Anglican Church Women's Presidents
In Person Conference held September 24th to 27th, 2026
From the National Secretary's Perspective.

It was my pleasure to attend the National President's Conference as National Secretary. I wanted to share with you some background on not only my responsibilities but, the excellent way in which the Organizing Committee worked with the National Executive to make this event happen.

Both groups meet together in January for our first combined meeting. Previous to that the Organizing Committee had been hard at work for almost two years. Extremely organized with excellent members they were a joy to work with and certainly for me, a rank newbie to this process, eye opening. They came to the meeting with the hotel and accommodation chosen with one person in charge to keep track of registrations and bookings. They required a large deposit for the accommodation than they had previously planned, and had concerns about having the monies in hand at the appropriate time. Registration forms, agendas, timing were all discussed in detail and the Executive came away from that meeting incredibly impressed and also with a list of items that we needed to get in place for the conference. The executive in the meantime had been meeting since September to discuss the items that were our responsibility.



ORANGE SHIRT DAY Celebrated on Friday September 25, 2026

This advance work by both groups was extremely useful. I actually will miss our meetings as it was great to meet these enthusiastic ladies.

My big job was to prepare the Conference Booklet – thanks to our National President Janet's efforts we received reports from fourteen Dioceses. Algoma, Athabasca, Calgary, Edmonton, Fredericton, Islands and Inlets [British Columbia], Moosonee, New Westminster, Ontario, Ottawa, Qu'Appelle, Toronto, Western Newfoundland and Labrador Straits and Whitehorse!! Although I must admit that it is quite a bit of work getting the booklet together, I felt it was well worth it. It was a pleasure to read the reports myself and I know that others were really excited to read through them as well. The printing and collating are done by the Organizing group.

Being secretary is a job that many of you will be familiar with and what I do for the Executive is much the same as you would expect. Our National President Janet introduced me to the help provided by using the Zoom AI feature that records everything said at a meeting. This can be disconcerting the first time you receive the notes, but I have found it immensely useful as it clearly creates task lists. How I prepare minutes has actually been changed by this experience. The only negatives are that it is capturing what it thinks you said so you sometimes have baffling notes about something that you didn't hear being discussed or it requires some reconstruction because how we have spoken hasn't made sense.



National President Janet, Bishop Greenwood, *Standing* Pam Berry, Athabasca ACW President and Benita Greenwood

For the conference I arrived a day early and we began meetings in earnest the next morning. We met all day Friday and each evening.

I was quite nervous about capturing all that was said but now having the notes and my own scribbles hopefully I will accurately record what actually happened.

As Val has said it is a real pleasure to meet the people that we have only seen on Zoom. We absolutely did have a wonderful time. Especially for me when the AGM was over! And just in case you wondered Val is great to be sharing a room with. We laughed and complained in chorus!



Our table companions, Marni Crossley, National VP, Margaret, Valerie, Rev. Canon Lisa Brant Francis, (Moosenee) and and Sherry Steeves,(VP Algoma)

There were two evaluations of the conference – one prepared by our National President Janet and one prepared by the Organizing Committee. The first report I prepared for the executive was an overview of the National's questionnaire. There were several very thoughtful ideas put forward but as part of the Executive it is concerning that only two Dioceses present [of the fourteen represented] were interested in hosting either an electronic or in person conference in the future.

The Ecclesiastical Provinces' discussion produced really useful information as well. As Val has mentioned the situation from the Executive Committee's perspective is one in which financially it is increasingly difficult to support in person gatherings. The money to support them is given by the Dioceses across Canada and many of them are facing financial difficulties. The money from the Anglican Foundation ACW fund is used to support representatives coming to the in-person conferences and is not used for the conferences themselves. Sadly a greater portion of the members and attendees are getting older and concerns about transportation, proper accommodation has resulted in higher costs. It is no longer viable to sleep on the ground in church camps, and it is harder to find Retreat Centres that could offer possible accommodations and meals. And we won't even start to talk about transportation costs and increased catering fees. This will not be an unfamiliar conversation for any group at the present time. I was very pleased that the Northern Lights Provincial group was the only group that actually worked through the discussion and was able to produce a motion – thanks to our President Val for pushing for final thoughts!!



*Some of the Athabasca Team……*Candice Mahaffey, Local Committee Chair; Kari Miles, organized tour and accomodations, Rev. Dr. Maryann Amor, Conference Chaplain, Gail Shewchuk, Joanna Muzyka.

There was enough time for people to share their thoughts and as we were seated for meals at round tables plenty of opportunity to share thoughts and concerns.

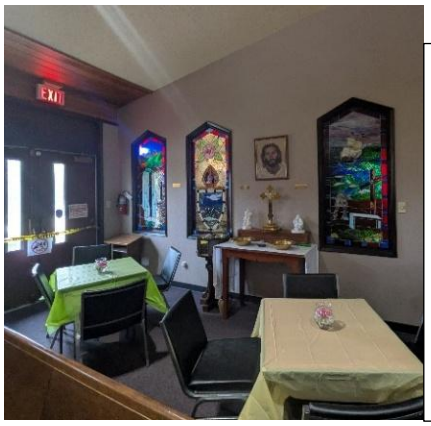
The get away on Saturday was terrific. We had a lovely ride into the area around Grande Prairie and lunch at St. Luke's Beaverlodge. Pam Berry who is Diocesan President for the Diocese of Athabasca and her husband kindly had the church opened for us to view. Pam does cross stitch and has created the most amazing hangings.





