



## The Super Amazing Bible Camp of Awesomeness



The Super Amazing Bible Camp of Awesomeness (SABCA) was an initiative of Revs. Ed Trevors & Nita Barteaux and supported by the South Shore Regional Council. They dreamed of having a youth event for children who did not meet the age criteria for DYC.

For youth aged 6-12, the day began with 35-40 youth and a dozen youth leaders meeting at Holy Trinity, Bridgewater.

The Camp was a reason for young Anglicans to get together, to have fun and to be exposed to Christian education. The drama component incorporated scripture and was applied to worship time at the end of the day. The games, crafts, face painting, drama, worship, meal fellowship and a scavenger hunt all fell under the theme of 'Getting to Know You'. Getting to know one another, getting to know God, getting to know their church.

*Photos left: Using the Angry Birds launcher to test her skills.*

*Photo right: One of the many face-painted participants at the Awesomeness Camp.*



## Who are we?

BY ROB ELFORD

ARE WE an Abrahamic people called into relationship with God, deepened by the law and the prophets, and ultimately fulfilled by our resurrected Lord Jesus Christ?

Is one of the key concepts, or values, of this entire tradition of God, and our discernment of what it all means, justice? Because if justice is relevant to our discourse, what are we doing about it? Where is the Christian voice today on issues that seemed to be foremost in the heart and mind of the field preacher from Galilee who is our Redeemer?

As a new member of the DT Board, I wonder if this paper (in whatever medium it may choose to use) might be a good venue to have a public discourse on issues of importance in our world today where Christian opinions on events and issues may be raised and debated? There is much going on in our world, and the issues are often so complex, that it is difficult at times to understand the Christian nexus to many important issues. Is this a worthwhile role for one regular section of the DT?

Just in the past few months well over one thousand people died at a textile plant in Bangladesh, a train decimated a

town in Quebec, lobster fishermen protest market pricing for their catch and everyday thousands of children die because of malnutrition. Does anyone give a shit? Because, and here I quote Tony Campolo, "Most of you are more upset that I used a four-letter word than that you could be doing something" about these tremendously important issues.

I provoke. It is a provocation to open a debate on justice. It is a provocation to invite – indeed insist – that there is an important voice to be heard in among the myriad of issues taking place in our wonderful but wounded world. Can the DT be a venue for this voice?



COLUMNIST

# June: the month of weddings

JUNE IS THE MONTH of weddings; and here at St. Bart's we are keeping up the tradition.

Because we are a parish of "well-seasoned" Anglicans, we don't see many weddings unless someone wants to return to the parish of their ancestors to tie the knot.

Rev Billie has always been cautious about such decisions. There is the danger of some couples looking for a romantic seaside setting for a service that should be held anywhere but in church. When the couple has no church affiliation, nor any sense of what a marriage service in a church will be like, then it is time for them to start looking for a place that speaks to them and an officiant that can marry them without involving the church. There is always a place for a civil service....even if it doesn't please Grandma!

The wedding that will take place here at the end of the month does fulfill all the criteria that rate a church ceremony. It will be a special service and our Bishop will be here to do the honours so to speak. The groom is a stranger to us but the bride is known and loved by everyone in the community. It will be a wedding like no other and the Guild and the Men's Club have started to make plans for a "bang-up" reception in



ST. BART'S BY THE BOG

Sarah Neish

the Parish Hall following the service. Our local musicians are practicing and calling on some of their friends to join them for a dance that will follow the Buffet supper. I have a feeling that a few bottles of homemade wine may be seen floating around the hall. The Sunday School kids have made special pew markers. Irene James, our organist has been practicing special music with the choir...yes there will be a choir!...and my Orin as church warden will be one of the readers and he is as nervous as a kitten.

The rectory family seem to be a pool of calm in the midst of all the excitement Rev. Billie

has been going about her daily duties, visiting and working on Sunday sermons as well as overseeing any 'churchy' stuff for the wedding. Her In-Laws seem to be taking everything in stride too. Pops and his buddies have planted the vegetable garden after the ploughing was done. Mom has been baking her famous Butterscotch Squares and Marble Cake to be a part of the dessert buffet, and there has been a shopping expedition into the city so that everyone can get their wedding finery picked out and altered if necessary.

The Groom has been visiting most weekends and sits with the congregation through the service. He is a handsome fellow with a strong tenor voice and he seems to know his way around the Prayer Book and the BAS. He is winning over the sceptics among us by just being himself.

If you haven't guessed yet, let me tell you that the bride is our own beloved Rev. Billie!

When her Peter died so suddenly several years ago we all felt her pain and would do anything to ease it for her. Her In-Laws came up from Florida and moved into the rectory to lend a hand, a decision that has been very successful.

Billie and an old friend from University days met last year

after many years of exchanging Christmas cards and occasional letters. This old friend was wintering in Florida and that is where they spent a few weeks together this past January. Both had lost their life partners and were lonely. Both liked having someone special in their life once again. Both soon realized that they needed to be together all the time. And so we will have a new man in the rectory. Billie will have a new husband and Irene James will have a strong Tenor in her choir.

This will mean changes in our parish life. It has been decided that Billie will stay on as our Rector but in a part time capacity, giving her a lighter work load and we as a parish a lighter financial load as well. She and her new husband James will continue to live in the rectory and Mom and Pops will stay there as well. Billie will take the full summer off as she and James take a long honeymoon trip to Australia and New Zealand. We will make do with Sunday supply clergy that will come out to us from the city. Pops will weed his garden, Mom will keep the gardeners supplied with coffee and sweets and we will await the return of our rector and her new husband in early September.

