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I HAVE CALLED *You* BY NAME

THE DIOCESAN TIMES



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SEPTEMBER 2019 A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL

Serving the Anglican Church in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island



Photo: Some of the many participants from Anglican parishes across our diocese marching in the Halifax Pride Parade.

Marching proud in Halifax Pride Parade

FROM INTEGRITY NOVA SCOTIA

It was a hot but bearable day. There was great participation from Anglicans. At least 17 parishes had participants from:

Halifax - Cathedral, St.

George's, St. Mark's, St. Margaret of Scotland.

Dartmouth - Christ Church, St. Luke's, Eastern Passage

Others - Emmanuel Spryfield, St. Andrew's Timberlea, French Village, Hubbards, St. Timothy's Hatchett Lake, All Saints

Bedford, St. Francis by the Lakes, Holy Spirit Lakelands, Lantz, & Antigonish.

Many thanks to those who carried banners, flags and wore colours. It was a great show and witness to our diversity, particularly in

light of the disappointment and discouragement over the General Synod vote.

We now move on with "Generosity of Spirit" towards those who cannot yet accept full participation by LGBTQ2+ persons in all the sacraments of the

Church. We thank Bishop Ron for his leadership and confirm our support. Archbishop Ron sent his regrets for not being able to join us this year as he enjoys a well-earned rest on an Alaskan Cruise.

Lots more photos from this and other Pride Parades can be found on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/diotimes) and our online edition on the diocesan website.



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HOME

COLUMNIST

Discord and harmony and life By the Bog

Here it is September already and summer is fading fast. It has been a season of confusion around The Bog. The weather went from Arctic chill to Rain Forest steam in a matter of days. Lawns were so wet they couldn't mow for weeks it seemed, then within a twinkling of an eye, they were turning an unhealthy brown. Vegetable patches sat in damp soil, then burst into a bountiful crop within days.

Yes, it has been a very different summer here By the Bog. On top of the strange weather patterns we witnessed changes to our beloved Anglican Church here in Canada.

In times past, General Synod met somewhere in the country and unless we knew of a delegate personally, it came and went without too much notice in our small Anglican community. Not this year!! We made the National news on several occasions but the one huge news item that seemed to touch our hearts and minds was the vote on



ST. BART'S BY THE BOG

Sarah Neish

changes to the marriage Canon, the change that would allow marriage between people of the same sex. I cannot get into the "politics" of the vote, I can only say that many of us here at St. Bart's were hoping and expecting the passage of the change. When we heard the results of the vote there was sadness and some anger, much mumbling

and grumbling and a need for clarification.

We were in the middle of a vacation break for Father Jason and had been enjoying the tag team ministry of our two retired clergy, "High and Mighty" Jim and "Give 'em Hell" Larry. It was Jim's Sunday to lead worship when the results were first announced. We all wondered if and how he would address the proverbial Elephant in the room. Would he ignore the subject and get on with the Eucharist? Would he want to preach on the matter? How did he feel personally? AND how about Larry? We understood that these two clerics had very differing views on worship, ceremony etc. My Orin used to wonder if they ever discussed such issues or put pressure on the rector over their differences.

This particular morning, as the small summer choir took its place in their pews and the first hymn began, both men came out together, side by side and for the rest of the

service they shared their gifts with us. They offered special prayers for our retiring Primate Fred and for our new Primate Linda. They prayed for all who had the difficult job of voting for the marriage canon amendment, they prayed for respect for both sides in the debate. And then they celebrated the Eucharist; Jim in full vestments, Larry in cassock and surplis and stole. By their witness they showed us the strength of our shared communion and ministry.

We have three couples living and worshipping within our midst, same sex couples who have made the Bog their home and who have become an active part of our worshipping family. We want to support them in their shared lives with each other and with us. We will see what happens soon as our own Diocese accepts same sex marriage. Maybe we will have a few weddings here By the Bog!

I'll keep you posted,
Aunt Madge



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PAUL SHERWOOD
Editor

Also on the web:
www.nspeidiocese.ca

Letters & News Items:
Paul Sherwood, Editor
PO Box 8882,
Halifax, NS B3K 5M5
diocesantimes@gmail.com
902.477.3040

Advertising:
Angela Rush
diocesantimes.ads@gmail.com
905.630.0390
(Burlington, ON)

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THE PEACE

STRATEGIES FOR AVOIDING IT

ADOPT AN INTIMIDATING STANCE

LOOK UP THE NEXT HYMN

FIND SOME CHANGE FOR THE COLLECTION

VOLUNTEER IN THE KITCHEN

HIDE

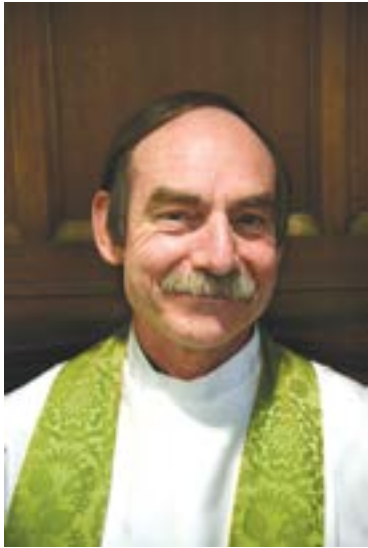
FEIGN AN INJURY

Dave Walker © 2019

CartoonChurch.com

GUEST COLUMNIST

How I spent my summer vacation



The Very Rev. Paul Smith,
Dean of the Cathedral Church of
All Saints, Halifax, NS

Thirty-eight years ago, a woman named Audrey Prouty was a patient at Dartmouth College's medical center in northern New Hampshire. Audrey was suffering from ovarian cancer which eventually took her life. It might have been the end of her life story, a not uncommon story as cancer continues to claim some 80,000 lives in Canada annually, and nearly 600,000 in the U.S, but Audrey was no ordinary person or patient. Audrey was a woman of extraordinary wisdom, grace, and faith. She knew and conveyed the fact that every day was a sacred gift to be treasured, even while undergoing treatment. She so inspired her attending nurses, that following her death, three of them chose to set off to ride 100 miles through the surrounding hills and valleys of New Hampshire, telling anyone that would listen why they were making the journey and surprisingly receiving donations for their efforts. And so was born an annual event, now known as "The Prouty" which draws more than 5,000 participants and volunteers from across the United States, and Canada; this year raising a record-setting 3.4 million dollars for cancer research at Dartmouth College's renowned Norris Cotton Cancer Center. Why am I telling you this story? Because for the past 14 years I have spent a significant part of my summer vacation training for, and participating in, this extraordinary event. For me it is personal. My brother is a cancer survivor who was treated at this same facility 15 years ago, and in my years of ministry dealing with patients and families touched by cancer has been all too common. We all know an Audrey Prouty.

As you bike through the beautiful countryside, to help pass the time, you often strike up conversations with those you meet along the way. This year I came alongside a person by the name of Catherine, slowly but determinedly



Photo: Dean Paul Smith riding in the Cathedral during Bike Week this year.

creeping her way up a rather steep hill. I could see by the colored-coded number badge she was wearing that she was biking the 50 mile route. The 50 mile route is very challenging, having a total elevation climb from beginning to end of some 2,400 feet, or about 2 ½ times the height of Kelly's Mountain in Cape Breton! I asked if this was her first Prouty; "No" she replied, "it's my third!" "Your first time biking 50 miles?", I asked. "Yes", she said. "Good for you! "And why did you want to bike 50 miles?" She paused for a few moments, and then with shy grin she replied; "Just to see if I could". I know it's not polite to ask a woman's age, but I couldn't resist. Catherine - was 7 years old! "Just to see if she could", was her answer, and my heart grew.

Might there be a message for us in such a simple yet profound attitude towards life? The challenges facing us as a global community, as a country, and as a Church are many and varied and at times overwhelming. We are broken, we are wounded, we are hungry for truth, and leery of whom we can trust. But we are a people of faith, and of infinite hope. What is it the author of Hebrew's tells us? "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not [yet] seen." (11:1) As the summer comes to an end, as we process and integrate the decisions of General Synod, and as we embark on a new beginnings in our various communities, let us not lose sight of where and how God may be calling us to; "just see if we can". (Catherine, by the way, completed her 50 mile quest.)

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, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen. (Ephesians 3:20)

Relationships develop and grow through time



Rev. Dr. John Roddam

September is a significant time of start-ups in our culture. The most prominent is the school system but other organizations, including the Church, see September as the beginning of a new annual cycle. In a general way cycles move through a process of birth, growth, maturity and death.

Our lives reflect cyclical patterns and maturation in many dimensions. Piaget is well-known in educational circles for his seminal work in child development. Lawrence Kohlberg's research into moral development is widely acclaimed.

Even Plato described the life cycle of republics over two millennia ago and we see the signs of the unravelling he posited in our neighbours to the south!

Jesus also called His Church to make sure His followers mature in the Faith. Jesus in His final words commanded His followers (US!) to make disciples –

ALL authority in Heaven and on Earth has been given to ME. Therefore go and MAKE DISCIPLES of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of The Father, and of The Son, and of The Holy Spirit, and teach them to do all I've commanded you, and I will be with you till the end... (Matthew 28:18 ff.)

This is not simply head knowledge but an integrated life where we reflect in our whole character the person of Christ.

So spiritual birth happens as we encounter the love of God in Christ Jesus. This occurs through a turning around (repentance) and welcoming this walk in an act of trust and faith in the provision God has made for our salvation. We simply acknowledge Jesus and what He has done on our behalf and invite Him into the center of our lives as Lord.

