



## Holy hardware at the Cathedral



Photo: Some of the participants showing off the various hardware used during worship service. The 'bishop' in the back row was demonstrating how the various layers of clerical vestments are worn.

On a cold day in January at the Cathedral Church of All Saints, a dozen or so curious participants gathered to learn more about holy hardware, its history and application in

Anglican church activities. Deacons Heather MacEachern and Ray Carter explained the various receptacles, vessels and assorted pieces of linen used throughout the service.

The focus then shifted to the many layers of clothing worn by priests, deacons and laity and some of the rules for how and when the various garments are worn. This presentation was

one of many in a series called Anglicanism 101. This series of workshops offers details on the nature of Anglicanism. There is no registration needed. Some of the coming presentations

include March 4 - Social thought in Anglicanism and March 18 - Yesterday and Tomorrow.

## Safety first, please!



Photo above: Some of the dozens of attendees learning about safe food practices.

Photo left: The Dept. of Agriculture presenter answering one of the many questions from the audience.

The Department of Agriculture requires that a minimum of one trained food handler is present in a professional kitchen, like the one in the Great Hall at the Cathedral, during events

involving food preparation. On January 29th, the Cathedral offered a one-day course entitled Food Handler's Education as an opportunity for interested people to become trained volunteers

at no cost. The Dept. of Agriculture sent a presenter to cover all aspects of food purchase, transportation, preparation, serving and storage.

## COLUMNIST

# When the cold north winds blow and the wood box needs tending

WE ARE SO SICK of winter here By The Bog that everyone is ready for a Caribbean cruise or at least some sunshine!

Rev Billie and James drove back from their extended winter break a week ago and found us all buried under snow, both old and grey and new and white, also buried under quilts and lap rugs. This has been one of the worst winters we have experienced for many years. If one more person tries to tell me that this is nothing compared to the winter of 42 or any year before the 90s I will scream. I am not interested in how high the drifts were in front of the old school or beside the church gate...why, I don't even remember a church gate!

We have missed a few Sunday services because of roads and weather. Billie and the Bishop had made arrangements with retired clergy for Sunday coverage but snow and ice made everyone decide to stay safe and sound.

There were some new living arrangements at the rectory as the weather continued to hammer us all. Benny Smith was doing his best to look after the oldies there but he finally said he would feel better if he just moved in for a few weeks.



ST. BART'S BY THE BOG

Sarah Neish

He was working at keeping the church and rectory dug out, the wood box full at the rectory and Delilah the old black lab walked at least three times a day. The last thing he or any of us wanted was to find that Pop had ventured out to the wood pile and fell. So it was decided that Benny would camp on a pullout bed in the study until either the weather broke or Billie and James got home. Benny had also been acting as driver for Mom and Pop while Billie was gone. No matter how full the larder is, there is always a need for more trips to the local Supermarket with a stop at Timmy's for coffee and a doughnut or two.

The first time Mom sent the two guys out alone for supplies but Pop picked up so much high calorie, low nutrient stuff that she came along from then on, besides, she enjoyed the Timmy stops too.

What a blessing Benny is to us all. He is devoted to the family that lives beside the church, his love for Billie's late husband Peter is well known around these parts. Before Peter took an interest in Benny we all assumed that he was, for lack of a more politically correct word, simple! Peter was the one who engaged him in conversation and discovered how widely read he was. Benny quit school before he was out of grade 8 but his mother made sure that he read and read and read. He is a shy man and can find human interaction a bit of a challenge but he is a wealth of knowledge once someone pushes the right buttons. ...and Peter did just that. I wonder if now he might be diagnosed as having some type of Autism. All I know is he is a wonderful, devoted friend to us all but especially to Peter's family.

When Delilah was having trouble walking in the deep snow Benny dug a series of paths so that the dog could

move around the yard without having to lift her stiff hind legs. My Orin said he never would have thought of that but it did the trick and the dog was able to get outside for nature's calls and back into the warmth of the wood stove without too much distress.

We do notice that Benny is not quite as gaunt as he had been. Mom's wonderful baking and regular meals put a few much needed pounds on his gangly frame. "It's an ill wind" as my mother was known to say on more than a few occasions!

