



Celebrating 225 years in Middleton

WITH CONTRIBUTIONS FROM JOHN MACEachern, Chair, Old Holy Trinity Church Charitable Trust and Bruce Gillis

More than one hundred parishioners, priests (past and present) and townsfolk came to celebrate the 225th Anniversary of Old Holy Trinity Church at a special service on Sunday August 14, 2016; the service commemorated the 1st service held on that date in 1791. Rev Paul Jennings of the Parish of Wilmot NS and Diocesan Bishop Ron Cutler conducted the service.

Built from 1789 to 1791, Old Holy Trinity Church is the oldest unaltered Loyalist church in existence, although repaired from time to time. It is a significant architectural landmark in North America with a noteworthy historical background:

- The church was built during the Reign of King George III;
- Its first service was conducted 76 years before the Confederation of Canada;
- George Washington was president of the USA at that time; and

- Napoleon did not fight in the Battle of Waterloo until 24 years later.

Reverend John Wiswall was the first rector of the church. Wiswall had been a priest in the Episcopal Church in Falmouth (Portland) Maine. Being with the Church of England during the American Revolution, he was known as a British sympathizer. Consequently, revolutionary forces killed his wife and two of his four sons. Wiswall and his remaining two sons were taken as prisoners of war for two years and then sent back to England. Eventually his requests to return to North America were granted and he was brought to Nova Scotia where Bishop Inglis, the only Anglican Bishop on the continent, gave Wiswall the Parish of Wilmot. Much to Bishop Inglis' annoyance, it took Wiswall two years to build Holy Trinity, now Old Holy Trinity Church.

The late Mary G. Gillis, was honoured at this service marking the 225th Anniversary. In 1991 the parish minister proposed to have the now two hundred year-old building torn down as its condition was deteriorated and he did not wish to incur the substantial repair costs.

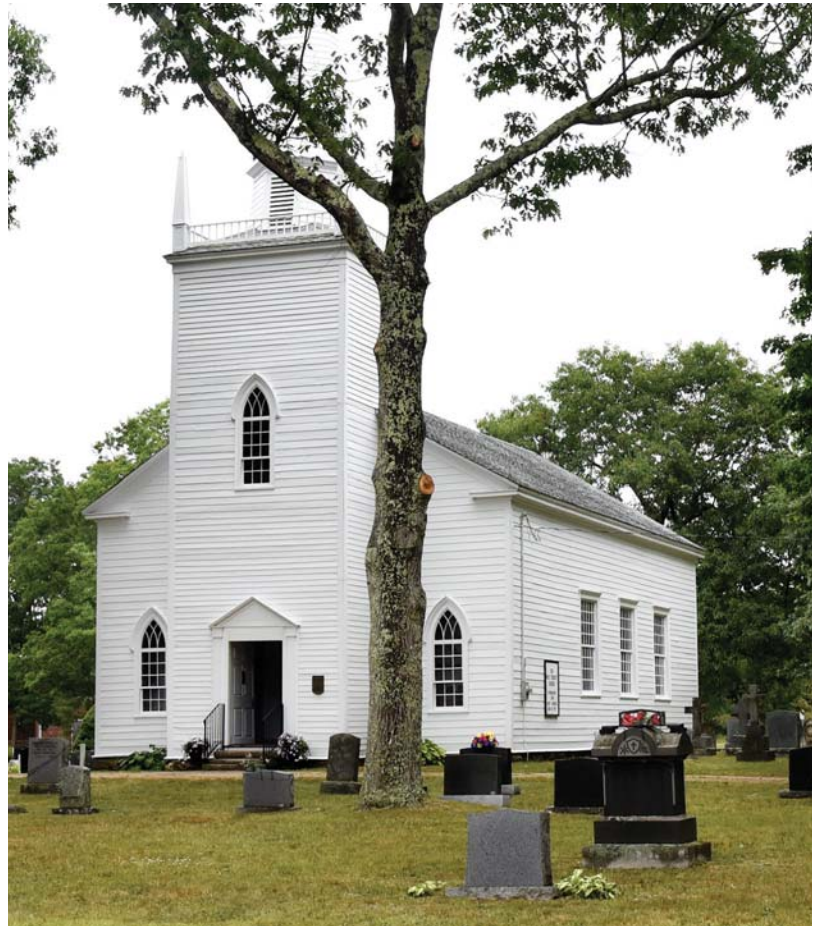


Photo above: The Old Trinity Church in Middleton after 225 years.