Romans 10:7-10 states:

This is the core of our preaching. Say the welcoming

word to God—"Jesus is my Master"—embracing, body and soul, God's work of doing in us what he did in raising Jesus from the dead. That's it. You're not "doing" anything; you're simply calling out to God, trusting him to do it for you. That's salvation. With your whole being you embrace God setting things right, and then you say it, right out loud: "God has set everything right between him and me!" (The Message)

All relationships develop and grow through time – even our walk with God. Each relational dynamic has a corresponding spiritual component. The following are just a few elements of relationships and the corresponding spiritual discipline:

- Communication – Prayer (Luke 11:1-4)
- Intimacy – Abiding in Christ (John 15: 1-8)
- Fellowship – Communing and being directed by the

Holy Spirit (Romans 8:12-17)

- Growing in understanding - Bible Study (2 Timothy 3: 16)

Of course, there are milestones along the way.

- Baptism – often in our tradition as infants where the Lord declares His covenant love for us.
- Conversion – marked by an adult turning to Jesus, welcoming Him as Saviour and Lord
- Consecration – Times of deeper commitment to Jesus as Lord
- Calling – A sense of the Lord's specific direction to serve

Each of our spiritual journeys is unique, just as we are each unique and called to experience and respond to the profound love of our Saviour.

John Roddam is the rector of the Parish of Kentville in the Annapolis Valley. He was recently named the OSL Director of Region 9 (Atlantic Canada plus Quebec) for the International Order of St. Luke the Physician.

NEWS FROM AWAY

Dear diocese,

In April, the Anglican Consultative Council, representing Anglicans globally passed a motion recognizing the climate and environmental emergency we face. Included was an action plan.

In May, I was moved to tears in the last hour of Synod, as a growing line of people at the microphones on the floor spoke with passion and a similar resolution with an attached action plan was presented.

In June, I was pleasantly surprised to hear over lunch with my friend Nancy, chair of the national church Creation Matters Task Group that a motion based on the one passed at our Synod, would be presented on the floor of General Synod.

In July. In the midst of my disappointment over the narrow defeat of the motion to change the Marriage Canon, there was a ray of light. Hope. The youth at General Synod led the charge and were able to have the motion on the climate emergency accepted to the floor and passed.

In August, a number of parishes are holding "Mass on the Grass" with a focus on caring for creation. And parishes are winding up for Season of Creation.

In September, Christians around the world celebrate Season of Creation. You are all invited to a special event, an Eco Justice Fair on September 14, from 10 – 3 pm at the Cathedral, the Diocese Centre and across the street

in Victoria Park. Bring family and friends. There will be displays, music, presentations, local artisans and products with an opportunity to network with others caring for God's creation. To become involved, volunteer, book a display table or art space, sell local products/produce email endionspei@gmail.com. All are welcome!

Internationally, locally and nationally, Anglicans are committed to caring for God's creation at a critical time. The number of Anglicans connecting with the Environment Network in our diocese is increasing every month. Having difficulty keeping up with the interest and desire to be involved is the best "problem" we could have.

As a result, someone recently said, I didn't want to bother you. My reply was PLEASE DO! Contact us. Call. Email. Facebook. Text. Let us know what you are interested in. Help us to support you in your efforts to care for creation. And offer to help build this network and make good on our commitment to care for creation.

I believe that we all left Synod more committed than ever to tread lighter on the planet and care for God's creation. That motion that was passed unanimously has committed us all to making that part of our common journey.

Blessings from the outer world,

Rev. Marian Lucas-Jefferies



**September
14 2019**

**All Saints Cathedral Hall
And Victoria Park 1330
Cathedral Lane Halifax,
NS**

**For Further Details or to
Be Involved Contact**

endionspei@gmail.com

The Eco-Justice Fair is an opportunity for environmentalists from across the Diocese and community to congregate and network. We invite the community into the space of the Church while creating space to inform on environmental

issues and foster relationships. There will be booths, presentations, music, art displays and more. Join us as we engage with others committed to caring for God's creation through the guiding principals of the Fifth Mark of Mission.

PEI & Chignecto regions host MORE this Fall

Module #4 of MORE Mission School, led by Archbishop Ron Cutler and a team of lay leaders and clergy, resumes in October. The title and theme focus at press time had not been determined, but you can be sure it will be inspiring! Below is a list of dates and regions for Module #4. Watch the Anglican Net News, Diocesan Facebook Page and our website for developing details. www.nspeidiocese.ca

REGIONS:

- **Prince Edward Island** - Oct. 19 - St. John the Evangelist, Crapaud (Registration Deadline Oct. 16)
- **Chignecto** - Nov. 30 - All Saints', Springhill (Registration Deadline Nov. 27)
- Dartmouth - Jan. 11 (tentative)
- Fort Sackville - Jan. 18 (tentative)
- Chebucto - Jan. 25 (tentative)
- Northumbria - Feb. 1 (tentative)
- South Shore - Feb. 29 (tentative) - St. James' Mahone Bay
- Valley - March 14 (tentative)
- Eastern Shore - March 21 (tentative)
- Cape Breton - March 28 (tentative)

MORE Mission Schools are FREE workshops that run 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. MORE is based on God's desire to give the world MORE of what it really needs – hope, love, and freedom. Bring a team! Got questions? Call: 902-420-0717.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. John Morrell appointed priest-in-charge of the parish of Northumberland June 1st, 2019.

Rev. Marian Conrad appointed priest-in-charge of the parish of Trinity Halifax, June 1st, 2019.

Commander Rev. Canon Jennifer Gosse appointment interim priest-in-charge of the parish of Jollimore, July 1st, 2019.

Rev. Laura McCue appointed rector, ½ time of the parish of Christ Church New Ross, August 1st, 2019.

Rev. Frances Drolet-Smith resigned from the parish of St. Alban's Woodside effective October 31st, 2019.

Rev. Ken Turner, Associate Parish Priest resigned from the parish of St. Francis by the Lakes effective September 23rd, 2019; at that time Ken will enter retirement.

Rev. Darroch Fagan has resigned from the parish of Alberton effective July 15th, 2019.

Rev. Michael Conrad appointed priest-in-charge of the parish of St. James, Halifax, effective July 16th, 2019.

find it strange that there are mountains to the east!

There is a pretty old analogy in there. The sun comes up every day and it shines on everyone without distinction, though there are lots of days when we don't seem to get much benefit from it, we still do. We don't control the sun. God's grace, love and mercy is likewise present every day and it is given to everyone. There are certainly days when we don't feel it, not because it is absent but because either we choose to not feel it or someone blocks it from us. We don't control it.

Saturday was a day that might have changed my life, as our church elected a new Primate. It didn't, I am staying, and I'm very glad about that - congratulations to our new Primate the Most Rev. Linda Nicholls, who is the first woman to serve in this ministry in our church. I could barely think about the election. It wasn't real in comparison to what we had done the day before, as we voted on the second reading to amend the Canon on Marriage.

So here is where we are from my perspective.

We followed a legal process to change a law of the church. The vote failed according to the well-defined process that we use in such cases. In order to pass it required a 2/3 majority in the three houses of Synod. The results were Laity 80.9%, Clergy 73.2%, and Bishops 62.2% in favour. The aggregate total in favour was 75%, however it did not achieve the required threshold in the House of Bishops. That legal route is now closed. In order for an amendment to the canon to be reconsidered it will need to be re-introduced at the next Synod in three years. From my perspective: the law has failed us, now it is time for grace to abound.

As the Synod continued, the one additional action which had an impact

on this situation was a statement from the House of Bishops which re-affirmed the bishops' discretion in providing a Marriage rite for same sex couples within their diocese. It was the first time that the term "local option" was explicitly used in an official document of our church.

There was an existing de-facto "Local Option" in the Anglican Church of Canada with respect to permission given to clergy and parishes to offer marriage rites to same sex couples before this Synod began. On Friday the General Synod adopted, by an 85% majority, a document entitled "A Word to the Church" which acknowledged this reality and affirmed that dioceses where this was the situation, had done so "in good faith". The later statement from the House of Bishops reiterated the "Local Option". It is my intention to use my episcopal authority to exercise this option in the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. I believe that our conversations at our Diocesan Synod in 2017 gave a clear indication that, in that forum, a majority of our diocese wants to move in this direction. I do personally believe that such a direction is consistent with the faith in the saving and reconciling work of Jesus Christ which I am sworn to uphold. I also believe that I have seen in the life and witness of faithful, committed same sex couples the outworking of God's grace and that glimpse of the kingdom which our Marriage liturgy speaks of.

I am now on vacation. I will begin work on a bishop's policy when I am back in the office in mid-August and will strive to release it by September 1st, 2019. Please note that I am exercising the local option to authorize same sex marriage in the diocese - this will be an option for Parishes and clergy. Clergy already have a conscience clause in the Canon on Marriage which gives them discretion on which marriages to preside at. Parishes will need to "opt in" if they wish to offer same sex marriages. Further details, including a rite for

Marriage will be contained in the policy.

I want to acknowledge the tremendous pain, disappointment and anger felt by many members of our diocese in the midst of this ongoing debate. I have received messages and emails from a number of people expressing their feelings. Though our plenary debate was for the most part more respectful than it was in 2016, the result of the vote literally provoked anguish. This certainly appears to be at odds with the vision of the Kingdom which Jesus proclaimed.

There is a portion of our guidelines for respectful debate, used at this Synod, which I keep coming back to: Trust Ambiguity.

Thank you for upholding me and all our Diocesan delegates in your prayers. It has been a draining week filled with intense and emotionally charged debates and very long days of meeting. It has been a historic Synod for many reasons: The election of the first woman Primate, the creation of a self-determining Indigenous church within the Anglican Church of Canada, the next steps in reconciliation with indigenous peoples, the approval of a strategic planning process including an examination of the General Synod structure and order of procedure, further strengthening of the relationships between the Anglican and Lutheran churches on this continent, the approval of additional alternative liturgical material, the endorsement of a call to climate action and to combat modern slavery, and a celebration of the work of the Anglican Foundation and the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund.

