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# THE DIOCESAN TIMES



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June/July 2019 A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL

Anglican Church in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

## A 'double triple' of priests and deacons ordained at All Saints Cathedral

On May 30 (the Feast of the Ascension) at the Cathedral Church of All Saints, Bonnie Skerritt, Nichola Fish Cumine and Dorothy Miller were ordained priests and Douglas Beck, Taunya Dawson and Benjamin Lee were ordained (Transitional) Deacons. Their individual stories on how they were called to ministry are on page 5: **Journeys to Ordination.**

Photo from top: Nichola Fish Cumine, Bonnie Skerritt, Taunya Dawson, Benjamin Lee, Douglas Beck and Dorothy Miller.



Photo: Christ Church, Stellarton, NS after its roof repair and installation of new steel roof with Anglican Foundation help.

## AFC awards \$450,000 in May 2019 grant cycle

The Anglican Foundation of Canada (AFC) announced \$450,000 in grants to support new projects across Canada in its May cycle of awards. AFC's board of directors met in Winnipeg on May 22-23, 2019 to review its strategic road map and begin to chart a new course for 2020-2023, in addition to awarding grants to over 60 applicants.

"It's truly inspiring to receive applications for projects that are imaginative, creative, and innovative," says the Rev. Canon Dr. Judy Rois, AFC's executive director. "Canadian Anglicans of all ages are imagining and embarking on programs that will result in a positive impact on their

communities and the Church," she said.

In addition to infrastructure and restoration grants of \$254,000, AFC provided \$110,000 for innovative ministry projects, \$25,500 for theological education bursaries, \$20,500 toward church music, and \$25,000 for theological formation projects.

From coast to coast to coast, the donations of Canadian Anglicans are making it possible to fund ministry of all kinds: educational resources for children and youth, theological education, musical composition, art installations, creative liturgies reflecting new realities of worshippers, summer camps

for young refugees to Canada, after-school homework clubs, spiritual and medical care in children's hospices, and choir schools.

The Anglican Foundation of Canada seeks to foster Anglican presence by providing abundant resources for innovative ministry and diverse infrastructure projects and theological formation throughout the Canadian church.

For media requests related to AFC please contact: Scott Brubacher, Executive Administrator 416-924-9199 ext. 322 • sbrubacher@anglicanfoundation.org

HOME



## COLUMNIST

# Old friendships and new gardens

I had the pleasure of spending afternoons in a friend's garden a few weeks ago. What a joy that was for both of us! My old friend is a "left-over" friend. Her words, not mine. For years she was my mother's best friend and gardening buddy.

As she will tell anyone who will listen, she came to the Bog 60 years ago as a bride and moved next door to my family. Her husband's family was gone, and they were now living in his childhood home. My old friend, Ella by name, came to the Bog as a bride of eight months, a city girl, suddenly thrust into rural living. Her husband was a kind man but a man who figured everybody knew about life in the country. City life had almost been the death of him he said, and he jumped at the chance to move back to the security of the Bog. He came with his new bride, with a new baby waiting to be born and with the dream of working the family farm as his own father and grandfather had done before him.

Ella was overwhelmed with the big old house, the wood range in the kitchen that was the source of the home's hot water as well as all the cooking and baking, the cold floors and



ST. BART'S BY THE BOG

Sarah Neish

the dungeon of a cellar that kept root vegetables stored for winter use. And she felt very alone, until my mother came across the field with an armful of home baking and a quilt she had just finished as a housewarming gift. And so, a life long friendship was born.

I always knew Ella as I grew up, she was sort of between my age and Mom's age, but she was Mom's friend. They spent many hours together while Ella quietly learned the skills of rural life from her neighbour. She soon mastered the art of baking in a wood

burning stove, the need to blacken the range top with a special product you could find at the Hardware store, the joys of motherhood three times over and the skill of quilt making, using any and all scraps of material to create beautiful works of art for her beds.

The two women exchanged recipes and romance novels from the bookmobile that traveled our roads in those days. They were best friends who enjoyed the company of each other, who could laugh together and cry together, and Ella was such a comfort to my Mother when Dad died.

Now it was my turn to spend time with Mom's old friend. She had become a wonderful gardener and boasted the best flower beds in the community, so it broke her heart when age made it impossible to get out and keep her beds weed free.

We found a young fellow who was more than happy to earn a few dollars each week and he kept her lawns neat and tidy. But those flower beds needed special attention and Ella was afraid that her garden helper would pull out the tender new shoots of her prized perennials as he weeded, and she was right to be afraid! Anything

green was fair game to his untrained eyes.

We found that if Ella came and sat beside me in a comfortable lawn chair and I got down on my knees in her flower beds, between us we could do a satisfactory job. So, we worked side by side over the course of the next few weeks doing the spring clean-up Ella had always done in the past. We got her flower beds looking almost respectable (in her words) and we got to spend hours together, talking about life in the Bog and our memories of my mother. It was such a gift we shared. We both felt the presence of Mom and we both agreed that she would say the beds needed to be reconfigured into beds where mulch and ground covering plants would fill the space and become the next garden for Ella.

So, By the Bog's best gardens full of colour and bloom will turn into sculptured beds of evergreens and red cedar mulch. Old friendships will take on a new shape and meaning and the more we change, the more we stay the same.

I'll keep you posted.

Aunt Madge



## THE DIOCESAN TIMES

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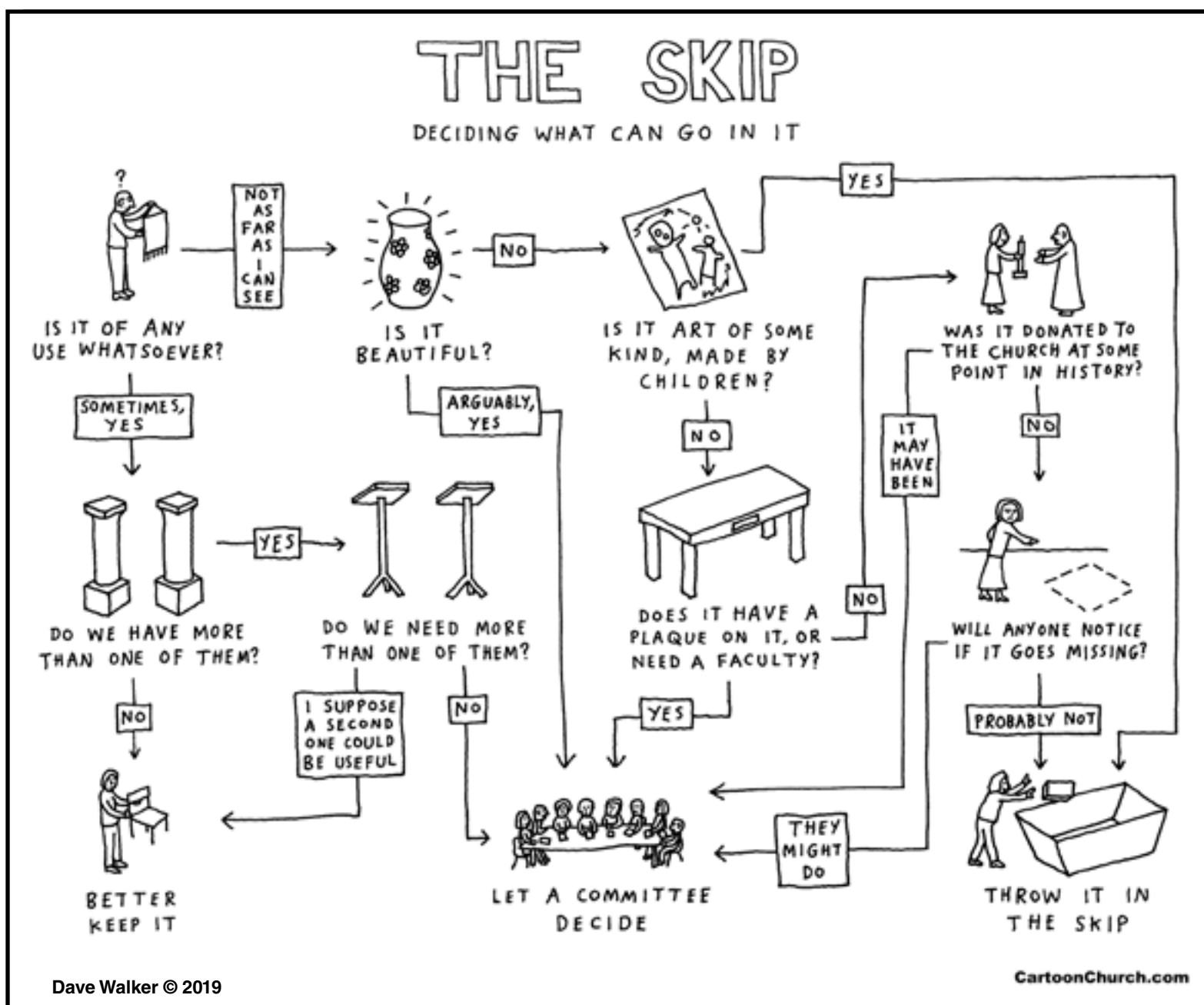
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ARCHBISHOP'S COLUMN

The story that marks us



Archbishop Ron Cutler,  
Diocese of Nova Scotia and  
Prince Edward Island

The Marks of Mission are an important international statement on modern Anglican Identity. They express the Anglican Communion's common commitment to, and understanding of, God's holistic and integral mission.

The 148th Session of our Diocesan Synod has now ended. It is remarkable how many people are involved in preparation, planning and then the enactment of this three-day event. I extend my thanks to all those who gave so generously of their time so that the Synod could meet. Once again, we went into Synod with a desire for this to be a formative experience for those in attendance, not only attending to the legislative business of the diocese but placing this work in the broader context of God's call to us. There were resolutions which came from Diocesan Council and other Committees and organizations of the diocese, others came from individuals. There were presentations which were planned well in advance and others which came together only a few weeks before Synod. Reflecting on the whole tapestry of Synod I am struck by how almost everything we did, fit into the framework of the five Marks of Mission of the Anglican Communion.

