



November sees six ordained



The Cathedral Church of All Saints was a busy place November 30th on the Feast of St. Andrew the Apostle as another six individuals were ordained to the priesthood.

Photo above:
Front row: Maya and Campbell Trevors (children of Ed Trevors)
Middle row: **Jaunita Barteau, Judi Phillips**, Rev. Melissa Frankland, **Sue Walters, Rebecca Sample**
Back row: **Michael Foley**, Bishop Tom Corston (diocese of Moosonee), Bishop Ron Cutler, Bishop Sue Moxley, **Ed Trevors**

It was a hi-tech baptism

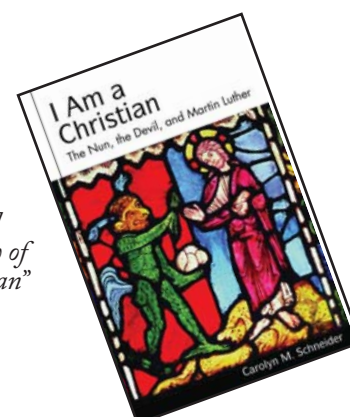
On September 19, the Anglican Parish of Musquodoboit, St. Thomas Church, Musquodoboit Harbour, celebrated a baptism that reached far beyond the walls of the church. Through the miracles of modern technology, the godparents and the great-grandmother of the baptismal candidate were an ocean away in England. While it looked and sounded almost like a regular baptism, there was an electric hum in the air. When Jack William Walker was baptized, his godparents, Nicola Bonehill and Benjamin Warrender, and great-grandmother Vera eagerly watched and participated from their home in England, sitting on their sofa. When it came time to respond to the vows as godparents, Nicola and Benjamin were able to view the proceedings and answer via a cell phone and lap top computer connection.



Above: Godparent George Cragg, mother, Laura Walker and newly baptised baby Jack, godparent James Cragg and Grandmother Lynn Cragg holding laptop so godparents in England can participate.



Above: Baptismal participants from England, Great-Grandmother Vera and godparents, Nicola Bonehill and Benjamin Warrender.



Don't miss Paul Friesen's review of "I am a Christian" on page 11.

C O L U M N I S T

When Good King Wenceslas came to The Bog

CHRISTMAS BY THE BOG was as wonderful as ever with time spent in our own homes, around our trees and with family at our festive tables. It was also special as we spent time in our church, with our parish family; around the tree and the crèche and around the festive table that we call the Altar.

We had a nice children's service at 4 PM when the kids placed all of the figures in the manger scene and the stable was blessed. Later in the evening there was the traditional Christmas Eve service when we saw St. Bart's filled with friends and family. We see folks that come once a year. It would be wonderful to see them more often but once a year is better than never as Rev Billie is quick to tell the jaded members of our regular congregation.

Because Christmas Day falls on Saturday this year (it happens every 7 years) the question of Sunday worship came up at the November Parish Council meeting. Some members thought we should just cancel the Sunday service. One look to the end of the table and the frown on Billie's brow told us that this would NOT be happening. Someone suggested the service of lessons and



ST. BART'S BY THE BOG

Sarah Neish

carols as had been held in years past, again the frown from the end of the table said it all.

In past years no one showed up for such a service except the choir and the readers and a few diehard regulars who can't seem to stay away from any service. Billie wanted to see the second day of Christmas be something special for her people. She suggested a children's service with our Sunday School working on a pageant connected to that day in the Church Calendar. One of the Wardens suggested they could do a good old fashioned stoning in honour of St Stephen. That brought forth a few giggles and, once again, the pastoral frown. Our

Sunday school teacher thought that she could find something based on the old carol "Good King Wenceslas". She said she would do some surfing on the 'Net and come up with a small play that the kids could perform at sermon time. There is nothing like involving children to bring out the adults in their lives, especially around this time of the year when extended members of families are visiting.

So on December 26th, the second day of Christmas and the Feast day of St Stephen we had a visit from Good King Wenceslas and his Page. The kids were terrific; still on sugar highs from too many candy canes but tired of those new toys they thought they really must have. Some of the Moms had made beautiful costumes and Jason Peebles was wonderful as the king, draped in a robe made from old brocade curtains. He is the tallest boy in Sunday School so was perfect for the part. Stacy Branch was the Page and she looked great dressed in a rich green velvet doublet and her new gold tights; following in her/his masters steps as the old carol tells the legend. The peasant was ragged and shivering as he gathered his winter fuel. Simon Branch played that part with just

enough hamming it up to make us all smile. The rest of the children were gathered around in the pulpit as if watching from the Good King's Castle window and we all sang the Carol several times as the little play carried on.

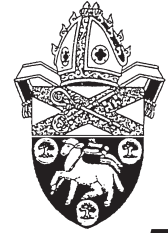
The moral of the Carol and the lesson we all learned that second day of Christmas was to share what we have with those who lack such gifts. We had been directed to bring food for our local food bank as a special offering and I know I wished I had been more generous with my offering after seeing the play. It did make me want to support the food bank on a regular basis which is a very good thing to take away from such a service.

Rev Billie didn't preach that Sunday; she let the children's play say it all but I know she was secretly pleased to see a good congregation for the Eucharist that followed the play. Just let me say she was not frowning!

We here By The Bog hope that your Christmas season was as blessed as ours even if you did not have a visit from Good King Wenceslas.

I'll keep you posted,

Aunt Madge



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PAUL SHERWOOD
Editor

PAUL FRIESEN
Review Editor

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Diocesan Times/Anglican Journal Circulation Dept

80 Hayden St

Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2

circulation@national.anglican.ca

national.anglican.ca

(416) 924-9199 Ext

259/245

LETTERS & NEWS:
Paul Sherwood, Editor

PO Box 8882,

Halifax, NS B3K 5M5

diocesantimes@gmail.com

902.477.3040

ADVERTISING:

Harold Irving

(902) 865-4795

cell (902) 489-4795

hling@eastlink.ca

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SUBMISSIONS DEADLINE:

The first week of the month preceding the month of publication: e.g., the deadline for the February edition is the first week of January.

Ministry Sunday

January 23

Celebrating Ministry
of all people,
of all ages,
and of all forms

Ministry Sunday is an opportunity for churches to encourage everyone to reflect, discover and recognize how God is calling them to ministry by virtue of their baptism.

Hear from people who are doing ministry. Listen as they share about their walk with God and be inspired to seek out what God is calling you and your congregation to. All Christians are called to serve God with the gifts He has given us.

Committee on Ministry is organizing a list of guest speakers... who will be available to travel to your parish ...for this Sunday.

For information contact Ron Barkhouse
rbarkhouse@ns.sympatico.ca

2010 Memorabilia

Keep the memory alive with these limited edition texts and video recordings celebrating our 300 anniversary.

- The 2010 Celebration Service at Exhibition Park was professionally videotaped and the DVD is now available for purchase by parishes or Individuals for only \$8.20 including shipping.