Rev Billie and James are back home and our Lenten life is in full swing. Benny has moved back to his small house but continues to keep the wood box filled and Mom continues to keep his stomach filled too. He has a regular spot at the kitchen table for dinner and Delilah is well walked with both Benny and James keeping her exercise regime fulfilled

We will look forward to the end of this "old fashioned" winter and the first signs of spring.

I will keep you posted.

Aunt Madge.



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PAUL SHERWOOD

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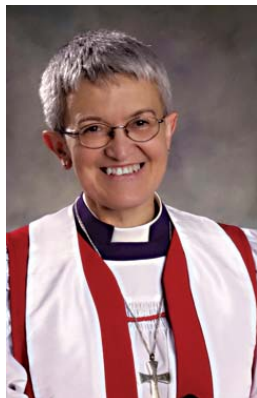
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## BISHOP'S MESSAGE

# Rejoice! God is good!



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

THERE ARE MANY REASONS - people, places, programs, spaces - to rejoice in our diocese! I am so thankful for the time I have been Bishop in this diocese.

It has been a privilege to meet faithful Anglicans Sunday by Sunday in their home parishes where they are nurtured in their Christian formation by fine preaching, engaging worship, strong pastoral care and working to build God's Kingdom in their part of the world. Working with Parish Councils, Wardens, Treasurers, has shown me that we have many talented people, who give themselves to the tasks of managing parish life and planning for a sustainable future. Seeing clergy and lay people making visits in the hospitals has shown me the love and care that have been provided to our folks during a health care crisis.

It has been inspiring to work with leaders in our parishes, lay and clergy, who are passionate about God's mission in this world and are willing to work at accomplishing that mission to the glory of God. There are leaders at the diocesan level as well. Team leaders (Committee chairs), Archdeacons, Regional Deans, Synod office staff, they all do their part in maximizing the use of the people and the financial resources of the diocese. As the Diocese moves forward, we need to continue to assess what is the best staff configuration and the most appropriate structures to carry out God's mission in this diocese.

I rejoice that, while we are the oldest diocese in the Anglican Church of Canada, we are also at the leading edge of many new ministries! As I travel the diocese, I see beautiful worship from the Book of Common Prayer, elegant worship from contemporary sources, funky Messy Church liturgies, engaging intergenerational worship led by young and old, and I rejoice in our diversity. Across our diocese, we encompass the best of our inherited traditions along with new approaches to engag-

ing those who have not yet heard the story of Jesus. We need to continue to reimagine and revitalize our congregations so that when people come they want to stay - to be close to Jesus and to one another.

All of the good things we do come from the abundance of God's love poured out on us! When we know that we are loved and forgiven, we can reach out to others in the power of the Holy Spirit to share God's love and forgiveness with others.

14 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, 15 from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. 16 I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, 17 and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. 18 I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, 19 and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

20 Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, 21 to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. (Ephesians 3:14-21)

+Sue

## Fresh bread for the Lenten journey



### Prayer

*Steve Laskey*

*is Rector of Christ Church,  
Dartmouth and the diocesan rep for  
the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer.*

DO YOU HAVE all you need to make the Lenten journey? What are you planning to bring with you? Over the years my wife and I have learned to travel light and bring only the essentials for any journey. The smaller the case, the better! If you are thinking of books to read this Lent, book lovers might not like this, but a long time ago a friend once said 'a Bible and a prayer book are the essential. Everything else is commentary.' Wanting to travel light, I have always kept this in mind but I usually have a few books with me just the same. It is like sharing the journey with trusted friends with whom I talk and reflect about my faith journey. We pray together as we journey together. It won't be all that different this Lent.

Jesus himself travelled light. Driven into the wilderness by the Holy Spirit, he didn't have time to pack. He didn't even pack a lunch; not even bread. The food that sustained him was God's Word written on his heart. This

was his bread, made from the simple ingredients of creative love and compassion. In the wilderness he came to understand that he is what he eats. God's Word of love and compassion is who Jesus was, and is, and always will be. This Lent I invite us to prayerfully reflect on the simple ingredients that help us to grow fully into who the Lord would have us be. To do this I offer the image of fresh simple bread and meditating on God's word to sustain us physically and spiritually. As we pray to satisfy the hunger of the soul, so we eat to satisfy the hunger of our body. Simple ingredients are used to prepare this bread and we can offer its preparation as a spiritual exercise to remind us of God's presence and to make ourselves present to God. God's Word, prayer, and simple bread will help us travel light.

