



Standing together

a Canadian gathering to remember a Norwegian tragedy



BY PAUL SHERWOOD

More than a hundred gathered on a hot August night at St. Mark's Church in north Halifax to support the Norwegian community in its time of grief and sorrow. White roses were presented to Mr. Steinar Engeset, Honorary Norwegian Consul and the members of the Scandinavian Society of Nova Scotia. They joined in remembrance with interfaith representatives from the religious community. Prayer perspectives from different faiths were offered by the Christian, Hindu and Muslim leaders.

Left: Rita-Clare LeBlanc at the memorial service for the victims in Norway.

A Book of Condolences was presented to the Honory Consul; it had hundreds of signatures showing support and prayers from the community. Music for the service was provided by choir members from across the city. They sang the hymn "O God, Our Hearts Were Shattered"; although written for the tenth anniversary of the September 11 attacks in New York, the hymn was a poignant reminder of the tragedy in Norway.

Rita-Clare LeBlanc spoke during the service about "how each one of us here tonight can make a difference.

We can start by realizing the value that youth bring to our society, and how important intergenerational relationships are, and the huge role they play

in the lives of our youth.

In the midst of tragedy, we all feel the need to do something. To see all the flowers laid, and the candles lit to honour all those who have died in Oslo, is so moving. I challenge you all here tonight. Instead of laying flowers, or lighting candles to keep the memories of these youth alive, look within yourselves; and reach out to a youth that may need guidance and support. Share your time and talents to help them move forward in their lives, while creating leaders for today and tomorrow."

A the close of the service, the white roses were left at the base of the Norwegian flag in solemn memory of the Oslo and Utøya victims.

Hospitality from the inside out

BY WENDY MOORE

In recent years, many of us, in churches large and small, have taken an in-depth look at what we are doing to welcome people. We want to make sure that our children's areas are clean, bright and cheerful, that the bathrooms are spotless, that the church is comfortable, that our Sunday greeters are out in the parking lot to help people as they arrive. We want to ensure that our worship service is accessible, that directions within the church are obvious so that folks can find their way, and that our outside signage is visible and welcoming. We want to be very certain that our coffee is amazing, and that our savory and sweets are so awesome people will come back for more. We also encourage members of our congregations to be aware of any newcomers and not to leave them alone holding up the wall during coffee hour.

It's a lot that we ask of our congregations, especially when our budgets are stretched, and



our people's own personal day timers are packed, even on a Sunday.

A common scene in church kitchens on a Sunday, once the coffee hour is over, food is put away, dishes are done and the wardens are locking up, is that someone will say "Well, that's done for another week." But is it? Is that it? Is that hospitality?

Yes, it is hospitality - and if we have done even some of these things we have done well, we have "packaged" our church and presented it very well to newcomers and visitors.

But what happens when the

packaging comes off? What is going on inside our respective churches? This is the tough question to ask of ourselves, because the hospitality of the Kingdom going on within the church community, between brothers and sisters in Christ, is what is truly vital to the health of the church. This inside hospitality is essential if we want to sustain our outward hospitality of welcoming people into our midst. For me, this is all about the hospitality of Jesus. It continually awes me that we—and I—have the privilege of offering and sharing the hospitality of Jesus with

one another within our church families.

When we look at Bible, we see over and over again that Jesus had the extraordinary ability to meet people exactly where they were at, he met them in their interests, he met them in those things that were on their hearts. He welcomed people as they were. He not only welcomed people into conversation, but he welcomed them into his time, he welcomed them into his full attention. He welcomed those who came to him to share in his life and invited them into the Kingdom of God.

What's more, Jesus, at the same time that he was extending his hospitality to others, was himself completely open to the hospitality of God and the power of the Holy Spirit in him.

How are we offering this same hospitality of Jesus to one another within our congregations? Here are some questions I invite you to ponder with me:

1. What is a newcomer? While we think of a newcomer as someone who is new to our church, may we also think of a "newcomer" as someone returning to church in new life circumstances?
 2. Hospitality is vital within the various ministries of our church as well. How do we welcome our regular worshippers Sunday by Sunday?
 3. What is the hospitality like between the generations in your congregation?!
 4. How transparent is the leadership team?
 5. Do we welcome the arrival of the Holy Spirit?
- Welcoming God, thank you for life. Thank you for making us and loving us. Thank you for inviting us to know you. Help us to invite (your friend's name here) to church so they can know you too. Please bless Back to Church Sunday everywhere. Help us to all know you better. We pray in the name of Jesus Amen

COLUMNIST

Sauerkraut, parsnips and bagpipes

THERE IS SOMETHING about certain 'things' in our lives. Some folks love these 'things', some of us hate them and some of us have no strong feelings about them. Sauerkraut, parsnips and bagpipes have always been such things to me. I thought I hated them; I refused to try them and it seemed to me that the whole world was out to prove me wrong.