There have been many initiatives and resources commended to dioceses for further work and I look forward to how we will engage in these various calls to mission and ministry.

With every blessing
+Ron

From Archbishop Cutler: – a memo update on General Synod

This is an updated version of a statement I made on Facebook on Sunday July 14th, 2019.

There are certain advantages and disadvantages in being 4 hours outside of your usual time zone. A disadvantage is that I haven't had more than 4 hours of sleep any night since I have been here. (That may have as much to do with what's been on our agenda at the General Synod as the time change). An advantage is spectacular sunrises over the mountains for the past couple of mornings, I still

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNTS for VCM 2019 Conference

Don't miss out on the special discounts for early registration and guest room reservations!

Vital Church Maritimes 2019 conference is an inspiring three-day gathering at The Holiday Inn, Truro, NS, starting at 1 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 21 and wrapping-up at lunchtime on Saturday, Nov. 23.

Our keynote speaker is a missional coach, pioneer minister and consultant for church turnarounds. Canadian Anglican, The Rev. Canon Dr. Duke Vipperman, from Fergus, ON, has been a priest for 34 years. A respected church growth leader, Duke



Photo: Keynote speaker Rev. Canon Dr. Duke Vipperman

has an extensive background in 'church-out-of-the-box' and missional transformation.

"I will be bringing what I am learning about being

church in the world today," said Duke. "It's about joining God in Jesus' mission to our neighbourhoods, about the 'church box', about loving our neighbours as never before, about the joys and challenges that are part of God's glorious future."

Duke's four talks will focus on Jesus' way of mission, the (church) box, what it is and how to get out of it. He'll facilitate a session on getting out and loving your neighbour, and explore the next steps of engaging new people in faith community.

At VCM 2019 participants hear relevant and encouraging teaching about how God is

transforming churches to be more missional, including dynamic table discussions and sharing of stories. In addition to our guest speaker there are several break-out sessions with teachers and ministers sharing ideas and effective church growth principles. Some of the workshops and panels feature presentations on contemporary worship music, how to communicate missional priorities, as well as examples like café church and connecting new people through arts and crafts.

This year registration fees include the costs of ALL meals, presentations and materials. Accommodation

is extra. Funding support for conference expenses is available for lay people through the Lay Leadership Legacy Fund. There are also granting sources for any Anglican clergy in our Diocese. Early bird discounts available for a limited time!

REGISTRATION: visit www.nspeidiocese.ca or contact the Parish Vitality Coordinator, Lisa Vaughn (902-420-0717; lvaughn@nspeidiocese.ca).

[HOME](#)

Passwords

I used to go to work with my dad on Saturday mornings when I was a little boy. One of the first things he did when we arrived was to go and unlock a big thick steel safe in his office. I saw him do it so many times I probably could have done it myself. His words of wisdom to me in going to work with him were "don't ever watch or learn anything that I do. Get an education!" So I did. The combination to the safe was a form of password.

The use of Passwords has evolved remarkably over the years. I remember building a snow fort on the school playground in grade 3. Once built, we immediately issued a secret password for everyone who wanted to enter, securing our property. This kept all of those people out (mostly grade three girls) that we did not want in our club. It gave us a sense of power over our little snowy domain.

Today everything comes with a password, except our children when they are born. But when will that change? A password gives us a secure entrance into our online bank accounts, the internet, our cell phones, CRA accounts, university documents, and



BRYAN HAGERMAN

so on. Upon doing some math, I discovered that I now have accumulated 55 such important passwords and counting. I have them on the Cloud which is again password protected. So they say! So we hope!

The password for therapy is simple; courage combined with grit! And often it takes a heap of this to get us to:

- a) *articulate a problem*
- b) *research a therapist*
- c) *make the call*
- d) *go to the appointment*
- e) *open your mouth*

- f) *share your heart*
- g) *do the work*

But the partnership between client and therapist is one where courage and grit is offered, and where courage and grit is honored. Grit is that which propels us forward, given the therapist's help. Courage is discovered in taking the risk to be open, vulnerable, transparent. Another sub password between therapist and client, although unspoken is attunement! Attunement is the special relationship that develops between professional and client. To attain this the therapist listens actively, shows evidence of empathy, responds accordingly, gives eye contact, is careful with tone and body language, and makes every effort to help the client to feel emotionally and physically safe. And it is key to communicate compassion and caring.

Attunement with Christ is developed with the fulfillment of belief, faith, and trust. The beauty of each of these spiritual virtues is that they have been given to us by God himself. Imagine, the one who wishes an emotional

relationship with us, an attunement, is willing to give each of us the important gift which unlocks and enables the virtues desired.

Within counselling therapy, belief is key. Belief in the therapist. Belief in the action plan created by therapist and client. Belief in a positive outcome. Belief in yourself to do the work. But as is the case within our Christian values, belief is the one first good step towards resolve. Belief is accompanied by activity. Simple belief in and of itself is not enough. We have all heard the phrase, "faith without work is dead, work without faith is dead." So too with belief and then existential activity. Call this courage, grit, or even resilience.

The courage, the grit, the ability to get up when knocked down, is not inherent in all of us. But it can be developed and learned over time. Courage and grit enable us to move forward. We take the knowledge given us and then we connect that to our will. Knowledge by itself is insufficient. Will is the determination to carry forward a plan. The connection of knowledge and will is

imperative.

Faith in and of itself is again, insufficient. The courage, will, grit to exercise one's faith is crucial for a positive spiritual outcome. I have faith in the chair I sit down in every morning in my office. The faith that the chair will support me, is insufficient however, without the inherent and existential action of me sitting down, in the chair. I have combined knowledge and will, faith and works.

Scripture says, "**Don't worry about anything, but with prayer, petition, and thanksgiving, present your requests to God and the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guide your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.**"

Spirituality in Christ the resurrected Lord, is the single most important ingredient in becoming emotionally well. So we take the words of scripture here literally. It takes courage, & grit two important passwords to see an outcome.

Dr Bryan Hagerman.

www.bryanhagerman.ca,
St Paul's Outreach Counsellor

Farewell but not forgotten

BY LISA BOND

I am a lifelong member of St John the Baptist in North Sydney. Our amazing Rev. Julio Martin Trejo is leaving us in August, returning to Mexico as Bishop. Julio has been so much more than just the leader of our church, he and his family have been amazing friends to my little family. We will miss them

dearly.

After the election Rev. Julio and I were speaking about the staff he would use as Bishop. He wanted something different, not the fancy type that most used. Shortly after our conversation, a storm took out a large pine tree in my yard. While cleaning it up, we discovered something that seemed to be

there by design. The perfect piece of wood for our dear friend's new staff. We all worked on it, me, Zander and Xavier, and their dad. Now Rev. Julio has a piece of Cape Breton to take back to Mexico with him (along with a piece of our hearts)

Photo left: Rev. Julio Martin Trejo admires his new staff for use in his new role as bishop on his return to Mexico in August. The parish carved a cross into the handle of a naturally-occurring curved Nova Scotia pine branch and presented it to him as a memento of his time in North Sydney.



Columbarium niches now available in St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church heritage cemetery located in Middle Sackville, N.S



\$2,500 taxes and perpetual care included
Constructed of polished black granite with lighter granite doors and each niche able to hold 2 urns
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It's a New Day!

Alerting people to the reign of God

by Rev. Lisa G. Vaughn

A group of eleven diocesan leaders who travelled to New Brunswick to hear one of the top missiologists in the world came away inspired and encouraged by several mission-oriented talks. Rev. Dr. Michael Frost, author of the best-selling book, *'Surprise the World: the five habits of highly missional people'* was the guest speaker of the Anglican Diocese of Fredericton.

Alice Galpin-Nicholson, from St. James' Armdale (Halifax) said, "I thought Michael's presentation was fabulous." The parish leader continued, "I really believe that St. James' and other parishes need to hear what he had to say about mission.



Rev. Lisa G. Vaughn, Diocesan Parish Vitality Coordinator

... I feel so strongly that this is necessary for congregations to hear and know that each person can work toward being missional. His talk gives me hope and inspiration."

Over a total of four days in June, Frost taught relevant missional principles and

shared dynamic stories – first at the Deep Roots diocesan gathering in Fredericton and then at a special teaching day in Moncton.

"I really enjoyed the session," said St. Nicholas' Westwood Hills warden, Tanya Moxley. "It was totally worth the trip!"

Frost, a professor at Morling College in Sydney, Australia, emphasized that mission is about sharing and showing a grounded hope that The Creator is at work in the world. Even when our congregations are declining, churches are shutting their doors, and there's injustice and violence in the world, "we will say our God reigns in Christ!"

"Sometimes it looks like

society is going to hell in a hand basket," Michael Frost said, "but our God reigns!"

Defining mission, he quoted influential missiologist and theologian David Bosch, "mission is the task of alerting everyone, everywhere to the universal reign of God through Christ. But not just alerting. There is also demonstrating."

He explained that alerting people to the reign of God must include both dynamics of announcing and demonstrating. These are practically lived out on a spectrum, ranging from evangelism, witness, worship, prayer, kindness, hospitality, finally to social justice. All of these are required in mission.

Frost said a few people are specially called to be evangelists, requiring gifts in boldness and clarity. All Jesus' followers are called "to live interesting, intriguing (loving) lives, so people ask why you do what you do."

"First century Christians turned society upside down by living unusual lives of love," he said.

The Aussie cofounder of the international Forge Mission Training Network says we can witness God's reign when we see signs of reconciliation, justice, wholeness in people's lives and beauty.