Photo below left: Dignitaries of all kinds came to the 225 anniversary service. Religious, political and family members all gathered to mark the occasion.



Mary was appalled at the prospect of the destruction of the historic landmark, and quickly organized a group to save the church. They arranged to have it designated as a provincial heritage building, and formed a charitable trust to raise funds for its repair. She threatened to chain herself to the building if workers should attempt to demolish it. In time the group won the battle. The building now in excellent condition is a popular tourist attraction with student guides hired each summer.

The ceremony was attended by the Premier of

the Province, the Mayor, and other dignitaries, and Gillis family members in appropriate highland outfits. Special space was made in the program for comments recognizing Mary's outstanding efforts to preserve the historic building, and by coincidence the event was one day after the anniversary of her birthday.

Old Holy Trinity Church of the Parish of Wilmot is a NS Provincial Heritage site and is operated, preserved, protected, and promoted by the Old Holy Trinity Charitable Trust.

COLUMNIST



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Some thoughts on the first sentence of The Lord's Prayer

Gleaned from a sermon first preached on 25th of July 2016 at St. Luke's Annapolis Royal

By REV CANON DONALD NEISH

Our Father; Pater Noster. These familiar words come from Jesus as He was teaching his disciples how to pray. The word "Father" comes first from the original Aramaic for father. We could stop here and discuss inclusive language. Father- Mother? But I am going to pass on and use the word we are comfortable with. God is beyond; including fatherhood and motherhood but is neither, God is both.

Using the word Father, Abba, God, we are entering into a relationship, conversation, chat with the eternal Father, God, Creator, Sustainer of the universe, and of each one of us, you and me. How do we address our father? Stop and think about what we are doing. In our own daily prayers, Stop—Think, take as long as you like. But be aware of the one whom you address! How would you instigate a conversation with a Sports hero, the Queen, the Prime



Donald Neish is retired and living in Granville Ferry. He is Honorary Assistant within the Parish of Annapolis and is now teaching the Teens, Sunday School Class at St. Luke's. He does his best to keep Aunt Madge in line!

Minister, someone famous? Would you be spellbound?

You are starting a conversation with Our Father, and always we say 'Our Father' 'Pater Noster', even when alone we are never alone. Jesus did not teach us to say

"my father" but "Our father". We pray as a member of a family. Even a hermit in his or her cell says "Our Father", never "my father". Stop and think about all those who say "Our Father"; Kings and commoners, rich and poor, strong and weak, likeable and unlikeable, the one nearest you at the moment. It is always "Our Father".

Most important of all, the prayer was taught to us by Jesus who invited us to pray "Our Father". The one who invites us to say "Father" the one who Jesus Himself calls Father.

Stop and think: If Jesus asks us to call Father the one whom He calls Father, then Jesus is our brother. Think about that, you are a sister or brother of Jesus. Go further, so is everyone else who says "Our Father". If that person is a sister or brother of Jesus then that person is your sister or brother.

We need to be reminded of that fact whenever we think

of others, and certainly before we indulge in criticizing them, because not only are we criticizing our brother or sister, but a brother or sister of Jesus.

Where, then, is the one whom we call "Our Father" to be found? In Heaven. But where is heaven? In the sky above? The sky beyond our solar system - what we today call outer space? Or where God is. Do we call another dimension, not far away, not up or down, perhaps, or rather within.