The interior looking towards the alter.
The cross stitch of the Crucifixion of Christ took six years to finish. It really is breathtaking.

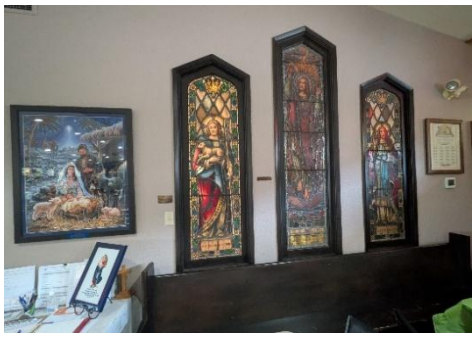
We were blessed to have two visits to Christ Church in Grande Prairie. We had our opening service on Thursday evening with our Conference Chaplain, The Rev. Dr. Maryann Amor, and on Sunday we had the pleasure of hearing the Bishop of Athabasca, The Right Rev. David Greenwood lead worship and also install the executive. We were all thrilled to see the Communion Cloth with all the Diocesan Crests for both services. The Rev. Dr. Maryann Amor was present for morning prayer and evening prayer both Friday and Saturday.



Photos from Christ Church Anglican Grande Prairie.

Chancel, Stained Glass on both sides of the center aisle at the back of the Sanctuary. That beam of light was not visible to my eyes but did appear on my phones camera.





In closing I wanted to share a morning blessing that Rev. Amor shared with us.

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever He may send you. May He guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm. May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders He has shown you. May He bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. AMEN.



Respectfully submitted Margaret Newton.

THE BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE



The Book of Remembrance is a bound book in which the names of the WA and ACW deceased members are recorded in beautiful hand calligraphy.

The book was started and dedicated by Bishop Calvert in 1953, and is kept in a special case in the Cathedral Church of the Redeemer in Calgary. There are over three hundred names entered, and the Book is taken to the Annual Conference each year so that members may have the opportunity to remember past friends.

To add someone to the book involves filling in the application form on which you or the ACW member's family pay a very short tribute in the form of an inscription, most have been bible verses that apply to that special lady.

The cost is $15.00 to be sent to Mary Dymond and the application form is to be sent to Valerie Jensen *(information listed below)*

Application for Book of Remembrance

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY Date of application _____
DD/MM/YR

FROM (group name or individual) _____ Town or City_____

Name to be inscribed (including Christian Names)

_____

Date of birth (if wished) _____ Date of death _____
DD/MM/YR DD/MM/YR

INSCRIPTION:

_____

_____

Please confine inscription to two lines if possible.

Name, Address & telephone number of Person Submitting Request

_____

Signed: _____

Please send APPLICATION to: **Valerie Jensen, P.O. Box 40, Aetna, Alberta, T0K 1Y0**
E-mail: vjjensen22@gmail.com Phone: 403 653 2066

Please send **CHEQUE** for $15 payable to ACW, Diocese of Calgary
To: Mary Dymond,
212 Lake Moraine Place S.E., Calgary, Alberta T2J 2Y2

SAVE THE DATES!

World Day of Prayer
March 5th 2027 – information will be forthcoming on the website and upcoming newsletters

ACW Annual meeting and Zoom Conference
April 16th & 17th 2027 (Zoom) – Details to come in the New Year

ACW Annual June Retreat
June 5th 2027 – location and details to come



ACW Christmas Tea & Bake Sale

All Saints Anglican Church, Medicine Hat on Saturday, November 28

Please join us for our ACW Christmas Tea & Bake Sale, on Saturday, November 28 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. Admission is $7.00.

St. Edmunds Foodbank Outreach Association

ANNUAL FUNDRAISING CHRISTMAS TEA & SALE

Saturday, November 21
11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Enjoy a sandwich lunch, tea/coffee and dessert
ADMISSION: Adults $8
Children $3

Please join us at the
BOWNESS SCOUT HALL
8551 BOWNESS ROAD N.W.

Everyone Welcome!

Holy Nativity Fall Fair

Saturday, November 7, 2026
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Tea Room 10:00 a.m. - 2:30p.m.

Silent Auction
Books, Collectibles, Holiday Items
Kids' Corner
Handmade Items
Huge Bake Sale

Great for the whole family!

HOLY NATIVITY Anglican Church
12707 Bonaventure Drive SE

Spaghetti Supper & Family Movie Night

Spaghetti Supper @ 5pm
& Movie @ 6pm

November 7th

31 Riverside Way, Okotoks

St Peter's Okotoks

Holy Cross Anglican Church
Invites you to our

Candy Cane Tea & Bazaar

Saturday, November 14
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Enjoy a light lunch in the GLAD TIDINGS TEA ROOM;

Handicrafts knitting, sewing, quilting, crochet, one-of-a-kind tree ornaments & paper arts;
Fresh baking and deli-delights.

Holy Cross Anglican Church is located at
2828 – 19 St. N.W. Calgary

National ACW President's Conference 2026

I was invited to attend the National ACW President's Conference held in Grande Prairie, Alberta this past September.