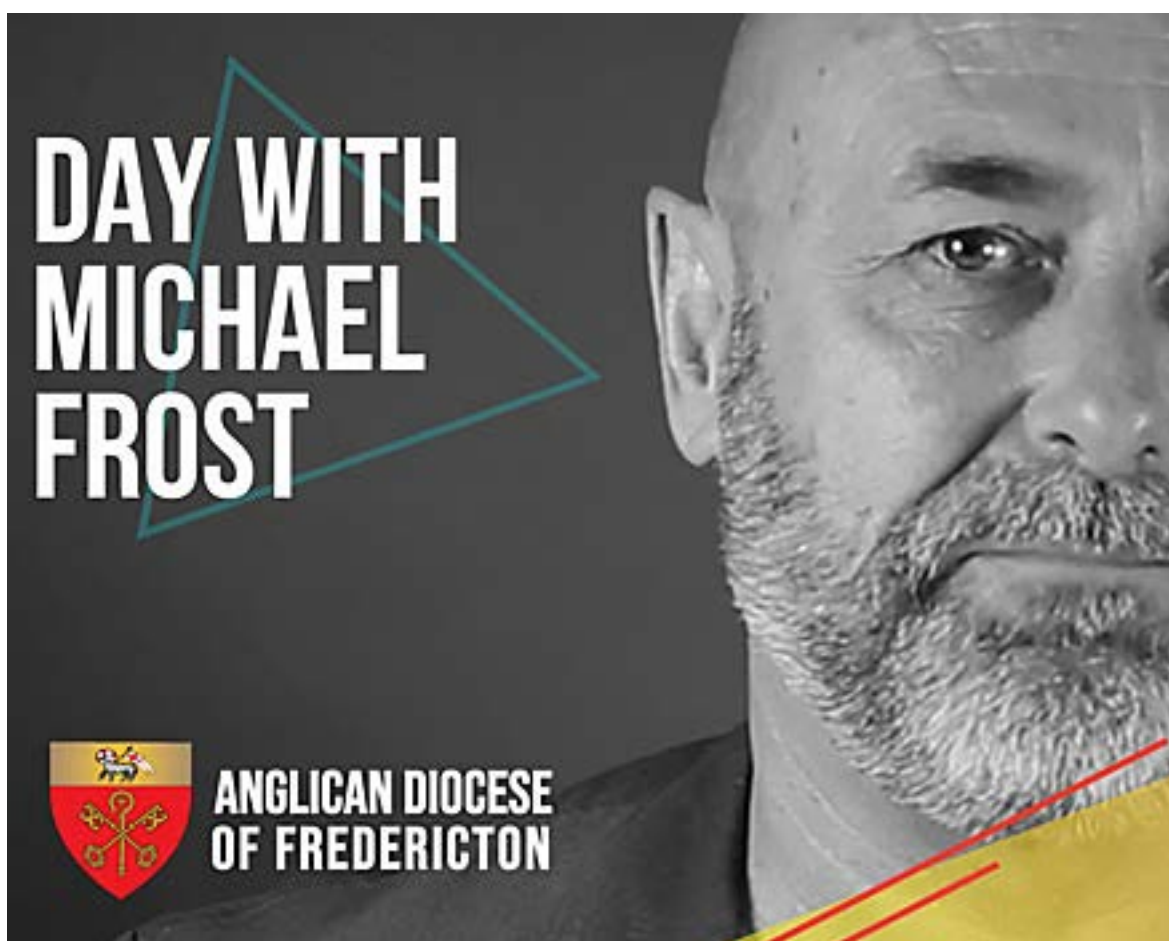
One way he illustrated this mission approach for Christians is to imagine being in a thoroughly

grungy, vacant and dark room with a friend who does not know about God's grace. The room has a window that is completely covered in filth. On the other side of that window is a most magnificent sunrise. You and your friend can see a slight glimmer through the dirty window. Our responsibility is to work to wipe clean the window so our friend can experience the brilliance of the Divine, God's reign, and pursue this glorious transformation for him/herself.

Frost has authored more than a dozen books including:

- *Keep Christianity Weird: embracing the discipline of being different* (2018)
- *To Alter Your World: partnering with God to rebirth our communities* (2017; with Christiana Rice)
- *Surprise the World: the five habits of highly missional people* (2015)
- *The Shaping of Things to Come: Innovation and Mission for the 21st-Century Church* (2013; with Alan Hirsch)

Rev. Lisa G. Vaughn is the Diocesan Parish Vitality Coordinator. For articles, inspiration and insights on congregational vitality and mission see the Facebook page "Parish Vitality Coordinator – Diocese of NS & PEI. and Anglican Net News, "Six-Minute Study"



Need a Missional Learning Community? Apply now

HURRY! Applications for The Connectors TWO missional learning community are due no later than Oct. 1st.

Do you sense that God is nudging you to try something new? To reach out to people who might never come to Sunday morning worship?

A second peer learning

community begins in November for lay and clergy participants who want to explore discerning prayer, deep dive discussions, engaging readings, goal-setting, mutual support and encouragement. The Connectors TWO is a group of up to 10 eager pioneering-type people who

gather monthly over a year for 10, two-day residential retreats. This is a skill-building environment for faithful Anglicans who want to reach out to others but aren't sure how. Emphasis is on practical approaches to cultivating relationships with people who are seeking out authentic

community and how to respectfully introduce them to the God who loves them.

All costs are covered by the Diocese through the New Missional Initiatives 2019 Grant and the Growth For Ministry Fund.

INTERESTED? Send us your contact information

and outline the reasons why you would like to be part of this group. Share about your related experiences and skills. A second application form will be sent out. Final deadline is Oct. 1st. Write to: lvaughn@nspeidiocese.ca or call 902-420-0717, ext. 1169.

[HOME](#)

MISSION (is) POSSIBLE:

Diocesan stories of people responding to God's call

“Showing the Love”

By Rev. Lisa G. Vaughn

One of the important ingredients of effective mission is loving service to the community. The Prince Edward Island Parish of St. Mary and St. John, Summerside and St. Eleanor's, joined with other local churches to put this into action.

Love Summerside is the ecumenical initiative of Summerside (and area) Christian Council. The idea sprung from one of the leaders who had seen it work in another city. Rector, Rev. Colin Nicolle said, “It was just a way for the churches to come together and bless the people in the city or the town by acts of service.” He explained, “No proselytizing. No money. Just free. Let's bless them by what we do.”

On July 13, one of the city's big Lobster Carnival days, parishioners from the Anglican parish and at least five other congregations, including Summerside Baptist, Summerside Community Church, Central Street Christian Church, Trinity United and Summerside Church of the Nazarene, took part in four different free initiatives.

Planning started in the spring and once the idea circulated it took off. Rev. Colin said, “As soon as this was mentioned ... people were excited and then other churches that heard about it who have not been a part of Christian Council began getting on board. People



were coming in from all the churches. Pretty soon they had a big committee for it.”

First, they decided to take part in the carnival parade, giving away free bottles of drinking water with the label ‘*Love Summerside*’ on them. “We handed out about a 1,000 bottles,” said the priest. “We probably could have handed out 2,000 or 2,500 if we had more.”

Parade-goers were invited to Trinity United Church's yard, next to Veteran's Memorial Park (across from St. Mary's Hall) to enjoy a free hotdog barbeque.

“The barbecue ... was the big success because it kind of happened organically,” said Rev. Colin. “They just set the barbecue up and then people filtered in. Families sat and had a picnic in the park. The park really filled up with people. People weren't

just coming in, taking a hot dog and running off. They were sitting on the grass and enjoying the day. That was a really cool thing!”

At Rodeo Motor's parking lot on Water Street another freebie was offered to Summerside residents and visitors. “After the parade, on the way out of town there was a free car wash,” he said. “Someone who owns this auto dealership donated the soap and the water and the hoses and all that so that people on their way out could stop.”

Congregation members also teamed up to do garbage clean-up of the parade route and after the cardboard boat race at the wharf. One other group tidied up an empty corner lot.

All of the *Love Summerside* projects were offered complimentary by the church members and organizers

refused any public donations. Rev. Colin explained, “This is not about money. It's just about this free gift.”

Parishioners from both St. Mary's and St. Eleanor's were involved along with the other denominational participants. Some volunteered while others gave donations of supplies. The minimum cost to churches for the special initiative was \$100.

Rev. Colin said he promoted *Love Summerside* in the parish for about a month, making announcements and publishing it in the bulletin and Facebook. “I expressed my excitement about it,” he said. “The Spirit's moving and there are some really exciting things happening. I'd like as many people as are able to be a part of it. I'm going to be there.”

“People really understood the purpose of it... to bless people,” said the priest. “This

is not about our church or their church, who we can get through the doors. This is just about how do we show God's love to people in these acts of service, these free ways, to make people say, ‘Wow! Who are those people and why are they doing this?’ People really appreciated that.”

The emphasis, besides Christians coming together to show love to their city, was also not to push people to come to church. Rev. Colin repeating what one church worker said, “Its really doing something to give Jesus a good name.’ People out there have come from church backgrounds or maybe nothing. Maybe they have preconceived notions about who the people that fill these buildings are, that aren't open any other day in the week.” He said, “This is an opportunity to go out and be like, ‘We're here for you. We love you. We're glad to be in the same city as you.’”

Summerside Christian Council plans to continue the free serving initiatives by working with city leaders and staff to identify needs in the community. Rev. Colin said, “They have a whole stack of projects that they can't necessarily give resources to that are maybe not really very expensive things to do. We're curious in the future about how we're going to work with them and do these kinds of things in the name of *Love Summerside*.”