Jesus said "The Kingdom of heaven is within you". So God -Our Father in Heaven- is to be found within, closer to ourselves even than we are. To enter into prayer with our Father is to enter within yourself. Close your eyes and shut out, for a time, the external world. Attend to one whom you pray, within the very center of your own being.

"Our Father, who art in Heaven"

CLIMATE CHANGE

MOST RESPONSIBLE

LEAST VULNERABLE

LEAST RESPONSIBLE

MOST VULNERABLE

Dave Walker © 2016 CartoonChurch.com

BISHOP'S MESSAGE



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

How to describe CLAY?

From August 17-21 I was privileged to participate in CLAY 2016. What is CLAY? It is the Canadian Lutheran Anglican Youth gathering. It happens every second year somewhere in Canada. This year, for the first time, CLAY came to Prince Edward Island. 830 teens from Lutheran and Anglican churches from coast to coast made their way to UPEI on planes and buses. There were another 200 adult 'home team leaders', organizers, program volunteers, pastoral care volunteers, ushers and event supervisors. All together we became a Christian community of 1,000 people for 5 days. Many groups took the time to connect with maritime communities and churches along their way to PEI. It wasn't just the destination that mattered, it was the journey.

How to describe CLAY? It was a 'happening': part worship, part educational event, part relationship building, part servant ministry, and a whole lot of fun. This is a full communion event.

The national organizing committee is made up of representatives from both the Anglican and Lutheran churches. Archbishop Fred Hiltz and ELCIC national bishop Susan Johnson were present, along with 5 Lutheran and 5 Anglican bishops. How many times do you see lineups of people waiting to get into worship? At CLAY these are the large group gatherings. There was Music, lots of loud, faith focused music and room to dance if the spirit moves you. Dramatic telling of scripture. Reflection through drama, through keynote addresses, through the sharing of small group learning experiences, all on the theme "Not for Sale: creation, people, salvation".

This gathering expresses itself in a passionate spirituality. It creates its own unique identity as a wonderfully diverse group of people who are gathered, but certainly not cut off from the world outside the campus. One afternoon, 1,000 willing workers scattered in groups across the island in order to support the work of a wide variety of community organizations and faith based groups. Here living the gospel was about getting hands dirty in

the name of the one who came to serve and not to be served.

This gathering clearly sees itself as engaged in the world around itself, whether local community or global concern. Small group forums, the "morning mash-ups" where devotions to start the day were combined with an opportunity to question and be questioned by the bishops, produced lots of thoughtful questions and not much patience for simplistic answers. This gathering revealed a thirst for knowledge about how Jesus impacts all of life, not a small box labelled 'religion'. Faith means having fun too. This group embraces change yet has its own share of traditions!

This is the church. It is not the 'church of tomorrow' or 'the leaders of tomorrow'. These are the people who are leading the way today. So much of what I heard at our last Synod, and what we have been talking about in many places since then, was on glorious display at CLAY. In many ways there is an obvious generational divide, and on the surface this expression of the church doesn't look anything like what I see in most parishes. Yet... Word and sacrament are present, in fact they are in the center of this gathering. There is a recognition that following Jesus means being different from much of the attitudes of the culture around us, while at the same time using the attributes of that culture to express and communicate the gospel of Jesus. There is a searching for what it means to be a disciple, here and now. There is an overwhelming desire to engage in opportunities for Christian formation and a recognition that living faith means reaching out to the wider community in service.

It was only for five days, and this level of engagement would be difficult to maintain over a longer period of time (not to mention the effects of lack of sleep). I believe these few days will have a profound impact on those who attended and participated.

So often our windows of opportunity to be the means of God's grace are brief. The gospels are filled with brief encounters between individuals and Jesus, which changed them profoundly and through them, changed their families and communities. I came away from CLAY thinking that here was yet another instance where people encountered the living God. It was intense, it was realistic, it was joy-filled it was inspiring and will no doubt transform individuals and maybe even some churches.

CLAY 2018 will take place in Thunder Bay. It's not too soon to start organizing!