The ingredients I use for bread are symbolic and very useful for reflection. First, is flour. Flour reminds us of the golden fields of wheat

that are ripe for harvest. It is these fields to which we will return to work and serve our Lord and our neighbours after our journey. Second, is oil; a reminder that Jesus is the Anointed One. We too have been anointed with oil and made a part of the royal priesthood; we are members of the body of Christ. Then there is milk and honey; milk to enrich and blend the mixture; and the honey to sweeten. Together they remind us of where the Lord is leading us; to that land flowing with milk and honey. That land, the Kingdom of God, may even be where we live out our life day by day right now. God will show us the rich sweetness of the kingdom found within and show us how to share it. Yeast is next but in my simple bread I use baking powder. The bread rises before and during the baking; not to be puffed up but to be lifted up. We are reminded that even a little can do great things. Finally there is salt. Chemically, salt helps the yeast to do its work (and

I am told has a similar effect on baking powder). Salt also adds taste to the bread and we are reminded that we are to be salt. Our saltiness in faith should be a sign of the kingdom and add to the life of others. It should never take away or hurt.

These are simple ingredients to travel light and make fresh bread each day as we make our Lenten journey. It can help us focus our prayer on living simply, lovingly, and compassionately. This Lent, driven by the Spirit, we can become what we eat, what we reflect upon, and what we pray about. A Bible, a prayer book, fresh bread, and a few friends to make the journey are all that we need to pray our way through Lent. Have a great journey. (Recipe: flour, baking powder, salt, oil, honey, and milk. Mix enough of each together into a dough, form into small flat loaves; bake in oven at 350 for 10 minutes. Amounts? Well, being a man, I sort of add enough of each ingredient until it looks right...)

# The woman from away

BY REV. JENNY SHARP

TWO YEARS AGO I packed up all that I own including my dog and two cats, left my family and friends, and drove across three provinces to relocate to Prince Edward Island. At a time when the general flow is out of the Maritime Provinces, I chose to move in. Yes, I am from away.

So what brought me here to Prince Edward Island and the Diocese of NS and PEI? What took me away from my family and friends and a wonderful parish and caused me to endure a cross country drive with two meowing cats to a place of wind and cold but enduring beauty (especially in the summer)?

Well, God of course! When God speaks it is best to listen. Just look at Jonah! I sure did not want to end up in the belly of a whale! You see, I had a house that I had just purchased with a view of Lake Huron that was just a perfect retirement home. I had a parish that had money and was not afraid to spend it on outreach. I had good friends who helped me de-stress from the "joys of ministry". I thought I was settled for life. Ha ha ha. The best made plans of mice and men.

Suddenly, things started turning my face towards the east. Of course my only daughter had moved to PEI so her husband could be near his family. Of course, I have a lovely red-haired grandson who now lived in PEI. Those were good indicators of the direction I should look. But first and foremost, I choose to do God's will. And I was beginning to feel the gentle prompting of God to look towards the east.

And then the Parish of St. Mary and St. John, Summerside became available. And I knew. I began the process of convincing my Huron Bishops to allow me to relocate. They were not happy but understood and granted me permission and the application went in.

While my daughter was in Ontario visiting me, I received a call informing me I had been selected for an interview. What a thrill it was when I was able to fly back with her and come to Summerside to meet the parochial committee



Photo: Rev. Jenny Sharp at her new parish home in Summerside, PEI.

and see the parish. It was a case of instant love. I knew this was where God was calling me and the feeling was mutual with the committee.

A few short months later, we (the noisy cats, the dog and I as well as my daughter who helped me drive) arrived at the rectory and my new journey began.

And it has been a wonderful journey. Not only have I learned what mustard pickle is, about green filled sandwiches, and lobster dinners, I have learned about what it means to serve God in the Maritimes. I have learned new terminology (allotment vs. apportionment being one example). I have met new people and learned new ways of doing church. It is funny the things that make us individual and unique even in a denomination that is worldwide.