Random acts of kindness in Lunenburg



By RENA DEMONE,
LUNENBURG

The Youth and Family Ministry of St. John's Anglican Church in Lunenburg started a new and exciting mission in the fall

of 2018 to spread kindness to the town of Lunenburg. “Lunenburg Friendly Faces” is a Random Acts of Kindness group that meets the second Friday of each month to perform a “RAK”- Random Act of Kindness. The group

is open to anyone in the community with an emphasis on including people of all demographics. Each month is a different act which is focused on a different group in the community. Some examples have included firefighters, veterans, hockey players, town playgrounds and people who are working late. Every RAK project is completed start to finish within a 2-hour period. We create, prepare and execute the RAK on the same night. The RAK's are low costs and show our youth how much kindness you can spread with so little. Some examples of

past RAK's include “You are our Lifesaver” treats and a handmade poster for the town's volunteer firefighters, toy soldiers and Hershey's kisses for our veterans at the legion and local veterans wing of the Fisherman's Memorial Hospital, candy treats and kindness notes for those working late on a Friday night and Easter eggs hidden with messages and stickers for children to find at the local playgrounds. One of the group favorites was going into the local public library branch after hours to put handmade bookmarks and tea bags in random books. The kids loved

“breaking in” to the library. We were very excited about our May project which had town dwellings littered with transplant flowers and notes that read “May your day be filled with JOY!” With each RAK we include a note card so that people know who we are and encourage them to join us next month. To date we have had nearly 80 different individuals and families from our diverse community join us in our RAK Adventures. We love spreading kindness throughout our community! Like us on Facebook “Lunenburg Friendly Faces”.

A tribute to Flo – the mother of Mothers



Photo: the late Flo Hare

BY MARY STONE

On Wednesday, April 17th, 2019 at Alderwood Guest Home in Baddeck, St. John the Baptist Mothers' Union, North Sydney lost its founding member—Florence

(Flo) Hare at the age of 88 years. Flo was a very active member in all matters of St. John's Parish and Mothers' Union was her special baby. The group was incorporated in 1981, consisting of Flo and 11 other young mothers. Flo was known as the "Mother of the Mothers."

Flo Hare possessed a wealth of information concerning all aspects of the Anglican Church - both St. John's and the wider Anglican Church. She made lasting friendships with many church dignitaries, too many to mention for fear of overlooking someone. Flo also wrote a book about St. John's Church with all of its specialities. She was instrumental in bringing about women's involvement in all aspects of the church. Flo

Hare was a Warden and a Lay Reader and also a member of the Choir, Altar Guild, ACW, Parish Council and General Synod. Along with all this she also took on roles as director for Camp Bretondean, National Representative for PWRDF, Diocesan, Regional and National Representative for Mothers' Union and numerous other jobs.

When anyone needed information or clarification on issues, Flo was the person we turned to. She had lasting influences on many young people (now the seniors) over her lifetime. As you can see, a piece of our puzzle here at St. John the Baptist is gone on to the other side and never to be replaced. Flo is now free of the health issues that kept her from many of the things

she dearly loved. We will truly miss her presence for years to come...we love you Flo!

(Written by Phyllis Reno, MU Member St. John the Baptist Anglican Church, North Sydney)

Flo Hare also liked to have fun and she would have loved the following story written by Marie George of the Church of the Holy Spirit in Dartmouth.

Some of the Mothers Union members at Church of the Holy Spirit host a tea party for residents and family at Oakwood Terrace Seniors Home once a month. The residents and their families look forward to this monthly event. In June it is usually a bridal/prom fashion show put on by the recreation staff.

Our members were asked to dress as if we were attending a wedding. For fun I dressed as you see in the photo and went from table to table to ask if the ladies knew of a man that would marry me and make me an honest woman before the baby arrived. Many comments were made such as "You should have thought about that before you got pregnant." "What a hussy you are." It was all in good fun. When I approached the men, I asked if they were eligible. "Too late now" "Should have asked me 20 years ago"! Laughter is good medicine.

The residents and their families had a great time. Months later some were still asking me, "How is the 'baby' doing?" "Was it a boy or girl?"



Photo: In this picture are most of the camp children and team leaders from Christ Church's 2019 youth choir camp.

Christ Church youth choir camp 2019

BY CANDACE VIEIRA

This summer, Christ Church hosted their third Youth Choir Camp that drew in 22 children. Open to all denominations and musical abilities, this camp included crafts and activities which focused on different ways of making and learning music, including percussion tubes, rain sticks, musical theory and listening skills games. In amongst all of the music making were lots of fun games, healthy snacks and just relaxing under the trees of the beautiful church property.

Throughout the week, the children were lovingly cared for by a team of volunteers from the parish and led by musical leaders – John Bogardus, Music Director at Christ Church and Gail Teixeira, a music teacher and member of the Christ Church adult choir – both of whom have unique approaches of teaching music to children. Other members of the team included retired teachers, a retired day care owner, and a retired nurse – all of whom administered professionalism and unconditional love and understanding to the

children. This camp was also an introduction to Christ Church's Youth Music Programme that starts back up in September under Music Director, John Bogardus. This music programme teaches music theory, voice, liturgical music, traditional and contemporary hymns, and for some, organ lessons. The children will then join with the adult choir on Sunday mornings for the 10:00 service and will sing at other church events.

As always, the parishioners were very supportive of the camp – many of the children

being sponsored to ensure that any child could afford to attend the camp. They also volunteered to provide healthy snacks, helped supervise during lunch and break times, provided frozen treats and made donations so that their needs were met. It was an atmosphere of excitement, love and joy – and most of all, God's love for these children and for each other.

This year's camp ran for seven days as opposed to the usual five-day camp. On day seven (the Sunday), the children were invited to sing with the support of the adult choir

during the 10:00 service and then were featured again in the end of camp concert that afternoon. For some of these children, it was their first church experience. Their energy that Sunday morning was powerful!

One of the missions of the camp was to plant seeds for some of these children – perhaps a seed that will lead them to a love of music – or, more importantly, a seed that will grow to reveal God's love for them. We pray that it was mission accomplished!

[HOME](#)

Musings on General Synod 2019:

A time of lament, a time of joy, a time for change

BY REV. KYLE WAGNER,
RECTOR, CHRIST CHURCH,
DARTMOUTH

General Synod 2019 in Vancouver was in many ways one for the history books. The gathering framed around the theme “I have called you by name” was eventful and spirit led. I felt truly honoured to be a representative for our diocese. Our delegation was engaged, through prayer and discernment, and conscious of the important matters at hand. As the Canadian church gathered, there were many important issues deliberated, including the world’s climate crisis. Our own Archbishop Cutler moved Resolution A201 – Single-use Plastics which “Encourage dioceses and parishes to curtail their purchase of single-use plastic products with the intention to end their use by 2023, taking into consideration the accessibility needs of their communities.”

A presentation regarding human trafficking brought important perspective to such inhuman acts. Resolution Number A051-R2 –removed the prayer from the Book of Common Prayer, “For the Conversion of the Jews,” replacing it with a “Prayer for Reconciliation with the Jewish People.” A momentous resolution was also passed which created a self-determining indigenous church and saw Bishop Mark Macdonald elevated to the position of Archbishop. Primate Fred Hiltz also made an apology on behalf of the church to people affected by the spiritual harm perpetrated by the Anglican Church of Canada. As Archbishop Hiltz said, “we were so full of our own self-importance.” Delegates also witnessed the election of Rev. Dr. Linda Nicholls, as the first female Primate in the history of the Canadian Church!

For many, Marriage Canon XXI was central to our meeting. As reported, the second reading of the canon failed, because it did not meet the required threshold of 2/3rds majority in all voting houses (Laity, Clergy, Bishops). In many ways, I believe that passing the amendment to the canon, was the church’s opportunity to make a statement to the world, about the human rights of all, the sanctity of marriage, and the sacred goodness of same-gendered people wishing to be wed in Anglican Churches.

As one can imagine, many



Photo: Our diocesan delegation to General Synod 2019.

in the LGBTQ2S+ and allied communities were crushed by the defeated amendment. The resolution passed by the laity and the clergy with 80% and 73% of votes respectively, while 62% of the Bishops present supported a change to canon law. I must admit that it was very emotional for all in the room as we realized what had transpired. I too was surprised by my own emotions.

Following the defeated vote, the House of Bishop’s released a statement expressing that they “have caused deep hurt. We are profoundly sorry.” In my opinion, the apology from the House of Bishops will be echoed by and through the church for many years to come and at best in greater detail. Our church now has deep reconciliation work that needs to be done to bring peace.

Just prior to the failed vote, General Synod passed the receiving of a document entitled “A Word to the Church” with over 85% of delegates in favour. This document declares in Affirmation #2 the Diverse Understandings of the Existing Canon that the church affirms “that, while there are different understandings of the existing Marriage Canon, those bishops and synods who have authorized liturgies for the celebration and blessing of a marriage between two people of the same sex understand that the existing Canon does not prohibit same-sex marriage.”

It indeed seems that the Anglican Church of Canada has now chosen a path that has dioceses walking together, with individual jurisdictions of the church proceeding with same-sex marriage according to their contexts and convictions, sometimes referred to as a “local option.” Even though the church could have changed the

canon, many people left synod (including Canon Lawyers I might add) believing that it does not preclude the marriage of same-gendered people. In my mind, because the document “A Word from the Church” was passed with such favourability, in essence we do have equality in the sense that the Anglican Church of Canada endorses same-sex marriages while at the same time, respects those of differing opinions—something very Anglican indeed. Of course, for many including myself, this does not go far enough.