I'll keep you posted, Aunt Madge



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Editor

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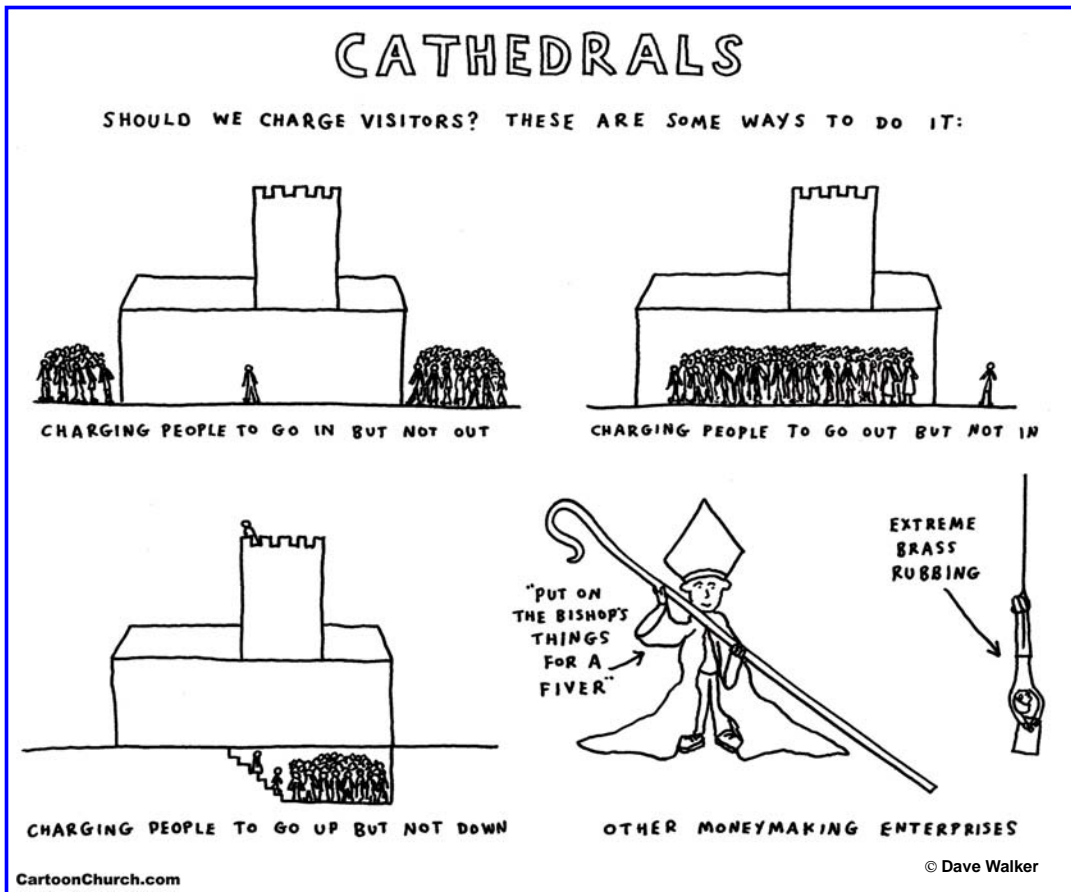
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## BISHOP'S MESSAGE



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

# Come to the waters...

And they did! Well, first they came to the sand, the desert, the dryness and then a vision of an oasis. We each contributed to the small desert of sand at the front of the Cathedral and we placed the water bowl in the small desert after blessing and sprinkling the new office building! The water gradually overtook the desert in the McInnes Room as each day brought their containers of water from their home communities. Refreshment came from the meditations offered by our Dean, Paul Smith, and our Primate, Fred. Refreshment came from the key note talks given by Reverend Ryan Sim, as he challenged us to consider our communities with new eyes to their needs. Refreshment came from excellent presentations, lively worship, and the Youth & Family Ministry VSSST introduction to "Dive In", the theme song for Diocesan Youth Conference 2013! On closing day, new life became clear in symbol (ivy growing out of the water and sand) and, in reality, as people renewed their baptism promises and scooped up water from the well in the center of the desert to return home with their renewed life to their parishes.

It was the right time for me to announce that I will retire March 31, 2014. A year ago I realized that in 2014, we would be coming up to 10 years with me as a bishop. Things change over 10 years! It was a joy to hear that our changed structures are beginning to produce some excellent work that will renew and refresh our parishes (as long as parishes will engage with the renewed focus on discipleship and mission!) Youth ministry has changed in our diocese. It was good to hear the support for future youth and family ministry from young and older alike. (We are already working on finding the funding for this!) Our procedures for working at Synod have changed, and it was good

to hear thoughtful critique of out-dated processes that need to be changed, and to see careful planning to undertake that change at the next regular Synod. Over the past three years Diocesan Council has been considering what leadership team we need in the Synod Office. We have worked to make the structures of the Diocese lighter, more flexible and more responsive to change. It is a good time for the leadership of the Diocese to be renewed as well.

The steps have already begun, leading toward the Electoral Synod November 22, 2013. Those who are Synod delegates will be receiving regular updates on the processes. It is time for everyone to be praying for the Holy Spirit to guide us in choosing the next diocesan bishop so that the Diocese, our mission and ministry, will be refreshed and renewed as well.

So in the next 9 months I will continue to put my time and energy into the renewal of God's mission in our Diocese – God's mission to reconcile the world to God through Jesus Christ; to move forward our mission to create Christ-centered, mission-minded, ministering communities of faith; and to ensure that the groundwork has been laid for a stable financial base for the next 10 years!

+Sue



Prayer

*Steve Laskey*

## Prayer unites

When you pray with others do you feel united with them? 'Prayer Unites' is the motto of the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer. In just two words is described our hope for at least one of the effects of prayer. Prayer unites us to God and to one another. Whether we pray together in church, in a group, or alone, we are united in that prayer.

Many of us learned a number of prayers at a very early age. A favourite prayer may have been prayed at bed time or as a grace before meals etc. Parent and child, looking into one another's eyes saying the words together, are united. Eyes closed, hands folded and ears open to listen to the voice of others praying around a table; these prayers are in our deepest memory. So much so that even those who have lost so much of their memory due to dementia or simply because they have not thought of prayer for many years will pause to join their voice with others when they

hear that prayer. 'See, I still remember!' they might say. In that moment they are united. A prayer may bubble to the surface at unusual moments or suddenly recalled because of context, a voice, or a scent.

One prayer we will have learned in particular is the Lord's Prayer. We may have learned it at home or in a Sunday school class. Every week since, we have had the opportunity to pray it together at Sunday worship and of course our own daily prayer. It was, and is the prayer of the community and the one prayer that Christians can say really does unite us.

When I pray with people, I ask them how they would like prayer to be directed; for healing, family members, travel plans, work etc. but we always close with the prayer of the community. In that prayer we join our own needs with the needs of the many. We pray in unison, with one voice knowing that we have been drawn together for a moment before we go our separate ways. We

have prayed for God's Kingdom to come in its fullness, for our daily bread, to be forgiven and forgiving. It can be a moment of very deep spiritual awareness of the unifying work of our Lord's Prayer.

In the parish I serve, Christ Church in Dartmouth, a food bank, staffed by volunteers, operates each week. Sometimes there are fifty or sixty people of the community attending out of their own particular need. Not everyone comes for groceries. The people know one another and share coffee, donuts and conversation.

We begin with a few notices about job and learning opportunities, catch up on local sports and arts, and then we pray. All are asked if there is a particular need for prayer. A few will mention the death of a family member or someone in hospital or share some news of someone in difficulties. Then, as we are about to pray, I say 'when the moment comes to pray for all these people and anyone else, simply say that

person's name aloud and let all the names go up as one voice. Indeed, there are always many names that go up aloud (and silently too) at that moment. The voices are joined as one, united in prayer. We conclude with the Lord's Prayer. In those moments of prayer we are a community re-membered and put together. It has made each a part of the whole.

This people are brought together by the needs of the community, to pray, and to share with one another. They are united and made one in their coming together and in joining their voices in the chorus of prayer. It is saying I am a part of you and you are a part of me.