But I adapted and got to know more about what makes Maritimers tick. I found a strong community of people both from here and away who take care of each other. My eyes were opened to the plight of losing our workers to the draw of jobs in the west and the families left behind to live without. I see the equally

strong draw of drugs and how they destroy the family's ability to feed their children or themselves.

And I see God at work, nudging people to feed the hungry, to look after the widow even if she is widow to a man who had to go west to find work. I have found a longing for hope and a readiness to listen. Of course change is never easy but change is something I can speak about from the heart. God has filled my life with opportunities that can only be achieved through change. Even through loss of my own beloved son, I have seen the compassion of God and how the Holy Spirit can work through even that change to bring great good.

So yes. I am from away. But this is my home now and I love it.

*Ed. note: I met Jenny in January at the Bishop's Levee and asked her to share the story of her journey that led her to Summerside. I hope you enjoy reading it.*

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# It's A New Day!

## Seeking Signs of Hope

By Rev. Lisa G. Vaughn

ALL WE HAVE TO DO is look across the pond at the UK and see where our churches are going to be situated in the following decades. They have experienced serious decline in organized Christianity over several generations. These leaders in Great Britain have experiences and lessons to share with us as we navigate the choppy waters of change, both inside and outside of the church.

In Canada, just about every institution, organization and business is grappling with the cultural transformations around us. For example, Canada Post mail delivery, local hospital emergency rooms, community schools and newspapers, are adapting to shifts in demographics, mobility, technology and various forms of family life, work and leisure. Either they adapt or they flounder and fail. We in Churchland face the same realities.

In 2002, at the initiation of then Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, the Church of England's Mission and Public Affairs Council formed a working group to study the decline in church participation. Two years later they produced a ground-breaking report called "Mission-Shaped Church: church planting and fresh expressions of church in a changing context."

In their research the authors name the changing contexts of the cultural, social and spiritual environment in which the Church of England ministers. In particular, they assert there are two main social processes at work. The report says, "Community is increasingly being re-formed around networks, and people are less inclined to make lasting commitments."

In the meantime, the Church is operating in an outdated cultural context of Christendom (where Christians are the majority and the Christian faith is dominant). The authors call the consequences acute: "The Church of England bases a significant part of its identity on its physical presence in every community, and on a 'come to us' strategy. But as community becomes more complex, mere geographical presence is no longer a

guarantee that we can connect. The reality is that mainstream culture no longer brings people to the church door. We can no longer assume that we can automatically reproduce ourselves, because the pool of people who regard church as relevant or important is decreasing with every generation."

The Bishop of Whitby, Gordon Bates, urges church members and leaders to remember their missionary responsibilities. He says, "Very many people have no residue of Christian faith at all; it's not just dormant, it's non-existent; in so many instances we have to go back to basics; we are in a critical missionary situation."

While the members of this working group were studying the seemingly grim situation within traditional church society, they also discovered a grass-roots form of Christian community sprouting up from the ashes. Signs of hope. These new forms of Anglican-based ministry and worship they termed "fresh expressions" of church. Reflecting the Anglican ethos of the incarnation these ministers, mostly lay members, emphasized a 'go out to them' approach, rather than a traditional 'let them come to us' one. They laboured to form



small Christian communities based on the incarnational pattern of being with the people, where they are, how they are. The aim was to connect with non-church folk in their own culture, values, lifestyle, networks, along with their location.

### FRESH EXPRESSIONS:

- serve those outside church;
- listen to people and enter their culture;
- make discipleship a priority;
- form church.

Fresh expressions of church take various forms and styles. They are organic by their very nature and thus are vulnerable. The good news is this post-modern approach to doing church is connecting with people who might never walk through the doors of a traditional church or a Sunday service. The authors write,

"The new is not necessarily better or more lasting. For neighbourhood and network we need 'forms of Christian community that are homes of generous hospitality, places of challenging reconciliation, and centres of attentiveness to the living God' (Brother Samuel SSF, "Mission and Community."). The challenge is to form communities that facilitate encounter with God and God's people, in such a way that convinces, converts and transforms those who respond to them."