For those who were unable to attend the service - especially the sick and shut-ins, the DVD allows them to recreate and share in the celebration.

Contact Rev. James Purchase

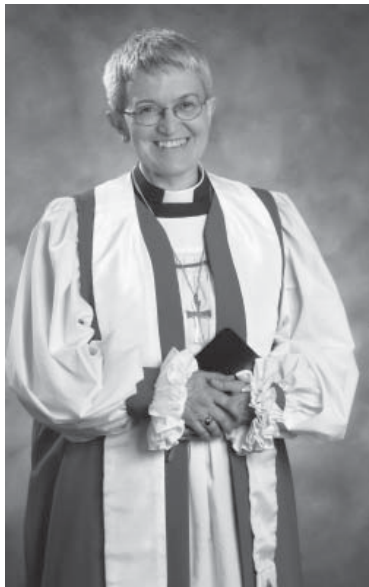
jhpurchase@hotmail.com
(902) 455-1888

- A History of the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island 1710-2010* by Brian Cuthbertson.

Less than 100 copies are still available. Available for only \$35; arrangements can be made by contacting Rev. James Purchase (jhpurchase@hotmail.com) (902) 455-1888) to pick up at the synod office in Halifax.

BISHOP'S MESSAGE

Seeing God...



*The Right Reverend Sue Moxley,
Bishop of Nova Scotia and
Prince Edward Island*

WHAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE the first day of my Advent silent retreat was off to a bad start! Where was my prayer book for the morning office? Well, it was likely just where I had left it yesterday – on the prayer desk in St. John's, Lunenburg, an hour away and probably locked. A slight change of plans would be required. Take a walk, have breakfast and then phone to see if anyone was in the office. And there was. "Hello. St. John's, Lunenburg. This is Mary."

"This is your forgetful bishop! I left my prayer book in the church yesterday. Will you be there for a while, if I come to get it about 1pm?"

"I'll put it in the office. You just come by when you can." So I went for a walk in the gale force winds, reflected on "the mighty rushing wind" of the Holy Spirit and made sure I was back in the cottage for a pre-arranged Conference Call. I tried to look for the conference call details in my e-mail, but it seemed that the diocesan server was down again, so no Conference Call. I headed off to Lunenburg, hoping to get my book, have some lunch, and be back for a quiet afternoon. At St. John's, Mary had retrieved my book. She also provided me with names of shops and a place to eat. After enjoying a good lunch, I was feeling quite mellow when I set off back to the cottage.

Only a few minutes out on Highway 3, an ominous thump, thump, thump, caused me to pull off on the shoulder. There it was – a very flat, front tire! With thanksgiving for modern technology, I pulled out the cell phone and the CAA card and soon had the promise of help coming in about 30 minutes. In about 10 minutes, a very large tow truck pulled up and a very energetic young man jumped out. He surveyed the situation and said, "There's a very flat tire. I'm going to change that for you." As he finished installing the "dummy tire", I asked where I might take the flat one to be repaired. "Go back toward Lunenburg a couple of minutes and on the right, you'll see FRANK's. Go there." Off I went, thinking maybe this is a good omen, since my Dad's name was Frank!

The young woman at the counter heard my tale of woe, asked me for my keys and suggested I have a seat. She put my car in the shop saying it would take a few minutes. She graciously helped a very upset woman who came in with broken wipers and got the man whose snow tires were a problem on his way. Then she turned to me. "Please come through and we'll show you what has happened to your tire." The mechanic showed me two big holes, big enough to put a pen through that could not be repaired! "What do I do?" "Well, you shouldn't drive on the highway too long with that dummy tire. Let's see if we can

find you something the right size." (I figured I would soon be using the modern technology of the plastic card to buy a new tire!) "I've got a used one here. Tell you what, I'll put it on so you can be on your way and you can return it when you come back this way. You probably got the warranty when you bought the tires, so the replacement will be free!"

Saying "Thank you, thank you, thank you", I went out to pay the bill as he installed the used tire. I passed the young woman my business card, so they would know where to find me and their tire. "I thought that you looked familiar" and she passed me her parish newsletter that she had been reading. "How did you get to be a bishop? Do you like it?" With a brief explanation, I finished up with, "I love it! What about you? How did you come to be working here? Do you like it?" I quickly learned that she'd had a career out west but had wanted to return to her home community and be part of her family's business, where she could contribute to her community, and that she also loved her work.

Back at the cottage, after lighting the fire and making supper, I picked up the book I had started to read, "Forgiveness: Revelation of the Kingdom of God by Hilary Alflatt, and what did I find?

"Always begin with thanksgiving. Even in the worst moments, you are alive, and that life and its possibilities are God's gift to you. To begin otherwise than with thanksgiving would be to begin in a wrong attitude to God....You may reflect on the gifts of the past day...trust the Spirit to show where God has been in your life – perhaps in small, insignificant ways that, left to yourself, you would overlook." (p.152)

What could have been a horrid day was rendered beautiful by the grace of God transmitted by the graciousness of God's people. (And yes I have returned the loaner tire! I also have given thanks for warranties!)

"Give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." (1 Thess. 5:18)

In this season of Epiphany when we reflect on how God is made known, consider how your actions make God known to the people you meet, especially when they seem to be having a potentially horrid day!

Blessings.

+Sue

The purpose-driven lunch book study

based on Rick Warren's best selling book, "The Purpose Driven Life"

By WAYNE ARKELIAN

THERE IS AN EXCITING, ECUMENICAL, FAITH BUILDING EVENT that has been taking place here in Halifax, NS Canada for almost 7 years.

It is called the Purpose Driven Lunch and was started by a man by the name of Matt Whitman from Stoneridge Christian Fellowship in Sackville, NS. This year, Wayne Arkelian, a layreader from St. John's Anglican Church in Halifax has "picked up the torch" after Matt's resignation as moderator in January 2010. Other laypeople from other denominations help share this leadership role as well.

The book study takes place in the banquet room of Smitty's Restaurant on Lacewood Drive, Halifax from noon until 1pm on Thursdays from September to June. The waitress comes in, takes food orders, and then, after grace and an opening prayer, the study starts. Each week a chapter of the book, *The Purpose Driven Life*, is explored.

The study requires no preparation by the participants because the entire chapter is read aloud. The moderator stops at "discussion provoking" places in the chapter and there is input from over 5 different denominations.

The study generally gets between 5-15 people each week. Last year, over 75 different people attended the study. That number would be much higher if you included the first 5 years moderated by Matt Whitman.

Wayne says, "I truly feel that this "Lunch and Learn" format is anointed and blessed by God. It is a great new way for the church to get the Gospel message through to people in this busy world. God has given me the strength and courage to "carry the torch" and lead this event. He has taken away my fear of public speaking and replaced it with a peace and calm that is addictive. I Praise and thank Him for the opportunity to serve Him in a fun and exciting new ministry!"

The Purpose Driven Life, written by pastor Rick Warren of Saddleback Church in California, is a great book for introducing people to the Christian faith as well as a refresher for those who are years into their walks with Christ. With over 30 million copies sold to date, it is a "must read" for everyone who claims to be a Christian.