The Marks of Mission are an important international statement on modern Anglican Identity. They express the Anglican Communion's common commitment to, and understanding of, God's holistic and integral mission. With the diversity of history, language and context represented in the Communion, it is no little achievement to create a statement about who we are and what we are about. The 'Marks' have evolved as an understanding of the Mission of God throughout the Anglican Communion. Various international gatherings during the 1980s and '90s and again in 2012 shaped the wording. The 'Marks' became the lens through which the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada approved its strategic plan in 2010 when the Synod met in Halifax. "Vision 2019" has guided the work of our national church structure for a decade. Its priorities are all connected to the "Marks"

The Five Marks of Mission:

- 1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
- 2. To teach, baptize and nurture new believers
- 3. To respond to human need by loving service
- 4. To transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation
- 5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth

The website of the Anglican Communion notes that "The first Mark of Mission, identified with personal evangelism at the Anglican Consultative Council in 1984, is a summary of what all mission is about, because it is based on Jesus' own summary of his mission." In many ways it is key for everything else which follows in the document for without that proclamation how can there be new believers to nurture and

how can there be disciples to serve, transform and safeguard? Throughout Synod, our theme speaker, Jenny Salisbury, helped us reflect on story- God's story, our stories, the stories of our communities, our congregations and our church. We proclaim a world changing story of God's redemptive love. It is the kingdom story which Jesus proclaimed.

In my charge to Synod i noted the way in which all followers of Jesus (disciples) need to be in a constant process of deepening our understanding of God's story and of the resources God gives in order to live out the story. "Jesus Shaped Life" is the name given to the focus on Intentional Discipleship across the Anglican Communion: "In the Christian context, a disciple is a person who has decided to commit to be a lifelong follower of Jesus Christ and whose life and actions are to be shaped by Jesus' teachings and values. Discipleship may also be summarized as Christian Life and Living, Christian Formation or Christian Spirituality - the effect of faith on head, mind and heart of a follower of Jesus Monday to Sunday. Anglican leaders all over the Communion highlight the gap between faith and practice and the way the two are seen as distinct." (Anglican Communion) How are our parishes offering a range of opportunities to grow as disciples?

We spent a lot of time at Synod talking about how the allotment system can support the Marks of Mission in parishes and in the whole diocese (and beyond us). We adopted a resolution which would provide an allotment exemption for parishes spending on missional work and another which requires Diocesan Council to develop a radically simplified allotment system so that parish leadership could be more responsive to local opportunities for mission. We passed a resolution which "laments and condemns the growing trafficking of boys and girls, men and women, for sexual purposes or exploitive labour in Canada" the resolution also provides resources for parishes and regions to use for education and advocacy.

We heard from the Anglican Church of Canada's "Reconciliation Animator", Melanie Delva, about the ongoing work of reconciliation between the Anglican Church of Canada and the Indigenous Peoples of North America. We heard about the current programs of the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund, supported generously by members of parishes throughout the diocese.

We also adopted (unanimously) a resolution which recognizes that there is a global climate emergency and encourages churches and parishes of the diocese to make the Fifth Mark of Mission, a living testament to our faith through specific actions.

I am writing this column on Ascension Day. It is a moment in the scripture filled with mystery which only poetic language can really describe but it is also the moment when the disciples were "commissioned" (St. Matthew 28)- given authority to carry out the mission given to Jesus. As the disciples of Jesus in this age, may our lives be marked by his mission.

+Ron

This is something worth pursuing – a deeper walk with God



Rev. Dr. John Roddam

The Book of Common Prayer (1959) contains statements called Proper Prefaces that detail the theme for special feast days in the Church Year (Easter, Christmas, etc.) as part of the Prayer of Consecration – the blessing of the bread and wine at Holy Communion. The Proper Preface for Whitsunday (the traditional Anglican Name for Pentecost) details the impact of the Holy Spirit further -

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; according to whose most true promise, the Holy Spirit came down as at this time from heaven, lighting upon the disciples to teach them, and to lead them into all truth; giving them both the gift of tongues,

and also boldness with fervent zeal constantly to preach the Gospel unto all nations; whereby we have been brought out of darkness and error into the clear light and true knowledge of thee, and of thy Son Jesus Christ. - Pp. 80-81. BCP (1959)

In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus states, "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him!" (Matthew 7:11 NKJV)

In Luke's Gospel, this story has a different twist - Jesus states, "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your

children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!" (Luke 11:13 NKJV)

Even a casual observer can readily note that the Church's impact and witness in North America are quite anaemic; this in stark contrast to the explosive growth of the Church in Africa, South America, and Asia – even among Anglicans!!

I had the privilege of leading a three-day seminar for leaders of the Underground Church in China in the early 2000s. Frankly, I was in tears most of the time feeling very inadequate as I spoke to leaders of huge networks. One network, for example, numbered 10 million

– almost 1/3 of Canada's population!!

However, the thing that impressed me most beyond these Chinese leaders' deep humility and graciousness was the deep hunger for more of the Holy Spirit. Oh, that this desire would grip our hearts!

This is something worth pursuing – a deeper walk with God, knowing each person of the Holy and Blessed Trinity intimately – The Father, The Son (Jesus Christ) and The Holy Spirit – three persons and One God who loves us passionately and desires to work through us to touch this broken world!



# NEWS FROM AWAY - Caring for God's Creation

Dear Diocese,

I sat riveted on the keynote speaker at Synod in May as she spoke about the importance and impact of "story".

The Environment Network of our diocese and our collective efforts to care for God's creation have become an important part of my faith "story" since its inception eight years ago.

In the May edition of the Diocesan Times I told the story of how, on Maundy Thursday, I came to understand what it means to be a committed follower of a man who was arrested and was crucified as a criminal. Jesus. Crucified because he was disruptive. It was at that moment that I understood that my commitment to being a follower of the one they labelled a criminal probably isn't supposed to



Rev. Cathy Lee Cunningham shows her dedication to caring for God's creation with her "Save the Trees" Tee at Synod.

be comfortable and that I might be called at times to cause a disturbance myself. Then, after what to me was an incredibly moving three days at Synod, more often than

naught focused on caring for God's creation, Archbishop Ron wrapped it all up with a reflection and he spoke of how, Christians called to be disruptive.

And so I find myself, more committed than ever to say, no to the climate emergency we face and accept the risk of speaking out about caring for God's creation.

Just as each part of the body has a critical role in the functioning of the whole body of Christ (as we read in scripture), Christians are called to caring for God's creation in various ways. Each one of us is called to bring something to the table. As a result, there are a lot of working parts to the community of faith we call the Environment Network of the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Each one of us plays a particular role in that story.

Some are called to march in the streets, leading the call for action on climate change and the climate emergency. Others are called to find ways to help us all reduce the waste that goes to the landfill by no longer using disposable plates, cups or cutlery. Kudos to parishes that have accomplished that.

As a woman in the grocery store said to me a few weeks ago, when I told her that I brought my own reusable bag for my groceries, "saving the planet, one bag at a time". Kudos to the people who carry reusable bags, water bottles and travel mugs in their effort to eliminate our dependency on plastic. Kudos to the people who take public transit.

It's not about reducing, reusing and recycling perfectly (although we can strive for that) but as Claudia, a former parishioner proclaims

that every "act of green" is important.

I was moved to tears in the last hour of Synod, as a growing line of people at the microphones on the floor told stories of "acts of green" with passion and a resolution was presented, recognizing the climate and environmental emergency we face with an attached action plan.

I believe that we all left Synod more committed than ever to tread lighter on the planet and care for God's creation. And that motion that was passed unanimously has committed us all to making that part of our story.

May your carbon footprint be lighter as our story continues.

Blessings from the outer world,

Rev. Marian Lucas-Jefferies

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

On Thursday, May 30th, 2019, Dorothy Miller, Bonnie Skerritt and Nichola Fish Cumine were ordained priests and Benjamin Lee, Taunya Dawson and Douglas Beck were ordained (Transitional) Deacons.

Rev. Ruby Carter appointed to the parish of St. John the Evangelist, Sackville as rector, July 1st, 2019.

Rev. Ann Watson, Deacon in the Parish of Horton, retired from active ministry.

Rev. Mike Foley appointed interim priest-in-charge of the parish of St. John's Westphal, April 26th, 2019.

Rev. Canon Charlie Black resigned as chaplain to Anglican Students at AST.

Rev. Lorraine Street will continue as priest-in-charge of the parish of Rawdon until December 31st, 2019.

Rev. Judi Phillips appointed interim priest-in-charge of the parish of Western Shore

during the Rev. Michelle Cockell's leave.

Rev. Deborah Lonergan-Freake appointed rector, ½ time, in the parish of Bridgetown, May 1st, 2019.

Rev. Dorothy Miller appointed rector of the Collieries parish, July 1st, 2019.

## PASS THE TIMES

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## WANTED!

### Your parish news.

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### Columbarium niches now available in St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church heritage cemetery located in Middle Sackville, N.S.



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PROUDLY CANADIAN



# Journeys to Ordination

Bonnie Skerritt



For many years, decades really, ordination to the priesthood seemed unattainable to me and so these thoughts were kept neatly tucked away. I am so thankful that the Lord continued to pursue me!

Just over five years ago, a profound dream made me realize that I had to have a meeting with Bishop Ron to discuss this. I had no doubt that he would tell me then that somehow it wasn't going to work out, and when that didn't happen, I expected to not make it through the Vocations Weekend and ditto for ACPO. But, as you mostly likely realize, that is not what happened!

Instead, I kept an open mind and was true to myself while at the same time continuing to say "here I am Lord", and the rest is history. I am delighted begin my priestly ministry as the new rector for the parish of Hatchet Lake and Terence

Bay, and my family and I are looking forward to settling into the neighbourhood.

I know that I could not have done this without the support of many others, including my family, friends and those who I have gained as friends along the journey. Thank you so much to everyone who has offered their support, encouragement and prayers over the years!

As I move forward, I am reminded of the hymn, "No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to this Rock I'm clinging. Since Love is Lord of Heaven and Earth, how can I keep from singing?" I pray that I may keep clinging and singing for years and years!

Taunya Dawson



I have always felt Christ's love in my life, and have tried to love and serve him in return. But to be called to follow in our Saviour's footsteps eleven years ago was an unexpected turn in my life as an archivist, curator and mother. Like many postulants, I wondered why the Holy Spirit would choose me. But I have learned that to believe that I am called, and to have faith in what I am called to,

is more important than any certainties of "why."