+Ron

So much of what I heard at our last Synod, and what we have been talking about in many places since then, was on glorious display at CLAY.



Photo: Some of the 1,000 + participants at the 2016 CLAY conference in Charlottetown in August. This composite photo was taken as the group started to assemble for worship and information sessions on Saturday afternoon.

The worldwide Mothers' Union touches the lives of so many



Photo: Mothers' Union attendees at the National Conference in Baddeck this past summer. Members came from across Canada and the United States.

140 YEARS AGO Mary Sumner the wife of a vicar in England invited a few mothers to her home with the idea of forming a small group to meet on a regular basis to look at ways to raise children in a Christian family. Her vision was to encourage others. Mary Sumner would be amazed to know that from this small beginning the Mothers' Union now has over 4 million members in 83 countries.

Many have never heard of this organization which is open to anyone who has been baptized in the name of the Trinity, agrees with the aim and objectives, believes in the importance of marriage and family life, is married or unmarried, parent or not, male or female.

The following question was put to me: What effect would it have on the world if the Mothers' Union were to cease operation immediately?

What does the Mothers' Union do? Most in the Anglican Communion have heard of the organization but have no clear idea of the work of the Mothers' Union.

At the local level the branch members assist when needed by giving support and help in many ways in the parish and in the community. Some examples are helping at food banks and shelters, making prayer shawls and blankets, holding Bible studies, running Messy Church, presenting banners to the newly baptized, contributing and serving at the Missions to Seafarers, visiting shut-ins, hosting tea parties for the elderly, inviting guest speakers and holding workshops that address family issues and spiritual, mental

and physical wellbeing.

The Mothers' Union Parents Supporting Parents Program is now available across Canada. The Canadian Resource Manual has now been translated into two of the Canada's aboriginal languages and is now ready to be introduced in the North. The Mothers' Union Parenting Program is also offered in 23 countries where there is Mothers' Union. Trainers are available to train facilitators who then offer this program in their churches and communities. The trainers and facilitators do not have to be members of the Mothers' Union or connected to any

From the smallest project to the largest, it does good things to enhance the lives of not only the underprivileged but everyone it touches."

Christian denomination. This program is designed for people from all walks of life, not only for parents but for anyone who has an interest, or is involved in the raising of children.

At the national level branches support the

Northern Clergy Families Fund which sends monetary gifts to clergy spouses in Canada's North. The recipients are selected by bishops of the Council of the North. In 2015, 16 gifts of \$950 were sent. These gifts are to help relieve some of the hardships of living in the North. These surprise gifts go with no restrictions attached.

At the worldwide level the Mothers' Union offers many programs. Programs in Africa include Literacy and Financial Education in South Sudan, Burundi, and Malawi, Family Life. In Uganda where the Mothers' Union workers

and Family Life trainers have mobilised to come together to identify issues that affect daily life. They train facilitators to bring together the members of the community and to help them deal with issues brought about by such things as AIDS, hygiene and lack of education. When tragedy strikes, such as famine, flooding and civil war, the Mothers' Union is very quick to respond financially as bank accounts are already set up and workers are on hand to distribute supplies. Also in Uganda the Church and Community Mobilisation "Eagle

initiative" uses Bible study to unlock potential ideas, resources and changing attitudes in communities. CMM is also in Guyana. This program encourages countries to stand on their own feet and raise funds for themselves rather than relying on outside

financial help. Every day at noon, members all around the world pray for members in other countries, making a Wave of

"In Canada fellowship and the outreach to the community and church would certainly be felt. In other countries in the world where



Prayer that circles the globe every 24 hours. One worker from the Solomon Islands told a group of Canadian members that she was uplifted by this and would be not be able to face the dangers she encounters without this prayer support.

The Mothers' Union has a representative on the United Nations Status of Women. Mothers' Union is fighting to stop Female Genital Mutilation in Kenya (FGM) and other forms of violence against women in South Sudan, where girl child compensation is practiced where a family member has been killed.