Extra books are available at the event for those who forgot to bring one or don't have one. Books are also available for purchase at the lunch for a cost of \$10.

Bring a friend and we'll see you there at noon Thursdays.

The Three Cantors – concerts not to be missed!



CAN YOU IMAGINE that you will be treated to a concert whose performers have sung their way across our country and back again, who gave a concert for the Governor General of Canada, who have been interviewed by Michael Enright on CBC, who appeared as guest artists at Judy Maddren's reading of the 'Christmas Carol'?

The opportunity is just around the corner!

The parishes of Christ Church, Dartmouth, St. John's, Lunenburg and Three Harbours, Antigonish are delighted to be hosting this esteemed group of Anglican priests and their accompanist in support of Primates World Relief and Development Fund and locally based outreach programs.

Beginning in 1996 "The Three Cantors" have since raised over \$1,000,000 for PWRDF and programs which address world hunger and poverty. In addition to the concerts CD's have been produced and sold 100% of these proceeds going to the alleviation of suffering. The concert programme covers religious music, Broadway music, spirituals and contemporary anthems always infused with humour and captivating dialogue. Peter Wall, William Cliff and David Pickett make wonderful music together supported by Angus Sinclair and their friendship, humor, dedication and energy is transcendent. It's been said 'that the one who sings prays twice'. To attend and participate in these concerts will be soul uplifting for

yourself and for the many people and programs supported through PWRDF.

Peter Wall, William Cliff and David Pickett are Canadian Anglican Priests who, with accompanist Maestro Angus Sinclair, sing to benefit The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund. Concerts will be held at : Christ Church, Dartmouth – February 2, 2011 St John's Church, Lunenburg – February 3, 2011 St. James' United Church, Antigonish – February 4, 2011 For information re tickets and concert times, please call Dartmouth – 466-4270; Lunenburg – 634-4994; Antigonish – 863-5089. Tickets - \$20.00 for adults.

LETTERS

To the editor:

Roger Bureau's December letter to the editor made me smile arguing as it does that some scriptures require no interpretation. The contention is referenced in part to the Holiness Code in Leviticus. How can such an extravagant claim be taken seriously? The Holiness Code is itself an example of masterful interpretation by the many biblical writers who had a hand in developing the Pentateuch.

What really made me chuckle was Mr. Bureau's sounding the alarm about "precipitating a divisive discussion". Apparently continued conversation about full inclusion and sexuality is a sign that the church is "determined to self destruct" and holds up the "potential for irreparable harm". Most of Mr. Bureau's letter continues the very debate he fears. What we have here is a clear-cut case of special pleading.

Roger is on to something nonetheless. If anything will bring things to a screeching halt in the church it's the cry of divisiveness. The potential for divisiveness attacks the viscera of most churchgoers and brings out the micromanager in church officials everywhere. Certainly the debate over full inclusion of gay and lesbian Christians has highlighted significant division. At one point it looked like the General Synod pension plan might have to open a field office in the Southern

Cone. Don't panic. A cool analysis of the relationship between divisiveness and controversy provides a heartening yield. Controversy often overturns pre-existing divisiveness. Church operated Indian residential schools, for example, created a huge and systemic social divide. The divide is just beginning to heal as a result of open candid controversial engagement of the underlying issues. The debate in the church about same gender relationships is not so much creating divisiveness as it is shifting the burden of division away from those who at present do not believe themselves to be fully included. The ongoing controversy may also provide the impetus within the church to more solidly bridge social theology with secular concepts of human rights. Very few advances in social justice are achieved without controversy and the risk of division. Imagine if Martin Luther King or Moses Coody or Sammy Prince had held back out of fear of upsetting people. Courage is the often forgotten gift of the Holy Spirit to the church. Jesus echoed Isaiah, "Don't be afraid you tiny flock! Your Father plans to give you the kingdom" (J.B. Philips Translation). I interpret that to mean that we can weather the ongoing controversy over sexuality in the interests of justice. Any resulting divisiveness is the responsibility of the actors—no one else.

CANON ROD GILLIS, HALIFAX

PAR Update

How it works....

* Complete the PAR (Pre-Authorized remittance) Authorization Card and attach a "Void" cheque or your Credit Card number, sign and date

* Your bank account or major credit card will be debited on either the 1st or 15th day of the month, your choice. There is a small administrative fee, (charged to the congregation,) for each item processed.

* Drop in offering plate, give to your designated contact person (Church Treasurer, Envelope Secretary or Church Administrator) or mail to the Diocesan Administrator (address below).

Whether or not I am there....

"...my church has on-going commitments every week that need my offering. My church is important to me, and so is my financial commitment to its work. That is why I use the Diocesan PAR Program to fulfill my commitment."

To date we have 50 Parishes/Churches signed on to PAR with over 480 individuals.



For more information or to obtain application cards you may contact Jana O'Neil at joneil@nspeidiocese.ca (902) 420-0717 6017 Quinpool Road, Halifax NS B3K 5J6

From the editor's desk:

The website below came to my inbox recently and it looks like an interesting way to approach the inevitable end we all must face someday. I'm interested in hearing your thoughts on this (pro and con) so please send your comments to:

diocesantimes@gmail.com

PAUL SHERWOOD
EDITOR

A new way?

www.lastwishbook.com
There is one thing certain in life and that's death. So, why not accept the inevitable and take some time creating your Last Wish Book profile? www.lastwishbook.com is a new, up-beat way of planning your own funeral, logging your final wishes and being

remembered on-line. You can join for free and add all your final requests. Make your free profile today! Take a positive approach, put your mind at rest and get organised with... www.lastwishbook.com

Join now... It's free!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. David Harris resigned as assistant priest of the parish of St. Peter's Cathedral, Charlottetown for an effective date yet to be determined until he receives immigration documentation. At that time, David will become the vicar of the parish of St. Giles, Redding, U.K.

Bishop Sue and Bishop Ron extend an invitation for three consultations that will be taking place in the New Year. These consultations are to help define the major areas of responsibility in the proposed new Diocesan structure. Each event will take place on a Saturday from 10am to 3pm. The consultations will look at work now being done and

new initiatives that the Diocese needs to undertake in these areas, how priorities can be set and how the work can be coordinated.

Consultation: Healthy Congregations

Date: February 12, 2011

Location: TBA

RSVP: ~ date will be announced soon ~ to:

ksaunders@nspeidiocese.ca

Consultation: Mission, Outreach & Justice

Date: March 12, 2011

Location: TBA

RSVP: ~ date will be announced soon ~ to:

ksaunders@nspeidiocese.ca

Attendance at the consultations is open to those who have an interest in shaping the mandates for these ministries.