My journey has taken me from my home parish of St George's, through many parishes that reflect the beautiful diversity of the Anglican tradition and of our Diocese. I have encountered many wonderful people along the way, whose support has nourished my body and soul. I have been blessed to be a pilgrim to sacred places such as Iona, and Taizé (where I am writing now).

Christ's journey took him along the road from Bethlehem to Jerusalem. Wherever the next stages of my journey take me, I pray that I may walk with his feet, heal with his hands, and speak with his tongue, with love and humility in all that I do.

Benjamin Lee



When I began discerning a call to holy orders nearly twenty years ago, I had in mind a very abstract notion, and thought myself unsuited to what I imagined such a life may be and require. Divine Love is of course not abstract or aloof, but rather concrete, down-to-earth, and through self-emptying descends to the utmost depths of human experience. Today, I am

perhaps even more conscious of my own unworthiness and inadequacy to be a minister of Christ. Yet I know that I can have no ministry in the church but Christ's own ministry, and thus the possibility of my following after this vocation is only by the infinite mercy of God, and with the perpetual assistance of the Holy Ghost. By that divine grace, holy dread and joyful obedience are united, self-abnegation and extreme humiliation become one with that service which is perfect freedom. I can imagine no greater blessing in this life than to learn Christ and his humility, to be consecrated in the Word so as to become a slave of all.

Pray for me, that I might exercise my ministry faithfully, patiently and joyfully, to the edification of the church and the greater glory of God.

Douglas A. Beck, ObJN



W.H. Auden's poem well describes my experience as a follower of Jesus and it also reflects my ordination path experience.

*He is the Way.  
Follow Him through the Land  
of Unlikeness;  
You will see rare beasts, and  
have unique adventures.  
He is the Truth.  
Seek Him in the Kingdom of  
Anxiety;  
You will come to a great city  
that has expected your return for  
years.  
He is the Life.  
Love Him in the World of the  
Flesh;  
And at your marriage all its  
occasions shall dance for joy.*

Christ calls all of us to life of service and some to ordained life. It's a humbling joy to walk this road as one of Christ's ordained servants to the Church and to people in Word, Sacrament and service. Our common ministry of service and of Word and Sacrament is a reconciling ministry that unites Christ to the world. This is our challenge and hope, bearing witness to Christ's forgiveness and love. God's love raises all of us up to our various callings as we exercise our various gifts given by the Holy Spirit. I give thanks for God's call to my new ministry to the Church that I love.

Dorothy Miller



The words of the philosopher Kierkegaard regularly speak to me. "Life is lived forward yet understood backwards." These words formed the title of a speech I gave years ago at a cancer fundraiser and continue to sustain and manifest truths throughout my life.

I was born in a small fishing village in Newfoundland. Named after both my grandmothers, I was deeply influenced in my early years by both women. Deeply connected to their local Anglican Church, my connection to the church was given to me early. For many years I have sensed a calling to ministry. My discernment process has been long and filled with roads and diversions that I never would have imagined. My five years in Asia working in the refugee camps took me outside of my comfort zone, in many ways stretched me to revisit beliefs, exposing me to other cultures and religions of the world. It widened my lens, to see the similarities of different religions, to see that all affirm the sacred and offer pathway to experiencing the sacred.

The time away I see as a gift. As I returned and felt my calling on a deeper level, my formation and studies at AST enhanced my love of metaphors, taking scripture and life experiences and finding images to look deeper and explore truths. Perhaps my Newfoundland roots and the solidness of the "rock" fills me and sustains me during celebratory and challenging times with a subtle sense of "all will be well". Thanks be to God!

*The soul is kissed by God in its innermost regions.  
With interior yearning,  
grace and blessing are bestowed.  
It is a yearning to take on God's gentle yoke,  
It is a yearning to give one's self to God's Way.*

Hildegard von Bingen

Nichola Fish Cumine



Nichola was born in Lancashire, England, and raised in Toronto, Ontario. Her granddad Arthur Fish introduced her to God when she was little, and her attendance at Roman Catholic School influenced both her Christian formation and nurtured her love for God.

During a white-water rafting trip on the Ottawa River for her birthday, Nichola jumped off a 30-foot cliff into white rapids, and it was while beneath the churning waters, in the calm darkness of the water, that she was called to serve God in a new way. Nichola, and her family (Jeff Madison and Alex) moved to Halifax, Nova Scotia shortly after. She was received by the Anglican church in 2011, and the rest is history!

*God be in my head, and in my understanding;  
God be in mine eyes, and in my looking;  
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;  
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;  
God be at mine end, and at my departing.* - Sarum Primer 1527



# Waiting for the other shoe to drop

John, and Smiley, his Yorkshire Terrier, were recently walking on a beautiful trail near their lake retreat in rural Nova Scotia. It was an amazing moment on a beautiful day. The morning birds sang a wonderful hymn of spring. The trail was bounded by a green and luscious forest on both sides. The canopy from the trees acted like an umbrella keeping out the rain that fell softly overhead. Suddenly as they rounded a corner on the trail they were both paralyzed by what stood in front of them. It was a full grown black bear. John panicked! His breathing began to increase rapidly, and his adrenalin began to pump as his feet readied themselves to flee. His heart felt as though it was coming out of his chest. Every emotion within him loudly shouted danger danger danger! Fortunately for John and Smiley, the bear had the same sensations and quickly rushed into the forest. The two sat down on a nearby bench, and began to collect themselves and later resumed their walk, but quickly from where they came. With the sighting of the bear John still



BRYAN HAGERMAN

carried with his emotions a sense of real existential fear. Anxiety, masquerading as danger remained with him for a few hours, up until he was seated on his favorite chair in the safety of his home a few hours later. John had first experienced fear, and later anxiety. Both had created the same symptoms. One was based on evidence the other on a recent trauma.

Many of us have experienced fear, and anxious moments. Anxiety is the anticipation of danger. Fear is when we face the reality of danger.

Both alert the amygdala, to perceived or real danger. The fight flight response is the result. Without that response we could die.

Anxiety however is quite different from fear. Although the sensations are the same if not similar, the reality with anxiety is that there is no danger. We have been triggered/tricked by something that makes us feel as though we are in danger. It may be a reminder of a real danger we experienced in the past. It could be as simple as a dream, a smell, a voice, the memory of a traumatic event in our lives. But the danger is nowhere to be seen. The anxiety could be learned from an anxious parent when we grew up.

Anxiety could be as simple as waiting for the other shoe to drop when truly there is no shoe that is waiting to succumb to emotional gravity. The goal is to retrain our thoughts, and ruminations. When there is a distorted thought that is not based upon any evidence we tell ourselves the truth. This is called the counter thought. When our ruminations, or

thought traps emerge we can change the channel with a pleasant thought. This often happens at night when we can't sleep. An emotional narrative bounces around in our mind. Again based upon no existential reality. Often we need to get up, make some herbal tea and go back to bed. Change the channel, distract yourself? Remember change your thoughts change your behaviour.

The Apostle Paul said; "Don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4(6-7)

Worry is similar to anxiety. But with worry there is a real concern. The antidote to worry is to plan in context toward what is creating the emotional strain. Address the issue with goals, objectives, and an action plan. But first, as people of faith, pray. God gives the very best action plans when it comes to worry, and

anxiety. The shalom of God helps to create a measured response, instead of a frightful reaction.

Jesus said; "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. John 14:27" No shoe can drop when we face our anxieties, and worries correctly, and directly under the guidance of God the Holy Spirit. There is no better coping mechanism, or psychological model to help us.

Yes there is a place for fear, when danger approaches. The body offers a natural reaction. Anxiety and worry are unnatural, as difficult as this may seem or sound. The best shoe that can drop is the correct response to each.

DR BRYAN HAGERMAN, ST PAUL'S CHURCH OUTREACH COUNSELLOR [www.bryanhagerman.ca](http://www.bryanhagerman.ca)

## Cycling through the Cathedral

As part of Bike Week Halifax, June 1 to 9, the Cathedral opened its doors to cyclists for a unique opportunity Sunday, June 2 from 1 to 2 p.m.; for the first time you could visit, on wheels, this awesome building, 7 stories high, the length of a soccer field, and over a century old. The travel

track wound around the 0.1 kilometre indoor pathway, where guides were available to answer questions and provide refreshment.

Dean Paul Smith will be participating in THE PROUTY 2019 on July 12/13 during his summer vacation in New Hampshire. Information about

the event is on display in the Cathedral along with his biking jersey. He invites you to write names of people you would like remembered on his shirt – a show of support and a source of inspiration for him as he participates with his family in this annual cancer fundraiser.



Photos: They came in all sizes & ages and everyone had a good time riding 'round the Cathedral. Who wouldn't?





# MISSION (is) POSSIBLE:

## Diocesan stories of people responding to God's call

### "BACK HOME AGAIN"

By Rev. Lisa G. Vaughn

What's old is new again! Jesus and the early Christians most often gathered as faith community in someone's home. Leaders at St. Nicholas' Westwood Hills are reviving the idea of house church as they strive to grow and connect with families who struggle to attend traditional worship.

After a few good seasons of Family PrayGround, a kid-friendly Sunday morning service and Sundays@Five, a community dinner and conversation, the leadership decided to wind them down. The children aged-out and the planning responsibilities became burdensome. Rector, Rev. Tammy Hodge and parish leaders continued to discern where God called them to nurture faith community.

"I looked back to scripture. There was a time when the Christian movement was viral," Rev. Tammy said. "There were small communities of people who obviously believed in Christ, but what made them attractive was how they treated one another and who was allowed to be part of the group. It was very intergenerational, very inclusive. They were simple gatherings that didn't have any particular shape except that someone hosted them in their home."

Drawing from her New Testament studies and the lessons from the parish's previous ministries they started a new approach to church. "I wanted to create



Rev. Lisa G. Vaughn, Diocesan Parish Vitality Coordinator

something that was really simple to reproduce, not a heavy workload on anyone and that essentially anybody once they've experienced a couple of times could probably run it," said the priest. "Maybe

**Home church provides a different option to new people who may be seeking God.**

it's easier to get them through the door of someone's house than it is to get them through the door of the church."

Started in January, St. Nicholas' organizers personally invited families who juggle busy weekend schedules. Each Friday evening from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. the fledgling community gathers

in a private home, in the living room around a coffee table. Rev. Tammy says of the timing, "It's not too late for the little ones and it's not too early for folks to get home from work."