To quote two of our Canadian members, "If the Worldwide Mothers' Union suddenly ceased to operate, all the good work that is carried out that benefits so many lives would be greatly missed. From the smallest project to the largest, it does good things to enhance the lives of not only the underprivileged but everyone it touches."

Mothers' Union has spread, I can only imagine the vast hardship and panic the demise of Mothers' Union would create."

With God's help and prayer I trust that the Worldwide Mothers' Union will carry on the work begun by Mary Sumner for many, many years to come.

Mary Sumner's Personal Prayer.

All this day, O Lord, Let me touch as many lives as possible for thee;

And every life I touch, do thou by thy spirit quicken,

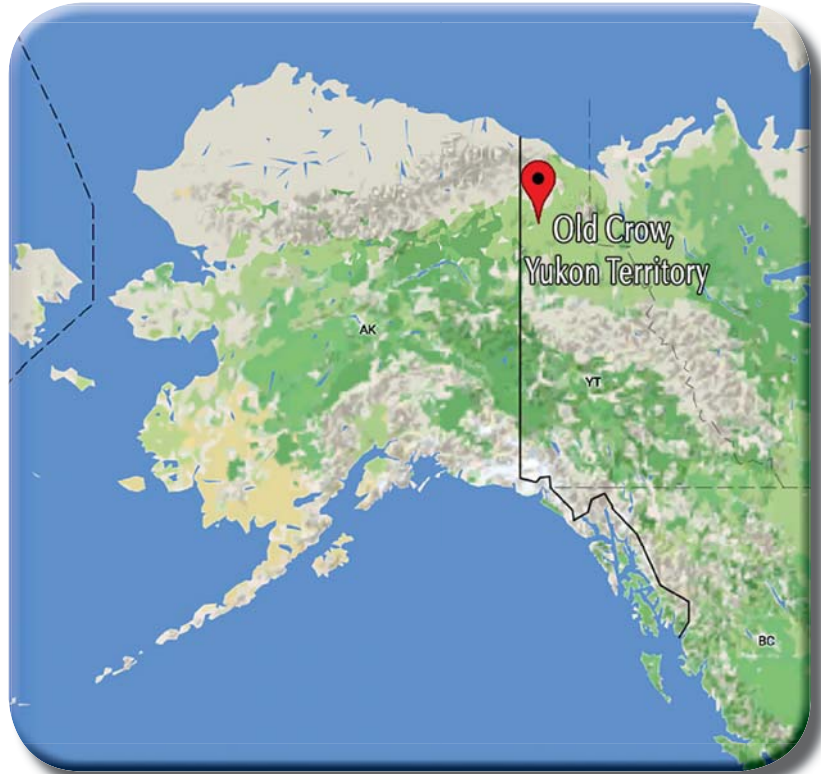
Whether through the word I speak, the prayer I breathe, or the life I live.

Amen.

BY MARGARET DE CARVALHO, CANADIAN PRESIDENT.

So long, Bert!

IT WAS A WARM DAY IN JULY when the parish of St. Andrew's Church, Locks Road, Dartmouth gathered to say goodbye to Rev. Bert Chestnut. Bert left for Old Crow in the Yukon Territory in August and is just settling in to his new northern ministry. Bert promises to send regular updates and photos about his time in Old Crow and his new experiences. Bert is on leave from the Diocese of NS & PEI for a year-long placement in Old Crow and Whitehorse.



Map above: Old Crow in the Yukon Territory is approximately 100 miles south of the Arctic Circle. To put that in perspective, return airfare from Vancouver to Old Crow is \$1,000!



Photo above: Bishop Ron Cutler congratulates Rev Bert Chestnut on his upcoming new ministry in Old Crow.

Photo right: The parish presented Bert with an embroidered covered-bridge reminiscent of Bert's home province, New Brunswick.

Photo below: It seems not even bishops are able to put down cell phones during a church service. Although this looks more like a photo-op than texting.



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Images of CLAY

CLAY took over much of the UPEI campus. Events were held in small and large group settings. Here are just a few of them.