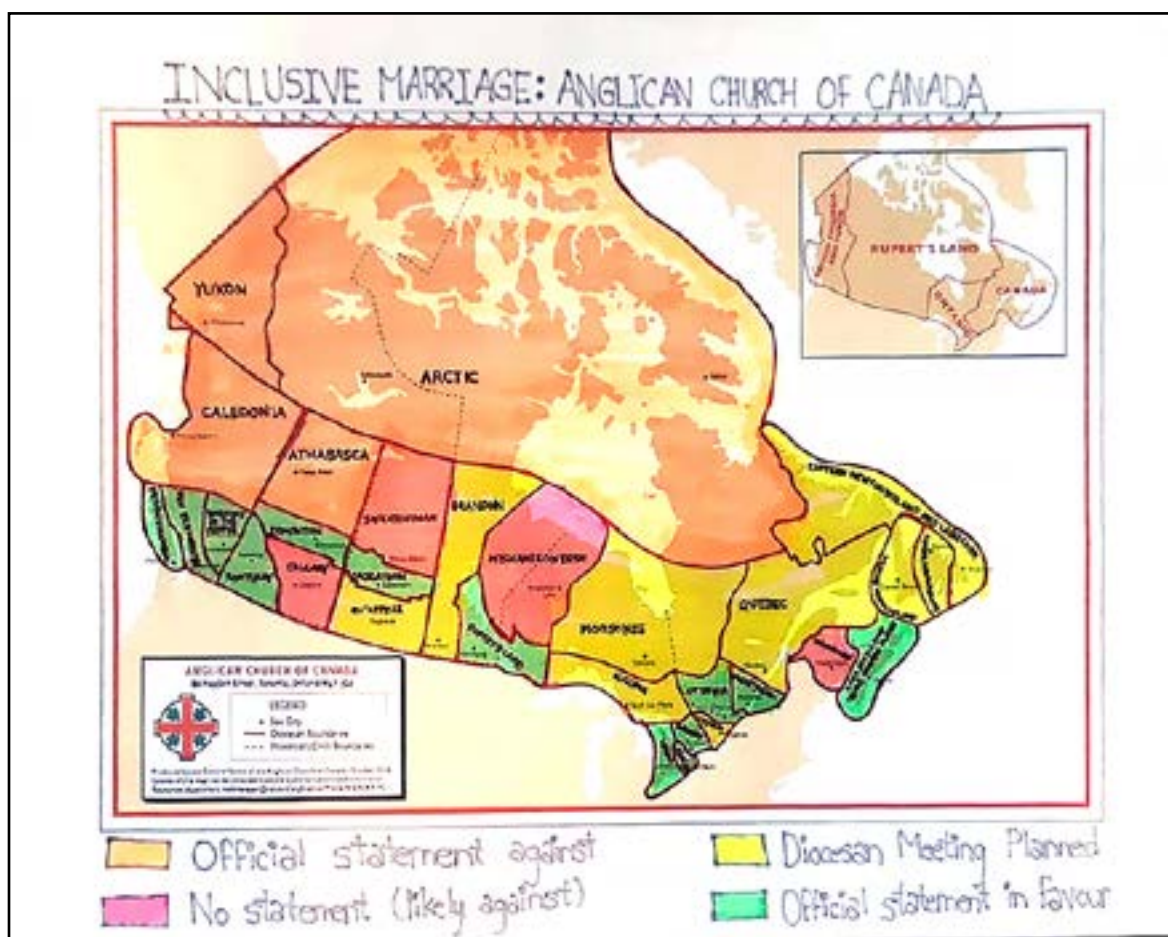
For greater context, we can look to our ecumenical partners, particularly the United Church of Canada, where in 1988 it affirmed marriage equality, but congregations had the “local option,” meaning they can

perform same-sex marriages if they so choose. As the United Church of Canada has progressed, I was told by their current moderator, Rev. Dr. Richard Bott that roughly 90% of congregations are Affirming Churches. In the next few years, I foresee, clergy and laity in dioceses that are not affirming, challenging their Episcopal leadership and authority in ecclesial or other courts. I believe it is only a matter of time that across this country the “local option” will become redundant, and we will begin the process of reconciliation, healing and peace.

Towards the end of our proceedings, many including myself quickly realized just how dated our legislative system is in the Anglican church of Canada. Due to the

high threshold, (and recent consecrations of newly elected Bishop’s and the absence of three eligible voting Bishop’s) the church had a motion that was supported fail. In many ways, we as Anglicans are bound by a colonial structure that sometimes does not always make change easy—and it is designed this way. Because of this, General Synod is now exploring governance reform, as at the conclusion of Synod, members passed Resolution Number C005 to “Direct the Council of General Synod to review the composition of the membership and the rules of order and procedure of General Synod and bring forward any recommended changes for consideration at the 2022 General Synod.”

In closing, sacred moments, and newly formed friendships were born out of the experience of synod. Our days where long and emotional, but the hospitality from the Diocese of New Westminster was wonderful, and we were guided by the excellent leadership of our Archbishop. We had such an amazing delegation from the Diocese of Nova Scotia and PEI, and it was truly a privilege to serve along side of Laura Bird, Robert MacMillan, Ted Johnson, Hannah Hughes, Revs Mel Malton, and Paul Jennings. Finally, a thank you to all the laity, clergy, and bishops of our diocese, who supported us all in prayer—we truly felt your presence.



by Sydney Brouillard-Coyle (Jul 2019)

[HOME](#)

The global climate emergency & peace on earth

By CATHY LEE CUNNINGHAM, RECTOR, CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, BEAVER BANK



Rev. Cathy Lee Cunningham

Greetings and peace to you, in the name of Jesus, as we move through this abundant harvest time of year!

I hope that you've enjoyed a beautiful and rejuvenating summer, filled with fresh air, the joy of God's creation fully alive, and lots of quality time with family and friends.

I've spent much of the summer reflecting on one of the most significant actions taken at our Diocesan Synod in May, with the acknowledgement and formal declaration that we are indeed in a time of global climate emergency and that we need to act, NOW.

Thanks be to God for the prophetic work and public outcry of environmentalists, scientists, climatologists, activists, biologists, non-profits, academic researchers, the United Nations and even increasing numbers of corporate entities, whom are making it virtually impossible to ignore.

In our backyard

A basic Google search of "climate change in Canada" led me to the CBC News Series, "In our Backyard" which reports on the perilous environmental state that we have created here our own country:

"People are losing their homes to wildfires. They are dealing with floods.

Their loved ones are dying in extreme heat. Their houses are falling into the sea. Climate change is no longer theoretical. It's in our backyard."

Newsstands full of magazines with cover headlines and images calling us not to turn away

May-June 2019 New Internationalist Magazine, "How to Avoid Climate Breakdown."

June 24th, 2019 Time Magazine, "Rising Seas. Fleeing Residents. Disappearing Villages. Our Sinking Planet.", featuring an extensive interview by Justin Worland, with UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres

August 2019 National Geographic Magazine, "World on the Move. Seas rise, crops wither, wars erupt. Humankind again seeks shelter in another place."

Countless newspaper articles in our local newspapers, reporting on the current and future impact of rising sea levels, extreme weather, coastal erosion and migration on Maritime communities.

International Day of Peace

The 2019 focus of the United Nations International Day of Peace - celebrated each year since 1981 on September 21st - brings together two globally critical issues: climate change and peace.

This year's theme is addressed by Secretary-General Guterres on June 13th, 2019, as he marked the 100-day countdown to the day:

- "Every year on 21 September, the United Nations calls on all nations and people to put down their weapons and reaffirm their commitment to living in harmony with one another. Today, as we mark the 100-day countdown to the next International Day of Peace, I invite global reflection on this year's timely theme.
- "Climate Action for Peace" brings a clear message: the global climate emergency is a threat to security and stability. As coastal areas and degraded inland areas are becoming uninhabitable, millions of people are being forced to seek safety and better lives elsewhere. With extreme weather events and disasters becoming more frequent and severe, disputes over dwindling resources risk fuelling climate-related conflict."

We've heard from our farmers, fishermen and women, indigenous brothers and sisters in the Arctic, and municipal governments, too, already making plans for the full impact: If we don't act collectively and globally now, our days on Earth will be irrevocably numbered.



Photo credit: Priscilla Du Pree at Unsplash

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE
21 SEPTEMBER 2019

un.org/peaceday | #peaceday #climateaction

For the sake of the majestic world that God has entrusted to our care, the people and creatures across the planet suffering due to climate change and for the sake of the Gospel

Through the waters and promises of our baptism, may we keep the promises that we have made to God and one another alive through the real transformational power of our everyday life, as loving human beings, as citizens with the right to speak and call our own consciences and governments out of denial and into the light.

Here are some resources to get you started:

- The United Nations
www.un.org/peaceday
- www.un.org/en/events/peaceday/resources.shtml
 - www.un.org/en/climatechange
- Peace One Day
• www.peaceday.org
- CBC News "In Our Backyard" Series on Climate Change and Migration in Canada

- www.cbc.ca/news2/interactives/inourbackyard
- Anglican Communion Environmental Network
- acen.anglicancommunion.org
- PWRDF
- www.pwrdf.org/category/climate-change

If you'd like to share what you're doing as an individual, community and/or parish on social media, use these hashtags: #PeaceDay and #ClimateAction.

See you back here in the October Issue, with a special article on Christian actions and responses being taken in light of the upcoming federal election.

Need any further assistance or resource suggestions? Please contact me directly at cathylee@cathyleecunningham.com

Have a Question? Ask the FUNERAL DIRECTOR

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Life Shared launched across Canada



Alpha Canada launched the Life Shared Small Group Series this summer. This new, free resource is a church-inspired response to the challenges of sharing faith. It is intended to mobilize Christians in Canada to invite people

in their life to discover a relationship with Jesus. Alpha Canada has been listening and working with churches across Canada with the aim of seeing the whole church share life, faith and Jesus with at least one person this fall.