Teacher, Lydie O'Brien said home church works for their family. "I have two young children and Sunday mornings weren't that easy at times." She also offers her home for the gathering. "When I host at my house my husband was able to participate as well, and (both) my kids were able to be there too."

"We recognize that people are running and supper is an issue so we wanted to offer a meal, but we didn't want it to be onerous," the priest explained. "So what we're calling it is a charcuterie board meal. It's just whatever we have that we can get affordably. We have a \$10 to \$20 limit that the church is backing right now. We have cold cuts, some fruit, cheese, crackers, bread, very easy finger food stuff."

Home church starts with someone offering a meal prayer chosen from a variety printed on laminated cards. As people graze on snacks Bibles are distributed. "We wanted to keep Jesus in the center," said Rev. Tammy. "We didn't want it to be too heavy for the little ones and we didn't want it to be too theological to scare the grown-ups off, so we're doing Gospel at the Center of the Circle that (Indigenous) Bishop Mark McDonald introduced to us."

A single scripture passage from various translations is read three times by a volunteer

from the group. Three simple questions follow each reading. The first is: What word, phrase or idea jumps out at you? "We take the time to encourage everyone to fill in something there, so everyone can answer that question," said Rev. Tammy.

The second question is: What is the story about? What's going on? Who's in it? The third and final reading includes the question: What is the teaching for us? How do we apply this today? What is it asking of us? "It gets a little more challenging," said the priest. "That answer is more complex, but sometimes the kids come out with the obvious thing. They're there and they're engaged."

Next is a time of intercessory prayer. Rev. Tammy explained, "We started by just asking people to share something that they're thankful for over the past week or something that they're worried about. Something that they need help with and we pray for it together." The goal is to build confidence and comfort, so they naturally pray for one another.

The home church session ends in an hour with the Grace Prayer and people are free to leave. Sometimes folks stay a few minutes to chat and for the children to play together. The day, timing and simple format seems to be workable for parishioners. Rev. Tammy says, "We spend an hour and it's in somebody's living room and we're on the floor we're on the couch, and it's really relaxed."

At this point four families host the gatherings in their homes. A total of 21 participants are actively involved, with some 9 to 15 attending each week. A detailed e-mail reminder is sent Wednesday.

Several parishioners, besides the rector, lead Gospel at the Center of the Circle. "People's comfort levels are coming up," said Rev. Tammy. "My hope is that it will be something I stop in on once a month, because I want to start other ones." It's the intention that home church grows and divides. Her dream is to begin a weekday one for seniors who are unable to drive at night and long to participate in genuine faith community.

Relationships are growing in trust within this new home church. Rev. Tammy



Photo: Rev. Tammy Hodge

says, "They've seen glimpses of grace, intimacy and vulnerability." When the Barho family fire tragedy occurred in March the discussion got deep. "One shared and gave freedom to the others," she said. "It opened the place up. It was like cracking an egg and it all spilled out because it did. Around the room there were all kinds of different ways that people shared how they had been impacted."

Home church offers an environment for spiritual growth. "This is trying to create a space to be vulnerable, vulnerable to one another, vulnerable to God, honest with ourselves," said Rev. Tammy.

Lydie O'Brien says home church is great. "I like how informal it is. How it just feels really homey, comfortable and I also like the way we approach the scriptures and how we discuss them."

"It's a different setting," she said. "People might be more comfortable to express their opinions when it comes to discussing the scriptures and also discussing their faith. Also, it feels that the demographic is a little different. More families come to the Friday church than the Sunday morning ones."

Home church provides a different option to new people who may be seeking God. "We've got at least one person who was scared to death of church, but this has been a way for them to explore the faith that's been intriguing to them," Rev. Tammy said. "So far they've been pleasantly surprised."



Photo: Woman with coffee cup at table.

Credit: Unsplash.

HOME





The 148th Session of Synod of the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island was held from Thursday, 23 May to Saturday, 25 May 2019 in the McInnes Room, Student Union Building, Dalhousie University, 6136 University Avenue, Halifax.

**The Bishop’s Charge**, specific highlights, references, presentations and supporting documents can all be found on the diocesan website:  
[https://www.nspeidiocese.ca/synod2019/page/synod%202019.aspx#.XPW56I\\_Q\\_V](https://www.nspeidiocese.ca/synod2019/page/synod%202019.aspx#.XPW56I_Q_V)  
**Full photo coverage** of the 3 days can be found at:  
[www.facebook.com/diotimes](http://www.facebook.com/diotimes)

# Synod 2019 Resolutions and Outcomes

## List of Resolutions

			Decision
<u>1)</u>	Resolution of Loyalty to the Queen	Mover: Rev David Garrett Seconder: Michael Edward	Carried as amended Thursday afternoon
<u>2)</u>	Resolution of Greetings to the Anglican Communion	Mover: Rev Laura Marie Piotrowicz Seconder: Jan Connors	Carried Thursday afternoon
<u>3)</u>	Resolution that Ecumenical Visitors be Granted Courtesies of the House	Mover: Rev Tom Henderson Seconder: Don Brushett	Carried Thursday afternoon
<u>4)</u>	Resolution to Receive Committee Reports	Mover: Don Brushett Seconder: Rev Chad McCharles	Carried Thursday afternoon
<u>5)</u>	Resolution to amend Canon 27, Lay Readers	Mover: Archdeacon Tom Henderson Seconder: Anne Williams	Carried Thursday afternoon
<u>6)</u>	Resolution to amend the Constitution with regard to ACW Board Membership	Mover: Anne Williams Seconder: Janice Jackson	Carried Thursday afternoon
<u>7)</u>	Resolution to amend Canon 16, Budget, with regard to the Proposed Missional Allotment	Mover: Rev Carl Fraser Seconder: Ted Johnson	Amended (friendly) Carried as amended Friday
<u>8)</u>	Resolution to amend Canon 16, Budget with regard to Sunday School Exemption	Mover: Rev Carl Fraser Seconder: Ted Johnson	Amended (friendly) Amendment (defeated) Sent to Resolutions Committee Friday PM Returned to original motion Carried
<u>9)</u>	Resolution to amend Canon 1, Election, Appointment, Consecration and Resignation of Bishops	Mover: Jim Travers Seconder: John Cooper	Carried Thursday afternoon
<u>10)</u>	Resolution to amend Canon 16, Budget; Canon 37, Parochial Finances and Canon 35, Parish Government	Mover: Jim Travers Seconder: Rev Carolyn Sharp	Carried Saturday
<u>11)</u>	Resolution to amend Section 4 of the Constitution with regard to Clergy Membership at Synod	Mover: Jim Travers Seconder: John Cooper	Carried Thursday afternoon
<u>12)</u>	Resolution to amend Section 11 of the Constitution with regard to Quorum	Mover: Jim Travers Seconder: Edith Marshall	Carried Thursday afternoon
<u>13)</u>	Resolution to amend Section 21 of the Constitution with regard to the Appointments Committee	Mover: Jim Travers Seconder: Edith Marshall	Carried Saturday
<u>14)</u>	Resolution regarding the resolution of the Anglican Consultative Council and Human Trafficking	Mover: Rev Marilyn Murphy Seconder: Bernice Campbell	Carried Friday
<u>15)</u>	Resolution to amend Canon 16, Budget, Section 6(1) and Section 8(1) with regard to the Allotment Rate	Mover: Eric Thomson Seconder: Dr Garth Watt	Divided into 2 parts Thursday a) Section 6(1): Defeated b) Section 8(1): Withdrawn (Friday AM)
<u>16)</u>	Resolution regarding Canon 16, Budget with regard to Simplifying the Allotment Rate	Mover: Rev Mellanie Cohoon Seconder: Chris Bryant	Carried Saturday
<u>17)</u>	Resolution to amend Canon 25, Appointment, Transfer and Resignation of Stipendiary Clergy – Unfulfilled Duties	Mover: Archdeacon Marilyn Newport Seconder: Canon Paul Smith	Carried Friday
<u>18)</u>	Resolution to amend Canon 25, Appointment, Transfer and Resignation of Stipendiary Clergy – Parochial Committee	Mover: Archdeacon Katherine Bourbonniere Seconder: Archdeacon Ian Wissler	Carried Friday
<u>19)</u>	Resolution to amend Canon 25, Appointment, Transfer and Resignation of Stipendiary Clergy – Clean Up Motion	Mover: Archdeacon Sue Channen Seconder: Archdeacon Katherine Bourbonniere	Carried Friday
<u>20)</u>	Resolution of Consent re: Resolution about environment crisis	Mover: Marian Lucas-Jeffries Seconder: Charles Bull	Carried Friday
<u>21)</u>	Resolution about environment crisis		Carried Saturday



# VCM 2019 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OPEN



Photo: Rev. Canon Duke Vipperman

It's never too early to reserve your seat at our annual Vital Church Maritimes conference. Sign up now to take advantage of discount rates for this dynamic three-day missional discovery event.

This year conference registration fees cover the costs of all refreshments, meals (including breakfasts) and materials. Early Bird rate is just \$150 until midnight October 21. There are also special rates for students, youth and one-day attendance.

Holiday Inn, Truro is our host facility once again. Early bird discounts are available until October 21 for a limited number of guest rooms (mention the group 'Anglican Diocese of NS & PEI' to receive the special rate).

Funding support for those from the Diocese of Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island is available for lay people,

priests (including associates) and deacons.

At Vital Church Maritimes conference lay people and clergy explore varieties of missional approaches to ministry including *Fresh Expressions* of church. In other words, learn about forming faith communities that reach new people, in new places, by new ways.

Keynote speaker is Rev. Canon Dr. Duke Vipperman from Fergus, Ontario. An Anglican priest with more than 34 years' experience in congregational revitalization, disciple-making, coaching and church planting, Duke has led neighbourhood prayer-walks and Celtic Christian Spirituality retreats. He is also a musician and dog-lover.

Break-out sessions in 2019 feature lay and clergy presenters from a variety of backgrounds. This year's themes include Café Church, Mission Art Adventures, Connecting with Crafts, Taking it to the Streets, and more!

Vital Church Maritimes 2019 Conference takes place Thursday, Nov. 21 to Saturday, Nov. 23. Visit [www.nspeidiocese.ca](http://www.nspeidiocese.ca) for more details and to register. Final registration is November 8. Have questions? Call 902-420-0717 or e-mail [lvaughn@nspeidiocese.ca](mailto:lvaughn@nspeidiocese.ca).

