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**July 25. 2023**

**Facebook:** [**https://www.facebook.com/groups/101542159983749**](about:blank)

**Website:** [**https://www.nspeidiocese.ca/ministries/diocesan-environment-network**](about:blank)

##### **Email:** [**endionspei@gmail.com**](about:blank)

**Our Mission:** “To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth”.



**Faithfulness Even in the Floodwaters**

God of compassion, we pray for all who have suffered losses and trauma because of this storm. We pray for those stranded or evacuated, and for those who have lost homes and livelihood. Bless and strengthen those providing food, shelter, and care; and all first responders and crews still working to rescue people and animals. We give thanks for the courage and generosity of those responding to the crisis, for all the acts of neighborliness and kindness. God of Life, give courage and healing to all who have been affected. Give all leaders and responders endurance and resourcefulness. May we each find ways to bring your comfort, hope and calm in the midst of this anxious time. Strengthen our resolve to make the changes necessary to care for your Earth. In the name of Christ our healer. Amen.

https://anglicanplanet.net/faithfulness-even-in-the-floodwaters/



DEN offers you the opportunity to pray with others for Creation. Join us Monday Evenings at 7 pm on zoom. Please email us for the link. [**endionspei@gmail.com**](about:blank)



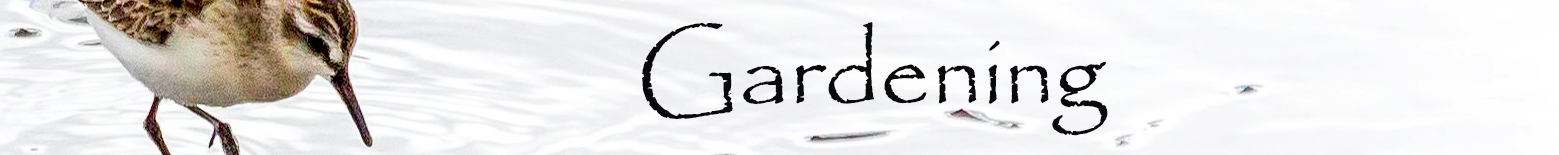


[https://secure.natureconservancy.ca/site/SPageNavigator/BioBlitz\_2023/BB\_2023\_landing.html?s\_locale=en\_CA&s\_src=NAT\_BIOBLITZ&s\_subsrc=facebook\_paid\_en\_static&utm\_campaign=NAT\_BIOBLITZ&utm\_source=facebook&utm\_medium=paid&utm\_content=en\_static&fbclid=IwAR0fKGtu\_rFMbwQL2nRD-iuw-1MfwsRnmW-WoGZB2GofO6ndLCDo11xOLZk](about:blank)



**Season of Creation 2023 has been launched:** [https://seasonofcreation.org/2023/03/03/we-are-launching-season-of-creation-2023-let-justice-and-peace-flow/](about:blank)

**Celebration Guide** [**https://drive.google.com/file/d/145WzDi32U8YdlyY9Peo1bn-aLqyi4cl6/view**](about:blank)



It has been a challenging year for gardeners. Too much water for some. Not enough for others. Less sun than we might prefer. A recent conversation regarding these challenges sparked this article below from Al Knox in the Collieries Parish and we thank him for his contribution and thoughtfulness.

**The parable of the mustard seed. A gardeners guide to growing your faith.**

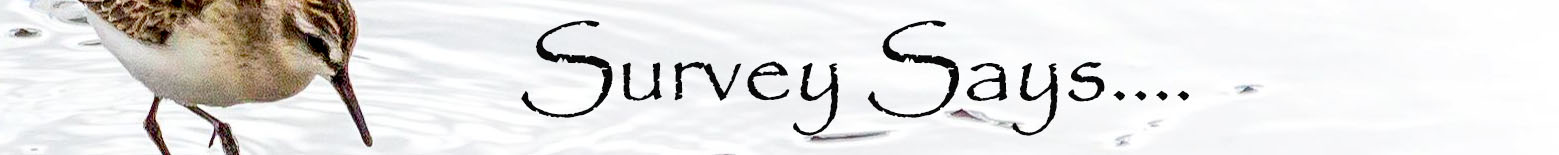
If you are a gardener, you know that you must always have faith. Faith in the seed you choose. Faith in the persons who harvested the seeds. Faith they were cared for and stored properly. Faith that they are seeds that will grow in our climate and the type of soil we use. Faith in the soil you may purchase is as advertised and will provide a good base for starting and growing that seed. Faith in the fertilizers we may use. It is my belief that the most important is how we treat that seed when we plant it. That seed depends on us to plant it at the right depth, spaced properly, watered, food, weeding, support and faith in the weather that it will be kind and any other help it may need to flourish.

Much like God when he sent the perfect seed to grow his kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. He nourished and cared for him, protected him from evil when he was tempted in the desert for forty days and nights. He was with him always to protect feed and guide him. When the time came for the harvest, he chose the most prefect person on earth, his son who he carried unto himself after his death on the cross. The perfect harvest. So it is in how we live our lives in his sight, how we serve him and others In need we come close to being like Christ. in his teachings told us how we should live our lives to honor God and spread the word to help others grow if their faith. If we grow and flourish in our faith in him is strong we know he will harvest us and grant us eternal life when our time on earth is over.