The Life Shared Small Group Series is designed for church community groups to help them think, discuss, and pray about how they can share their faith with friends, colleagues and neighbours. The series includes three

15-minute videos featuring speakers, Jay Pathak (*Lead Pastor, Mile High Vineyard*), Danielle Strickland (*Author, Speaker and Social Justice Advocate*), and Jon Tyson (*Lead Pastor, Church of the City of New York*). It can be used in the lead up to an Alpha launch or a moment of invitation in the church, like Christmas or Easter services, to encourage invitation.

“We want to democratize evangelism again,” said Shaila Visser, National Director of Alpha Canada. “Knowing that

many Christians do not feel equipped or inclined to share their faith, our prayer is that Life Shared will encourage and equip the church across Canada to join the conversation the Holy Spirit is already having with the people in our lives.”

About Alpha: *Alpha is an 11-week course designed to create a space where people are excited to invite their friends for a conversation about Jesus so that everyone gets to play a part in seeing lives transformed. In each session there's food, a*

short talk, and discussion in small groups.

Everything you need to run Alpha is available online and free to download.

Useful Links:

- [Life Shared Small Group Series Resource Life](#)
- [Shared Booklet & High Res Images Alpha Canada Website](#)

For more information: ctran@alphacanada.org

From 25 – 80 plus, St. Paul's enjoys a church picnic



Photo: Archdeacon Sue Channen with the prize for the best hat, and Phillip Cooper, who won the Egg-&-Spoon-Race, pose with their Prizes of bobble-head gnomes.

BY PAULINE LIENGME

St Paul the Apostle in Antigonish is one of the three churches that make up the Parish of Three Harbours, presided over by Archdeacon Susan Channen. In this liturgical year, the Church Council decided that worship on three Sundays of the year should be different. The first was *Dr Seuss comes to Church*, which was much loved and worked well. This second offering was an old-fashioned Church Picnic with an Agape theme, held at the home of one of the congregations. The

weather was perfect as the service began on the front deck in the shade of many trees. The neighbours were able to enjoy the 18 people who were comfortably seated in lawn chairs as they sang and listened to the scriptures, before being given shared bread. After the generous picnic, the Best Hat award, judged by the five males present, went to Archdeacon Sue who wore a delicate number adorned with bows. The Egg-and-Spoon Race, which had contestants ranging in age from 25 – 80, was eventually won by postulant Phillip Cooper, although there were a couple of false

starts and the rules had to be re-read! This made it a clergy ‘clean sweep’ for the afternoon! The general feeling was that, although we are a very tiny congregation at St Paul's, we are ensuring people know about us and our love for Jesus and the fun it is being his disciples. Watch out for our celebration of *Angel Sunday* on September 29th where the sky will be the limit!



Happy campers amused at Upper Clements Park

Photo: It was a hot mid-week outing for the St Francis by the Lake campers from St Anne's Camp. These are some of the campers just arriving and ready to head out for an afternoon of adventure, amusement and entertainment.

(Note: Regrettably, it was not possible to show all the campers due to one family's request not to show their camper's image in print or online.)

[HOME](#)

Teach us to pray: revitalizing your prayer

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, the 20th century Jewish theologian, philosopher and author wrote: “The problem is not how to revitalize prayer; the problem is how to revitalize ourselves.”



Rev. Frances Drolet-Smith

There are times in our lives when our experience of God is vivid, lively and engaging. We can see clearly – we know what is being asked of us and we also know how to respond. There are also times when of experience of God is dry, routine, lacklustre, or even non-existent.

So, how do we revitalize ourselves – how do we access that living water, that life-giving gift that is promised us?

I believe it was the prophet Yogi Berra who said, “You can see a lot just by looking.” Faithfulness in prayer yields us the capacity to do just that: to look, to be aware, mindful – in short, to recognize God, who is already present, in our own lives.

In a story shared from the Desert, a preacher ran through the streets of the city shouting, “We must put God into our lives! We must put God into our lives!” And hearing him, an old monk rose up in the city plaza to say, “No, sir, you are wrong. You see, God is already in our lives. Our task is simply to recognize that.”

To truly live a life of prayer we must first figure out how to persevere through the inevitable dry times. We need to learn to trust that God is at work in our lives and is present in ways that are not readily apparent to us. And despite our reluctance, we need to learn to cultivate patience.

In another story from the Desert, novices were instructed to “Remain in your cell, and your cell will teach you everything.” In other words, don’t give up. Don’t be discouraged. Faithfulness to the practice is the pearl of great price for it acknowledges – and trusts – that the Spirit is praying deep within us. Our faithfulness will yield the grace that will sustain us.

Since 1983, the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer (AFP) has been mandated to encourage the ministry of prayer in Canada. As a resource to the Church, the AFP aims to foster a habit of prayer among Anglicans, providing resources to engage individuals and groups in conversation with God. A variety of helpful prayer resources are available through the AFP website www.anglicanprayer.org

Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury, has said: “Prayer matters. Prayer changes things. History shows that a renewal of prayer can result not just in churches transformed - but whole societies too. It doesn’t really matter how you pray

– whether your tradition is ancient or modern. It only matters that you pray.”

Prayer is essentially a conversation and like all good conversations, there needs to be a balance between talking and listening. The shape of our faith expresses our experience of Christ – and so our prayer nurtures us. Deepening our prayer can give us access to that experience with more consistency – and when we

need it most. The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer wants to help you do just that.

As the AFP diocesan representative, I’m pleased to assist you and your parish to deepen your practice of prayer. If you have a question about prayer or a topic you’d like to know more about, you can reach me by email at fdroletsmith@gmail.com And if time permits, I’m available to visit your parish or group for a

prayer workshop or to consult with you by phone.

Prayer changes things – prayer changes the one who prays.

Rev. Frances Drolet-Smith
Diocesan Representative, the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer



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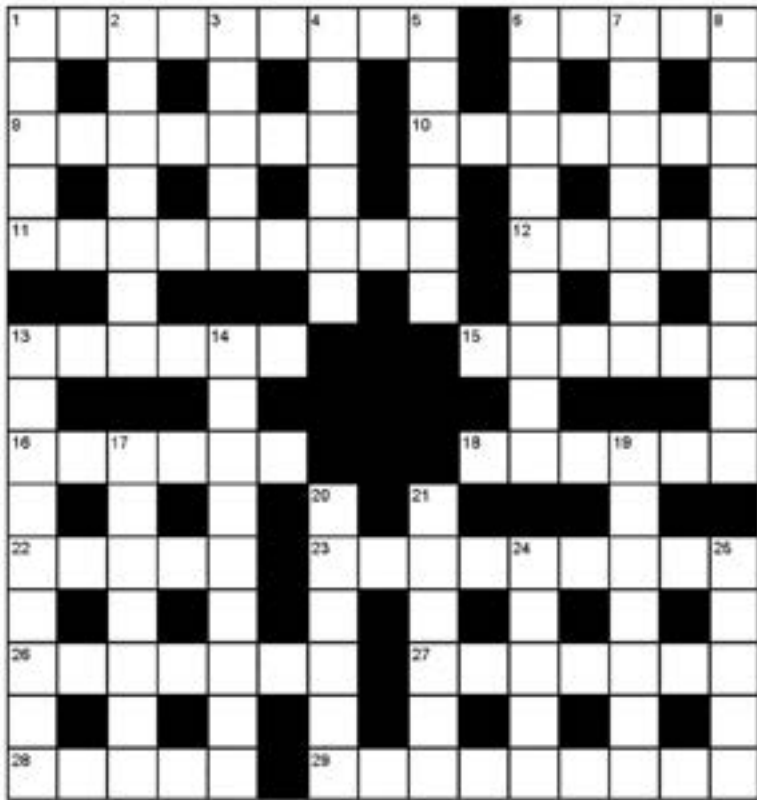
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Bible Crossword

by Maureen Yeats



SEPTEMBER Puzzle



ACROSS:

- 1- Furnished again with humans (9)
- 6- Old Testament prophet (5)
- 9- Author of a Gospel (7)
- 10- A named angel (Rev.12:7) (7)
- 11- Those who accomplish something (9)
- 12- Ceasing to live (5)
- 13- Translator of the Bible into Latin (died 400 C.E.) (6)
- 15- Puzzling situation (6)
- 16- "Was none of them found to _____ and give praise to God except this foreigner?" (Luke 17:18) come back (6)
- 18- Spiny desert plant (6)
- 22- Sight, hearing, or smell, etc. (5)
- 23- Chief supports (9)
- 26- "He will... send me... twelve _____ of angels." (Matt. 26:53) military units (7)
- 27- "And they _____ at him, knowing that she was dead." (Luke 8:53) giggled (7)
- 28- Visible signs (5)
- 29- Was without hope (9)

- 1- Cuban dance (var. sp.) (5)
- 2- Container for pouring liquids (7)
- 3- Yellowish colour (var. sp.) (5)
- 4- Person who deals in legal matters (6)
- 5- Reversible fabric woven with patterns (6)
- 6- "When Silas and Timothy arrived from _____" (Acts 18:5) region in northern Greece (9)
- 7- "Day and night without _____ they sing." (Rev. 4:8) stopping (7)
- 8- Three-dimensional images (9)
- 13- "And I saw the holy city, the new _____." (Rev.21:2) (9)
- 14- "This is the Lord's doing; it is _____ in our eyes." (Ps.118:23) wonderful (9)
- 17- Scarlet _____, eastern North American bird (7)
- 19- One who instructs others (7)
- 20- Pleasantly entertained (6)
- 21- Stringed instruments, larger than violins (6)
- 24- Self-contained underwater breathing apparatus, used for shallow diving (5)
- 25- Chose one of two opposing positions (5)

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It's a New Year!