One goal of prayer is to be united with God and with others in our prayer. My hope is that we may all have that sense of unity particularly when we pray the Lord's Prayer.

# Gathering for peace in New Glasgow



Photo: Judy Connor, Sue Arsenault, Bobbi Zahra, Mary-Alice Ali, Ilem Ddakhani, Nanda Shirke, Ralph Francis and Monica George Punke (photo by Charlene Ferguson)

By GERRY PUNKE

AS ONE OF EIGHT joint events shared each year by the congregations of St. George's Anglican and Trinity United Churches in New Glasgow, it was quickly understood that the event would honour all of the world's great faith traditions as equal partners, all working towards the same end, a peaceful Canada, and a peaceful world..

Starting with Gandhi's vision, 'Like the bee gathering

honey from different flowers, the wise person accepts the essence of the different scriptures and sees only the good in all religions', a sacred gathering was created that through music, word, prayers, the Lighting of a Peace Candle, the lighting of individual candles for peace and the tolling of a Peace Bell, helped people transcend their differences and discover what was essential, true and beautiful in each other. A centre piece of the

gathering was a sharing of payers for peace from a wide variety of religious traditions; and, in many cases those prayers were prayed by people who were members of that faith tradition. There were peace prayers from the following traditions: Mi'kmaq, Baha'i, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Islam, Jain, Jewish, Native American, Native African, Shinto, Sikh, Sufi, and Zoroastrian.

In his reflection for the day, Rev. Mark Pretty of

St. George's Church asked whether it was human nature to be divided, or to be diverse? "Diverse," he said, "implies borders, separation, claim, manifested in colonization, assimilation in the name of our God, our nation, our sense of what is "mine." All that is needed for a global ethic of unity in diversity, already exists in all our ancient teachings, prophets, manifestations of God", he said.

"Could it be," Pretty asked."

that God created us this way on purpose? That we are intended to be different?"

The message led to one word: catharsis. Catharsis is the purging or purification of emotion through the experience of tragedy such that we are renewed and restored. "Let our world be the tragedy, experienced in fear, empathy and compassion such that our passion for love and peace is renewed and restored," Pretty concluded.

## Mothers' Union installs new Council in Halifax

2013 INSTALLATION OF CANADIAN COUNCIL

On Sunday May 11, Mothers' Union members from across the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, as well as the Canadian Past President Celia Dodds, from British Columbia and 6 members from New Brunswick, met in St. James' Church for a Eucharistic in celebration of 125 years of Mothers' Union in Canada and for the installation of the new Canadian Council of Mothers' Union. The Very Rev. Paul Smith conducted the installation in the presence of His Honour Brigadier-General, the

Honourable J.J. Grant and Her Honour Mrs. Joan Grant. The Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island is the seat of the Canadian Council of Mothers' Union for the next four years. The service was preceded by a Spring Rally highlighting the Make a Mothers' Day campaign, a possible presence of Mothers' Union in the North, and a Reflection on Mothering ending with a fun look at Mothers' Union meetings.



Front row: His Honour Brigadier-General the Honourable J. J. Grant, Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia and Her Honour Mrs. Joan Grant

Middle row Janice Jackson, Vice President, Margaret deCarvalho, President, Rev Marilyn Murphy, Chaplain, Dawn Skene, Treasurer, Shirley Leitch, Link Coordinator.

Back row: Mary Stone, Secretary, Kathleen Snow, Representative to the North, Ethel Nelson, Indoor Member's Prayer Circle Coordinator, Rev Debbie Strickland, Conference Coordinator, Elizabeth Court, Newsletter Editor, Sandra Lavers, lone Members Coordinator, Marilyn Scott, Historian, Linda MacLachlan, Northern Clergy Families Fund. Missing from the photo is Dawn Snyder, Literature and Marketing Co-ordinator.

# Celebrating past & present - and a hope for the future

Reflections on 230 years of Sunday school at St Paul's Church

By BONNIE SKERRITT

As I ATTACHED balloons to our Barrington Street gates early in the morning on June 16th, and praised God for a day of sunshine for our Anniversary celebrations, I was also struck once again by the total loveliness of St. Paul's. What overwhelmed me at that moment was how much this church is (and has been) beloved by thousands of adults and children over the years. "Thousands?" you say. Yes, indeed!

It may seem far-fetched in our current situation; I too was skeptical of this before seeing the records with my own eyes, but the numbers don't lie. St. Paul's embraced the Sunday school movement from its inception and began offering instruction to a few children in 1783. In 1790, thirty-five were enrolled in St Paul's Sunday school. By 1890, three hundred and fifty were enrolled and by the "golden age" preceding World War I 1200+ were enrolled with the highest attendance for a given Sunday reaching almost 800 children and teachers. Truly amazing to this post-Christendom Sunday school teacher and Director!

If one were to spend too much time in comparing the past with the present, it would be easy to become disheartened and even perhaps pessimistic. However, it is important to remember that spreading the Good News amongst the youngest members of our congregations, in essence evangelizing today's children and youth, is not a numbers game. It's about genuinely showing them Christ's love and that they are wanted here, in this place, where this congregation meets and in your place, where your congregation meets. In a world full of judgments, it's about being non-judgmental. In young lives that are becoming as busy and scheduled as adult lives, it's providing them a place of peace. And it's about accepting them and the gifts they offer, in the words of that great hymn, "just as I am".

Our Anniversary celebration at St. Paul's endeavored to do precisely this. The children and youth of the congregation were engaged in every facet of the service from the processional to the readings, prayers and music, singing "This Little Light of Mine" and "Jesus Loves Me"

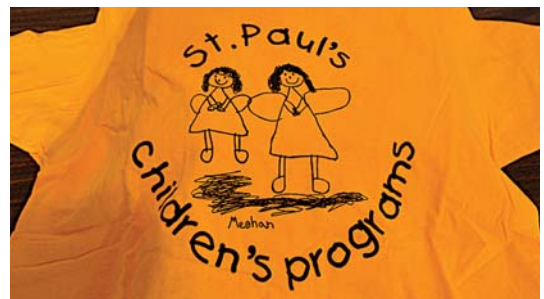
for our Gradual Hymn. I was especially delighted when Nan Robertson, a member of our Upper Elementary class, volunteered to play "Kumbaya" on her violin during Communion, which she did accompanied by our Music Team. It is one thing to agree to the Director's requests, and quite another to volunteer! All who participated in the service did so whole-heartedly and there were many positive comments from those in attendance.

Where will the future take us? Will there be another 230 years of Sunday school at St. Paul's? If our or any other Sunday school is to do more than exist, but thrive (in whatever form that might take), it will be by meeting the real needs of the children and youth we serve in the present. Do not lament that they aren't like we were as children, rather rejoice that God continues to bless us with new life. By living out our baptismal vows and Marks of Mission in this moment, the future generations of Anglicans across our Diocese will have many wonderful celebrations to share together. And I will be with them in spirit!