The theme this year was "We Are All God's Creation."
A passage from Job 12 :7-10 was on the cover of the Conference booklet…
"But ask the animals, and they will teach you, or the birds in the sky, and they will tell you or speak to the earth, and it will teach you or let the fish in the sea inform you. Which of all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In this hand is the life of every creature and the breath of all mankind."



National Executive Team 2026, 2027
Margaret Warwick, Treasurer,
Marni Crossley, Vice-President,
Janet Pike, National President
Margaret Newton, Secretary
with Diocese of Calgary ACW President Val Jensen
Missing from Photo – Past President Rosemarie Kingston

This theme was caried through the conference from a welcome from the Right Reverend David Greenwood, Bishop of the Diocese of Athabasca, to the final speaker, Sharon Krushel.

Sharon is from Peace River, a multi-talented lady who is a singer, an artist and her most recent passion, a photographer.
She gave a delightful presentation, on Saturday, on God's creation, showing us beautiful photographs of his world, from a close up of a mushroom to the beauty of a forest.

The business meeting was held on Friday, and after that we broke up into our Ecclesiastical Province groups. In our breakout group, I think there were 10 or 11 of us, we were discussing and presenting possible solutions to questions the National Board asked of us..... the diminishing interest in the ACW, the future of the National Conference and how it would look, and what we could take home with us, from the conference to our Boards.

We also had presentations from Will Postma, Alongside Hope, Michelle Hauser, the Anglican Foundation and Susan Black from the Mother's Union.

On the Saturday we were taken on a bus trip to discover the countryside around Grande Prairie and to some local points of interest, including some time at the amazing Philip J. Currie Museum, a Dinosaur Museum.

Christ Church hosted the opening service for the conference, followed by a reception and time for fellowship, the closing service, which included the instillation of our National Board, and a lovely lunch after it.

Then off to the airport for most of us and on our way home after a very full weekend.

Submitted by Valerie Jensen
President of the ACW Diocese Board.

EILEEN ORETHA WILLIAMS

January 24, 1951 – October 4, 2026





It is with heavy hearts that we say farewell to our beloved sister, Eileen Oretha Williams, who went peacefully to glory on October 4, 2026, surrounded by her family, with loved ones and friends visiting her throughout the day.

Eileen's faith and community were central to who she was. Since 1980 she was a devoted member of St. Peter's Anglican Church where she served with the ACW and was an active pillar of the Prayer Group. In 2018, she was elected Secretary of the ACW Board, Diocese of Calgary, and participated in the many activities of the Board.

Eileen was born in Dieppe Bay Town, Saint Kitts and Nevis and was a true island girl, spending her days serving scoops of sweetness at her Mother's famous ice cream shop and her nights lost in the pages of a good book. In her early twenties, Eileen travelled to Brooklyn New York, expanding her horizons before marrying the love of her live, Arnold, in Montreal and shortly thereafter moving to Calgary where they built a beautiful life.

Eileen loved baking, canning, cross stitch and was an avid sports fan of all sports. If her team was not doing well, the television soon heard loud and clear her thoughts on the situation. Eileen spent over twenty years in customer service at Yellow Pages and later, Telus. She was also a member of Saint Lucia Association, cherishing her roots to her Caribbean heritage.

Eileen is survived by her husband, Arnold, daughter Adrianne, grandchildren, Azalia and Mecca. She is also survived by her sister, Bernadette, from Miami, Florida, many cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

She will be remembered for her quick wit and dry sense of humor and unwavering positivity despite difficult health challenges. A devoted wife, mother, grandmother, volunteer and friend, she will be missed and ever remembered. May she rest in peace and rise in glory.

A celebration of life will be held at St. Peter's Anglican Church (Calgary), on November 14, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

The 80th Convention of Synod of the Diocese of Calgary.



As your ACW President I was invited by Archbishop Gregory Kerr-Wilson to attend the Diocese Synod Convention held St. Peter's Anglican Church in Okotoks, the 23rd and 24th of October 2026.

Friday's gathering started with a Smudging Ceremony followed by a Eucharist service, after which the opening preliminaries of the Synod. What an experience to see the Diocese priests, in their robes, and to hear such loud and enthusiastic voices singing the hymns.

Greetings were then offered from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. We then had the privilege to hear from Bishop Jenny Andison, rector of St. Paul's Bloor Street Anglican Church, Toronto, speak on the Synod's theme "Living in Hope". On Saturday there were greetings from the Catholic Church, Moravian Church and from The Companion Diocese of the Windward Islands.

After lunch, Linda Holt, her husband Sid, and Magaret Newton gave us insight into the struggles that some of the people of their town of Gleichen have with substance abuse, and the great concern their parish, St Andrew's, has about this situation. They spoke about their attempts to help through their Good Shepherd Activities and the Father Greene Society. The presentation was well received and they had many folk stopping to talk to them about what they are doing.

We also heard from the Sorento Retreat Center and the Diocese Refugee Committee.

The business of Synod continued with motions for Canon amendments, and nominations and voting for representatives for our Diocese to the next Provincial and the General Synods and for Diocesan Council.

The convention finished with members of the St Paul's Dinka youth sending us on our way with song and dance praising God.