Some brief examples of these growing fresh expressions of church include café church, studies in pubs, senior's complex gatherings, cooking and conversation groups, laundromat gatherings and Messy Church for families.

Although many academics and leaders in the Church of England are applauding, embracing and encouraging these new forms of church, they are also not dismissing

traditional church. Dr. Rowan Williams coined the phrase "mixed economy." This means life in the Anglican Church is moving to be a combination of "inherited" or traditional church and "fresh expressions" of church. It's not one or the other. It's both.

Since the discovery of this new form of contextual, growing Christian community was recognized some very positive results are being identified. Next month's column will explore the signs of hope that are blossoming in parishes where they are welcoming this missional approach to propagating the gospel.

"Mission-shaped Church" is published by Church House Publishing, UK, and may be purchased from Crux Books, Toronto ([www.cruxbooks.com](http://www.cruxbooks.com)), Amazon.ca or The Book Depository ([www.bookdepository.co.uk](http://www.bookdepository.co.uk)).

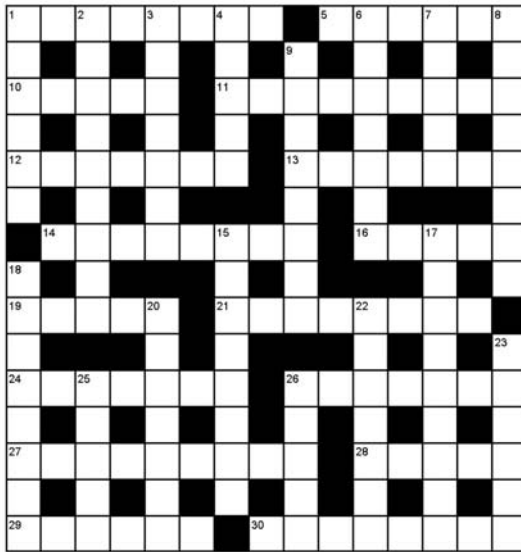
*Rev. Lisa G. Vaughn is pastor and priest in Hatchet Lake and Terence Bay, and Team Leader of the Building Healthy Parishes VSSST of the Diocese.*



Photo: Presenter Michael Moynagh at All Saints, Bedford during the Groundhog Day conference in February. A Fresh Expression is a form of church for our changing culture, established primarily for the benefit of people who are not yet members of any church.

# Bible Crossword

by Maureen Yeats



## MARCH 2014 Clues

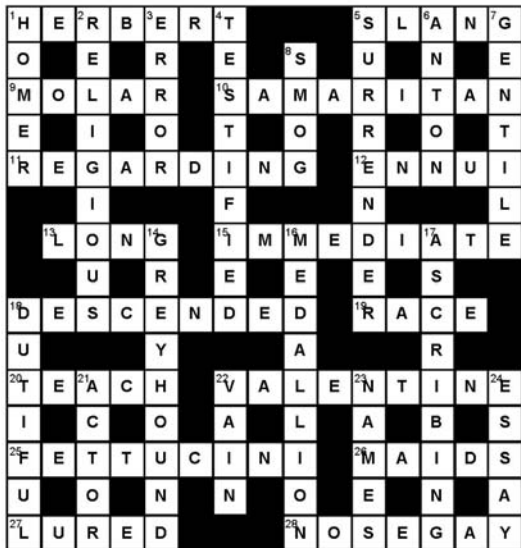
**ACROSS:**

- 1 – Not fully grown (8)
- 5 – Spouse of Mary (Luke 1-3) (6)
- 10 – Patron saint of Wales (5)
- 11 – “I will make an end of the pride of \_\_\_\_\_”, ancient country in Middle East (Zech, 9:6) (9)
- 12 – Name of first bishop of Armenia, died ca. 332 (7)
- 13 – Previously (7)
- 14 – “...and has remembered his holy \_\_\_\_\_”, solemn agreement (Luke 1:72) (8)
- 16 – Woman in Greek myth, daughter of Tantalus (5)
- 19 – Character in “Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland”, \_\_\_\_\_ Hare (5)
- 21 – “Can Ethiopians change their skin, or \_\_\_\_\_ their spots?”, large wild cats (Jer. 13:23) (8)
- 24 – Thomas \_\_\_\_\_, compiler of first BCP, martyred 1556 (7)
- 26 – Patron Saint of Ireland (7)
- 27 – “I have sinned by \_\_\_\_\_ innocent blood”, being disloyal to (Matt. 27:4) (6)
- 28 – One who weeps (5)
- 29 – Firstborn (6)
- 30 – Sprinkling of Holy Water onto people (8)