Above: one of the youngest members of St Paul's joined in the Sunday school celebrations.

Below: a Sunday school design created just for St Paul's programs.



## St. Peter's continues traditional Fiesta Dinner



The Chicken Chimichanga was tasty and the dancing was flamboyant as a sold out crowd enjoyed a recent Mexican Fiesta organized by the Ladies' Guild at Saint Peter's (Birch Cove). Mexican folklore was explored and six styles of Mexican dance were demonstrated during the event. Senor Galo Carrera, Mexico's Honorary consul in Halifax was in attendance. Veronica Mendoza, seen here with the guild, was just one of the dancers in traditional Mexican dress.

# Synod 2013 Highlights

## Diocesan Synod Thursday, May 30th, 2013

The 144th Session of Synod of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island was called to order at 1pm May 30, 2013 by Bishop Sue Moxley.

Initial resolutions which included Loyalty to the Queen, Greeting to the Anglican Communion, and the granting of courtesies of the house to Ecumenical Visitors and the Primate were carried.

During her address, Bishop Moxley shared her joy of visiting people of faith around the diocese and around the world. She explained there is good news out there and challenges in every region. Our diocese has a lot to be proud of even though we too have experienced challenges over the past 300 years. The Bishop's full address is available on the diocesan web site.

A number of resolutions followed the Bishops address. All were carried, some after minor amendment. A resolution covering allotment exemptions for clergy travel generated much discussion and after amendments it too was carried.

Business for the day concluded at 5pm following a presentation on AST (Atlantic School of Theology) by President, Rev. Canon Eric Beresford. His presentation highlighted a number of positive challenges which are strengthening the Anglican presence at AST.

The opening Eucharist showed off the newly-renovated Cathedral Church of All Saints. All watched the blessing of the new Anglican Diocesan Centre on the big screen in the Cathedral.

## Diocesan Synod Friday, May 31

The day began at 9am with worship on a theme of "Seeking Refreshment – Remembering the Gift of Water". A memorable comment during worship was, "how often do we miss the presence of God standing right in front of us?"

Following the morning worship it was announced that Rose McFadden and Tyler Nieforth had been elected as Youth Members of Diocesan Council.

A presentation by guest speaker Ryan Sim on church planting was very well received. Rev. Sim said that as Christians we have much to share with others, especially hope and Jesus Christ. He also said that at times we must work around the fact that people will not attend church on Sunday for a variety of reasons. We must meet them in a mutual location.

Synod warmly welcomed the Primate, Archbishop Fred Hiltz who led the meditation. In his reflection Archbishop Fred stated that he often tells people he meets that he 'lives in Toronto' but is 'from' Nova Scotia and that he looks forward to returning there to live someday.

A number of resolutions were passed after short debate. However, one resolution of permitting raffles as a revenue source generated long debates and was eventually defeated in a vote by Orders. One resolution was withdrawn.

Bishop Sue presented long service certificates to a number of clergy who have been ordained between 25-60 years. A special certificate for 35 years of ordained ministry was presented to Archbishop Hiltz.

*Photos below: Bishop Sue also honoured two lay people from the diocese with the Diocesan Faithful Service Award, Mr. Bill Pigeon and Mr. Charles O'Neil.*



*Photo left: Archbishop Hiltz presented Mrs. Carolyn Chenball with the Anglican Award of Merit.*

Bishop Cutler gave a presentation of Abuse Prevention Response" and Care to Screen and steps which each parish must take to create a "Parish Abuse Prevention and Response Plan".

## Diocesan Synod Friday, Saturday, June 1.

Archbishop Hiltz led opening meditation based on the synod theme of "Come to the Waters". When asked where he goes for retreats, he tells people that he spends time every year at the Monastery of the Society of St. John the Evangelist in Mass., where he enjoys walking and contemplating and praying along the Charles River.

Archbishop Hiltz also mentioned that there is a blot on the soul of our country and that blot is the Residential School issue. This year we mark the 20th Anniversary of the Anglican Church of Canada's apology to those affected by the Residential Schools.

Following the opening meditation a presentation was given on "Leap for Faith" by Gary Cox and Nicki Heatherington. The Leap for Faith program is "to participate in God's mission of reconciling the world to God through Jesus Christ."

Several resolutions followed with a resolution to change the definition of 'gross receipts' defeated. One resolution was withdrawn.

A presentation was made on the Primate's World Relief and Development Fun which included a number of good news stories; stories which reveal that the PWRDF is not only life-transforming, but life-saving. Special mention was made on the PWRDF Water Project at St. John's Church in Crapaud, PEI.

During closing remarks, Bishop Sue announced her retirement effective March 31, 2014.

The 144th Session of Synod of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island closed with Bishop Sue Moxley celebrating the Eucharist.

*(Thanks to the Synod Office staff for the summary.)*



*Just a few of the many faces that came to Diocesan Synod in May. The one common factor from all the photos is a large smile. This was easily the most photogenic synod! See more photos on our Facebook page.*



# My Pinto and your newspaper

By STEVE PROCTOR,  
CHAIR, DIOCESAN TIMES MANAGEMENT BOARD

WHEN I WAS A YOUNG MAN fresh out of college, I needed a new car for work. I poked around the car lots on the South Shore looking for something that was good on gas but was easy on the eyes. It took a while, but eventually I found my unlikely dream car: a robin egg blue Pinto hatchback with a white racing stripe.

Unaware of the exploding gas tank safety stories, I loved that car. It got me to meetings and beach picnics, it hauled furniture for my first apartment, and I could travel kilometer after kilometer with the needle kissing empty. Amazingly, it was still simple enough under the hood I could get my hands dirty and do my own minor repairs.

As time passed, however, the mileage began to fall off, rust crept around the wheel wells and the friends who had once piled into the backseat excitedly were now driving their own shinier, more efficient cars.

When blue smoke began belching from the tailpipe forced me into a garage, I was reluctant to move on. The car was still running. I was still getting to my meetings. With the car perched on the hoist I struggled with the age old question: What's next?

The Diocesan Times is not my Pinto, but with a new and revitalized board sitting around the table with Editor Paul Sherwood, this paper is definitely on the hoist with the team looking at how to improve its horsepower and ensure more readers want to take the 10-issues a year for a test drive.

## HOW DID WE GET HERE?

Newspapers everywhere are under siege. With readers and advertising shifting to the Internet, many papers have shut down, or like The Chronicle Herald, modified their offering to ensure readers are getting the news they want, where they want it.

The problem is especially acute for weekly, or monthly papers like The Diocesan Times. In a world where today's news is served up minute by minute on Facebook, Twitter and the various specialty television news channels, no paper that arrives in the mail, or is distributed in the back of a church, is likely to provide a surprising update on an event that happened weeks earlier.