Linda and Margaret had on display our quilt and the Book of Remembrance in the lobby of the church. We were delighted that one of the ladies who stopped by to chat found her Mother's entry and she went and got her sister so she too could see it.

I found this a most worthwhile and spiritual couple of days

Respectfully submitted,
Val Jensen



Margaret, Val and Linda H. outside of Synod 2026

Thankofferings distributed 2026

At our annual conference held in April each year, we select two organizations to receive funds from the date of the last conference to the present. These funds comprise of the thankofferings received at our various events thoughout the year as well as from various ACW's and individuals.

At our 2026 conference we had a total of $1700 to be divided equally between "Alongside Hope for the Canadian Food Grains Bank" and "Homes for Heroes Foundation". Please see the articles in this newsletter regarding each of these organizations.

CONGRATULATIONS!



This weekend the Diocese celebrated the Collation of two new Archdeacons! The Venerable Bonnie Luft is now Archdeacon of Bow Valley and will oversee the Deaneries of Palliser and Glenmore. And the Venerable Charmaine Evans is now the Executive Archdeacon of Calgary. Please join us in celebrating and praying for them in their new ministries!





NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTIONS

Just a reminder regarding Newsletter subscriptions. The cost to print and distribute the Newsletter is approximately two-thirds more than the funds received for subscriptions. Due to the increasing costs of printing and postage, we are urging you to subscribe via E-mail if you are able. Those who receive the Newsletter by Email are subsidizing those who receive it by Mail as this helps to defray the cost of producing the Newsletter. We thank you for your support.

The cost is $10.00 per year for both hardcopy and email versions. Please make your cheque payable to ACW – Diocese of Calgary and mail it to:

Mary Dymond, 212 Lake Moraine Place S.E., Calgary, Alberta, T2J 2Y9.

Please include your Name and Mailing Address and your email address if you would like your Newsletter emailed.

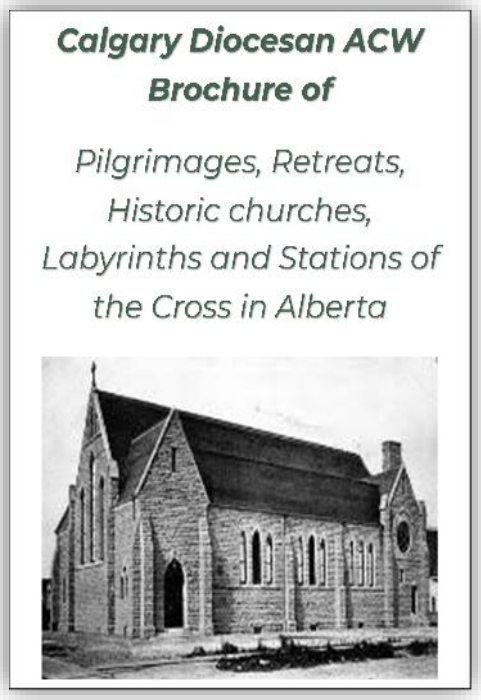


The Diocese of Calgary Anglican Church Women Invites you to a Zoom Hymn Sing



LESSONS *and* CAROLS

The Calgary Diocesan ACW
welcomes you all to this Service
on **Zoom**
Sunday, December 6th at 7:00 pm
Register for the Zoom connection:
dioceseofcalgaryacw@gmail.com
Everyone Welcome



"Come and Journey with our Saviour- Being a Pilgrim"

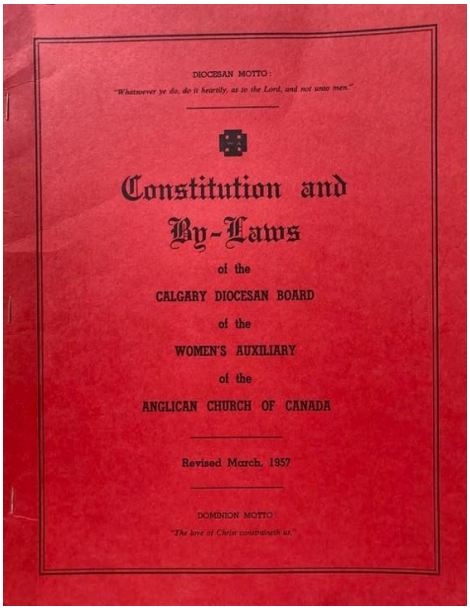
In keeping with our continuing theme of Journey's and Pilgrimage the ACW Board has put together a brochure of special places in Alberta to visit. "*A pilgrimage isn't about how far you go. It's about setting out with purpose, letting each step become prayer."*

For a copy of the brochure please contact Linda Holt at lin-sid@telus.net.

Archivist Report – submitted by Linda Holt

From the Archives:

A Look Back at the Constitution and By-Laws of the Diocesan ACW


DIOCESAN MOTTO:
"Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men."

Constitution and By-Laws
of the
CALGARY DIOCESAN BOARD
of the
WOMEN'S AUXILIARY
of the
ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

Revised March, 1957

DOMINION MOTTO:
"The love of Christ constraineth us."

The Diocese of Calgary has just recently reviewed and updated our Bylaws, and so I thought that this was a perfect time to have a look at older documents. I found a number of documents in the Archives, but the one that fascinated me the most, was a March 1957 edition. It is 25-page booklet, which is hand typed and professionally bound.