A firm foundation for the little church by the sea

By Linda Koekman

ST. MARY'S CHURCH in Gold River has been in need of a firm foundation for many years and now it is finally becoming a reality. Approximately 8 years ago a memorial foundation fund was established. Through the generosity of many wonderful people, a dream and a much needed project has come true. In June of this year, a property committee was formed and a decision was made to install a footing and frost wall. Tenders were called and we were finally on our way. Clearland Construction & R. Meisner Contracting Ltd were the successful bidders. On Sept 7th, work was started. The construction is moving along very efficiently and St. Mary's congregation committee members and community as a whole are both very excited and pleased. Our elders worked very hard when this church was

built in 1913 and now it is our turn to see that our little church continues to be a place of worship for generations to come. Although the foundation fund has raised the majority of the funds needed to do this work, further fund-raising is still required to do the extra repairs that will be needed such as doorsteps, replacement of rotted sills, repair vestry room door, landscaping etc.

Anyone wishing to make donations to St. Mary's Church may do so by calling 275-5434. Services for St. Mary's are currently being held at St. John's Church, Chester Basin at 9:30 am on the first and third Sunday's of each month until St. Mary's is reopened, for which St. Mary's Church Council is very appreciative.

See photo at right.

Canada briefs December 2010

PRIMATE CELEBRATES INTEGRITY'S 35TH ANNIVERSARY

At a service in Toronto to mark the 35th anniversary of Integrity, the organization for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered Anglicans, Archbishop Fred Hiltz apologized for the hurt they have endured within the church.

"I stand before you as one member of the church called by office to care for all members of the church," he said. Then he acknowledged the church had silenced gay and lesbian voices, refused to listen and failed to see them as deeply committed to the church.

"I am sorry for the many ways in the past, and maybe in the present, in which you have been hurt by the church," he said.

The Anglican

CALGARY CONGREGATION HELPS AFRICAN KIDS GO TO SCHOOL

When parishioners at St. Barnabas in Calgary heard that children in Tanzania couldn't attend school unless they pay about \$100 for a school uniform and school supplies, they wanted to help.

They worked with COSAD (Community Solutions for Africa's Development), an organization that helps people find the means to provide for themselves. The Sewing Singers

project raised money in Calgary to provide sewing machines and training for rural choir members in Africa. After making a number of school uniforms at cost, Tanzanian trainees can then borrow the machines for their own commercial enterprises. A percentage of the profits go back to the choirs to buy more fabrics for more uniforms. So far, 139 children have been outfitted for school and several nearby villages are clamouring to participate in the program.

The Sower

CHURCH WITHOUT BORDERS

A growing multicultural community and a large international student population inspired St. Luke's in Kingston, Ont. to start a second Sunday service with an international flavour.

"Church Without Borders" began on Oct. 3 with African music, a scripture reading in Chinese and some French liturgy. The "rich cultural diversity in our city is not necessarily being mirrored yet in our Anglican churches," explained the Rev. Ian Ritchie, adding that the congregation of St. Luke's felt called to answer such worship needs. Parishioners from Zambia, Congo, Botswana, Ghana and the Caribbean have

made their home at St. Luke's. *The Dialogue*

CAMP CALEDONIA RE-OPENED People from Haida Gwaii to Fraser to Vancouver Island ended the summer with a diocesan celebration for the re-opening of Camp Caledonia. There was a ribbon-cutting, tours of the camp and a dinner, which was provided collaboratively by communities throughout the diocese. Although it wasn't intended to be a fund-raising event, dinner tickets sales and donations added up to more than \$4,400. *Caledonia Times*

PRIEST NAMED CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

This fall, the Saskatchewan Federation of Indian Nations honoured the Rev. Arthur Anderson with its Citizen of the Year (male award). A member of the George Gordon First Nation, Anderson served 29 years with the Canadian Forces -- in Germany, as a paratrooper and as part of a peace-keeping mission, as well as in Cyprus and Africa. He has spent 22 years as an Anglican priest, trying to bridge the gap between First Nations and non-First Nations cultures.

The Saskatchewan Anglican



Photos above and below show the deterioration of the original structure and the subsequent repairs made to stabilise the church for future generations.



Update on the Anglican Foundation of Canada

THE ANGLICAN FOUNDATION held its 1st Annual Anglican Foundation Sunday on May 2, 2010; directors from across Canada went into parishes in their dioceses by invitation and brought the good news of the work of the Foundation. This particular Sunday was approved by the House of Bishops at a meeting back in 2008 to bring exposure to the work of the Foundation to Anglicans across Canada; and with the hope to increase membership, (emphasizing that our strength lies in our numbers), encouraging many more Canadian Anglicans to consider becoming members - joining hands and resources with one another to further the work of the church. It's about bringing Anglicans together one dream at a time!

How many of you attended that wonderful 2010 service in June - our 300th Anniversary

of Anglicanism in this diocese and saw the wonderful Liturgical Dancers (funded by the Anglican Foundation), that wonderful JOY event several years ago in Cape Breton, attended by hundreds, a real revival (funded in part by the Anglican Foundation) and that great Youth Justice Camp (funded, in part, by the Anglican Foundation).

At the last meeting of the year which was held by teleconference in October, the final grant made available to our diocese (last of three) was approved in full to the Church of Saint Andrew in Cole Harbour toward the publication of the Leap for Faith, Book and Program. This is a workbook which shares an easy-to-understand process for developing and maintaining a relationship with God; a 5 week interactive program that will support the development

of faith and the growth of congregations. For the full story of this book developed by Gary Cox (from The Church of Saint Andrew in Cole Harbour) see the entire article and book content in the Anglican Journal on the Anglican Foundation page.

The other two parishes that received a grant from the Foundation in 2010 (each diocese is allowed three per year) was the parish of St. Andrew's, Hackett's Cove for the installation of an accessibility ramp and an environmentally friendly composting toilet and to the parish of Trinity in Liverpool for renovations to its steeple project.

The opportunities are endless and your parish could also become a recipient.



Photo: Selma Doucet, Director of the Foundation, presenting the grant to Gary Cox, author of the book and Member of the parish of St. Andrew's, Cole Harbour.

Full Fall for St. Luke's youth!

BY DEANNA OLIVER,
SUNDAY SCHOOL COORDINATOR

IT WAS AN EXCITING SEASON for the youth of St. Luke's, Annapolis Royal. Kicking off the season with the reopening of the Sunday school early in September, the children (and adults) enjoyed a BBQ luncheon followed by ice cream sundaes. A sweet treat to start the year off right! The youth were excited to be back together after a much needed summer break and the parish hall echoed with laughter and the sound of running feet! Excitement ran high throughout the month as the children constructed an Inukshuk prayer wall around their altar. Each child was asked to construct two paper Inukshuk for the project and on each Inukshuk they listed what they would like to pray for. Their prayers were included in our opening prayers throughout September

and included such items as the homeless and hungry, animals and pets, family and friends, Council of the North, all of Canada, the environment and our favorite toys! For those readers who were interested in our Inukshuk building last year, our Bay of Fundy Inukshuk are still "alive and well" in our Anniversary garden though they have had to be rebuilt a time or two!