What a newspaper like The Diocesan Times can provide is a range of interesting material that is not available elsewhere. Our mandate is to tell Anglicans the stories from their community of faith that resonate with them. We have to provide photo and articles that make people think, help them to learn, and forces them to grow. We also need to make people smile and marvel at the innovation and creativity of fellow Anglicans.

In an age where someone can post dozen photos of a single event on a Facebook page within minutes



of the event concluding, the board of The Diocesan Times believes the newspaper must do more than provide a '10 times a year' recounting of events that occurred in the previous weeks. If we do not, the paper will surely disappear.

## IS IT TOO LATE ALREADY?

There is no debate: our diocesan newspaper is facing some fiscal challenges. We have a deficit for each of the past four years. While we have been able to hold the line on virtually all of our expenses (including editor's salary, printing and mailing costs) for the past several years, there has been an erosion in income. The paper is funded by yearly appeals, advertising sales and through a "voluntary donation fee" of \$20 a year (\$2 a copy) from readers. In 2012, less than five percent of the people on The Times subscription list actually paid the voluntary donation.

Why so few? The suggestions around the board table are numerous. No one knows there is a voluntary subscription fee; no one knows the paper faces fiscal uncertainty or they would dig deeper; the content isn't offering them value for money; there are so many groups looking for support it gets lost in the pack; and the reasons go on. **The new board is to find a way to increase voluntary subscription rates.** If just 50 percent of subscribers paid the fee, the paper would be sustainable without any diocesan support.

## WHAT ABOUT COST SAVING CUTS?

The board looked at reducing the number of issues, reducing the number of page and even dropping color as cost saving measures. No matter how the numbers are crunched, our diocesan commitment to share half the monthly postage costs for the delivery of the national publication, *The Anglican Journal*, means those changes would have little impact on the bottom line. Like my Pinto, we can't do anything about the price of the gas.

## IS IT TIME TO MOVE THE DIOCESAN TIMES COMPLETELY ON LINE?

Could the mechanic transform my Pinto into a spiffy SUV that everyone wanted to ride in? No, but with the addition of a few options, a coat of paint and quality stereo, the car continued to serve my needs for another few years. That may be where

we stand with The Times. We cannot abandon the paper version that is still vital to those who have yet to embrace the Internet for information, nor can we ignore the need to make The Times a vital electronic drive for Anglicans already getting their news from the diocesan NetNews and other web sources.

A copy of The Diocesan Times is already parked on the diocesan web site, but we have taken further tentative steps to steer it more fully onto the information highway. Following Synod, a Diocesan Times Facebook page was launched with multiple photos from the gathering. Within days, and with minimum promotion, more than 1,000 people had found the page. When another round of photos was based from a more local event, another 700 hits were registered. **So look for our Facebook page and multiple photos from the events that we attend.**

What other options we add, and how we revamp the content to best serve our revitalized mandate, will be decided as we keep the paper on the hoist this summer for further evaluation. As always, we welcome your thoughts and ideas.

## WHAT ABOUT OTHER WAYS TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE DIOCESAN TIMES?

There are lots of alternative ways of raising money for any project. Indeed we ran a very successful campaign five years ago when we laid out the financial plight of the paper on the front page of the paper. Readers came through and we were able to meet our financial obligations for the year, but the following year contributions fell off and have fallen off each year since. We could once again ring the alarm bells and hope readers would come to our aid, but truly we are looking for more sustainable solutions.

One grassroots solution that we would encourage others to copy was recently carried out in the parish of French Villager. After The Diocesan Times funding problems were raised at a regional council meeting, two delegates approached Rev. Brianna Andrews and the parish council wondering how they might help. The council was looking at the idea of a special offering envelope (in use in some churches for a Times Sunday service) when someone mentioned the success of the Toonie campaigns undertaken for the Silent Night and Amazing Grace projects. It was quickly decided to launch a Toonies for the Times campaign for two weeks. A member of the church, Louise Christie, made small boxes that were either placed on a fellowship table or passed around the congregation at the time of the offertory. I am pleased to tell you that the Toonies for the Times Campaign raised \$290! Until that point, total envelope giving's for The Times for the year was \$15.

STEVE (237-3915)



## Toonies for the Times

By REV. BRIANNA ANDREWS

At a recent regional council meeting Harold Irving (Diocesan Times advertising) gave a presentation about by about the funding issues The Diocesan Times is facing. That began a discussion between our two delegates John Stone and David Parkes as to how our parish and others might be able to help. It was brought to parish council the following evening and more discussion ensued. We agreed to look at how many people were receiving the Times and to make sure that people who didn't want it weren't receiving it, etc. We also talked about how we could make parishioners aware of their responsibility to help funding the times if they did indeed want to continue receiving it (things like making a special offering envelope available). Someone mentioned the successes that the Toonie

campaigns recently undertaken had achieved (the Silent Night and Amazing Grace projects) and so it was decided that we would try a Toonie campaign for two weeks (so that all congregations were covered). If successful, it might be something we could present to the other parishes in the diocese as an easy way to help the Times. Louise Christie made our small boxes that were either placed on a fellowship table or passed around the congregation at the time of the offertory. I am pleased to tell you that the Toonies for the Times Campaign raised \$290! Envelope giving's for the Times since the beginning of this year was \$15.



## 35th Cursillo weekends in Kentville

The Nova Scotia Anglican Cursillo Movement held its 35th set of Cursillo weekends in the Annapolis Valley in April and May at St James' Anglican Church in Kentville. Eighty people came together over two weekends to learn more about Christian living and Christian values. As the photos clearly show, they had a wonderful time. The Cursillo movement began in our diocese in the mid-1980s and has grown ever since. For more information about Cursillo and how to get involved, visit their web site: [www.nspeicursillo.chebucto.org/](http://www.nspeicursillo.chebucto.org/)



Photos: Cursillo weekends are a team effort. These two photos from the men's and women's weekends show the hard-working Detail teams whose job is to make sure the details get done!

## Reimagining Church

By REV. LISA G. VAUGHN

WHAT IS THE SPIRIT saying to the church? The world has changed dramatically in the last 50 years. How might a faith community respond to the shifts in our culture? What is the church's future?

The "Reimagining Church in the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island" project provides a beginning point for parishes as they consider their future ministry goals. Adapted for our Maritime Anglican context, it's a five-part course designed by Fresh Expressions Canada, an initiative of the Wycliffe College Institute of Evangelism. This new initiative involves group discussion, colourful visuals, thought-provoking video, Bible discussion and opportunities for prayerful reflection. The program is an easy-to-use kit that includes prepared materials - a leader's guide, participant hand-outs, video teaching and other related resources. The entire series will be available to download FREE from the Diocesan website with a password provided to every parish. We expect to roll it out in August or early September. (Watch the Anglican Net News for updates!)