**DOWN:**

- 1 – Blue dye (6)
- 2 – Someone who enjoys watching films (9)
- 3 – Juvenile that becomes a frog (7)
- 4 – “For he will \_\_\_\_\_ according to each one’s deeds”, recompense (Rom.2:6) (5)
- 6 – Letter of Greek alphabet (7)
- 7 – Additional (5)
- 8 – Not thin (8)
- 9 – An herb (8)
- 15 – Having an extreme sensitivity to something (8)
- 17 – Conferring holy orders upon someone (9)
- 18 – Friendly (8)
- 20 – Books containing songs sung in church (7)
- 22 – Written composition, for example, newspaper story (7)
- 23 – Woman’s articles of clothing (6)
- 25 – “He will hide his face from them...because they have \_\_\_\_\_ wickedly”, behaved (Micah 3:4) (5)
- 26 – Sheets of paper for writing letters, etc. (5)

## February Solution



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

Prayer – George Herbert

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## PARISH NEWS

# St. Paul's begins parish artist-in-residence position



Photo: Ian McKinnon and Rev. Paul Friesen greet parishioners at the Christmas on the Grand Parade service last December.

HISTORIC ST. PAUL'S Anglican Church on the Grand Parade, Halifax, is pleased to announce that NSCADU instructor Ian

McKinnon has accepted the position of parish artist-in-residence. As the first holder of the position, he will be responsible for defining it.

McKinnon has been integral to the recent success of "Perceptions and Perspectives: St Paul's seen anew through the drawings of NSCADU Foundation Students" a key part of "Christmas on the Grand Parade" event, and in numerous ways to the success of St. Paul's liturgical year. In this role, Mr. McKinnon will continue to participate and engage in artistic activities throughout the year at St. Paul's.

#### About the Artist:

Ian McKinnon graduated from the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design in 1980. He spent the following decade in Toronto where he exhibited in numerous solo and group exhibitions, and served on the board of the YYZ artist-run centre. In 1997 McKinnon earned a Master of Fine Arts degree from Concordia University. He returned to Halifax where, in 2000, he was one of the first artists-in-residence at the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia. Soon after, McKinnon was employed by

the Dalhousie Art Gallery and took up a post as Part-time Faculty at NSCAD University. It was while immersed in these two pivotal institutes of the Halifax art world that McKinnon converted and was baptized at the chapel of University of King's College.

He began theological studies at the Atlantic School of Theology (2005/06), moving to Toronto in 2008 where he completed a Master of Theological Studies in the Faculty of Divinity, Trinity College at the University of Toronto. His thesis, entitled "Mutual Illumination and the Artist: Dispossession, Disinterested Love and Making Other" won the award for best MTS thesis of his Divinity graduating class in 2010.

Shortly after graduating from Trinity, McKinnon returned to Halifax and his teaching position at NSCAD University. In the spring of 2012 he officially presented himself to Bishop Ron Cutler of the Anglican Diocese of

Nova Scotia and PEI as an "inquirer." The pursuing year in the Anglican Formation program culminated in a profound affirmation of both McKinnon's art practice and his teaching as vocation and ministry. Although ordination to traditional parish priesthood does not appear to be what he is called to, McKinnon sees his pilgrimage much as he does his art and teaching philosophy, always works-in-progress.

St. Paul's artist-in-residence program was recently established to support and invigorate the historic role of St. Paul's in Halifax, and to return St. Paul's to the center of the Halifax's "art conversation." Its aim is to bring together artists, advocates, educators, and government officials to exchange ideas and develop conversations that strengthen the reciprocal relationship between the arts and St. Paul's Church.