The older youth were invaluable, at the end of September, as they pitched in to help with the 22nd Annual St. Anne's Camp Turkey Dinner and Walk-a-thon. This year's fund raiser was an astounding success with over \$3000.00 raised for the camp! Thanks to everyone who helped for making that day so wonderful!

October's focus was, of course, on the 300th Anniversary celebrations. Five of our older youth were selected to participate in the

anniversary service; one as crucifer and the other four to convey the sacraments to the high altar for the Eucharist. The Anniversary cross was a beautiful piece of craftsmanship and Alex was honored to lead the procession into the church and then later, across to Fort Anne. Although Elsa, Finn, Oliver and Ian were a bit intimidated by the array of visitors to our small church they did a wonderful job with

the sacraments.

October also saw the youth participating in the parish's Annual Ham Supper and Pumpkin Auction. Each Fall a delicious meal is enjoyed followed by a painted pumpkin auction and this year the Sunday School contributed ten painted pumpkins to the event. The youth had a great time painting (instead of having a lesson!) and their artwork raised \$60! After

much discussion it was decided to use the money to fill three shoeboxes, as part of the Operation Christmas Child program through Samaritan's Purse. The kids had a great time designing their own wrapping paper and getting everything packed up. Painting the pumpkins was a blast but giving Christmas to another child really made my youth smile!



Photo: Some of the Sunday school participants preparing painted pumpkins.



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'Friends of the Bishop' grows with new direction



Photo: Some of the Friends of the Bishop (including both local bishops and national archbishop) and interested individuals attended their annual dinner last fall. Clergy and female laity were included for the first time.

THE FRIENDS OF THE BISHOP made some radical changes to its bylaws resulting in a more diversified membership; for the first time, women and clergy are welcome to join the group.

At this year's gathering, a number of potential new members attended the annual dinner and heard Archbishop Fred Hiltz deliver the keynote address.

The Archbishop spoke about focusing the group's activities

to raise funds for a gift for the diocese of Cuba.

The diocese of Cuba installed a new bishop, Grizelda de Carpio Delgado on November 28th, the First Sunday in Advent. Archbishop Fred was there representing The Anglican Church of Canada. It came to his attention that the bishop needs a car and the diocese has no resources to purchase one. A car for the new Bishop would cost about \$15,000.

Archbishop Fred shared the Anglican Church of Canada's partnership with Iglesia Episcopal de Cuba as being a particularly meaningful one. It has spanned some forty years, and found expression through grants for theological education programs at the Ecumenical Seminary in Matanzas, youth ministry programs, and initiatives in evangelism and outreach in communities across the island. The Church in Cuba

is spiritually rich and vibrant. Financially it is poor and in need of considerable support.

All the members of the Friends of the Bishop (previously the Bishop's Men) have been asked, through separate correspondence, to financially support this request from Archbishop Fred and endorsed by Bishop Sue.

If you are interested in making a contribution to this special fund please contact Jana at the

Diocesan Office at 420-0717. If you are interested in learning more about the history of the Friends of the Bishop and the work this group supports please visit our website at <http://www.nspeidiocese.ca/bishops/FriendsoftheBishop.htm> New members are welcome and the application details are also on the website.

BRENDA COWIE, SECRETARY
FRIENDS OF THE BISHOP
DECEMBER 9, 2010

Sacred Symbol

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Show runs to February 11, 2011 at AST Library
For gallery hours and further information on this exhibition,

please check our web site: www.astheology.ns.ca/astarts/ (Information on the exhibition can be found under Current Exhibitions)

ABOUT THE ARTISTS...

Marla Benton has worked as an artist and teacher in the Yukon, northern Quebec, Ontario and Nova Scotia.

Renée Forrestall has been an exhibiting artist and educator for over 20 years. Her art interests include drawing and figurative painting in oil and egg tempera.

Teresa Bergen is a ceramic artist who creates exuberant, one-of-a-kind sculptures and teapots in her hilltop studio located in Chester, NS.

Nick Webb has taught at NSCAD University since 1981. He now works primarily in wood and clay and has a particular interest in architectural contexts and mixed media constructions.

Mary Jane Lundy is a clay sculptor and works with earthenware clay.

Brad Hall has always worked with his hands, as a potter, furniture builder, and sculptor of forged metals. Transcending boundaries of fine art and fine craft, Brad creates liturgical and architectural artworks that blend the sacred with the secular.



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Sydney man celebrates a Journey Just Begun in a cane



*Above: Adrian Syms presenting Archdeacon Brenda Drake with the cane.
Right: Archdeacon Brenda Drake holding the anniversary cane.*

BY DAVID KEEPING

Adrian Syms of Whitney Pier, Sydney was a coal miner most of his life and loved to paint pictures as a hobby. But his lungs started to fail him and he found out he had cancer and he had to give up his love of painting. While recovering

from treatment, his wife gave him a knife and said 'make good use of it'. So he took up wood carving and anything Adrian Syms does, he does well.

That was 15 years ago; today he carves walking canes and walking sticks. Each cane

takes about a week to make. After seeing the diocese's design for the 300 anniversary, he set out to make an anniversary cane. When it was done, he presented it to Archdeacon Brenda Drake, rector of St. Alban's parish as a gift.

News from New Dublin

and the parish of Petite Riviere

BY GLENNA WEAGLE

It was busy summer and fall in our Parish. We have been most blessed to have Rev. Gary Thorne celebrating Holy Communion each Sunday, and early in the summer he introduced us to a student by the name of Daniel Watson who quickly moved into our hearts and became a member of many of our families.

Daniel proved to be just what we needed to push us out of the doldrums we found ourselves in while waiting to find our Priest. He did those tasks we expected in that he visited the homes of parishioners and shut-

ins, assisted Fr. Thorne at services, held daily offices in our churches, and filled some of the void having no Priest in residence creates. But in addition, he moved us to once again sponsor a VBS at Risser's Beach and he put us into the mood for a Parish Picnic.

A number of our congregations were busy throughout the summer with teas and sales and other fund-raising projects. Several of our churches continue to support adopted children in third-world countries and the Inter-church Food Bank here at home.

Our season culminated on October 3rd with an ecumenical visit from Bishop Sue who celebrated with us in services at St. John's, West Dublin and St. Alban's, Vogler's Cove. Following a reception at the United Communities Fire Hall in Cherryhill, Bishop Sue and Fr. Thorne visited St. Peter's Cemetery to join with members of St. Peter's congregation in celebrating with prayers of thanks the work done to improve and restore the cemetery grounds.