Parsnips tasted like soap or perfume to me as a child. They were always in a stew and it seemed to me that most of them ended up on my plate! AND I was expected to clean the plate before a dessert could be enjoyed. Then one day I was served a meal that had what I thought was mashed potatoes included along with some delicious chicken. It turned out to be mashed or pureed parsnips and I enjoyed themswimming in chicken gravy!

My dear mother-in-law was a sauerkraut connoisseur. She came from German stock and what I refereed to as rotten cabbage was a staple of her childhood. She swore she would convert me to eating the stuff and I swore I would not enjoy it. My weakness is anything chocolate and she had a wonderful chocolate cake for dessert one Sunday when we were there to share a meal. I had two pieces before



ST. BART'S BY THE BOG

Sarah Neish

I noticed the grin on Mum's face. You see, there was a cup of sauerkraut in that cake, giving it a crunchy texture and the moistness that made it so good. She won and never let me forget it!

Bagpipes had always sounded like a cat with it's tail caught in a door to me. They were just noise, not music but my Orin fancied the pipes and every time we happened to be in the vicinity of them he would stand as close as he could. I have seen him march along with the band if he thought it would get him closer to the music. I, on the other hand, walked in the other direction.

This past summer we had some new folks living in the old Matheson house just beyond the rectory. They were what

we might have called «flower children» in the sixties. Now we just thought of them as a bit different. Marching to a different drummer so to speak...literally!

Rev. Billie had done her pastoral "thing" and visited them shortly after they arrived and Pop was over with fresh veggies from the garden as soon as he had produce to share. The Young'uns as Pop called them were in our community for a few months while Hamish polished up his thesis for his Phd in Medieval Norse History. His wife/partner (we were never really sure what that story was) was a wonderful weaver and had her loom set up in the parlour of the old house before anything else was unpacked. Their story was fascinating to the whole community and we were delighted to welcome them to our Sunday worship on occasion.

With a name like Hamish it was no surprise that our new neighbour played the Bagpipes! He loved the pipes and played and played. He walked up behind the church to stand on the top of the hill overlooking the cranberry bogs, the beach and the ocean and played. He told us a piper needs to walk while playing his pipes. We could hear the bagpipes in the early morning and at dusk. He played and

walked across the top of the hill and we all began to love the haunting sounds coming from behind St. Bart's. He played marches and jigs and laments but the most beautiful and haunting was what he told us was a Piobaireachd. It was the goal of every piper worth his "dram" to be able to master this music that has been called the Art of the Piper. A piobaireachd could be from ten to twenty minutes long, variations on a theme played over and over again with subtle differences heard by the discerning ear. Hamish played for us and for himself and for the bones that rested below his feet as he walked among the old stones of St. Bart's graveyard. And he mastered the Piobaireachd.

This past summer I and most of the community learned to love the Bagpipes.

It has been a magical time for us here By the Bog. We will be sorry to say goodbye to our new neighbours but before Hamish leaves he has promised to bring his pipes to church and we will enjoy singing some of the old hymn tunes to the sound of his pipes and our old reed organ. It will be Amazing Grace time at St. Bart's.

I'll keep you posted.

Aunt Madge



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What is a QR code and why should I care?

BY PAUL SHERWOOD

These odd looking black and white squares (like the one displayed below) are showing up more and more in magazines, on signs, and online. They're called QR codes, and they hold some remarkable potential for your parish. Oh, and they're FREE.

Quick Response (QR) codes are special two-dimensional bar codes. They are intended to be scanned by a camera phone with a QR code reader application that you can download from your phone's application store or market. A QR code can hold a URL (web address), e-mail address, up to 250 characters of text or other information.

If you have a smartphone, go to the app store and search for a QR code reader. You'll find several free apps. Run the app and then hold your phone's camera over a QR code to read it. Since most QR codes have a URL encoded in them, when you read the QR code it will

probably take you to a web page.

SO WHAT'S THE POINT?

There are a number of compelling points for using QR codes.