# Wanted! Mission-oriented people



PHOTO: Connecting with God, one another and new people in the community.

Do you have an interest in a unique kind of ministry? One that reaches people who might never come to Sunday morning worship?

A second peer learning community is launching this autumn in our Diocese for lay people and clergy who want to explore what mission might look like and how to build bridges with people who are not associated with a faith community. The Connectors TWO is a group of up to 10 eager pioneering-type people who gather monthly

over a year for 10, two-day residential retreats. Together they foster skills in praying for, recognizing and acting upon missional opportunities. The first round of The Connectors, with eight participants, wraps up their year in October.

This is a skill-building environment for faithful Anglicans who want to reach out to others, but aren't sure how. Emphasis is on practical approaches to cultivating relationships with people who are seeking out authentic community and how to

respectfully introduce them to the God who loves them.

The Connectors TWO is a network of peers who explore discerning prayer, deep discussions, engaging readings, goal-setting, guest speakers and mutually support and encourage one another. As the name indicates, participants focus on missional connections: between themselves and God (prayerful discernment), between themselves and one another (peer support) and between the congregation and the community (leadership development). Most importantly, these ministers are learning how to engage people who are on a spiritual search for the loving Creator, who offers communion and wholeness.

All costs are covered by the Diocese through the New Missional Initiatives 2019 Grant. This learning forum is an investment in the future vitality and growth of parishes as we learn how to reach new people, in new places, by new ways in our neighbourhoods.

INTERESTED? Don't hesitate! Send us your contact information and outline the reasons why you would like to be part of this group. Share about your related experiences and skills. A second application form will be sent out.

FINAL DEADLINE is Sept. 13, 2019. Write to [lvaughn@nspeidiocese.ca](mailto:lvaughn@nspeidiocese.ca) or phone 902-420-0717, ext. 1169. Candidates are selected based on various factors that include learning goals, group chemistry and parish context. The decision about membership in the learning community is made by October 1st.



Photo: Some of the 120 quilts on display in Kingston.

# Quilt Show as Outreach, Mission and Fellowship

BY LYNN UZANS

On May 11, as people moved about to be with their mothers and savoured the glorious Annapolis Valley weather, All Saints' Church in Kingston was awash with the colour and texture of 120 quilts, hangings and hooked rugs. A small organizing group from both congregations in the Parish of Wilmot (the other point is Holy Trinity, Middleton) had planned a day that would be welcoming, celebratory and missional

An optional freewill donation, a beautiful door prize wall hanging, friendly hosts who engaged in conversation and a quilted prayer square for each guest, helped people feel welcome. We had opportunity to build relationship, talk about our life and mission in the parish and even give some pastoral care to visitors who were struggling.



# Teach us to Pray: praying with our feet

Most of us have heard of the many benefits of walking: improved management of conditions such as high blood pressure or cholesterol, joint or muscle pain, stiffness and diabetes. And counterintuitively for those who may fear falling, stronger bones and improved balance. But did you know that walking can also benefit your prayer life?

Prayer walking requires little: simply, the desire and comfortable shoes. For those with mobility concerns, a prayer walk can even take place seated with a map - whether one from your local gas station, one you've hand drawn, or a route "mapped out" in your mind.

Ruth McNeil, in a recent Mission School module, described a prayer walk as "a love walk". Imagine if we could express our care for our neighbourhoods and communities with heartfelt prayers of love?



**Rev. Frances Drolet-Smith**

The neighbourhood around St. Alban's, Woodside has changed dramatically over its 98-year history. Once a vibrant residential community, it is now a mostly institutional and commercial enclave encompassing a busy four-lane street that feeds into an even busier divided highway. St. Alban's was built in 1921 in response to the growing needs of workers' families living in the neighbourhood. The company houses are long gone so, who are our neighbours

now?

We decided to take a prayer walk on Good Friday, praying our way around the block surrounding the church which includes a nursing home, a general hospital, a fire station, a psychiatric facility, a lawn bowling club, a Roman Catholic church, three residential care facilities for adults who cannot live on their own, a famous fish restaurant (more famous than we are!) and the ferry terminal. Prayers were prepared by our theological student Debbie Fice and people signed up for the excursion.

Our intention was to begin at the nursing home and walk (and pray) our way back to the church. However, Good Friday in Woodside dawned wet and wildly windy. So although we couldn't physically walk and pray the route as planned, we did still pray for our neighbours. We posted signs around the nave of the church, depicting the ten stops we had planned to make. As we moved to each one, a little history of our connection was shared. For instance, participants noted the monthly Communion Service we offer for residents and staff at the nursing home. One person acknowledged that some members of St. Alban's offer nursing care to residents. Another recalled that over the years, some of St. Alban's parishioners have volunteered and / or been residents there. We prayed for the well-



*Photo: Historical photo of John's Lunch - a long-time fixture in the neighbourhood,*

being of residents, the skill and patience of the staff and in thanksgiving for the wisdom and experience of elders. At the lawn bowling club, we gave thanks for healthy bodies, fair play, active lifestyles. At the restaurant we gave thanks for family businesses, for all they contribute economically to the local community and for fishers and all who sustain the food industry. We likewise prayed in turn for firefighters, health care workers, patients, our ecumenical neighbours, and those who provide transportation on the seas.

Our walk concluded by praying for St. Alban's congregation. We offered thanks for those we have come to know through our Open Door drop-in, celebrating the friendships we've made, acknowledging our common need for companionship: "in gratitude for those who have gone before us . . . and for

those who are with us now. May we ever serve You, and be a beacon of your love to this neighbourhood, community and wider world. Amen"

We learned several things through this experience: we can pray with our feet! We also affirmed the depth of our roots this neighbourhood - and our continuing commitment to it. As we discern our future mission, we are learning that perhaps God isn't finished with us here yet. Though the faces, names and format of ministry are indeed changing, God is present and at work in Woodside. Our prayers in the future will include favourable weather as we step out in faith - and love.

REV. FRANCES DROLET-SMITH  
DIOCESAN REPRESENTATIVE FOR  
THE ANGLICAN FELLOWSHIP OF  
PRAYER



*Photo: Theological student Debbie Fice and a group of people signed up for the excursion.*

## It was a hit at Synod!

We had an overwhelming number of requests for T-shirts with the new logo for the diocesan Environment Network.

We are still working out the details (cost and environmentally friendly material etc.).

But you can place an order for one (or more) now. When cost is determined, we will confirm that order with you.

Please include size, e.g. men's large and number of T-shirts.

To place your order, e-mail project manager, Carole Aylard:

[caylard@accesscable.net](mailto:caylard@accesscable.net)





# The great Christian call to adventure in the face of the climate emergency

By CATHY LEE CUNNINGHAM,  
RECTOR, CHURCH OF THE GOOD  
SHEPHERD, BEAVER BANK

Greetings and peace to you,  
in the name of our Risen  
Lord!

Rotary phones, birdsong, and  
a Swedish teenager

Before Synod, I saw a video  
of several teenagers who  
were given a rotary phone,  
hooked up, dial tone ready.  
Not only did they not know  
what to do with it, it seemed  
they didn't even know it was  
a telephone! They put their  
finger in the dial, turned it,  
waited —remember the sound  
and how long it took to dial  
each number? And that all  
happened before they even  
picked up the handle! They'd  
never seen one before. Why?  
Rotary phones are basically  
extinct.

Later that day — while  
walking my sweet pug, Noah  
— I let my soul fall into the  
healing sound of the birds  
singing, as I always do.

I started thinking, Is the day  
soon coming when our youth  
won't know the beauty and  
healing power of the song  
of the sparrow, because the  
sparrow is extinct? Or the  
red of the robin's breast? Or  
the wonderful sight of a bird  
taking a fresh worm to the  
babies in the nest?

Is the day soon coming when  
all the birds and bees are  
gone and the generations that  
follow will only know them in  
pictures and stories? Because  
we failed to act when we were  
told by the great scientists that  
we had only twelve years left  
before it was too late? Because  
we didn't pay attention to the  
United Nations Report telling  
us that 1 million of God's  
creatures are now in danger of  
extinction?

If we fail to act, while the  
planet itself will be forever  
changed, the human race gone  
and all those beautiful bird  
songs gone with us, the earth  
will find a way to rejuvenate  
and live again and new songs  
will sound forth through the  
powerful re-Genesis works of  
our Creator. This knowledge  
gives me hope alongside of my  
sense of urgency to act.



Rev. Cathy Lee  
Cunningham

So does a 16 year-old girl  
from Sweden, named Greta  
Thunberg.

God's Word, spoken through  
the youth prophets

If the science has failed  
to convince you, perhaps  
Greta — through the work  
of the Holy Spirit — will.  
In a speech to the United  
Nations..., this is what she  
said:

I was fortunate to be born  
in a time and place where  
everyone told us to dream  
big; I could become whatever  
I wanted to. I could live  
wherever I wanted to. People

like me had everything we  
needed and more. Things our  
grandparents could not even  
dream of. We had everything  
we could ever wish for and yet  
now we may have nothing.

Now we probably don't even  
have a future any more.

Because that future was  
sold so that a small number  
of people could make  
unimaginable amounts of  
money. It was stolen from us  
every time you said that the  
sky was the limit, and that you  
only live once.

You lied to us. You gave us  
false hope. You told us that the  
future was something to look  
forward to. And the saddest  
thing is that most children  
are not even aware of the fate  
that awaits us. We will not  
understand it until it's too late.  
And yet we are the lucky ones.  
Those who will be affected the  
hardest are already suffering  
the consequences. But their  
voices are not heard.

Is my microphone on? Can  
you hear me?"

Yes, Greta! We can!

Thanks to the extraordinary  
work of the Diocesan  
Environment Network, led by  
Marian Lucas Jeffries, Greta's  
voice and the cry of creation  
was brought to the floor of

Synod in May. The Motion  
Re: Climate Emergency  
— moved by Marian and  
seconded by the Charles Bull  
— was unanimously passed,  
committing us as Anglicans  
in Nova Scotia and P.E.I. to  
recognize the global climate  
and ecological crisis, and to  
do our part to raise awareness  
and respond in the parishes  
entrusted to our care:

- To pray;
- to listen to our youth and  
support their protests and  
join in;
- to partner with existing  
community environment  
groups; to raise our own  
prophetic voices for God  
in God's neighbourhoods  
where we live and work;
- to do all that we can to  
heal the planet before it's  
too late.