Photo top: Some of our diocesan contingent at CLAY - youth, adults and clergy folks.

Photos left, right and lower-right: The Anne of Green Gables dress-up booth was a hit with all ages and genders. Here's a few of the more memorable make-up moments.

Photo bottom: The dance floor never stopped moving. The music, lights and dancers kept going with boundless energy.



Back at it again

BY ALLIE COLP

Here we are again. September. School starting up again, church programming getting

underway, soon summer will feel like a distant memory. There's something about summertime that invites us to let our imaginations run a little bit wilder than usual.

Maybe it's the sun, or the long days, or who knows, but there is something that makes it a really special time. And now, it is drawing to a close again. We can't make

the summer heat and long days last through the fall and winter, but maybe we can make that feeling of wonder and freedom last.

As church calendars start to fill up with meetings and bible study, Sunday school and youth group, pot lucks and work parties, it can feel like there is little space for wonder and even less for freedom. But there is, if we take the time to find it, and maybe rethink those full schedules a bit.

Sunday School and youth programming are often the easiest times to create that space. Instead of planning every moment from the time you leave the church for the Sunday School room to when you return for communion, or every second of the youth group meeting, with clear learning goals and objectives, leave some space. Create opportunity for freedom. Ask questions that you don't know the answer to. Invite

your young people to wonder. Do this in other meetings too. Give yourself permission to wonder and to dream about what possibilities there are, rather than getting so caught up in the day to day maintenance of your church, your parish, or whatever else you are involved in that you can't see beyond to what could be. I know, it's easier said than done, but if you give it a shot, you might be surprised to see what happens.

Think back on this past summer – on the gifts that you experienced, on the moments when you felt closest to God. Ask the young people or other people in your community what those gifts or moments were for them. Then try to find or create opportunities for those kinds of close-to-God-moments all year long,



Pokémon at church

BY ALLIE COLP

Numerous churches in this diocese wonder about how to get more young people in their church or engaged in church activities. And now, with no work on the part of the church or its leadership – many of those same churches literally have young people on their doorstep.

Pokémon Go may not bring young people into church on Sunday morning, but it gives us an opportunity to engage with those who are playing the game. I'm no expert on app development, but here's the basic rundown: Pokémon Go is a game that utilizes information from Google Maps to bring the game almost to life. As players physically move around their surroundings, they will find Pokémon, and Poke stops – places where they can collect various items needed for playing the game. Churches are often flagged as Poke stops, which is what brings young people to the doorstep.

So, what do we do about it? It's hard to know how long

this game will remain so popular, but while it is, we should make the most of this opportunity to make some genuine connections with people in the community. Remind them that God loves them and that the church is an affirming, supporting presence in their community. The options of how to do that are endless, and can be as big or small as your resources allow. Here are a few ideas:

Get to know the game! Even if you have no idea what a Pokémon even is, playing around with it a bit and getting a bit of an understanding of what this craze is all about is a really important step of using it as a tool to connect to people.

Provide access for refilling water bottles or having a drink of water. The game encourages players to go lots of walking around, and on hot summer days, hydration is important.

Set up a charging station. Pokémon Go is a huge drain on battery life, so if your church has an extension cord that you are able to run outside, or if you keep your church open for certain times

of certain days anyway, all you need to do is create some signs and make sure the plug is clearly marked.