1. VALUE ADDED:

QR codes link offline information to online content; this gives additional information and even multimedia to an offline experience.

Think about in the Sunday bulletin/program, put a QR code next to each item for which there's more info on the website.

2. CONVENIENCE:

If you've created print material that included a URL for more information, add a QR code for the URL to enable smartphone users to go directly to that web page without having to type in the web address.

Think about a QR code on your sign that links to your

church's home page or a welcome page, so those driving or walking by your church can get more information about your church.

Or perhaps a QR code that includes driving directions to church camp! If you church staff have business cards, put a QR code on back that links to the church home page or to a profile page for that staff person.

3. ECOGREEN:

Some people may want to skip the print bulletin entirely. Put the bulletin on the church website and place a QR code for the bulletin in the lobby so people can bypass the print version entirely. If your church sends out direct mail pieces to reach people in your community, include QR codes on them.

HOW DO I CREATE A QR CODE?

There are many free QR code-

generating sites including:

Qurify (www.qurify.com/en)

Delivr (www.delivr.com/qr-code-generator)

These sites allow you to create your own QR code which can then be printed or inserted into a publication.

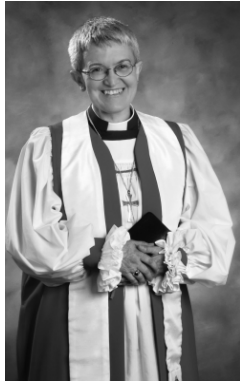
Below: This is the QR code for the URL (web site) for The Diocesan Times newspaper. It will take you to the web site.

Note that the white border is part of the encoding.



BISHOP'S MESSAGE

Love story



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

ONE OF THE JOYS OF BEING THE BISHOP is traveling to different parishes Sunday by Sunday. I see buildings of all sizes and ages. I meet people of all sizes and ages! And there are three common threads that are woven around the diocese: a thread that is love for God, another that is love for God's people, and a third that is love for God's church, Christ's Body here on earth. I have this image in my mind of a gold and silver and burgundy braid that comes from heaven and winds around the diocese, through church buildings and around church yards, linking the people of God to one another and tying them back to God. It looks like a delicate, fragile braid, but it is actually amazingly strong!

As I meet Sunday by Sunday with the people of God for worship and for discussion, I hear the stories of each place. There are stories of individuals and stories of communities.

There are the communities that have lived through hard times (fire, explosion, the death of their economy) and are still alive to each other and to God. There are parishes with long histories and many stories and venerable traditions. Some of our parishes have more than 250 years of story telling and story building. We also have brand new parishes still in chapter one of their stories, with no traditions but great energy to venture into new territory. That gold and silver and burgundy braid draws all of these together.

I meet the individual Anglicans who come Sunday by Sunday to worship God together in common prayer and common praise. They come to gather around an altar to make an offering in thanksgiving to almighty God for all the blessings in their lives. They offer "themselves, their souls and bodies", to serve God in the world and in the church. They each have a story of their life with God through Jesus Christ. Sometimes they will actually tell those stories, but not without a lot of encouragement!

Some of these stories are like Bible stories. In our *Companions on a Journey* Stewardship workshops, we ask people to do a spiritual autobiography thinking of their faith story and how they learned the parts of their story about using their time, their abilities and their resources for God's work in the world. People often say

something like, "I never really thought about my faith journey. I certainly never told anyone about it."

God's great story (the Scripture story) and our faith story. We are called to share those stories in the situations in which we find ourselves.

I just reread a novel by Maeve Binchy, *Heart & Soul*. Often the characters seem to just happen to be in the right place at the right time. They take action using the ability they have and they make a difference. They are all very independent characters, a caring cardiologist, a cranky hospital administrator, a careful pharmacist, two priests, but there is a thread in the story line that holds them all together. That thread is that God is at work even when they don't know it, or won't admit it. It is through the sharing of each story that they contribute to, and change the life of another. The sharing of their stories brings them together as a community within the neighbourhood community and enables them to make a difference

Helping people to hear these stories is what we, as disciples of Jesus Christ, are called to do. We can invite people to join us for worship to hear the stories in our community of faith (Back to Church Sunday September 25, 2011). We can learn the Bible stories better and develop skill in telling them. Then we might be able to speak with confidence when we have the opportunity. We can write our own spiritual autobiography and develop the confidence to tell how God has been active in our lives.