The wonderful thing about the Bylaws, is that they reflect the Organization of the period. The first noticeable difference in the 1957 edition is the number of Associate Branches there were in existence: the Senior Parochial Branches, Little Helpers' Branches, Junior Auxiliary Branches, Girls. Auxiliary Branches and Deanery WA as well as the Diocesan Board!

The number one objective in this 1957 document was "to pray for missions". In our new 2026 copy, it is: "To provide opportunities for women to join in fellowship and worship together". The 2026 copy is a bit shorter: 13 pages, but encompasses Zoom meetings and Conferences, and even email motions. It's like a history lesson.

One thing I would like to comment on is “The Winchester Cross”, proudly displayed on the front. It has continued to be the “badge” of the organization.



Historically, the design of the cross was intentionally chosen to symbolize the core pillars of a member's vow. This Winchester Cross, with the four arms, represent: “praying,” "learning," "working," “giving”. These four concepts served as a daily rule of life for women serving the church.

This emblem has become a deeply cherished symbol of identity. For generations, members wore it proudly as a small metal lapel pin or badge. It was so tightly woven into parish life that women in remote communities would even hand-applique a large red Winchester Cross onto the centers of handmade quilts, and birthday or anniversary cakes for the organization were famously baked or decorated in the distinct shape of the cross. When the organization transitioned to the modern Anglican Church Women (ACW), they kept this lineage alive. The Winchester Cross remains a highly revered artifact of their foundational history.)

Mission of St Edmunds Presents ACW Silver Cross

When Covid hit in 2020 the then Parish of St Edmund’s began using Zoom for its Sunday Services and it was well received. When in-person services were resumed, the Parish continued to Zoom it’s services presenting a hybrid format. That format continued into the move from Parish to Mission and in mid-2023 parishioner Charmaine Anderson stepped up to become the main presenter of zoom services.



Since becoming a Mission the services are almost all lay lead and for a couple of years were still in an hybrid format (zoom and in-person) from the Mission Hall. For the last year or two the services are fully on zoom except for 3 or 4 in-person services a year that are hosted by the diocese.

Charmaine has faithfully kept the small group of the Mission connected every Sunday and without her dedication to preparing the hymns and locating a suitable sermon we would be lost! We celebrated the Thanksgiving season with a Thanksgiving luncheon and communion service the weekend after Thanksgiving. We thought it an appropriate time to give Thanks for the services Charmaine has so selflessly given to us. We are thankful for her ministry and rejoiced when Rev Deacon Charmaine and Rev Deacon David presented her with her ACW Silver Cross pin on behalf of the Mission!

Anglican church women
Diocese of Calgary

APPLICATION FOR A.C.W. SILVER CROSS PIN

" Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily as to the Lord, and not unto men"
(Colossians 3:verse 23)

Date _____

Parish _____ Town or City _____

Proposed Recipient:

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Postal Code _____

Please give a brief outline of service in ACW and elsewhere in the Church.

_____

_____

_____

_____

Expected date of presentation: _____

Signed: _____Name:_____

Position Held (in Anglican Church Women or your Parish: _____

Address to which pin should be sent _____

_____

Please complete and send this form, along with $15.00 for each pin required (which includes postage.) (Cheques payable to ACW, Diocese of Calgary) to:

SEND APPLICATION TO: **ANN BRIGHT** **6012 LLOYD CRESENT S.W.,** **CALGARY, ALBERTA, T3E 5V7,** **OR EMAIL:** acbright@telus.net **(PHONE: 403-249-4075)**	**COST OF PIN: $15.00 – SEND TO** **MARY DYMOND,** **212 LAKE MORAINE PLACE S.E** **CALGARY, ALBERTA, T2J 2Y2** **(PHONE: 403-512-0155)**

N.B. "An ACW Silver Cross pin may be awarded by any parish group or by the Diocesan Board in recognition of long and devoted service, OR, for outstanding service regardless of its duration. This should be regarded as an honour, NOT to be conferred lightly or merely as a compliment. Presentation should preferably be made by the Parish Priest, and ACW Officer, or representative of the Diocesan Board, during a service of worship or a special meeting."

It is helpful if groups keep track of those to whom pins are given, and inform the Board of changes of address or death.

Silver Cross Luncheon



The Annual Meeting and Luncheon of the WA Life Members and ACW Silver Cross Recipients was held at St. Peter's Anglican Church, Calgary, on September 19, 2026. (always the 3rd Saturday in September each year)

The day began with the Eucharist lead by Archbishop Kerr-Wilson and assisted by our Chaplain Rev. Betty Piwowar and Rev. Deacon Betty Nadurak.

Our guest speaker was the Rev. Deacon Charmaine Evans (now the Ven. Archdeacon of Calgary). After her talk, she was presented with a Silver Cross for her dedicated service to the Diocese of Calgary.



Rev Charmaine receiving her pin from Silver Cross Coordinator Ann Bright

Forty-four Silver Cross recipients were in attendance as were our patrons, Archbishop Kerr-Wilson and Vicky. Everyone enjoyed visiting and renewing friendships. The Book of Remembrance was on display and Archivist Linda Holt had a display. A wonderful event and those who attended went home feeling very blessed

The Thankoffering collection in the amount of $316.00 will be added to the funds received throughout the year and held by the ACW Board to be distributed to two organizations at our next Annual General Meeting (April 2027).