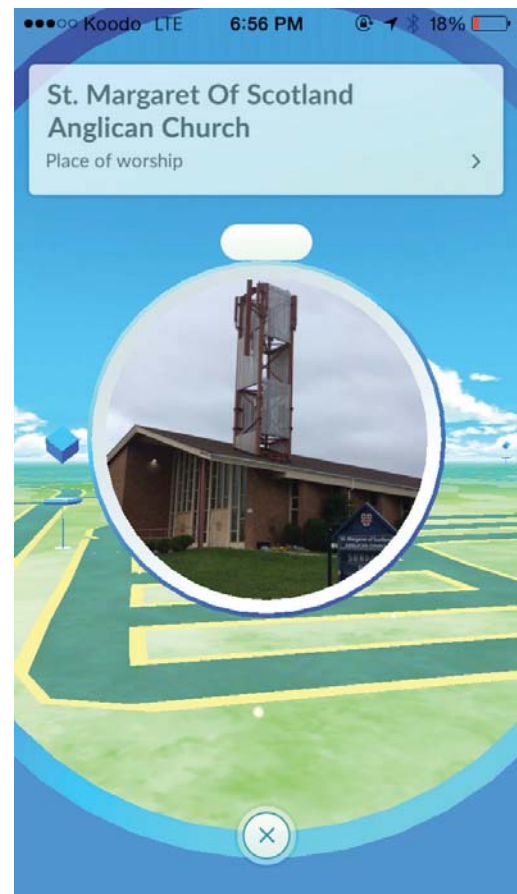
Have parishioners hang out and chat to visiting Pokémon Go players.

Have some snacks available for players.

If you do a quick Google search, you will find even more ideas of what you and your church can do, but whatever you decide to do, remember to be genuine. Young people or others playing Pokémon Go will see right through you if your only goal is to get them into church on Sunday. Instead, create space that the church can, in whatever way makes the most sense for your context, can provide support and encouragement for players, and then see what happens.

Have fun!

Image right: St. Margaret of Scotland is just one of many churches that are a destination for Pokémon Go players. This picture is from the app, which can be downloaded from the App Store or Google Play





I asked and I imagined...

BY JESSIE BOWER

Attending Ask and Imagine this May at Huron University College in London, ON was an incredible experience. I didn't know what a week at A&I would look like but for years fellow youth leaders spoke highly of it and for a while I've wanted to take my foundation of youth ministries to the next level.

I think that in our parishes and our amazing movements like TEC, Cursillo, Youth groups etc. we can get busy and repetitive and the opportunities for scholarly learning aren't as present as we need them to be. The professors at A&I were diverse and engaging with seminar topics such as Science and Theology and Preaching. I found it to be eye opening and challenging in the best kind of way. I took pages and pages of notes for myself and to bring back and discuss with those I do programming with.

The food (the beautiful

homemade food!), Brough house and the surrounding grounds all truly felt like a getaway from our day to day life. The flowering trees were in full bloom, we saw wild turkeys, baby deer, we laughed, some of us cried, and we all respected and cared for one and other as we journeyed through all the program offered.

Back home when asked about my experience I just kept saying "my brain expanded!". I sincerely opened my heart to see and hear God so that I may be part of his plan and vision for youth ministries. I am grateful for the support of my Parish, the VSST and all who encouraged me to attend. I give thanks for the planners and leaders at A&I who build and deliver the program with great thought and kindness. I pray this program receives the support to continue in the years ahead. I would love to be involved in the future.

What a party!

By Sue Heenan
On Saturday, May 7, 2016, at St. John the Evangelist Church, Middle Sackville, N.S., a variety show was held under the leadership of Sue Heenan, PWRDF rep, from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Gary Thorne and the Jammers played along with vocals by Dar Stutt and Bruce Moxley. There was Tonic!, a women's barbershop quartet, who are affiliated with ScotianAires; belly dancer (Ruth Moxley); students from the Musician's Club at Sir John A. MacDonald High School and the show ended with the Lucasville Combined Choir under the leadership of Mrs. Avis Oliver.
We were pleased to have in

attendance Chris Pharro, the Diocesan PWRDF rep for Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Darryl Spidell was the MC, who did a superb job. Mothers' Union catered with refreshments and our Ways and Means' ladies served the tea and coffee. We netted \$1030.00 which exceeded all expectations. One hundred dollars was given to the Ways and Means and \$930.00 was given to PWRDF to be distributed to the Wildfires in Alberta. All in all, what a party!



Photo below: The Lucasville combined choir offered their voices in song at the PWRDF party.