<http://www.stpaulshalifax.org>

## Mothers' Union honours 40 years

On Sunday evening, November 3, 2013, St. John the Evangelist Mothers' Union, Sackville, NS, celebrated their 40th Anniversary. They were honoured to have Bishop Ron Cutler officiate at the Eucharist service, proudly wearing the Mothers' Union 125th Anniversary Stole.



Photo: Bishop Ron Cutler presents 40 year membership certificates to charter members Geraldine Connors and Stella Holmes.

#### The Administrators of the Growth for Ministry Fund

(Steven Beeler, Rev. Frances Drolet Smith, Selma Doucet, Rev. Jenny Sharp, Rev. Matthew Sponagle and Bishop Sue) met January 29, 2014, to review several highly varied applications. Administrators will follow up with the projects over the coming year.

Projects approved:

**Technology for more creative liturgy** – Church of St. Andrew, Cole Harbour  
**A Story of Grace** – Parish of Shelburne with Osprey Theatre  
**Re-imagining Curacy** – Parish of Horton  
**Vital Church Conference** – Building Healthier Parishes Team

We hope to see photos and stories from these projects over the coming year.

+Sue

# The Butterfly Effect

BY REV. RAY CARTER

I AM SURE many of you have heard of something called “The Butterfly Effect”. This term was coined by a man named Edward Lorenz.

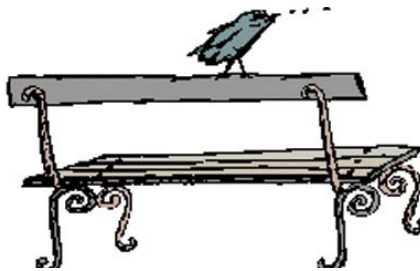
Mr. Lorenz was an American Mathematician and meteorologist who lived from 1917 to 2008. Fifty years ago, while working at MIT where he was a professor, he entered some numbers into a computer program to simulate weather patterns. He then went for lunch while the computer did its thing. When he returned he was surprised to have a result which actually would change the way science was done.

The computer model was based on several variables which represented things like wind speed and temperature, and Lorenz was repeating a simulation he had run before, with the tiny difference that he rounded off one variable from .506127 to .506. He was surprised to discover that

this very small detail had drastically changed the results of the simulation.

The result of this little experiment gives us a powerful insight into the way nature works: small changes can create large consequences. This idea became known as the “Butterfly Effect”, after Lorenz suggested that the flap of a butterfly’s wings might ultimately cause a tornado. It was many years before this insight of Lorenz’s turned into the founding principle of chaos theory, which soon expanded into other fields such as geology, biology and meteorology.

Recently I attended several meetings at my place of work. Some people are surprised that my place of work is not the Anglican Church of the Apostles, or The Cathedral Church of All Saints, but rather at a Real Estate Brokerage in Halifax where I am a Sales Representative. One person recently was gob



View from the deacon’s bench

smacked when she learned that I have a job outside the church, and further, the church doesn’t pay me! Such is, and has been, the way of the Deacon- we have a job in the secular world to allow us to work in the “Church” world. Getting back to the meetings I attended, the group participating is known at the office as the “Charity Committee”. And since it is a new year we were meeting to decide where the not inconsiderable amount of money raised by the employees each year will go. This money

is raised by two large events, one a golf tournament and the other a “Garage Sale”, as well as several small ones, like the weekly sales meeting 50/50 draw, the Christmas bake sale, the chili cook-off, etc.etc.

The purpose of the meetings was to select a major beneficiary for the raised funds and to that end we had started with a very, very long list. Through discussion we eventually selected one charity to support. It was a difficult and at times painful exercise, having to eliminate so many great causes to arrive at just

one. It struck me as I sat at the table that with such a great need, what possible help is there for society? There are many shelters, agencies, food banks etc throughout the Diocese yet the need seems unending, and indeed to be increasing. Then I recalled the “Butterfly Effect”, and I admit my spirits lifted. A few dollars directed here, some food donated there, a smile directed somewhere else, may actually make a difference in someone’s life. So take heart, and contribute as and how you can, remembering: “Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?” Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

## Again, I say rejoice ... the Lord is near!

I REJOICE IN THE MINISTRY and work of Rev. Lisa Vaughn and the team that brought the Vital Church Maritimes 2014 Conference to fruition in February. I rejoice in the affirmations and challenges received through the presentations and workshops. I rejoice in what was made clear to and through the almost 80 people who gathered – that the Holy Spirit is moving powerfully and wonderfully in our midst; that our leaders, clergy and lay, are listening to their communities and are experimenting with a variety of new initiatives to reach people with the gospel message; and, that our church has a future and we have much work to do. So again, I rejoice.