A Silver Cross can be awarded to any Anglican church woman for dedicated service to her church and wider community. If any of you know of someone worthy of a Silver Cross, please use the form found in this issue of the Newsletter.

Welcome to the ANGLICAN WOMEN, DIOCESE OF CALGARY Facebook Page.

Send any information, pictures, news articles or inspirational memos that you would like to share across Facebook. I am always looking for items of interest to post. Please contact Margaret Newton- margmoore49@gmail.com

You can search in Facebook for **Anglican Women, Diocese of Calgary** (don't forget the comma!) and "follow" our page. By liking our page it boosts our visibility in Facebook.

PLEASE LIKE US

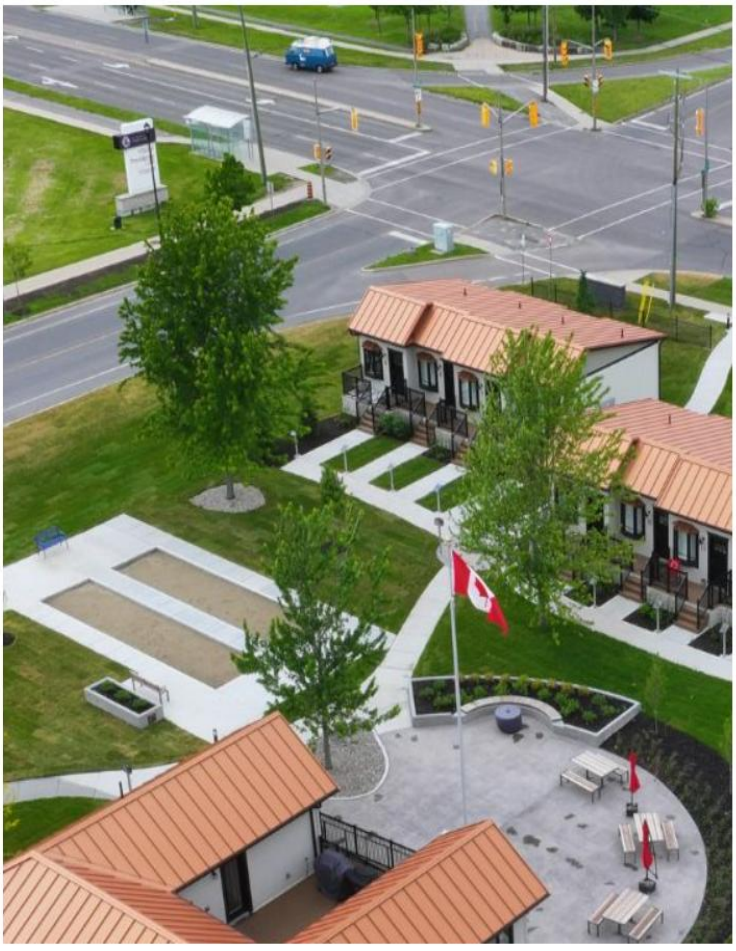




Veterans' Villages

H4HF is building Veterans' Villages across Canada to provide Veterans in need with the support and community they require to successfully transition back into mainstream society. These villages offer our residents their own homes, a peer community, individualized support structures, and a renewed sense of belonging.

Veterans' Villages consist of tiny homes arranged in an inward-facing, barracks-style layout to facilitate peer-to-peer support among residents. Excellence in architecture and landscape design is a crucial component of the building process and the ultimate village outcome. The goal is for our Veterans' Villages to make a positive contribution to the host community while instilling a sense of pride, identity, and ownership among the residents.

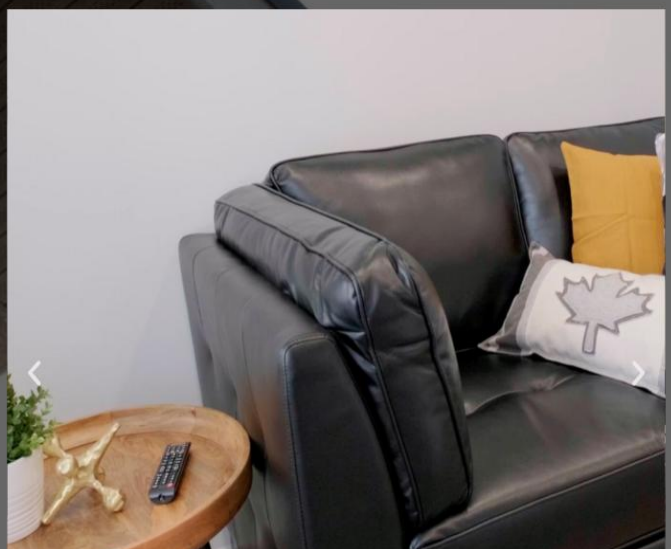


Each Veterans' Village is unique to the community and is a comprehensively planned, multi-family housing development consisting of:

- 15-20 tiny homes
- Accessible tiny homes
- Single story amenity building which includes:
  - Indoor gathering space
  - Case worker offices and therapy room
  - Computer stations
  - Community kitchen
  - Laundry room
  - Outdoor gathering spaces
- Community gardens
- Recreation court
- Landscaped areas and internal pathways
- Commemoration plaques on each home
- Client, staff and visitor parking
- Waste and recycling facilities for residential use.