Diocese of NS & PEI

CONNECT: Best Practices for Youth Ministry

Engaging and Equipping Leaders in Youth Ministry

An interactive session facilitated by Youth and Family Ministry Coordinator Allie Colp on what youth ministry is all about and how to do it well. Come and meet other leaders, share your experiences, learn new things, and have some fun!

For more information or to RSVP, email Allie at acolp@nspeidiocese.ca



1 - 4 pm
Saturday Sept. 24, 2016
Trinity Anglican Church
321 Main Ave, Halifax

Cursillo weekend coming soon

The 2016 Cursillo weekend is scheduled to begin Thursday October 13th to Sunday October 16th, 2016.



Note: the men's and women's weekends are being held at the same location on the same dates but they are not co-ed weekends. They are being held at The Debert Hospitality Centre in Debert, 130 Ventura Drive, Debert N.S. B0M 1G0
If you are already a Cursillista and wish to share the gift of Cursillo with candidates, will you please consider sponsoring someone in your parish? Check out our website at nspeicursillo.chebucto.org for applications and sponsorship guidelines.

'Seeing through photography' at CLAY 2016



BY PAUL SHERWOOD,
EDITOR, DIOCESAN TIMES

I was invited to present a ministry project at CLAY this past August and choose 'Seeing through Photography' as a working title.

Sessions opened with the Photographer's Prayer to focus the project. Photographs a moment in time - the good, the bad and the embarrassing. My talk centred on seeing the subject as the camera does. That is, to recognize and understand that the camera captures much more detail than the human eye ever could. Then to use that knowledge to capture the likeness of the person in the most favourable way. We then demonstrated these techniques to show how minor adjustments can avoid common pitfalls. The CLAY participants were willing and enthusiastic participants in showing the best and worst photo techniques. For those who want to learn more, I suggest the following courses from the Museum of Modern Art (free or pay for a certificate) and Adobe (free but they use all Adobe products with free trials available)

SEEING THROUGH PHOTOGRAPHS:
The Museum of Modern Art | Coursera
www.coursera.org/learn/photography

About this course: Although taking, sharing, and viewing photographs has become second nature for many of us, our regular engagement with images does not necessarily make us visually literate. This course aims to address the gap between seeing and truly understanding photographs by introducing a diversity of ideas, approaches, and technologies that inform

their making. In this course you will look closely at photographs from the collection of The Museum of Modern Art and hear a variety of perspectives on what a photograph is and the ways that photography has been used throughout its nearly 180 year history: as a means of artistic expression, as a tool for science and exploration; as an instrument of documentation; to tell stories and record histories; and as a mode of communication and critique in our ever increasingly visual culture.

Learning Objectives

- Develop skills to better examine and understand the differences between photographs and photographic images.
- Discover how context influences the production, circulation, and reception of photographic images.
- Learn about different modes of artistic and technological experimentation and innovation in photography.
- Investigate photography's role in our increasingly visual culture.

Who is this class for: This course, aimed at a general audience interested in photography, is designed to help build skills in looking critically at photographs. No prior knowledge of studio photography or history of photography is required. Please note, this course does not address technical skills for making or editing photographs.

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Photo: Applying some workshop techniques with Bishop Ron and his posing accomplice.

A photographer's prayer

Oh God, as I bring my subject into focus
and prepare to make each portrait,
never let me forget
that I'm creating treasures for some family,
a keepsake for loved ones.
Make me sensitive to the qualities
and virtues of others,
that I may draw out into the light
the beautiful radiant belongings of their hearts.
Help me to be an artist, collecting the beauty of every soul,
the glow of youth, the gentleness, the laughter or tears
of each life that is precious in Thy sight.
Deeper than a means of livelihood,
give me the perspective to see my photographer's art
as a service to others,
making life richer and more memorable.
And, dear Lord, between the lights and shadows,
the ups and downs and the rolling years,
keep me from getting out of focus or off center,
so that my life and work may be framed with dignity
and colored with contentment ...
Amen



Author Unknown