Photo: Sharon Hilchie and Daniel Watson assist students with crafts. Risser's Beach VBS, 2010

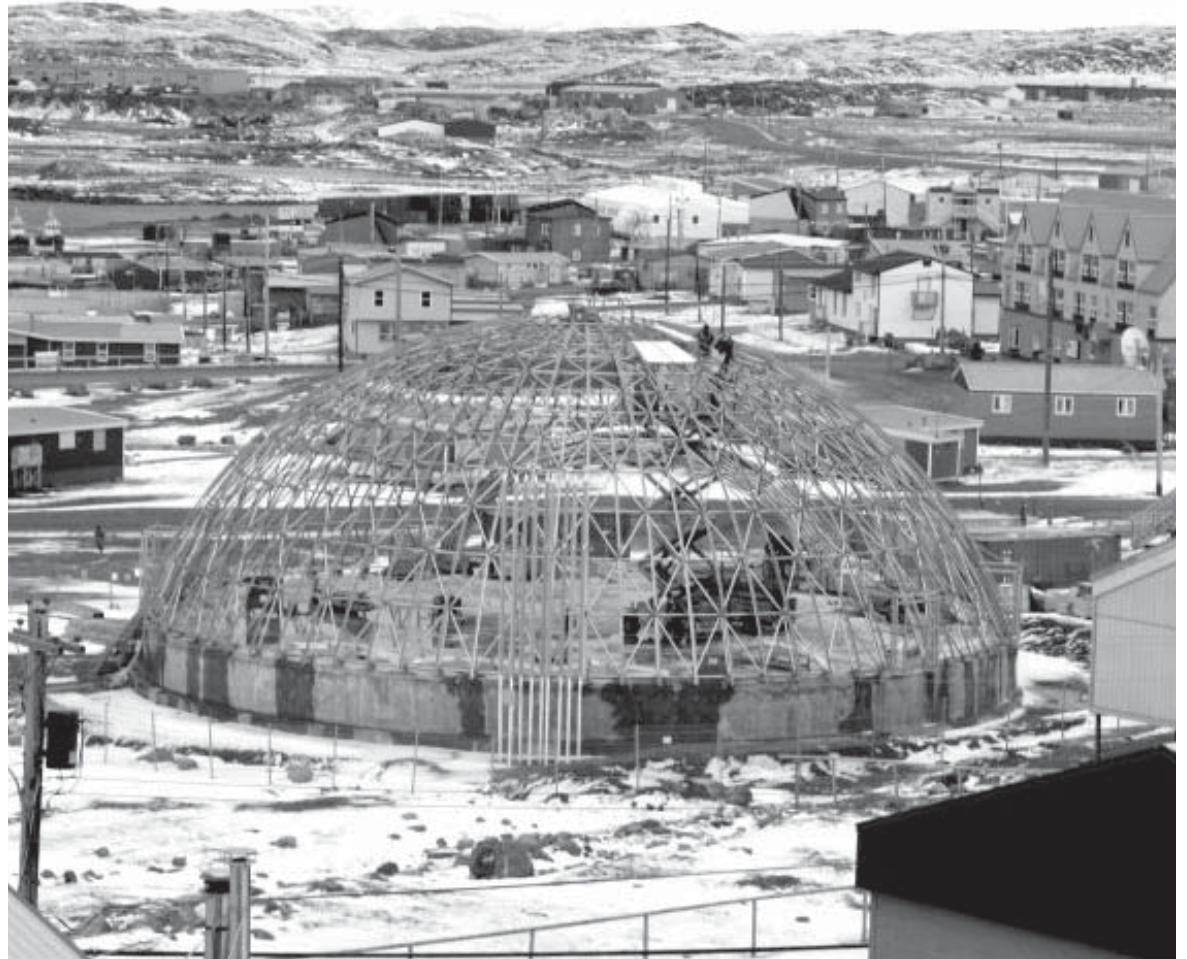
St. Jude's Cathedral Update

\$500,000 Donor Challenge!

AN ANONYMOUS DONATION of \$500,000 towards the construction of St. Jude's Cathedral in Iqaluit in the northern Diocese of The Arctic has been received. This donor would like to challenge both individuals and corporations to work toward matching that amount in order to reach a goal of \$1,000,000 – or more – by the year's end. The good news is that \$1,000,000 will complete the exterior of the igloo-shaped Cathedral and have it closed in this construction season so that it will be protected from the harsh winter weather. On top will be the golden steeple and cross that will act as a beacon to signal all travellers and the desolate for worship and the helping ministry offered by St. Jude's. The Cathedral cannot be used until all construction is completed: this includes all electrical, plumbing, heating, sprinklers and interior finishing. We will need to raise an additional \$3 million to complete the building next year. The goal is to have worship services by Christmas 2011. With more funds and God willing, services and social outreach programs will

be able to reach out into the community and beyond. The important outreach programs of the cathedral parish include the soup kitchen, book store, Sunday school, AE/ACW (Anglican Church Women), men's group, hospital and prison chaplaincy and Alcoholics Anonymous. As well, work is in progress to re-establish youth ministry. Many of these had to be scaled back because space was not available. Housed in the soup kitchen are a thrift store and food bank operated by community groups. Major issues in the region continue to be a high rate of school dropout, suicide, drug & alcohol addiction, homelessness and unemployment. Iqaluit is home to the regional hospital, college, prison and youth detention centre. As a result, people from many communities often turn to the ministry of the parish for assistance. The anonymous donor said, "The external shell will be up. It is no longer just a dream. It is actually happening, and with faith we hope that others will join the fundraising effort to ensure that a Christmas service can be held in 2011."

If you would like to help with our efforts please contact:
 The Diocese of The Arctic
 PO Box 190
 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N2
 Tel: 867-873-5432
 e-mail arctic@arcticnet.org



Photos above and below show the construction progress made on the new cathedral as of October 2010. The goal is to have construction completed by Christmas 2011.



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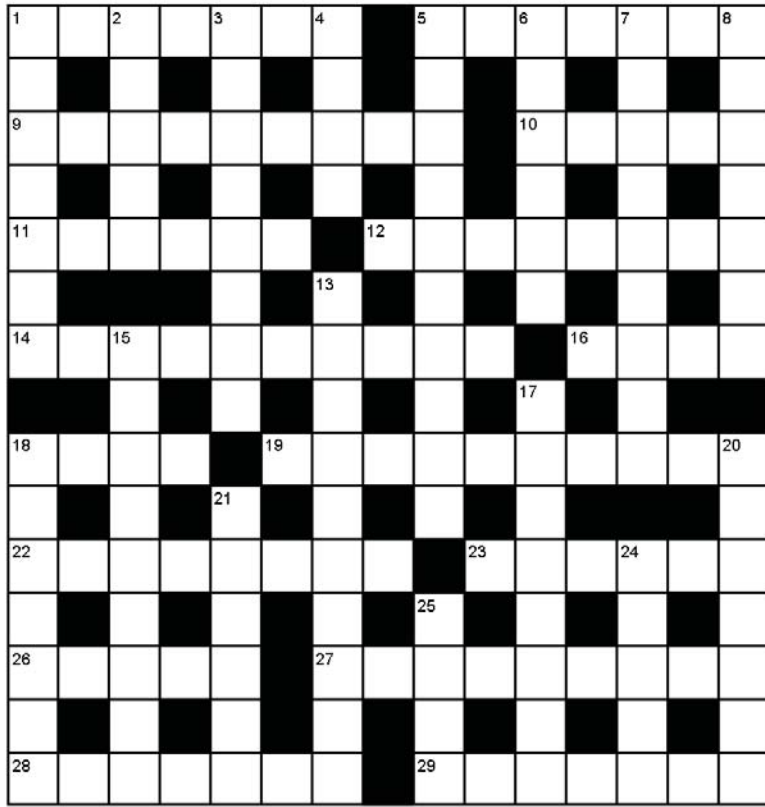
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Bible crossword

by Maureen Yeats



JANUARY Puzzle Clues

ACROSS:

- 1 – Critical reports about movies, plays, etc. (7)
- 5 – Jesus attended this at Cana (John 2:1-11) (7)
- 9 – An official in charge of vessels, vestments, etc. in a church (9)
- 10 – A companion of Paul, recipient of an epistle (5)
- 11 – Sister of Mary and Lazarus (John 12: 1-3) (6)
- 12 – City destroyed by God for its evil ways (Gen. 19:24) (8)
- 14 – Most resilient (10)
- 16 – King of Israel before David (4)
- 18 – "...wash me and I shall be whiter than ____" (Ps.51:7) (4)
- 19 – Woman that a young man is steadily dating (10)
- 22 – "For I know that my _____ lives" (Job 19:25) (8)
- 23 – "...let us love, not in word or in speech but in truth and _____" (1John3:18) (6)
- 26 – One of the gifts of the Magi (5)
- 27 – A group of sinners who will not inherit the Kingdom of God (1Cor.6:9) (9)
- 28 – Seats for those who ride horses (7)
- 29 – A companion of Paul, recipient of two epistles (7)

DOWN:

- 1 – Starts again after an interruption (7)
- 2 – "The _____ of Dibley", British sitcom (5)
- 3 – Christian Festival observed this month (8)
- 4 – Location of a building, e.g. (4)
- 5 – Ledge of wood at base of a window (6, 4)
- 6 – More of the same, plural form (6)
- 7 – Common boundary of two bodies or spaces (9)
- 8 – Fuel mixture for automobiles (7)
- 13 – Television program shown in several instalments (10)
- 15 – Was put back in order (9)
- 17 – "...I must _____ the good news of the Kingdom of God" (Luke 4:43) (8)
- 18 – Small marine crustaceans (7)
- 20 – A sequence of rulers from the same family (7)
- 21 – "He called that place _____" (Gen.28:19) (6)
- 24 – Not reactive (5)
- 25 – A writer of verse (4)

*Church-bells beyond
the stars heard,
the souls blood,
The land of spices,
something understood.*

Prayer – George Herbert

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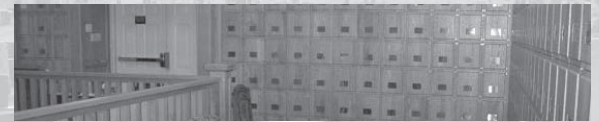
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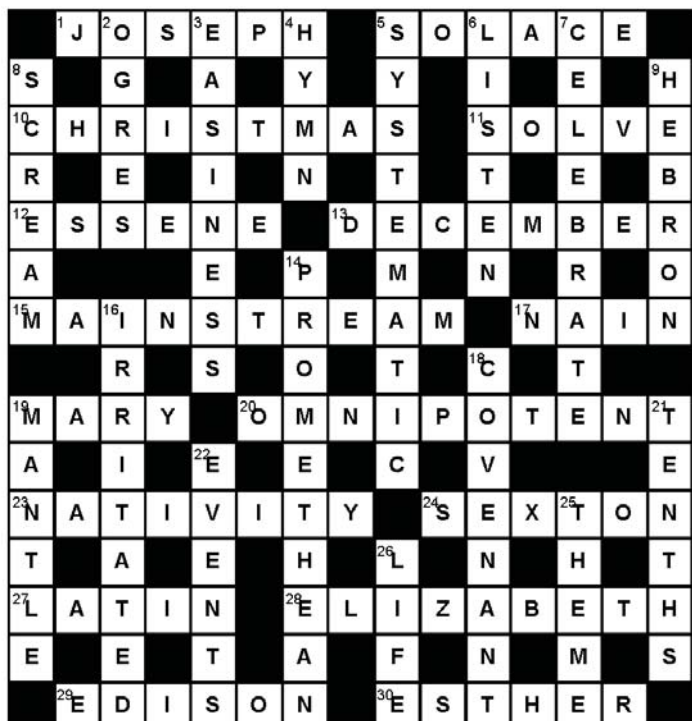
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REVIEWS



Luther did indeed have a 'relationship' with the devil

Carolyn M. Schneider, *I Am a Christian: The Nun, the Devil and Martin Luther* (Fortress Press, 2010).

Five hundred years later, the great 'protest-ant' reformers still refuse to keep quiet. At least they are remembered so well that their voices are constantly recalled. They didn't set out to 'split the church' or start new 'Christian denominations'. They simply loved the Scriptures and the saints and scholars of the earliest centuries for the light they shone on the Scriptures. They loved and protected the sacraments of the church in ways that still seem too 'catholic' for many latter-day Protestants. They loved the doctrine of Christ's overwhelming love and grace for the world. And their persistent hope for change led some to be driven out of communion with the Bishop of Rome (the Pope). But they are very much a part of the heritage of all contemporary Christians; we need to hear them again! And Luther has long been appreciated as the greatest of them.

Paul Friesen

MARTIN LUTHER IS REMEMBERED for many things that have been coloured by modern movies and books in ways he would have chuckled about—or raged about, knowing Luther!

Here are a few of them, regardless of what we think today: *that he defiantly and publicly nailed this 'ninety-five' theses to a castle-door to signify his departure from the Roman Catholic church* (in fact his 'theses' were written in academic Latin and posted where one posted all academic notices at the University of Wittenberg for scholarly discussion, they contained no reference to his developing landmark doctrine of grace, and they signified no intention of his 'leaving the church'); *that he shook off all the 'popish superstitions' of the sacraments* (in fact though he attacked the magical powers of priests, he insisted till his death that infants were actually washed of sin in the waters of baptism and that Christ was physically present in and around the elements of bread and wine Christians ate and drank during the Eucharist); *that he stripped liturgies of worship of all their ancient ritual* (in fact he was conservative in many ways—he thought it was a very good thing, for instance, for worshippers to genuflect [drop to their knee(s)] at the words of the incarnation ['came down from heaven...'] as the creed was sung in the Eucharist). Some of the other great reformers (some of them Anglican) departed from him at these points and elsewhere in varying degrees, yet his theological thinking left a deep impression on them all.

But there is something in the popularization of the old story about Luther shouting aloud at the 'devil' and throwing his ink bottle at him that can't be scorned. Luther did indeed have a 'relationship' with the devil, and this can help contemporary Christians, as this new book by Carolyn Schneider confirms. But be prepared to be shocked; and then be prepared to discover how biblical these thoughts really are.