Stories of love – God's love for us, our love for God – spoken by us in prayer; lived by us in loving action for God's people – those within God's church and those who "outside" who have not yet heard God's "Love Story". Who can resist a love story?

You are each part of God's "Love Story". With whom can you share the story?

+Sue



EDITOR

Paul Sherwood

Communicating in a sea of noise and an ocean of (hi-tech) toys

GETTING THE NEWS OUT to the Anglican community has never been easier or more challenging.

We live in an age of near-instantaneous connection and yet struggle to connect face-to-face. I've watched families at dinner texting across the table to each other yet sitting only inches apart!

With so many ways of sending and receiving news, the challenge is knowing which vehicle to use and for what purpose. The traditional newspaper is universally available to all parishioners but it is hobbled by the inevitable delay in printing and delivering the paper. Social media sources are quicker to deliver but not available unless you have an Internet connection; and they may sacrifice depth in their

haste to be first with the story. In an attempt to bridge that gap, the Diocesan Times produced its first 'online only' summer edition and published it on the diocesan web site:

www.nspeidiocese.ca/times/times.htm

The stories in the online edition are both timely and colourful. Extra pages can be added without extra printing cost and the 8 1/2 X 11" format can be printed at its full size.

I've covered hundreds of events throughout the diocese over the past 10 years. Most of the photos I took were not printed in the Diocesan Times due to space restrictions - the newspaper is always a multiple of 4 pages which limits the choices for stories and photos. One possible solution is an

online photo sharing site for the extra shots that didn't make it into the paper that month.

The diocese is currently reviewing its web site design and purpose. The Diocesan Times is in the same discussion with other church newspapers and media outlets. With such a diverse readership in age, location and interests, our goal is to continue to serve our traditional readership while providing earlier breaking news and updates to our connected readers.

Your input is vital to make sure the stories and events in our diocese are accessible to all - whether through Canada Post paper delivery or the 'information highway'. The stories are yours to tell - our job is to share them with the wider community.

If you have ideas, suggestions or comments about how the news is delivered to you or your parish, drop us a line (electronic or snail mail) and let us know your thoughts.

PAUL

Below: This is the QR code for contact information for The Diocesan Times editor. It contains only text and can be copied as a new contact.





Come home Flat Stanley

We hope all Flat Stanleys will make it home sometime this summer. Send your adventure stories to youth@nspeidiocese.ca

*Oh, look, it's Flat Stanley,
With Stacey, his friend
They've joined us at church!
Will the fun never end!*

*All around Nova Scotia
And PEI too
These "Flats" have a purpose
For me and for you!*

*They tell of the family
To which we belong
One people of faith
Singing God's song*

*Of disciples who follow
Of Jesus' love sharing
Of connections and joy
Of people who're caring.*

*When you're ready make sure
That you mail these "Flats"
home
To the child who made them
(They're waiting right now.)*

*The story has meaning
When it is told.
So, share it around
With young and with old.*

*We're the people of stories
We know who we are
Disciples together
Children of God!*

Come to Celebrate! Come to Reflect! Come to Rejoice!



Photo: The 35th Anniversary of Ordination of Women Planning Committee
Back row: Dianne Parker, Evelyn Knorr, Jane Clattenburg Front row: Pam Bishop, Katherine Bourbonniere, Fran Boutilier

Historic Lunenburg, on the South Shore of Nova Scotia, is the setting for the national celebration of the 35th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women to the Priesthood in our Anglican Church of Canada, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, on November 29 to December 2, 2011. Participants will be arriving from all across Canada: from sea, to sea, to shining sea! Our theme is "Reflecting the Light of Christ", thus our days together will be packed with many choices including: prayer and song, sharing sacred stories, thought-provoking workshops, and what is known as 'good old fashioned Maritime hospitality.' Our

Keynote speaker is the Rev. Dr. Eileen Scully, Interim Director, Worship & Ministry, Anglican Church of Canada. The spiritual heart of the conference will culminate at the evening service of Renewal of our Baptismal and Priestly Vows. This will take place on St Andrew's Day, November 30, which is the same day the first six women in Canada were received into the priesthood, in 1976. Talented musicians and artisans of the Maritimes will facilitate workshops to equip and empower us in future ministry. Sharing Circles, as the name suggests, will provide time and space to share and exchange ideas, triumphs, sorrows,