Anyone in the Diocese,

lay leaders and clergy, may access this video series and its related resources, and offer the program in their community. Topics are: Examining changes in our culture; Identifying spiritual resources; Exploring discipleship; Responding to God's call; and Generating ideas and developing plans. This may just be the most eye-opening course you ever take!

For more information – Website: [www.nspeidiocese.ca](http://www.nspeidiocese.ca); Facebook page "Reimagining Church Diocese of NS & PEI" or contact Building Healthy Parishes Team members Rev. Lisa Vaughn (902-852-4580; [lgvaughn@eastlink.ca](mailto:lgvaughn@eastlink.ca)) or Rev. Ed Trevors (902-875-3661; [edtrevors77@gmail.com](mailto:edtrevors77@gmail.com)).

### IN MEMORY

The Rt. Rev. James P. Allan, Bishop of Keewatin 1974-91, Assistant Bishop of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island 1991-94, passed away on June 26, 2013. He was living in Winnipeg since his retirement. Bishop Allan was predeceased by his wife, Beverley. Condolences can be sent to: Doug Allan 135 Bayridge Ave. Winnipeg, MB R3T 5B4

## Three ordained on the Feast of St Barnabas



Photo: In front dressed in white with red sashes or stole, Nicole Uzans, Ruby Todd and Vivien Hannon. Behind them are Rev. Debra Burselson, the bishop's chaplain and Bsp's Ron Cutler & Sue Moxley.

On June 11, the Feast of St Barnabas, Rev. Ruby Carter was ordained priest and Nicole Uzans and Vivien Hannon were ordained as transitional deacons. The service took place at the Cathedral Church of All Saints.



# How to fool a bishop



Photo: Primate Fred Hiltz, Connie English, Kathy Petite, Michelle Bull, Sue Moxley, Brenda Drake, Sarah Barnhill, Trevor Lightfoot, Kyle Wagner, John Clarke, Ron Cutler, Chris Pharo, Jennifer Warren and Kees Zwanenburg at the close of General Synod in Ottawa.

(from Bishop Sue)  
The Photo [I am holding] was one of the five that won prizes as representing the 5 Marks of

Mission. I had been bidding on the sun flower (Mark 1) but when the bidding closed someone named John Hill

had outbid me. I was quite disappointed! Then after dinner when we were doing the photo, Kathy Petite presented it to

me on behalf of the General Synod members since this was my last General Synod! They had spoken to the real John Hill

who was there in the Liturgy Canada display in order to use his name! They completely fooled me!

## A stole for all seasons

A definite nod to tradition, our stole began as a traditionally cut stole, complete with embroidered orphreys and a small beaded cross at the neckline. The rich blue of the braided trim, the lower edge of the vestment, as well as the fringe, are all the same hue as the Mothers' Union logo that is used throughout the world. The grapevine at the neckline and the wheat that surrounds the prominent cross at the lower edges frames the stole reminding us of the Mothers' Union logo, Christian Care for Families.

A white dove symbolizing baptism descends toward a delicate white baptismal gown of knitted lace that is gently blowing in the breeze. These Baptismal symbols are connected by a fine golden line whereon are written the words of the Mothers' Union motto.

Intertwined with these Christian symbols is a bright red rose of Irish crochet to represent the vision of Mary Sumner who organized the first Mothers' Union in 1876. Around this rose grows a vibrant garden of roses mingled with tiny violets that children love to pick as an offering of love for their mothers. In the midst of this spray of violets is the logo of the Canadian Mothers' Union that took root in 1888. The traditional M and U are intertwined on a blue maple leaf that completes our stole. Rooted in tradition, but transformed to reflect an ever-changing world, this vestment remains a constant symbol of the Priest's office. Let it remind us that even in this changing world the needs of families do not change in essence and, when firmly rooted in God's love, parent's love, past, present and future,

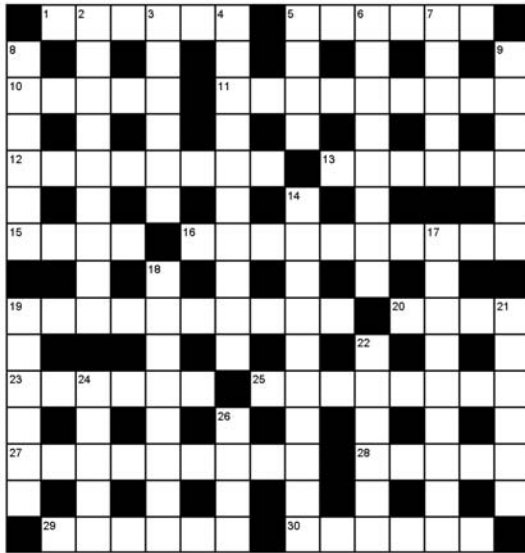
will always stand the test of time. Mothers' Union is a constant united force in its goal to provide Christian care for families worldwide. All of this comes together as a finished vestment that was created for the Glory of God and in grateful thanksgiving for 125 years of Mothers' Union in Canada. This beautiful vestment was designed and hand crafted by Daphne Gabriel of Gabriel Designs.



Photo: Mary Stone and Margaret deCarvalho display the Anniversary Stole at Diocesan Synod in May.

# Bible Crossword

by Maureen Yeats



## SUMMER 2013 Clues

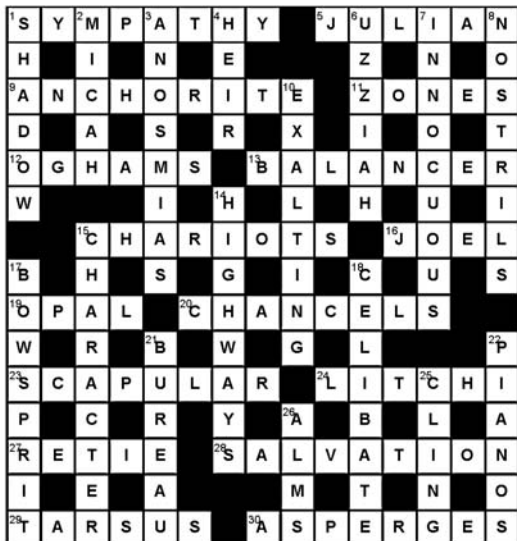
**ACROSS:**

- 1 – Successor of Moses (Deut. 34:9) (6)
- 5 – “They shall mount up like \_\_\_\_\_”, raptors (Isa. 40:31) (6)
- 10 – “The Lord has \_\_\_\_\_ indeed”, returned from the dead (Luke 24:30) (5)
- 11 – Mistaken (9)
- 12 – Companion of Paul (Acts 11-15) (8)
- 13 – White oxide of lithium (6)
- 15 – Kill (4)
- 16 – Make impure (10)
- 19 – Eagerness (10)
- 20 – Grandfather of King David (Ruth 4:17) (4)
- 23 – Plan (6)
- 25 – Adoptive father of Queen Esther (8)
- 27 – South American country (9)
- 28 – “Bless those who \_\_\_\_\_ you”, call down evil (Luke 6:28) (5)
- 29 – “Who shall \_\_\_\_\_ the hill of the Lord?”, go up (Ps. 24:3) (6)
- 30 – “\_\_\_\_\_ the devil and he will flee from you”, strive against (James 4:7) (6)