**What has your church planted this year? Please send us pics so we may share your Good News Greening Projects**

The Church of Saint Andrew in Cole Harbour has seen some real growth in their beds. 

The potatoes have taken off and the beets and beans are doing well. The carrots are slow and the pumpkins were a late planting so time will tell.

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Dr. Martin Day and Nicole Careen of Memorial University of Newfoundland are conducting a survey to better understand municipal decision-makers’ opinions on climate change and adaptation within Atlantic Canadian communities. To participate in their 10-minute survey, please see the anonymized link below, which will take you to a secure survey platform to complete it.

 Survey: [https://mun.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\_bKrrceyoHqiW3T8](about:blank) They are offering every participant who completes our 10-minute survey an entry into a draw to win 1 of 25 available Tim Horton’s gift cards (worth $20 each). We expect the chances of winning a gift card to be 1 in 6. Your participation would be greatly appreciated and help us better understand climate change and adaptation decision-making in Atlantic Canada. Please note you may only complete the survey once and only be entered into the draw once. If you navigate away from the page, you may be unable to return to complete the survey later. You must be over the age of 18 to participate. The proposal for this research has been reviewed by the Interdisciplinary Committee on Ethics in Human Research and found to comply with Memorial University’s ethics policy. If you have ethical concerns about the research, such as how you have been treated or your rights as a participant, you may contact the Chairperson of the ICEHR at [icehr@mun.ca](about:blank) or by telephone at [709-864-2861](about:blank).

**With thanks to our Advocacy Editors Eva Evans and Jesse Hamilton**

[**Environmental Defence Canada**](about:blank)

Line 5 is a 70-year-old, dangerous, deteriorating crude oil pipeline that runs straight through the heart of the Great Lakes. It’s operated by Enbridge Inc., and according to studies it is located in the worst possible place for an oil spill. A rupture could contaminate up to 1200 km of Great Lakes shoreline and devastate all the places around it. The Great Lakes are a source of drinking water for more than 40 million people in the US and Canada. This pipeline has already leaked at least 33 times. It has spilled upwards of 4.5 million litres of oil since 1953. It needs to be shut down, add your voice if you agree!

[**Stop deep sea mining - Greenpeace International**](about:blank)

Deep sea mining companies are pressuring governments to let them go down several thousand meters below the surface of the ocean in order to plunder the seabed. If this industry is allowed to start, gigantic machines weighing more than a blue whale will be lowered onto ocean floors and into pristine ocean ecosystems. Scientists warn that deep sea mining poses severe risks, such as irreversible damage to the deep ocean and marine life, adversely affecting coastal communities, and disruptions of the natural processes that store carbon. Imagine if we could go back in time to prevent environmental and climate catastrophes. This is where we are at with deep sea mining. The debate is moving behind closed doors, but we can help open them by adding our voice in telling governments to take a strong stand against deep sea mining.

[**Tell Marsh: Drop EACOP - 350**](about:blank)

The East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) is another situation where a leak could poison water that over 40 million people depend on for survival, food, and their livelihoods. If built, nearly a third of the pipeline would run through the basin of Africa’s largest lake, Lake Victoria. Local activists in Uganda and Tanzania have been fighting to halt EACOP for years. Marsh is a powerful US insurance broker who is trying to find crucial insurance for the project. In February 2023, 10 Ugandan and Tanzanian organisations launched a complaint against Marsh with the US Government. They are being directly called out for their critical role in human rights and environmental violations by insuring EACOP. If we can prevent EACOP from getting insured, we could stop this devastating project from happening. This petition is for the CEO of Marsh, asking them to do the right thing by the communities and for future generations by withdrawing support of the East African Crude Oil Pipeline.

[**Canada's Dangerous Waters (stand.earth)**](about:blank)

Deadly consequences for the ocean and global biodiversity are happening in Canada. Our lax ocean dumping laws encourage ships to save and dump their waste once they cross the Canadian maritime border. How are ships getting away with this? Canada has no laws in place to stop them and any ship can dump sewage directly into the ocean. This contributes to the destruction of critical habitat and food sources for endangered and threatened species. Endangered sea otters, kelp forests, critically endangered southern resident killer whales, and many others have all been paying the price. This petition is for our Minister of Transport, asking that we stop ocean dumping and get serious about protecting our oceans.

[**Sign our Petition | Protect Thacker Pass**](about:blank)

Sacred, biodiverse, and culturally important places should not be turned into an open-pit mines. They should instead be protected and respected. This petition is about the Thacker Pass Lithium Mine Project. Thacker Pass is the site of two massacres, and the Paiute People have their ancestors buried in the rocks here. This is their traditional land to hunt and gather foods, and it is home to many others. Three hundred or more species make their homes at Thacker Pass, as well as use it for migration and reproduction. This includes anything from endangered snails who have nowhere else to live, to threatened Greater sage-grouse and Golden Eagles. We must protect the wildlife we have left. Thacker Pass needs its habitat to remain intact. Let’s tell the US Secretary of the Interior, Deb Haaland, to rescind the Thacker Pass Lithium Mine Project permit.