hopes, dreams and visions. This conference is designed to be inviting and welcoming to all our sister priests, regardless of years of experience; one of our main objectives is to provide space for rejuvenation and an opportunity to celebrate our priestly ministry together. Registering is user friendly, as there is a central booking agent for travel and accommodations. The cost per participant is \$800, no matter where you travel from, in Canada. This is in the interests of making this opportunity affordable for all our sister priests throughout Canada, and especially in the North. This price includes travel, accommodations, meals and conference/workshop

materials. We can provide spaces for ninety participants. The registration deadline is October 1, 2011. You can register on line by emailing nsanniversary35@gmail.com., or mailing; 35th Anniversary Gathering, Anglican Diocesan Centre, 6017 Quinpool Road, Halifax, NS, B3K 5J6. You are invited to check the 'Anniversary' web page at <http://www.nspeidiocese.ca/35thAOWP.htm> We look forward to your presence in Lunenburg where we can gather strength to continue the journey of reflecting Christ's light now and always. Come to celebrate! Come to reflect! Come to rejoice!



Diocese of Cuba gets rolling

FROM THE BISHOP OF CUBA
HAVANA, 29 JULY, 2011

*Bishop Sue:
Greetings in Christ Jesus!
Thank you for your help to the Diocese of Cuba. Here is the vehicle we purchased with your contribution.
We would like to continue being in communication with you.
May God bless your life and ministry.*

+Griselda, Bishop



9th Annual Diocesan Youth Conference

11/11/11—13/11/11

WHO: all youth in grades 7-12 from Nova Scotia and PEI
WHERE: Canoe Cove, PEI
WHY: to share a weekend together in Christian community
HOW: with lots of fun games, good food, meaningful worship and experiencing PWRDF Living Justice!

THIS NOVEMBER, youth and their youth workers from all over Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, will gather together for the ninth annual Diocesan Youth Conference. So many times we hear about the newest or latest way to do something. All over the Diocese there are people with fond memories of the learning and growing that was had at AYPAs events. The young people of today share a love of gathering together in Christian community just like their grandparents did and indeed, just like Christians have done all over the world in all times.

The lead up to an event like DYC can be a wonderful time of anticipation for the whole parish. Everyone can join in with the leadership and responsibility for a ministry with youth. Getting ready for DYC can be a time for the parish to focus on something that interests their younger members. It is also a chance for everyone to help plan and provide for the trip. This year, the event will be held in Canoe Cove, PEI. There will be all sorts of ways to get there - ferry, car, bus, or bridge. Helping youth and their leaders to prepare for the event is a key part of the overall success. Youth who have been before expect to experience something profound. Those who are new to DYC may need some help from others, not only to know what to expect but also to be drawn into the experience itself. Any parish that is sending youth to DYC should consider sending the participants off with a blessing and an expectation that they will return to share the experience.

DYC is a shared experience. Youth are prompted to get to know each other in ways that they might not ever experience in their home parish. They are able to see their youth workers as Christians who aren't just teachers but are real people living their lives with purpose. Whether a church has a strong youth ministry with lots of youth or has a simple ministry to a smaller number of young

people, gathering together for an event like DYC allows for directed learning and a focus on a specific age group. It is a wonderful opportunity for young people in this Diocese.

It is also a wonderful opportunity for those who work with youth to support one another. At DYC, younger and older adults come together in their love for youth work. Whether they are volunteers or professionals, clergy or lay workers, they all gather resources and are fed by this event. It is a great chance for people who are new to youth work, especially those in parishes with younger youth, to try out youth ministry and share in the life that young people bring to the church.

After an event like DYC, participants have a stronger sense of belonging and want to share what they have experienced. They are ready to speak of how God is moving in their lives and are expecting to have conversations about their faith. It is important that the church give them opportunities to speak, to have a voice. So many times people say that they would like to see more youth in the church. Take a chance - look around and see if you have students in grades seven through twelve who could benefit by joining in and invite them to this event. It is more than just a weekend. It is a way for each parish to participate in a vibrant ministry with their youth.

For detailed information and links to registration go to the Facebook Group - DYC 2011

To see the theme for this year's conference, scan the QR code below:



St. Matthias holds final service before closure

BY BEVERLEY A. HENDSBEE

With the closing date of June 30th, 2011, St. Matthias Anglican Church, corner of Chebucto Road and Windsor St. Halifax, ceased being an Anglican church and was sold to our neighbours across the street, St. Antonio's Antiochian Orthodox Church. This lovely old building has graced that corner since 1914 and had been an active and welcoming house of worship until a gradual decline in membership over the last few years, making it impossible for the remaining faithful to carry on God's work on that particular corner of Halifax. After much discussion, much soul searching and many meetings we voted to amalgamate with St. Philip's Church, Bayers



Photo: St Matthias Anglican Church, Windsor St. and Chebucto Rd. in Halifax.