**DOWN:**

- 2 – Watchful (9)
- 3 – Mother of Samuel (1Sam. 1) (6)
- 4 – “...a Jew named Apollos, a native of \_\_\_\_\_”, Egyptian city (Acts 18:24) (10)
- 5 – Old Testament Jewish scribe (4)
- 6 – “Go nowhere among the \_\_\_\_\_”, non-Jewish people (Matt. 10:5) (8)
- 7 – Father of Methuselah (Gen. 5:21) (5)
- 8 – “...the twelve \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel”, family groupings (Luke 22:30) (6)
- 9 – “...how can we \_\_\_\_\_ if we neglect so great a salvation”, get away (Heb. 2:3) (6)
- 14 – Marine dinosaur (10)
- 17 – Long-finned tunas (9)
- 18 – Spectators (8)
- 19 – Additional things (6)
- 21 – Nonsense (6)
- 22 – Decrees (6)
- 24 – Enclosures to confine animals, birds, etc. (5)
- 26 – Not tame (4)

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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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## IT'S A NEW DAY: ENERGIZED BY FAITH

*Jesus said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment." (Matthew 22:37, 38)*

BY REV. LISA G. VAUGHN

It seems obvious that the first mark of a healthy church would be **energized by faith**. As we continue our exploration of "The Healthy Churches' Handbook: a process for revitalizing your church" \* we understand our foundation for existence is based on our relationship with God. It is from this that all other signs of vitality flow.

Author Robert Warren includes four descriptors for being **energized by faith**:

- **Worship and sacramental life:** move people to experience God's love
- **Motivation:** energy comes from a desire to serve God and one another
- **Engages with Scripture:** in creative ways that connect with life
- **Nurtures faith in Christ:** helping people to grow in, and share, their faith

The energy a congregation exhibits must be differentiated from a motivation of just surviving and holding on.



Photo: *Energized by Faith*

*Our relationship with God is fundamental for individuals that make up a healthy church. For many of us it begins at baptism. Here, Rev. Rob Elford, Rector at Trinity Church, Halifax, holds newly baptized Anaya Rimes.*

It needs to be focused on a community of Jesus' followers in active mission, and not based on keeping a building open or to maintain the status quo.

Warren explains, "It is faith in God as revealed in Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit that is the source of vitality in the life of a healthy church. Different traditions express this in a variety of ways but, in all of them, prayer is a natural part of life and conversation, and the name of Christ is not a source of embarrassment."

Let's briefly consider what **energized by faith** looks like.

**Worship and sacramental life** – Communal worship offers participants an opportunity to encounter the real presence of God. This may include periods of silence, sharing of testimonies and personal stories and a sense of thankfulness and celebration. Effective liturgy includes experiencing joyful moments as well as sorrow, whether that reflects the circumstances in the life of the local faith community or in the world.

**Motivation** – Members of a healthy parish are eager to actively participate, serving God and their neighbours. There is a palpable sense of enthusiasm that's based on a lively faith.

**Engages with Scripture** – There is active engagement with the Word of God, not only by clergy, but by those in the pews. This is when there is a hunger present within individuals and small groups to study and wrestle with scripture. Reading and discussing the Bible together results in changed behaviours and outreach (values, choices and lifestyle).

**Nurtures faith in Christ** – People are able to articulate their faith and have a willingness to share their story. These congregations intentionally encourage members to reflect on how they experience the Lord, how their life is different because they are empowered by the Holy Spirit and changed by God's amazing grace. Evangelism happens and it's usually contagious.

So, as you consider your own congregation, how might you score your level of being energized by faith? Is there a sense of passion and prayer evident within your leadership and general members? Are your energies Christ-centred and mission-minded? What things do you do well in

this area? What are the weaknesses?

Next time we'll examine the second mark of a growing church, **outward-looking focus**.

For more information on The Healthy Churches' Handbook: A Process for Revitalizing Your Church, our Diocese is developing an initiative for local churches to assess the health of their congregations and chart a course for future vitality. The basic steps include identifying strengths and weaknesses, deciding where action is needed, taking action and then reviewing the progress made. This journey will take 18-24 months. We are presently in the pilot stage. If your parish would like to be involved, the Diocese's Building Healthy Parishes Team (VSST) can arrange for a facilitator to work with your parish or with a cluster of parishes in a region. (Phone 902-852-4580 or lgvaughn@eastlink.ca)

*Note: The Healthy Churches' Handbook: A process for revitalizing your church, is by Robert Warren, former National Officer for Evangelism, The Church of England. Church House Publishing, London, 2004, 2012)*

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

## ROMEOS tour refurbished Cathedral

BY FRANK DAVIS

The ROMEIO Group (Retired Old Men Eating Out) comprised of parishioners from Christ Church, Dartmouth, were given a tour of the Cathedral Church of All Saints. Dean Paul Smith, a former rector of Christ Church, gave the group a tour of the new Diocesan Centre, as well as a view of the recently completed Chancel restoration.

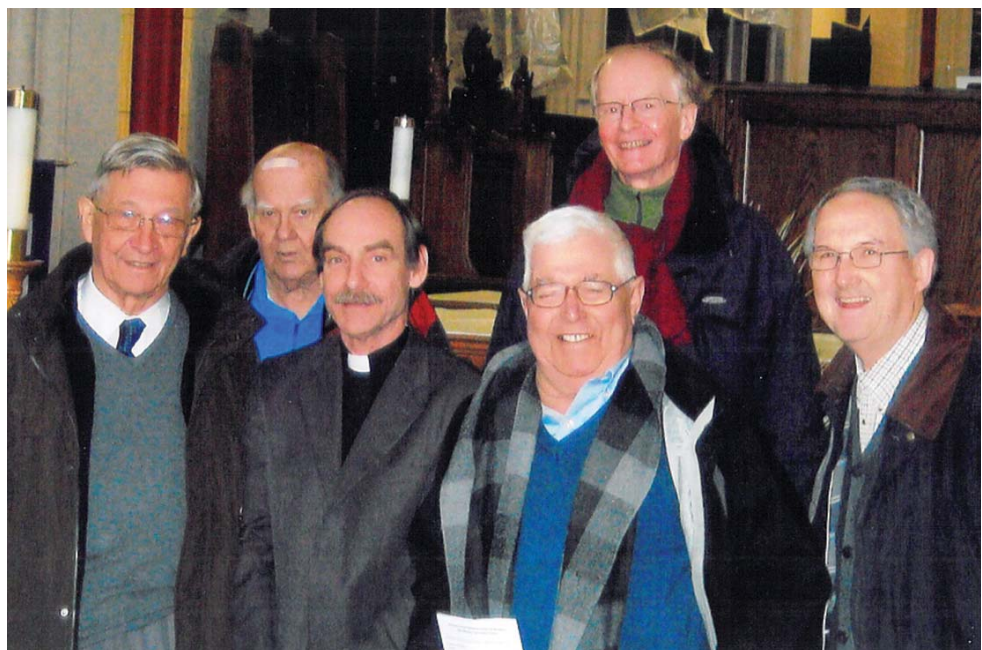


Photo from left: Rev. Peter MacDonald, Rev. David Ferguson, Very Reverend Paul Smith, D. Nichols, Chris Allworth and Rick Chenhall

# Guess who's coming to dinner? The deacon in the Eucharist!

PART 2  
REV. MARILYN HAMLIN

IN LAST MONTH'S PIECE I looked at some of the reasons people come together for a common meal. I thought about the role of the deacon in that Sacred Meal known as The Eucharist. I shared some of my own thoughts as I go about my ministry as deacon at the Lord's Table.