"Made-for-you" resources  
— and much more — to get  
started

A great way to begin — if  
you haven't already — is  
to celebrate the Season  
of Creation, an annual  
celebration of prayer and  
action to protect creation that  
runs from September 1 to  
October 4. This year focuses  
on biodiversity. Here are some

links to get you started, they'll  
lead you to other wonderful  
places:

- [www.greenanglicans.org/  
resources](http://www.greenanglicans.org/resources)
- [www.seasonofcreation.org](http://www.seasonofcreation.org)
- [acen.anglicancommunion.  
org](http://acen.anglicancommunion.org)
- [www.filmsfortheplanet.  
com](http://www.filmsfortheplanet.com)

I also encourage you join  
the Diocesan Environment  
Network (contact Marian at  
[marian.lucas.jeffries@gmail.com](mailto:marian.lucas.jeffries@gmail.com)) and Google "Greta  
Thunberg Speech". Before you  
press play, prepare your soul to  
be moved.

I hope you find joy, rest and  
rejuvenation this summer, with  
ample time to intentionally  
hear the birds sing, and let  
their singing fill your heart  
with hope that with God and  
each other, it's not too late to  
save them.

See you back here in the  
September Issue with an  
article and resources for World  
Peace Day, which falls during  
the Season of Creation. God  
bless!

Need any further  
assistance or resource  
suggestions? Contact  
me directly at [cathylee@  
cathyleecunningham.com](mailto:cathylee@cathyleecunningham.com)



Photo: Youth marching for climate change.



**Dinner Theatre Plays**  
*by Heather D. Veinotte, Playwrite*

**Great fun and fundraising!**  
Connect with me at:  
[heatherdveinotte52@gmail.com](mailto:heatherdveinotte52@gmail.com)

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# Making the most of summer

BY ALLIE COLP

As I'm writing this, it's the middle of Holy Week. It's very out of character for me to be so prepared that I'm working on it this far in advance, but it's happening! In the midst of this exceptionally busy time of year in the church, it's hard to imagine that in just two months from now, most churches will have hardly anything going on. Once we get into summertime, committees stop meeting, Sunday Schools wrap up, and many other ministries take a rest for a couple of months.

Without a doubt, people need time to rest, and taking a break in the summer allows for that. I can't help but wonder though, what opportunities to serve children and youth we miss out on when we wind most things down in a season that is full of possibilities. Balance is important though, so here are a few small, low time commitment ideas for how you and your church can make the most of this summer:

## 1. Have a Sundae Party

Seriously – who doesn't love ice cream? Sundae Parties are so easy – all you need is ice cream, a fun variety of toppings, and people who want to show some love to families in

the community. It doesn't have to be a big event, but you can add in some extra fun by having games or activities (that include ideas or stories about faith in them!) that kids can participate in after their ice cream.

## 2. Host a Picnic in a Park

Invite your whole church and neighbourhood to join you for a picnic. You can provide sandwiches, salads, and popsicles if you want – or you can simply extend an invitation for people to pack their own picnic and get together to eat with others. The new Canada's Food Guide talks all about the importance of eating with other people – and a summer picnic is a great way to do that!

## 3. Have an Outdoor Games Night

It doesn't have to be in the evening, but having some fun outdoor games – maybe structured ones, or just equipment for kids to figure out their own games with – and a space for parents to connect provides an opportunity for some physical activity and social time for the whole family. You can even have a topic of discussion set for parents

if you want, or maybe set it up as a time to ask questions about faith.

## 4. Connect with What's Going on in Your Community

Even if your church doesn't have much on the calendar, take a look at what's happening in the community and see if there's any way your church can support it. Is there a day camp being held? Maybe they need volunteers! A family fun night? Maybe the church can offer an activity. We don't always need to go it alone, and we certainly don't need to reinvent the wheel. If good things are happening, find ways to join in!

## 5. Pray for Summers Full of Adventure

As always, praying is one of the best ways that we can support children, youth and families in our communities. So through the summer, pray that it will be a time full of adventure, full of learning, full of growing, and full of encounters with God.

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**Blandford August 19 to 23**  
**Lunenburg August 29**

# Report from the Valley Region: Valley is blessed with senior priests

BY REV. TOM HENDERSON AND MEL MALTON

"We are happier in many ways when we are old than when we were young. The young sow wild oats. The old grow sage." So said Winston Churchill.

When it comes to sages, the Valley is blessed with a surfeit of riches. Our collective ministry has been augmented by those who have garnered a lifetime of experience and insight. The retired clergy and laity of the region have not been idle and continue to further the mission of the church - contributing to the proclamation of the Gospel and the excellent work of the people, i.e. the liturgy.

Many have reached splendid milestones, and continue to offer their services in parishes

throughout the Valley. Rev. Donald Neish recently celebrated 65 years of ordained ministry on the Feast of the Annunciation. Featured in a recent article about the Parish of St. Luke's in Annapolis Royal, Fr. Neish provides leadership with the Teen Sunday Study Group in his parish.

Rev. Everett Hill commemorated sixty years on St. Patrick's Day. Rev. Jim Small and Rev. Bruce Matthews were ordained on the same day, May 8, 1966 – both recently celebrating 53 years of ordination.

Rev. Ed Vaughan recently turned 90 and celebrated the 55th anniversary of his ordination. He remains active in the parish of Wilmot and is the unofficial chaplain to the Nictaux Food Bank Volunteers.

Rev. Canon Russell Elliott, who is 101 years old, was able at the Parish of Horton to christen a child who was the fourth in a generation of family members he baptized.

Others are looking after administration and leading worship for congregations. Whether retirees on lay ministry teams or pensioned clergy active in parish life, the culmination of wit and wisdom is benefitting all.

As Leviticus 19:32 says: "Stand up in the presence of the elderly, and show respect for the aged. Fear your God. I am the Lord." The Church has always taught we are to respect and revere our elders. Wisdom and understanding comes with age. We are truly blessed.

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# Anglican Church Women making a difference!

CYNTHIA PILICHOS, ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN BOARD



"Education - A life changing gift!" Is the theme of the annual project 2019/20 of the Anglican Church Women of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. The funds raised will help to support five students to further their education at the university or college level in Kikima Village, Kenya. The project was suggested by the Kings-Kikima Grannies who have been supporting grandmothers who care for grandchildren whose parents have died of HIV/Aids in Kikima.

"Thank you all very much for your generous gift. The money that you worked so hard to gather for us has been able to do wonderful things in Madagascar. The project continues to grow and offer a better life to all those who come to us." Such were the words of Kathy Lucking in a recent e-mail to the Anglican Church Women Diocesan Board. As the founder of the Madagascar School Project, an enterprise with modest beginnings that has grown to transform a community, Kathy was sharing insights as to the impact on the school community of the Anglican Church Women's Annual Project of 2016/17, Madagascar School Project: Changing Lives, Sharing Hope.

We anticipate that there will be very similar sentiments when we check in a few years' time about the long term benefit of the forthcoming 2019/20 Annual Project: Education – a life changing gift! And we will be happy to learn about the ways that Education – a life changing gift! - has positively impacted the lives of the Kikima, Kenya students who will be attending college / university because of the money we will have raised. These youth are being cared for by their grandmothers, as they were orphaned when

their parents were lost to HIV/AIDS. These grannies in Kikima are being supported by grannies in Nova Scotia's Annapolis Valley and the Board will be working closely with these Kentville grannies with this Project.

The over 100 participants at the May 4th Rally that was co-sponsored by the Diocesan Mothers' Union and the Anglican Church Women Diocesan Board had the opportunity to learn about the Kentville to Kikima Grannies' story and to get a glimpse of what a difference this Annual Project will be able to make. These Grannies know about the importance of community support, just as Kathy Lucking and her colleagues know that it takes a community to transform the extreme poverty of the central highlands of Madagascar, such that education, hope, and health become a reality for hundreds of children and their families. Kathy's Madagascar School Project has built a community of support that has enabled the building of schools, the hiring of staffs, the provision of health care, and the sustainability of agriculture. It was an honour and privilege for Anglicans in our Diocese to be part of that community of support with the Board's 2016/17 Annual Project, Madagascar School Project: Changing Lives, Sharing Hope, a Project that realized over \$11,000.

In the third world country of Madagasar, just look at what \$11,000 plus has been doing to transform lives and encourage hope:



Photo: Marjorie Davis, Treasurer, Anglican Church Women Diocesan Board; Nancy Henry and Betsy Baillie, members of the Kings Grannies of Nova Scotia; and Mary Stone, President of the Diocesan Mothers' Union.

1. Trained two of the school graduates in learning about solar panel installation for clean energy in order to bring light and radio to the homes.
2. Provided for 5 apprentices to team with carpenters to build classrooms, restraining walls, and reservoirs, with 4 of the 5 now working full time with their own enterprises.
3. Extended micro-finance loans to members of the Woman's Group so they can raise and sell chickens, pigs, and rabbits and grow and sell beans and green onions.
4. Developed an extensive permaculture gardening project to capture and store rain water during the rainy season and enhance the fertility of the soil for year round growing to feed 700 students, 80 staff, and the animals.

Each year the Anglican Church Women Diocesan Board determines an Annual Project that asks for prayers and financial contributions over the space of a year from late April of one year to late April of the next. In keeping with the stated Purpose of the Board to encourage and support all women in the Diocese to participate in a fellowship of . . . offering, with the aim of . . . awakening a greater desire for God's mission and Christian service in the parish, community, diocese, nation, and the world, the Annual Projects are chosen according to whether it is a year for an international, national, or local focus. Clearly, Madagascar School Project: Changing Lives, Sharing Hope was a year for a Project to be centred on an international initiative, just as Education – a life changing gift! will be.

However, the current Annual Project, Bonny Lea Farm: A Home Forever, has a local focus. It is wrapping up now and will have the Board

present a cheque in mid June at Bonny Lea Farm in excess of \$15,000 for the furnishing of the living room in a new residence to be built for the aging and ready-to-retire residents: It is important that the Bonny Lea residents be able to continue to live in their home, regardless of their health or employment status. This Project has received incredible support from the parishes and individuals – it has touched the hearts of many.

We encourage all parishes to support the Board's Annual Projects; they are not just for the women of the parish, they are an equal opportunity endeavour, because, as Kathy Lucking says, "it takes a community to change the world!"