Road and Connaught Ave, thus forming the new parish of Anglican Church of the Apostles at Halifax. The new cornerstone for the new parish was unveiled by Bishop Sue Moxley on a lovely sunny Sunday, July 3rd with a good representation present from both of the former parishes and several guests from the community. Prior to the closing of St. Matthias, a catered congregational dinner was held Sat. May 14, with musical entertainment provided by several young members of the parish. At that time Rev. Bill Sheppard and his wife Elizabeth were honoured and thanked for their devoted time

amongst us, Rev. Bill having served as priest-in-charge and seeing us, most ably, through our trying times. The final service was held Sunday May 29th with Archdeacon Peter Armstrong, a former priest at St. Matthias, the guest preacher. St. Matthias Youth Choir provided special music and many former parishioners attended. A reception followed in the church hail. On Sunday June 5th the Youth Choir presented their 11th and final Spring Concert in the afternoon, in the sanctuary. The church was full and many said it was a gratifying feeling to be going out of our beloved church "on a high note".



Photo (from left): Rev. Michael McKeage, baby Brayden Lucas Forrester sitting on lap of his mother, Cathy Lockerbie-Forrester, Mrs Edrie Beeler and her daughter, Jean Moore. Picture taken at Tibbits Nursing Home, Wilmot, Nova Scotia, Spring 2011

Separated by years but joined in faith

BY MURRAY ROLPH
 PARISH OF WILMOT

Brayden Lucas Forrester, born July 7, 2010 is the youngest member of All Saint's Anglican Church, Kingston, Nova Scotia, (Parish Of Wilmot), Nova

Scotia. The parish recently celebrated the milestone of Brayden and our most senior member, Mrs Edrie M. Beeler, who is 107 years old. Edrie was born on February 15, 1904. The parish wondered if any

other congregations had a similar story where members were so diverse in age. We put out this challenge to other dioceses across Canada to see if they have a similar story or situation of such varying years of members.

Youth Ministry Training Day in Valley Region



Photo: Jen Schwarz, Cindy Naugle and Michelle Bull practice the moves to a holy motion energizer at the youth ministry day in Kentville.

BY MICHELLE BULL

Who says learning things can't be fun? Not the 20 people who gathered for a youth ministry training day in the Valley in June. We came from places as far apart as Eastern Shore and Annapolis, Halifax and Nineveh. We were Sunday school teachers, youth group leaders and parents, 20-somethings up to 60-somethings. Susan Naylor, our diocesan youth ministry coordinator, came over from PEI to lead our day, and we were away to the races. After a lively 'getting to know you' game, we moved into the Chancel of St. James, Kentville, for an opening worship/Bible Study. Then Susan explained to us about multiple intelligence theory. Some people learn best by hearing, some by reading, some by doing something active, some with music, some with art, some by doing practical things, some in nature, and so on. She challenged us to use as many components as possible when we're teaching so as to engage as many kinds of intelligence as possible, and have the best chance of people actually remembering things. So, instead of just reading a passage from the Bible, we might also act it out, draw pictures of the story, sing a song based on the

passage, and so on. We might go outside whenever possible - after all, almost everyone says they feel closest to God in nature. Susan explained to us the philosophy behind the diocese's new Care 2 Screen policy. It is not just a question of being sure that all adults who volunteer with youth have been screened as to police records and so on. It is more about creating a climate of safety, where everyone is aware of and takes responsibility for the safety and well being of our children and youth, where the church becomes an actively safe place for everyone who is there. This would range all the way from being sure there are no rickety piles of chairs waiting to topple onto someone to making sure that the Sunday School teachers are the best possible for the job, rather than begging someone, anyone, to volunteer. We also learned a cool way to pray with our keys. You take your key ring and with each key, you pray for the people and places they represent. So, for your car key, you might pray for safe travel. For your house key you might pray for the people you live with. And so on. And of course, we shared questions, struggles, what had worked, what hadn't, and encouraged one another.

Ole! Viva Espana International Tea a success



Photo: Dancers perform 'For the Love of Flamenco' with Maria Osende at St. Peter's in Birch Cove.