The examination by the Bishop on the Ordination of a Deacon (Page 655, BAS) points out, "As a deacon in the church you are to assist the Bishops and Priests in public worship and in the ministrations of God's word and sacraments".

The "ministration of God's sacraments"...the deacon at the Table, the deacon in the Eucharist; A humbling experience; To take the role of the servant at the Last Supper, the act that our Lord himself performed. He was the one who made the preparations and saw to the details. He fed his guests. He knelt at their feet. He became their servant. Then He dismissed them with a command.

Scripture tells us in Acts 6:1-6 that specific men were selected to perform a ministry of service to the widows, the poor and the needy. Were they the earliest deacons?

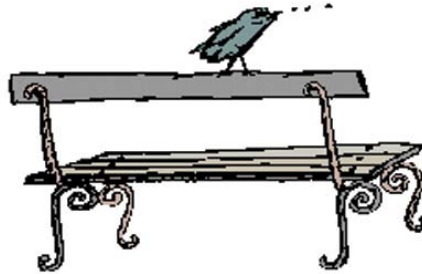
Today, deacons continue the tradition of "Servant" ministry in many areas, one being in the Eucharist.

Elaborating on the ministry of a deacon, Ormande Plater refers to the "setting of the table, preparing the dishes, serving the food, making sure the banqueters don't make a mess, cleaning up and then telling everyone to go home," duties which are more specifically outlined in the Bishop's Guidelines on the Liturgical role of a Deacon (2004).

When performing our assigned duties, there is an awareness of handling sacred vessels. We are standing and moving around in a sacred space, and we are welcoming

**'Who comes to dinner? There is no guesswork here. All come to dinner; each and every one of us.'**

people into communion with Christ. Whatever our task, we carry it out with respect, with reverence and with



View from the deacon's bench

care. We handle the wafers, Christ's body. We pour the wine, Christ's blood. We are watchful, hospitable and ready to assist the Celebrant, attempting to be sensitive to the customs of the parish. We try to clean up quietly in an inconspicuous manner. As deacons we know this is holy ground and this is a holy task, a sacred task. The "guests" who are present are all welcomed by our Lord to His Table and we are all part of the Body of Christ.

The last time the Disciples ate together with their Lord before his death, they were a squabbling, bickering bunch. Christ welcomed them all. He forgave them all. Sometimes God's people come squabbling and bickering to the Lord's table and they too are welcomed and forgiven. They

are fed, nourished with the spiritual food. Christ is at the centre of this feast. It is Christ himself who draws us all into himself and out of ourselves so that we may form one body with him and with each other.

The deacon is to reflect Christ in the world. How can we reflect Him during this Holy Sacrament? We can serve as he served us. We can remember in our hearts that our ministry is to serve the "guests"...all the "guests", the squabbling, the bickering, the poor, the outcasts and those who feel unworthy. God commands us, "You must sit down and taste my meat", (George Herbert; Love III).

Deacons assist in feeding those who come for their spiritual food. We remember that Jesus made an ordinary meal a sacred meal. A loaf

of bread and a drink of wine became a sacrificial banquet. He beckons us. "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and will dine with him and he with me." (Rev. 3:v20)

Jesus waits for us at the Table. The feast is ready. Deacons are privileged to be His assistants. Let the guests see Christ in our eyes, in our hands and in our feet. Let them hear Christ in our voice. "Say the words live the Sacrament". (Myra Blyth, 2000)

We serve with love, humility and with the grace that has been given us. We are thankful we can help minister God's Holy Sacrament.

Who comes to dinner? There is no guesswork here. All come to dinner; each and every one of us. Christ, the guest of honour calls us to come, to join Him in that most intimate of relationships. He commands us to come and eat.

Deacons have been called to be there with Christ and with one another. We are called into the mystery and wonder of the Holy Eucharist. Let us serve with love, humility and the grace that has been bestowed upon us. Let us be thankful for this marvellous privilege.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Myrna MacMillan ordained on April 25 as Transitional Deacon at St. Mary's Glace Bay.

Fred Grainger ordained on May 14 as Transitional Deacon at St. Augustine's, Lake Echo

Rev. Jane Reid resigned from the parish of Blue Rocks/LaHave, July 31. Jane will move into retirement in British Columbia.

Nicole Uzans and Vivien Hannon ordained as transitional deacons on the Feast of St. Barnabas, June 11th at the Cathedral Church of All Saints.

Rev. Don Lawton and Rev. Jim Purchase appointed as honorary canons of the Cathedral Church of All Saints. They were installed in their seats at the Diocesan Synod Service along with those appointed Canons last Fall.

Rev. Ruby Carter appointed rector of the parish of Aylesford with Berwick, July 16, 2013. Ruby was formerly a NSOM priest in Annapolis Royal. She returned to school and graduated with her MDiv from AST in 2013.

Rev. Michael Conrad resigned effective December 31. Michael will then move into retirement.

The Diocese will hold a Synod for an election of a Coadjutor Bishop on Friday, Nov 22, 2013 to be held at the Cathedral Church of All Saints, 1330 Martello Street, Halifax, NS. The Coadjutor Bishop will succeed The Right Reverend Susan E. Moxley effective, April 1, 2014.

Rev. Nicole Uzans appointed as assistant curate in the parish of Horton 3/4 time, July 1. At this time Rector Sandra Fyfe will move to Rector 3/4 time.

## Service recognition for 40 years



Rev. Art Nash was presented with the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal for his work as chaplain of the Royal Canadian Legion for 40 years as well as his 8 years as Nova Scotia/Nunavut Command Chaplain. The Command President, Comrade Jean Marie Deveaux, commented on his work with many people of faith as well as many without faith. His role as Chaplain included British Columbia, Manitoba and 4 Branches in Nova Scotia.

Photo: Rev. Art Nash wearing his recently awarded Diamond Jubilee Medal and holding his certificate.