I rejoice that our Bishops, Diocesan Council, and other leadership have decided not ‘to manage our decline’ but to act for the growth and renewal in our parishes, for developing new leaders, and strengthening our stewardship of people and buildings. The REJOICE ACTION APPEAL is an investment in hope, an investment of love for the future of our parishes, our people and our physical presence in our communities.

On March 30, when we launch the REJOICE ACTION APPEAL in our parishes, we are saying to ourselves and to the world around us that God’s mission of renewal is our mission, that God’s priority of raising up people is our priority, that

Let Us Rejoice and Take Action Together

# REJOICE

God’s purpose of blessing and caring for creation is our sacred purpose. On that Sunday, we will hear stories from across our Diocese of lives being renewed and enriched; of people being upheld and encouraged to lead for the Lord; and of the small and large ways that we are being better stewards. It will be a celebration of our passion and dedication.

The Rejoice Action Appeal is a chance for your passion

and dedication to touch not just your own church or parish but to touch and bless your wider Diocesan family. If your passion is working and praying for the renewal of your local parish or church, then your gift for ‘Revitalizing Parishes’ can help another church to adapt and grow with new ministries. If your heart and soul is absorbed in supporting others to blossom and flourish as faith-filled leaders, then your gift to “Investing in Our

Future’ will provide precious resources to assist those seeking help with training. If you dedicate yourself to minimizing the cost of operating your church, thereby maximizing your resources for ministry, then your gift to “Environmental Initiatives” offers hope to those trying to do the same work. If you act, then there will cause for rejoicing into the future.

Rejoice! We belong to a great Diocese. We follow a great Lord. This appeal is a great opportunity for us to act generously and boldly for the Lord and for our church. Again, I say rejoice.

CARL FRASER  
TEAM LEADER – FINANCIAL  
MANAGEMENT &  
DEVELOPMENT VSST

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Lynn Uzans appointed priest-in-charge of the parish of Fall River Jan 1, 2014, following the resignation of Rev. Marian Conrad.

Rev. Canon Gordon Redden appointed priest-in-charge of Emmanuel, Spryfield, Jan 1, 2014, following the resignation of Rev. Don Shipton.

Rev. Helen Chandler appointed incumbent of the parish of

Yarmouth & Tusket Jan 1, 2014.

Archdeacon Marilyn Newport appointed as NSOM Vocations Coordinator (Half Time) starting Jan 1 2014. In accordance with a resolution of Diocesan Council, the moratorium on receiving new discerners (parishes and individuals) into the NSOM program will end on January 1 2014.

Rev. Robert Richmond

appointed priest-in-charge of the parish of Lockeport/Barrington Jan 1, 2014, following the retirement of Rev. Doug Chard who was priest-in-charge.

(Lt. Cdr.) Rev. Andrew Cooke appointed priest-in-charge of the parish of Hackett’s Cove Jan 6, 2014, while Rev. Anna Hoeg is on sick leave.

Teens Encounter Christ is choosing team for the 2014

TEC. If you are interested in serving on team please complete the application (linked here) and email it as directed to the Lay Director, nataliedawnnymark@gmail.com

Haven’t worked team previously and have questions? Please feel free to send questions.

A Diocesan Event to Celebrate the Ministry of The Rt. Rev’d Sue Moxley

Dinner & Dance, Fri, March 21 at the Halifax Marriott Harbourfront Hotel with a 6pm Reception (cash bar) and 7pm Dinner followed by dance (with DJ). Tickets: \$60 each. Holy Eucharist on Sat, March 22 at 10am at the Cathedral Church of All Saints Cathedral followed by a reception.