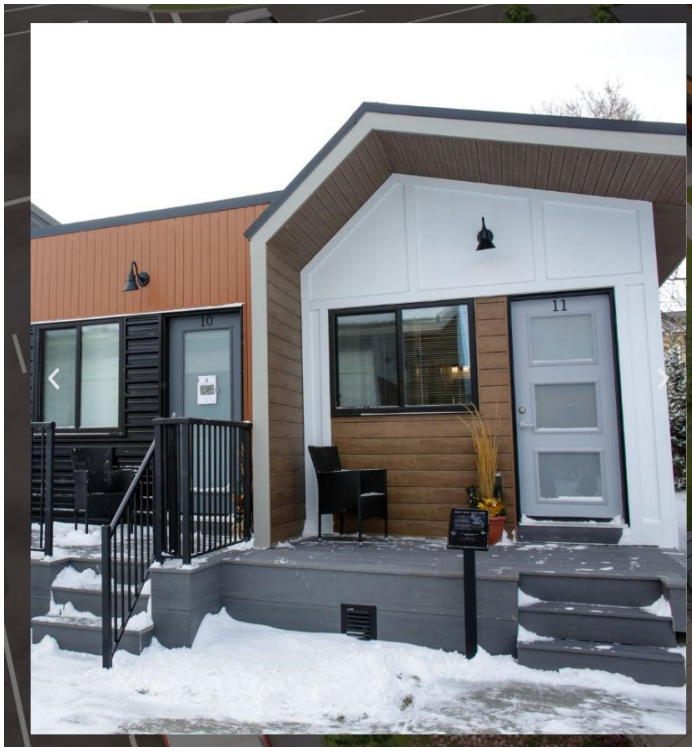
Innovative Tiny Home Design

Each of our homes are approximately 300 square feet in size and is fully equipped with all the features of a larger home. Tiny homes are the perfect platform for someone transitioning from living rough: a safe, private, self-contained space in which to keep their belongings, attend to their needs and start on the path to recovery within a community of their peers. These homes are designed to be energy efficient and reduce green house gas emissions.



Did You Know ...

- As many as 10,000 Veterans are homeless and living on the streets in Canada.
- Veterans are two times as likely as non-Veterans to experience homelessness.
- Female Veterans are two times as likely than male vets to experience homelessness.
- The type of support most frequently requested by homeless Veterans is affordable housing.
- 58% of homeless Veterans were not aware of gov't benefits and nearly half asked for help to receive them.
- The average age of a homeless Veteran is 49 years.



Calgary ATCO Veterans' Village

The ATCO Veterans' Village in Calgary opened for Veteran residents on November 1, 2019. Fifteen (15) Veterans who were previously homeless are now warm, safe, secure and on the path back to mainstream society.

Each of the fifteen (15) homes built by our partner ATCO has a footprint of 275 square feet and is fully supplied with all the features of a larger home. The small, but functional, kitchen includes a fridge, oven, sink, built-in storage, a breakfast bar and a workstation. The three-piece bathroom features a shower/tub, toilet, sink and additional storage. The living area includes a dual function sofa / Murphy Bed and storage. Each unit is provided with basic cable, Wi-Fi and a telephone.

+ VILLAGE SUPPORTERS

Solar Suitcases: Light that Saves Lives

Partners: We Care Solar; EHALE Mozambique; PIVOT Madagascar
Locations: Nampula Mozambique; Vatovavy Madagascar

In 2016 Alongside Hope (then PWRDF) was awarded a Global Affairs Canada contribution for the four-year, $21M **All Mothers and Children Count (AMCC)** project, part of the Partnerships for Strengthening Maternal, Newborn, and Child Health (PSMNCH) call for proposals. Preliminary assessments in Mozambique showed rural clinics were routinely delivering babies in darkness due to unreliable or non-existent electricity. HMIS data available confirmed increases in infant mortality during night hours. This need led Alongside Hope to partner with We Care Solar (WCS), introducing the first wave of wall-mounted Solar Suitcases. In 2016, 30 units were installed in 9 districts of Nampula Province as part of AMCC.

Ten years in, Alongside Hope's partner in Mozambique, EHALE, and partner PIVOT in Madagascar have worked with WCS to install **94** solar suitcases with funding from Alongside Hope. A remaining **60** Solar Suitcases have been secured and are being prepared for installation for a total of **154 suitcases** by 2027.

The WCS Solar Suitcase is a rugged, portable, all-in-one power and lighting system built to deliver dependable electricity and bright medical-grade illumination in the most remote, grid-challenged health facilities. It includes:

- Four high powered, long extension/easily positioned/modular lights
- Headlamps
- Multiple USB, 9V and other charging ports
- Digital thermometer
- Fetal Doppler



Midwife Ancha Abdala displays the Solar Suitcase installed at Centro Saude Muripotana, Mozambique. Credit: Lucinda Congolo, WCS

In line with Canada's 2025 Climate Competitiveness Strategy and advancing on **SDG 13: Climate Action**, Alongside Hope adopts a long-term commitment to this partnership, assisting with battery replacement to extend the life cycles of installed units. Provided the batteries are replaced every 5-6 years, the unit's design allows each suitcase to operate for 10+ years.