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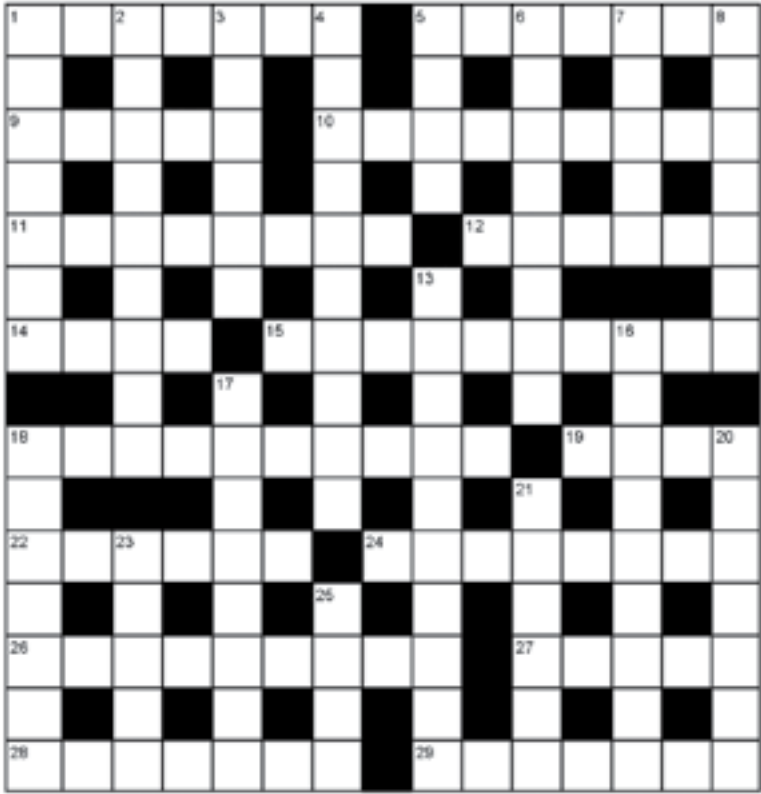


# Bible Crossword

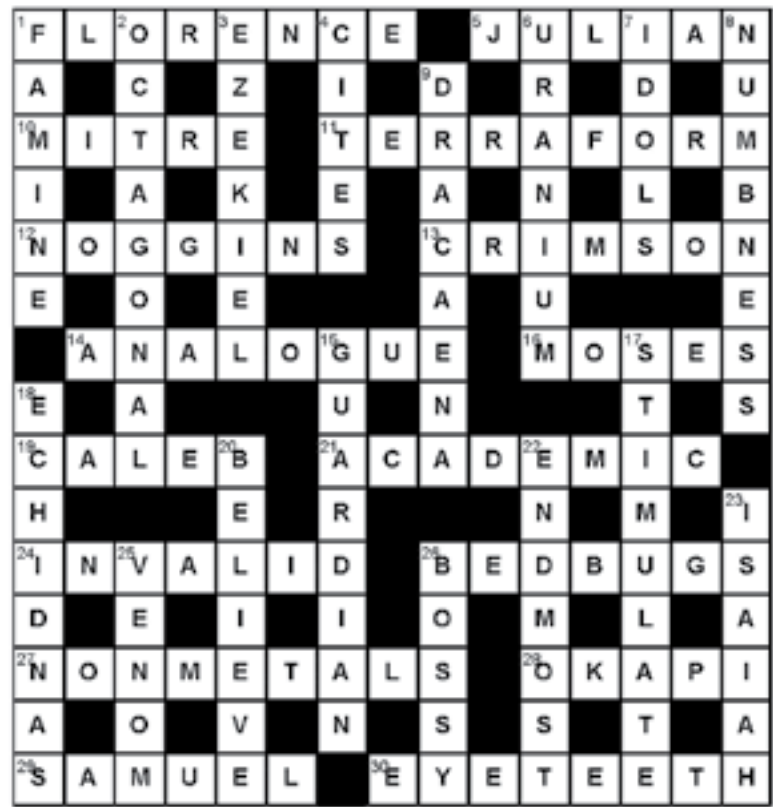
by Maureen Yeats



JUNE Puzzle



MAY Solution





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2019 June Puzzle Clues

**ACROSS:**

1 – “Jesus was going through the region between \_\_\_\_\_ and Galilee” (Luke 17:11) region of ancient Palestine (7)

5 – Father of Isaac (Gen. 22:1-14) (7)

9 – Franz \_\_\_\_\_, 19th century composer (5)

10 – Breed of dog, fast runner (9)

11 – Travelling amusement show (8)

12 – 18th century composer, spent many years in England (6)

14 – Weeps bitterly (4)

15 – Restaurants where there are no servers (10)

18 – Alterations to laws, etc. (10)

19 – Mix with a spoon (4)

22 – Sister of Moses and Aaron (Exod. 15:20) (6)

24 – Consoles (8)

26 – Trade name for a local anesthetic (9)

27 – Brother of Moses, priest (Exod. 4:14) (5)

28 – Firmly (7)

29 – Calmed by use of a drug (7)

**DOWN:**

1 – Chooses (7)

2 – “\_\_\_\_\_ comforters are you all” (Job 16:2) wretchedly unhappy (9)

3 – “If you \_\_\_\_\_ the sins of any, they are retained” (John 20:23) keep (6)

4 – Made worse (10)

5 – Son of Adam and Eve (Gen. 4:1-2) (4)

6 – Warmed up again (8)

7 – Pester (5)

8 – Interferes (7)

13 – Fast warships (10)

16 – Explain or translate (9)

17 – Moved ahead (8)

18 – “The staff of Aaron ... bore ripe \_\_\_\_\_” (Num.17:8) edible nuts (7)

20 – Prepared a violin bow for playing (7)

21 – Apprehensive (6)

23 – Take great pleasure (5)

25 – “Moved with \_\_\_\_\_, Jesus stretched out his hand” (Mark 1:41) sympathetic sorrow (4)



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# Hidden in plain sight - modern slavery



Photo by nahid hatamiz on Unsplash

by Mary Stone

The Anglican Church Women joined with Mothers' Union members of the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island to host a joint gathering at Emmanuel Church, Spryfield (Metro Halifax) on Saturday May 4, 2019.

The morning panel discussion dealt with the topic “Hidden in Plain Sight - Modern Slavery”. The panelists were Jody Moore, Heather Harmon and a member of the RCMP. Jody told of signs to look for in young people who might indicate that they were being groomed for recruitment for human trafficking.... In a relationship with someone older; changing style (clothes, makeup, nails); showered with attention and gifts; secret boyfriend; fearful, anxious; skipping school, etc. The youth's grades often plummet. They might be gone out and

you don't know where. At first the trafficker may be charming but then gradually starts to isolate the youth from his/her friends and family. They sometimes get involved in crimes.

Heather works with “Open Door Centre” a local non-profit organization which helps exploited youth to understand their options for getting out of the sex trade. Youth need a safe place to talk their experiences about being recruited and groomed or exploited and controlled. They provide trauma informed care through crisis intervention, safety planning, referrals and advocacy for community support. Trafficked youth can receive support in academic, legal, health, vocational, personal and spiritual areas of their lives.

The RCMP representative said that Nova Scotia is known for human trafficking. It is the second most crime in the world, next to drugs and guns. It is a low risk for criminals.

Many people think the girls agreed to do that. The pimps have sold the youth a dream that is never going to happen! Education teaches front line people to be aware of the signs that a youth is being recruited.

There was a question and answer session after the panelists spoke. We were told that Nova Scotia has the highest number of youths being recruited - whether voluntary or involuntary - than any other province in Canada. The highest numbers come from Lower Sackville. There were a few ladies that were shocked that this is happening in our province.

Open Door works with trafficked youth. They will more than likely need long term rehabilitation; we must be patient. They often need mental health support. They are sometimes accompanied to court or driven to a safe house. We need prevention - to know what to look for. Open Door has a 24/7 hot line.

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[HOME](#)



# Glory to God ...

BY HEATHER MACEachern

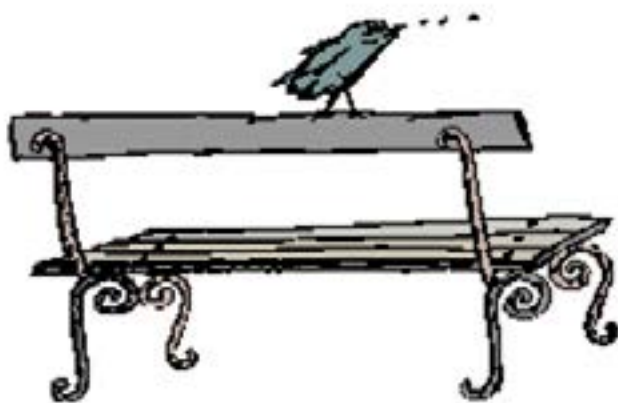
The Concise Oxford Dictionary of The Christian Church defines the noun 'Doxology' as: an ascription of glory to the Persons of the Trinity." - a liturgical formula of praise to God, a short hymn of praise to God in various forms of Christian worship, often added to the end of canticles, psalms, and hymns.

I am specifically referring to the one used after communion: "Glory to God,

Whose power, working in us, can do more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen"

This prayer has often spoken to me over the years in my ministry. I found it to be words of encouragement in difficult times of outreach ministry, and it has been particularly powerful as I grieve this last two months.

March 9, 2019 was the most horrible day of my life; my husband, Blair, died. That



View from the Deacon's Bench

terrible morning when his alarm sounded I could not awaken him. So began my new reality: I became a stranger in my own life.

I was always a person who could make decisions quickly and usually successfully; and then the simplest decision was tantamount to climbing Mount Everest. I had trouble connecting even the most mundane thoughts; for example, three times a week I take a vitamin C tablet and when my brain told me it was

time to take it, I looked at the bottle, told myself to take one and walked away. The simple act of following through did not happen.

Family and friends wrapped me in love and it was a busy two months doing all the things that must be done legally when a person dies. Many things happened over the two months that sometimes were strange, sometimes funny and sometimes sad and yes, sometimes joy filled. I came

home one night and parked my husband's car in the underground parking and instead of hitting the lock button, I hit the panic button and the horn was sounding, the lights were flashing and as I tried to stop it, I hit the wrong button and had the garage door going up and down-looking back it was funny-but it was then that I dissolved into tears I could not control. I had been so busy supporting my family and making arrangements that I did not stop – not until the bells and lights were flashing and ringing and the door was opening and closing. I was always one that needed the extra nudge from God to get my attention, but get it He did!