CYNTHIA PILICHOS FOR THE ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN DIOCESAN BOARD



September always seems like the real start of the new year, although the calendar dictates otherwise. However, as it is the return to what is seen as the “normal” routine, as opposed to the summer routine, there is a definite sense of starting anew. So, welcome to the “new year” of September from the Anglican Church Women Diocesan Board.

While many activities within the life of the church take a break during the summer, there are a number of parishes that see increased activity because of the influx of summer residents! Those parishes in our diocese in “cottage country” have been very busy over the summer with Variety Shows, Church Suppers, Fairs, Coffee Houses, and Flea Markets. You can be sure that the women of the parish have been front and centre with these activities!

For Christians, there are several “new years”. There is the September one just noted; there is the church new year with the first

Sunday in Advent; there is the calendar one of January 1; there is a seasonal one that we feel with the promise of spring and casting off of winter; there is the faith one of rebirth and resurrection, with the celebration of Easter; and there is the birthday of the church universal with the celebration of Pentecost. There are so many opportunities for Christians to start fresh, not to mention the one that is presented with the start of each new day and the opportunity to give thanks to God for all his many blessings.

What are ways to note and celebrate the “new year” of September? First, to give thanks for the beauty that surrounds us, as the heat of summer yields to the cooler days of autumn and the

glorious colours of that season. Second, to be open to new opportunities of living the faith, while easing into the routine that we associate with September to May. Third, to give thanks and to offer recognition for the many ways that women and men live out God's mission.

Did you know that the Anglican Church Women Diocesan Board has a Certificate of Recognition that can be presented to acknowledge and honour those who have been faithful disciples? Consider who in your parish, which “unsung hero(s)”, would be deserving of such recognition. Contact with the Anglican Church Women Diocesan Board Office to order Certificates of Recognition @ \$5 can be by phone (902-406-8981) or e-mail (acw.nsboard@gmail.com).

Are you aware of the many opportunities offered by the Diocese to explore and embrace new ways of showing God's love for this world in all its diversity? What is on the horizon is Vital Church Maritimes in November – consider attending and

actively participating.

Did you know that the Annual Project organized by the Anglican Church Women Diocesan Board is available for any parish and/or individual to support? Every Annual Project is an equal opportunity initiative! The current one for 2019/20 is Education - a life changing gift! This is a “Grannies to Grannies” enterprise that will bring in funds over the next number of months to send 5 youth in Kikima, Kenya to college or university. The grandmothers in Kikima are raising their orphaned grandchildren, all of whom are free of HIV/AIDS and are in school or gainfully employed. This is a success initiative introduced to the Board, and, by extension, to the Diocese, by the “Grannies” in King's County who are supporting the “Grannies” in Kikima – it is an initiative you want to be part of!

And, to ensure you are ready for calendar new year, do have available for sale in your parish the Canadian Church Calendar 2020. These can be ordered by phoning (902-406-8981) or e-mailing (acw.nsboard@gmail.com) the

Anglican Church Women Diocesan Board Office. When making contact, identify who you are, your parish and region, phone number and / or e-mail address, and the number of calendars being ordered. The most effective and efficient way to order the Canadian Church Calendar 2020 is via e-mail, but if you are phoning, please speak clearly and slowly. If you are ordering 10 or more calendars, the unit price per calendar is \$4; if 9 or fewer, the unit price per calendar is \$5. By the time you are reading the September 2019 issue of The Diocesan Times, the Canadian Church Calendars for 2020 should be in the Anglican Church Women Board Office. Updates regarding the Calendars will be communicated on the Anglican NetNews under the heading ACW.

So, again, welcome to the “new year” of September from the Anglican Church Women Diocesan Board and the many opportunities to live God's mission in this refreshing season of possibility. Thanks be to God!



2019-2020 Project Education – a life changing gift!

**Anglican Church Women Board,
Diocese of Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island**

Anglicans in our diocese will be supporting Grannies in Kikima, Kenya by providing funds for 5 Kikima grandchildren to attend university/college.

Education – a life changing gift!

The Kikima Grannies are raising their grandchildren, orphaned because of HIV/AIDS, and over the past 11 years have been helped by grannies in Kings County, NS.



Please make cheques payable to Anglican Church Women Board, Annual Project noted in memo line. Mail to:
**Anglican Church Women Board
Anglican Diocesan Centre
1340 Cathedral Lane, Halifax, NS B3H 2Z1**
The board will be accepting donations for this project until April 2020.

The ancient Galilee boat

BY REV. DAVENA DAVIS

“Now when he got into a boat, his disciples followed him.” (Matt. 8:23)

I observed the anniversary of my ordination to the diaconate (transitional) in June of this year. Coincidentally it was on the day the Community of Deacons met. I say coincidentally because I’m blessed to be chaplain to the Community of Deacons. We discussed several topics of concern, and perhaps the one that speaks to me most strongly is the idea of team ministry. It speaks to me because having spent much of my working life in a university setting, I value working with colleagues. And in situations where I have been a priest-in-charge I really depended

on the deacons and the lay ministers in those parishes. One person just can’t cover all the bases—be it a parish or a university department. Team ministry is vital.

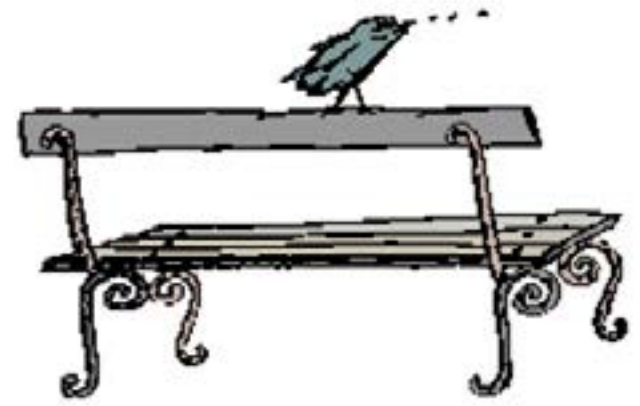
We also discussed the educational/pastoral requirements for the vocational diaconate. In this diocese we have prepared a document based on the Anglican Church of Canada’s Iona Report which Archbishop Ron will bring before the House of Bishops.

The deacon is called to a special ministry: “You are to interpret to the Church the needs, concerns, and hopes of the world.” And “...as a deacon you are to study the holy scriptures, to seek nourishment from them... to be faithful to serve, ready

to teach, and constant to advance the gospel...” (BAS,p. 655, 657)

“Study the holy scriptures and seek nourishment from them...” I was in the Holy Land in May for the first time. Never had I thought I would see Jerusalem or the Sea of Galilee. It’s quite extraordinary to find yourself visiting places where Jesus and his disciples travelled.

Have you ever wondered about the Sea of Galilee? What does it really look like? What sort of boat did he and the disciples sail on? In a museum in Tiberias there is a boat which Jesus might have sailed on. It dates to his time on earth. In 1986 two brothers from a local kibbutz discovered the remains of a boat when a severe drought exposed some



View from the Deacon’s Bench

of the shoreline on the Sea of Galilee. The vessel had been protected by sediment. It was carefully rescued and has been preserved. It is now in Galilee’s Miracle Centre in an atmosphere controlled museum environment. The boat measures 8.2 m. by 2.3 m. and is 1.2 m. high. It was built, we are told, in typical ancient Mediterranean shell based construction. Iron nails were used. It seems that several types of wood were used in the numerous repairs this boat underwent and the thought is that someone of limited financial means must have owned it. The size of the boat leads scholars to suggest that this type of boat was a fishing boat during the time of the Gospels.

Fishing was a thriving industry in the Sea of Galilee. Flavius Josephus (37-100 CE) a noted historian of the area observed that some 230 boats fished on this lake. The fish that would have been harvested might have included *Tristramella sacra* (a possibly extinct species of the cichlid family). *Tristramella simonis* (another species of cichlid fish) is common in the Sea of Galilee and in tributaries of the Jordan River. Today 27 species of fish live in the Sea of Galilee. Familiar to us are carp, catfish, tilapia, sardines, minnow and mullet. The annual catch amounts to 60-100 tons of mullet and 70-150

tons of silver carp.

The Sea of Galilee-Lake of Galilee-Lake Tiberias, Sea of Ginosar, Lake Gennesaret—modern Hebrew name Yam Kinneret—is really a lake through which the Jordan River flows. It’s located in what is called the great depression of the Jordan and is at least 209 meters below sea level. Because of this the winters are mild (14 degrees Celsius in January) and hot in the summer (31 degrees Celsius). It measures 21 km. north to south, 11 km. east to west. It is pear-shaped surrounded by hills and mountains. To the north and east the mountains of Lebanon and the Golan Heights surround the Lake; to the west and south the hills of Lower Galilee fall sharply to the lake’s edge. Fierce, sudden storms are common on the Sea of Galilee from winds arising on the surrounding mountains. When we were there the hills and valleys were green and lush. Towns and villages dotted the shoreline and hills. I hope my brief description of the Sea of Galilee and the type of boat Jesus might have used in his ministry helps to “nourish” your knowledge of the Gospels and of Jesus’ ministry in the area. More detail can be found on the internet with many interesting pictures.

First-Century Galilean Fishing Boat

Sailboats of this period had only a mast and "yard," and were used near shore under favorable wind conditions.

The fishing technique of this period required that fishermen frequently dive into the water. Consequently, fishermen often worked without clothing (see John 21:7).

This type of small sailboat was very common in first century Galilee; it was likely the same kind that Jesus' first disciples used.

The cast net opens as it is thrown and hits the water mostly flat.

The weights on the perimeter of the net pull the edges down around the fish.

As the fisherman retrieves the net, the weights come together and trap the fish inside.

Ancient fishing vessels were small and not very stable or maneuverable.

Size comparison (approximate):
 School bus Length: 37 ft.
 Galilean boat Length: 26 ft.
 Delivery truck Length: 27 ft.

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