Well, there may be at least two great shocks for those unfamiliar with Luther's words themselves, as they read this book. The *first* has to do with what the 'devil' is up to in the lives of Christians. The *second* has to do with what the 'devil' has to do with God. What did Luther say?

“

For Luther, the 'devil' was a creation of God, an angelic being who willed to turn against God, his creator.

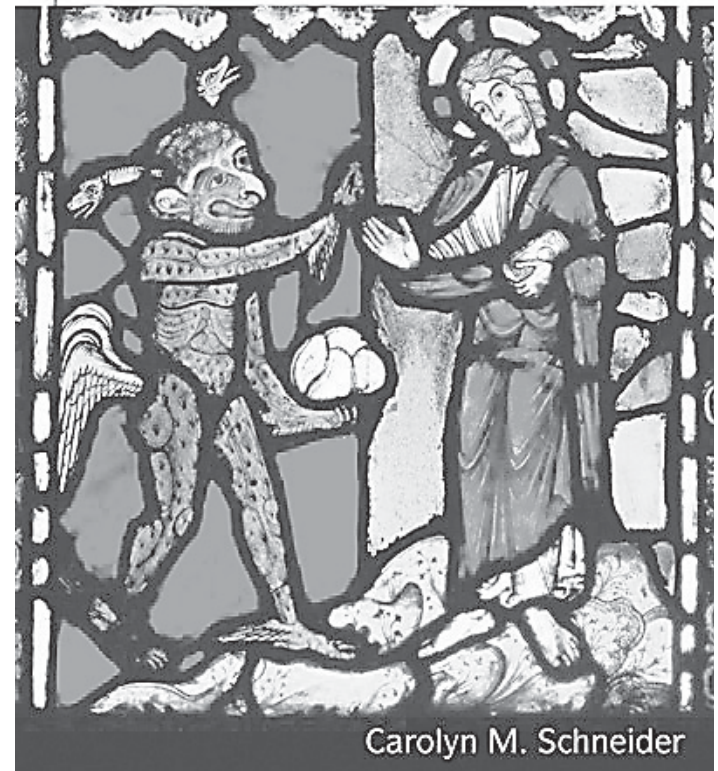
To begin with the *second*—*what the devil has to do with God*: the devil is no opposite number to God, not the dark side of a force whose light side is the triune God. 'Star Wars theology' was not something Luther subscribed to. For Luther the 'devil' was a creation of God, an angelic being who willed to turn against God, his creator. The devil was a supernatural being, not a force; though he was not capable of being an incarnate being as God was in Jesus Christ. He was very

real, but he was no match for Jesus Christ who shared our human lives and triumphed over evil through the cross and resurrection.

And yet, Luther believed, God used the attacks of the devil on Christians for the good of Christians. The power of evil was broken by Christ; but 'mop-up' operations continue. The devil in his role as 'accuser' (Satan) intends to destroy good rather than create good in human lives. But in the providence of God these attacks, met by the power of God in the lives of Christians, strengthens them, as Christ was strengthened by his time of temptation in the wilderness.

I Am a Christian

The Nun, the Devil, and Martin Luther



To move back to the *first*—*what the devil is up to in the lives of Christians*: here Luther reminds us that the chief attacks of the devil on Christians are not temptations of the 'flesh' as much as attack on our 'spirits'. We are tempted by the devil to hopelessness or despair or melancholy (*Anfechtung*); that is we are tempted in many forms and ways to doubt that God has chosen us as his children; we are tempted to doubt that God loves us.

This is where the unusual title of Schneider's book comes in: to make his points about the devil's temptations Luther used a sermon/lecture illustration (in several forms) at least nineteen times over twenty-four years (1520-1544).

It was always the story of a woman—sometimes young, sometimes old—who was often described as a nun, and sometimes as a German nun named Mechthild. In each case this Christian woman teaches others how to meet despair by recalling: 'I am a Christian', that is by sending off the devil with the recollection that the Christian was baptized and adopted as God's child through the love that made God incarnate in Jesus Christ, the love which compelled Christ to share our human lives and temptations. Christ's despair on the cross reveals this—and it is a despair we have all experienced, if we are honest, and can be met by God's love if turn to it and away from the devil.

Luther felt our confidence in God's love through Christ, remembered by the unshakeable reality of our baptism, enables the Christian to scorn the devil's attempts to tempt us to *Anfechtung*—to send him packing with words of contempt. Luther, never lost for forceful language suggests 'dumping' on the devil in such situations, well, the way we 'dump' while seated on the toilet...to clean up his own rather graphic words. God loves us—full stop; all the rest can be flushed away.

Schneider has her own thoughts about demonic 'forces' instead of a 'personal devil', and she has some intriguing thinking about Luther's spiritual counsel as she feels Luther felt the despair that more women than men experience. But this is a book for everyone who cares about the great Protestant reformers, about temptations to despair, and above all about the love of God in our daily lives.

Paul Friesen



Middleton Anglicans unite past and future

Parish of Wilmot breaks ground for new church beside one of the few remaining Nova Scotia Loyalist Churches

BY MEGAN VENNER
MIDDLETON, DECEMBER 14,
2010

MIDDLETON ANGLICANS broke ground on a new church building this morning. The church will replace the 1893 building in the centre of town. Instead of remaining on that site, the Holy Trinity congregation chose to return to its roots and situate the new structure beside one of only five remaining loyalist churches in Nova Scotia.

The parish was established in

1787 with the construction of Old Holy Trinity. That building is now only used for services once a year and is now managed by Old Holy Trinity Heritage Trust and is open in the summer as a historic site.

Rev. Matthew Sponagle describes the new structure as an opportunity for the parish, which, like many other churches, has felt impact of an aging population and declining church enrolment. "Our ministry and worship has changed significantly over the past centuries, but our traditional architecture

and use of space did not reflect these changes. Our goal is to create a sense of the congregation as a community doing God's work together rather than being a passive audience. I believe our design is both family-friendly and community oriented."

Work designing the new church began when problems with the foundation and framing of the current building were identified. The repair bill was expected to exceed \$200,000 and the engineer recommended the state of the building not worth the cost

of repair or renovation. The congregation has since been worshipping in the church hall building on the same site.

While eager to preserve the history of the parish by salvaging things like stain glass windows from the old church, parish members are also eager for a new, modern building that will embody all the values of environmental stewardship, inclusivity and sustainability.

The church structure will reflect the belief that humanity has the responsibility to care for the

natural environment God has entrusted to us. The building will use an energy efficient heating and cooling system that will provide good air quality and low maintenance and operating costs to allow more ministry and outreach and lessen the financial burden for future generations. It has been designed to offer both a worship space and a hall which will allow us to arrange seating and furnishings in creative ways that enhance worship and offer flexibility for social events.



Photo above from left:
Rev. Michael McKeage (associate priest), Donnie Woodworth (general contractor), Javier and Joaquin Mena, Bishop Ron Cutler, Rev. Matthew Sponagle (rector), Ethel Burbidge, Derek LeGard and Mary McBurney.