I truly felt His arms around me and understood that all would be well. I knew it would be different but felt great comfort in knowing: "God's power, working in me. Could do more than I could ask or imagine,"

My Cathedral family showed me the face of Christ in

blinding brilliance at every opportunity. They gathered around me and upheld me as I stumbled and they patiently understood my moments of joy and tears at any given time, they are very special.

I cannot imagine living this new life without faith. Easter brought the 'Alleluia's' back into my life with such poignancy and with such joy. I KNOW that we have eternal life because Jesus made it so!

I have moved in with my daughter and her family and receive hugs every night and every morning from my grandsons because that is their new job- "since Papa can't". I am blessed. I am on a new journey now, not one that I would have chosen, but as each day goes by I feel less like a stranger in my life and more as a pilgrim on a journey of faith and wonderment.

"Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do more than we can ask or imagine....."



**2019-2020 Project**  
***Education – a life changing gift!***

***Anglican Church Women Board,***  
***Diocese of Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island***

Anglicans in our diocese will be supporting Grannies in Kikima, Kenya by providing funds for 5 Kikima grandchildren to attend university/college.

***Education – a life changing gift!***

The Kikima Grannies are raising their grandchildren, orphaned because of HIV/AIDS, and over the past 11 years have been helped by grannies in Kings County, NS.



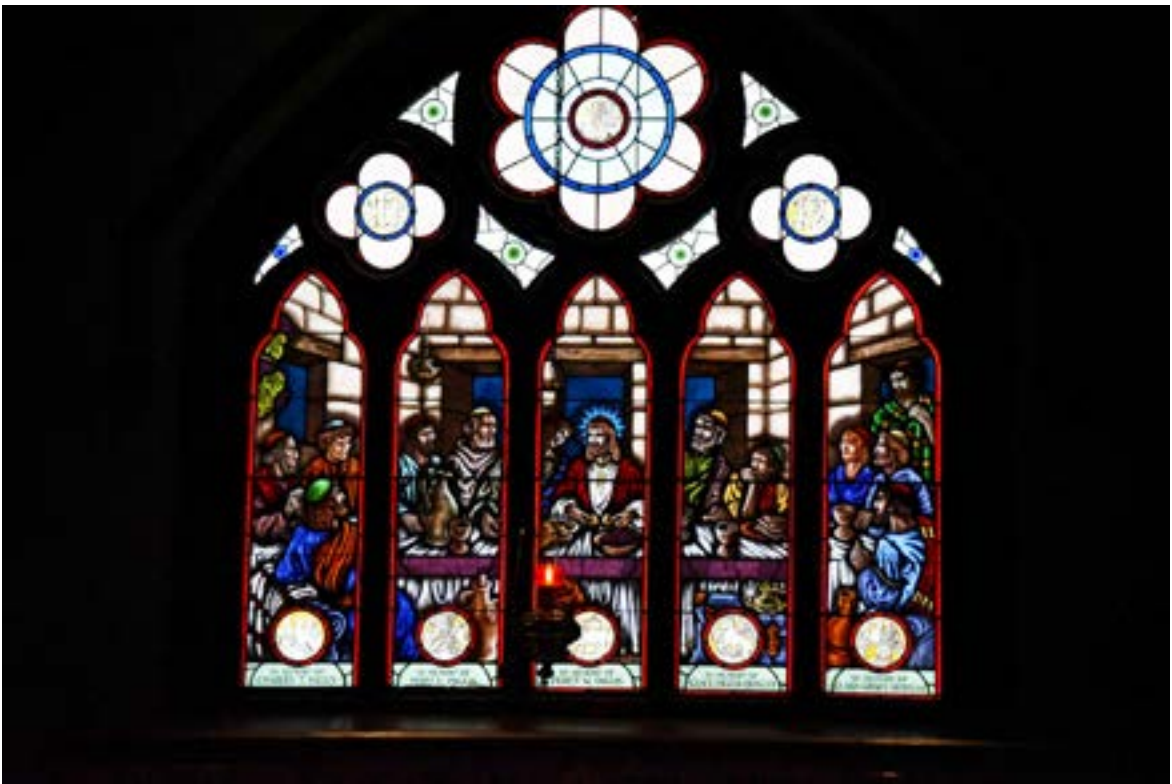
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***The board will be accepting donations for this project until April 2020.***



# Oh brother - there art thou!

On Tuesday, April 9th, Rev. Chad McCharles professed temporary vows as a Benedictine Canon, and became Prior of the Community of St. Patrick in Mahone Bay <https://osbcn.org/>  
It was made possible by the grace and faith of Metropolitan Archbishop Ron Cutler to whom Rev. Chad expressed a great debt of thanks. He also

recognized his family Dawn McCharles Jacob McCharles and Amy Beth for their unwavering love and support is what undergirds all he does. The parish family and the wider Mahone Bay community made this evening of worship and social time truly extraordinary. One great night!



**Photos:**  
*Top - some of the stained-glass windows in St. James, Mahone Bay.*  
*Above left - Bishop Ron Culter accepts Rev. Chad McCharles' vows as Benedictine Canon*  
*Above right - Rev. Chad greets parishione during the peace.*  
*Left - Processing out at the end of the serivce.*

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# Camp Bretondean 2019



Photo top: Cape Bretondean cottage ready for another year's campers  
Photo below: Camp Bretondean paddlers learning canoe skills.



BY LEROY PEACH

Camp Bretondean, the Anglican camp near the beautiful Mira River, is both evolving and growing. It has, in fact, re-invented itself recently as a residential, ecumenical and seasonal asset.

For example, Bretondean hosts children's camps, retreats, ecumenical church services, team-building weekends for organizations, weddings, cursillos, family events and more. As Fred Boutilier, camp committee chairperson says, "Thanks to our volunteers, from maintenance people to cooks, we are able to serve the public year-round." Recently, the camp attained charitable status. As well, the camp actively fund-raises. It offers suppers and collects fees for booking. It receives financial support from parishes, from rentals and donations. The current camp committee is now ecumenical.

Camping for young people is still a major component of Bretondean. In 2017, camping was revived after a hiatus of a few years thanks to the participation and professionalism of Patti Sampson, now the past president of the Nova Scotia Association of Modern Camping. Patti began with 14 campers from 7 to 14 years old. In 2018, 20 attended camp. This year there will be two ecumenical camps of 30 campers each. The dates for camps are July 8 to July 12 and July 15 to July 19.

Churches have played a vital role in encouraging and in some cases sponsoring students.

Last year's camp was viewed as a magical wonderful occasion. Children learned life skills such as responsibility for the space that they lived in, social skills such as participating in a talent show and faith skills such as the importance of kindness and togetherness. Camp volunteers assisted young campers to overcome their fears.

Last year's feedback was very positive. One 11-year-old kid wrote, "The camp is a great place for kids. The highlights are food and movie night, in my opinion. The staff was kind and the activities were fun. Any kid would love it there."

This year the camp committee contacted companies and individuals and succeeded in securing some sponsors. The camp fee per child is \$200 for one; if more than one, the second child may attend for \$150. Information about camp will be available in the churches and on the Camp Bretondean web site.

Bookings in 2019 have increased. So far this year two ecumenical curcillo weekends have been booked from Thursday to Sunday. Those in attendance live, work, discuss and learn together. There is ample room at the camp to do so—three cabins, with shower facilities, holding 20 people each, a dining hall seating 120, a meeting room and a 40-seat chapel. At the curcillos laity and clergy give talks on a variety of topics from grace to piety. The women's curcillo has already taken place from May 2 to May 5. The men's curcillo will be held October 24 to 27. Information is available in the parishes.

The very successful ecumenical service, the fourth, entitled "Spread the Spirit on the Mira" will take place September 22, 2019. In the past, there have been as many as 250 worshippers at the services. Both Anglican Archbishop Cutler and Roman Catholic Bishop Brian Young have preached at services. Clergy from several denominations attended as well.

Camp Bretondean's operation has been gradually placed upon a greater financial footing and the future of the camp is much brighter.

## Truro Pride Parade

Truro's annual Pride Parade proudly marched through the town this afternoon. Dozens of floats and group representations gathered for the parade at 2pm. Thousands

of spectators and hundreds of participants made it a most colourful and musical event. The Anglican contingency was somewhat diminished this year due to some members not able

to come and others unwilling after the result of General Synod's vote on the marriage canon.

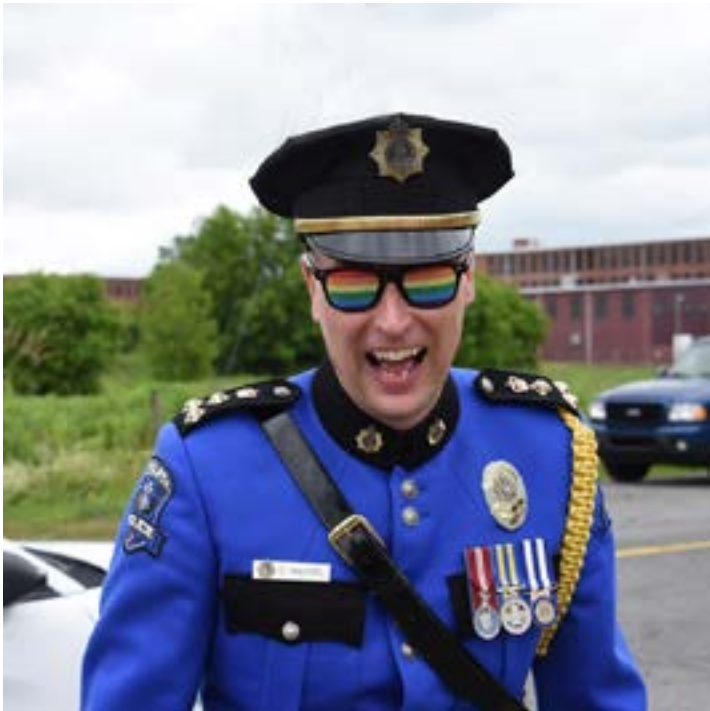


Photo above: Truro police chief MacNeil gets inot the spirit of the Pride Parade.

Photo left: A small but proud number of Anglians from St. John's, Truro marched in the parade.