2016 2022 2025

2016	• 30 suitcases installed in Nampula, Mozambique
2022	• 52 suitcases installed in Nampula, Mozambique
2025-26	• 35 suitcases planned Mozambique; 14 installed Madagascar
2027	• 25 suitcases planned in Nampula & Zambezia, Mozambique

The efficiency and cost-effectiveness of photovoltaic technology continues to improve each year, and the WCS Solar Suitcase has evolved accordingly, now supporting larger batteries and more efficient lighting and other medical peripherals. Although two units were lost in 2023 during localized violence in northern Nampula, health centres are rarely targeted, and all remaining units continue to operate reliably. Replacement batteries can be any 12V battery (car/marine) — available in country.

Alongside Hope's focus on renewable energy solutions has expanded steadily and has become one of its core areas of intervention, with future plans for larger PV installations, including the electrification of St. Luke's Hospital in Nablus in 2026. Canadian Anglicans have repeatedly rallied behind the Solar Suitcase programs, and a demonstration unit in Canada helps supporters see first-hand how the technology saves lives.

What began as a response to the dangerous reality of births happening in the dark has grown into a transformative renewable-energy solution improving safety, dignity, and maternal care across two countries — and it continues to scale in 2026 and beyond.

Each suitcase is expected to provide:

- Light for at least **1,548 births** through the course of one battery cycle
- Power and light to assist with any medical emergencies that arise in the night
- **Training** for on average **3.6** health practitioners on operational use and maintenance
- **27,500 hours of clean energy**

Impacts to date:

156 solar suitcases procured; **154** operational
94 installed across two countries, **60+** planned

Improvement in health seeking behaviours
Facilities with solar suitcases reported a **17% increase** in night time births since the installation of the suitcases

Reduction in maternal mortality
Clinics with solar suitcases reported between **6-18% reductions** in night time infant mortality

Improved referral capacities
Anecdotal evidence from health practitioners indicate the ability to charge phones and peripherals improves the ability to communicate across facilities



Do You Like sharing Good News with Others?

Do you like working with a great group of Ladies?

Do you like working on a computer?

We are stilling looking for a new Newsletter Team!

We are looking for a couple of ladies who would like to work together to help create 3 – 4 newsletters a year for the women of the Diocese of Calgary. We have several regular contributors who create a lot of content for us but we now require some people who are able to coordinate and compile everything into our Newsletter. (Note: we currently produce the newsletter in MS Word as that is what our contributors use and send to us in.)

While we do have our traditional newsletter and format, the new team would be able to express themselves creatively and the board would be excited to listen to any new direction a new volunteer would be interested in. We love to have new people come on board and take us to new places!

If you are interested in finding out more or would like to volunteer please contact us as soon as possible so that we start getting you involved! Linda A. has several templates she can share and also give you a good overview of what is needed in our Newsletters. (see contact list at end of this newsletter)



Jan 2026 Board meeting (not all members pictured)

Interested in Joining the Board of the Anglican Church Women?

This great group of ladies meet 4-5 times throughout the year, mostly via zoom as well as meeting up with each other at the events throughout the year such as conferences, retreats, book studies, and hymn sings. A diverse group, we do our best to represent women throughout the diocese and try to find ways for everyone to connect and share worship, ideas, friendship and camaraderie! We welcome every Anglican church woman into our group and anyone can participate in the board. If you are interested in starting out as a member-at-large please contact any of the board members (see the contact list at the end of this newsletter) and we'd be happy to include you in our upcoming meetings and events!

A.C.W. BOARD OF THE CALGARY DIOCESE 2026

email: dioceseofcalgaryacw@gmail.com
Facebook: Anglican Women, Diocese of Calgary

Patrons: Archbishop, The Most Rev. Greg Kerr-Wilson & Mrs. Vicki Kerr-Wilson

Position	Name	Phone number and email
President	Valerie Jensen	403 653-2066
First Vice President	Margaret Newton	(403) 734-0031
Second Vice President	Vacant	
Past President	Linda Holt	(403) 734-2130
Treasurer	Mary Dymond	(403) 278-0317
Secretary	Vacant	
Appointments		
Chaplain	The Rev. Betty Piwowar	(403) 678-4502 (493) 678-1163 (c)
Newsletter	Vacant	
Calendars	Mary Anne Armstrong	(403) 271-2285
Archivist/Historian	Linda Holt	(403) 734-2130
Silver Cross/Names of the Departed	Ann Bright	403-249-4075
Publicity/Quilt Keeper	The Rev. Jennifer Ingram	(403) 948-6463 (587) 434-0405 (c)
Book of Remembrance	Valerie Jensen	403 653-2066
Web Site	Vacant	
Member-at-Large	Linda Anderson	(403) 615-0651
Member-at-Large	Cisley Robinson	(403) 995-0999
Member-at-Large	Rev Joan Schellenberger	403-730-0229
Member-at-Large	Patricia Helen Linster	
Member-at-Large	The Rev. Betty Nadurak	(403) 686-1110