**Fireworks – Toxic Beauty**

I have a pet peeve recently. Our little dog, Jazz, is terrified of fireworks. Last year she fell down a flight of stairs and knocked herself out during an unannounced fireworks display.

Our beach is so inviting that folks travel from Halifax to set off fireworks on it.

Fireworks are made from gunpowder. Its formula is usually 75% potassium nitrate (chemical fertilizer), 15% charcoal and 10% sulphur.

The colours are produced by adding chemicals and metals. The white fireworks are chlorine. Barium makes green, copper for blue, strontium for red, sodium for yellow and lithium for pink. None of these are good for people with any breathing problem.

The smoke you see at fireworks is a chemical reaction giving off carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and nitrogen.

Carbon monoxide prevents oxygen from circulating in our bodies. Carbon dioxide causes asphyxiation where your body again doesn’t get enough oxygen. Nitrogen also affects the breathing, but it can affect your vision and the plant life in the area.

What goes up DOES come back down to plague us later. Chemicals and metals fall onto plant life that is then eaten by animals and it can affect our water supply.

It seems like an exaggeration for a few lights on a holiday weekend. After all, we aren’t Disney which puts on up to 4 shows a night, 365 nights of the year.

How many explosives do we use? The latest data says 461 million pounds worth yearly. Last year’s Canada Day Fireworks cost $200,000.00 for a 15-minute display.

The animals that live near where fireworks are set off, are terrorized. It isn’t just Fido racing around the house howling his little head off.

Facts state that after fireworks there is a large increase for roadkill. A startled deer may run an hour to get away. They run through suburb neighbourhoods, into patio doors, upsetting everything in their path till they hit a road and hopefully survive the motorists returning from the fireworks.

Birds race 500 feet in the air with each volley of fireworks. Two years ago in Rome, hundreds of birds were discovered dead on the ground after a New Year’s Eve Fireworks

Herds of animals are displaced. Geese, once disturbed from nesting sites, never return. One way to decease animal population.

Fireworks account for 20 wildfires a year in Ontario. Enough said on that as we all can relate to wildfires after recent events here.

The saddest fact is the new emigrants that have reached Canada from war-torn countries face the sounds of the bombs and carnage of war from a beautiful fireworks display. Consider formerly deployed veterans and how each event must affect them negatively.

So, what can we do? Fireworks are a part of our culture.

There are drone displays and other Pyrotechnic displays that give us lights without all the chemicals and noise.

There are silent fireworks that give that initial “pop” but nothing more. The chemicals are still there but the noise is not.

Perhaps it is better to have a bit of everything that reduces the environmental concerns if not stopping them completely.

Letting your neighbours know when you are setting off fireworks allows them to prepare either to comfort their animals or prepare themselves for the loud noises.

If nothing else, this year, let us just THINK when we see the beautiful displays. Together we will find a better way for all.

[https://earth.org/environmental-impact-of-fireworks/](about:blank)

[https://www.sciencefocus.com/planet-earth/are-fireworks-bad-for-the-environment/](about:blank)

[https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/calgary-fireworks-environment-wildlife-human-health-concerns-1.5218006](about:blank)

[https://www.forbes.com/sites/grrlscientist/2019/12/31/festive-fireworks-create-harmful-pall-of-pollution/?sh=193718f32853](about:blank)

[https://www.greenmatters.com/p/fireworks-environmental-impact](about:blank)

[https://earth911.com/living-well-being/eco-unfriendly-fireworks/](about:blank)

**Garden**

Hoping your gardens are coming along well this summer. My potatoes and even the zucchini are in flower. Except for three healthy Armenian cukes, I have few other cucumbers. Planting them for the third time, and hoping we have a late autumn, may give me the mustard pickles I am almost out of. (Update, third planting of cukes are all up and thriving)

I was so glad to hear about Holy Trinity Emmanuel in Dartmouth NS, has gardens. Every single plant in any garden helps this planet. Keep going! (When Grandma lived in the city she used to attend the old Emmanuel on Windmill Road. Someday I hope to see Holy Trinity Emmanuel)

The old waddle fence is nearing completion. I plan to do another near the driveway entrance to use up all these willow saplings that got out of control.



Ice Box Cakes – The Easy and the Easier

**The EASY Strawberry Ice Box Cake**

Early morning or the night before, mix

3 cups heavy cream

1 cup icing sugar

1 tsp vanilla

In an 8 x 8 cake pan spread a layer of cream followed by a layer of graham crackers

Crush a pack of strawberries leaving a few to cut in half and decorate the top.

Add a few spoons of strawberries

Again add cream, graham crackers and strawberries.

Top with the whipped cream and slice a few berries for decorations.

Put it in the fridge till desert time in the evening or if completed the night before, can be served at lunch.

**The Easier Strawberry Ice Box Cake**

1 container Whipped Topping (like Cool Whip)

1 package strawberries

1 pack vanilla wafer cookies

Same rules as the first for layering the ingredients and putting in the fridge till serving.

Either way it is simple and yummy for a desert.

A cake with strawberries on top

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