BY CHARLOTTE HORWICH

St. Peter's Birch Cove Ladies Guild hosted their 9th International Tea on April 30th 2011. The chosen country was Spain. The hall was decorated with red and yellow flowers, colors

of the Spanish flag. A table displayed souvenirs of Spain brought home by members of the guild. The menu included "Tortilla a la Espanola" (Spanish Potato Omelette) and "Torta De Santiago" (St. James Cake). The entertainment was

a wonderful lively presentation of Spanish Dancing featuring 'For the Love of Flamenco' with Maria Osende. As always at St. Peter's events, there was great community support which is very rewarding and appreciated by the Guild.

Photos by C. Mannion

Below: The St. Peter's Ladies Guild wearing their new 60th Anniversary Celebration Aprons.



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Anglicans respond to the African famine

THE WORST DROUGHT to hit the Horn of Africa in six decades is currently affecting up to 10 million people. The United Nations describes the situation in the region as the most severe food security emergency in the world today, with the Famine Early Warning Systems Network warning that the response is "inadequate to prevent a further deterioration". Levels of severe, acute malnutrition in this area, particularly among children, are also of great concern. The mix of drought, skyrocketing food prices, food shortages, and deaths of livestock in large numbers has combined to make this situation a devastating one for millions of people in the region.

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF), the Anglican Church of Canada's disaster relief and international development agency, is responding to the drought and famine. As a member of the ACT Alliance—a global coalition of 111 churches and agencies engaged in development, humanitarian assistance, and advocacy—PWRDF will be working to address the needs identified by ACT members in the affected countries:

Kenya: Food distribution;

supplementary feeding for nutrition targeting children, the elderly and nursing mothers; and water supply are the needs during the crisis phase. Farmers will need seeds, fertilizers and livestock restocking for the recovery process.

Ethiopia: Food distribution, water supply- including the rehabilitation of water points and water harvesting; livestock restocking, and rehabilitation of pasture and growing of future animal feed.

Somalia: The Programme Coordinator for the Somali Refugee Program who was in the Dadaab refugee camp, which hosts 370,000 people and is currently receiving about 1300 new arrivals a day, communicated on July 13, "Here, things are changing by the hour and the situation has never been this bad".

Canadian Government Matching Donations for Horn of Africa Drought Relief

The Canadian government has created the East Africa Drought Relief Fund to match donations made by Canadians to eligible charities retroactively from July 6 to Sept. 16 this summer. They are matching all donations for the Horn of Africa drought dollar for dollar.

The Canadian International

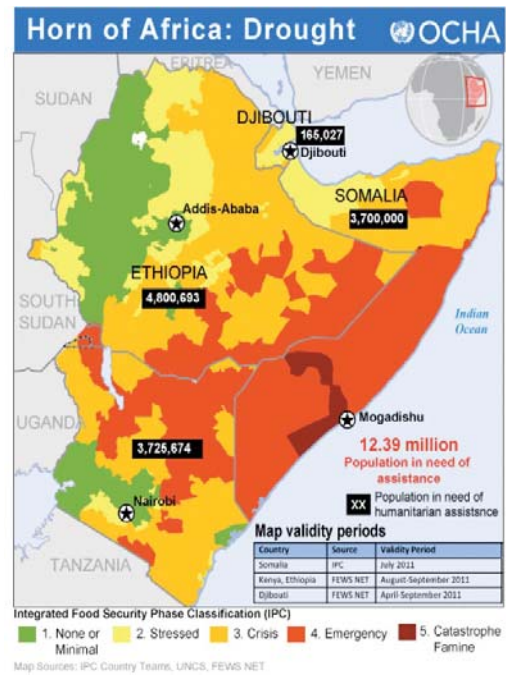
Development Agency's website says the following of the matching funds:

For every dollar an individual Canadian donates over a 10-week period (retroactive to July 6, 2011, and ending September 16, 2011) to an eligible registered Canadian charity responding to the drought in East Africa, the Government will contribute an equivalent amount to the East Africa Drought Relief Fund. The Government of Canada will administer the relief fund separately, disbursing funds to organizations best suited to make an effective and real difference in the lives of people affected by the drought.

PWRDF is responding to the famine through the ACT Alliance and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank. You can read more about the PWRDF response here. You can donate to this relief effort by:

On-line: at the CanadaHelps website you can designate "Horn of Africa Drought": www.canadahelps.org/CharityProfilePage.aspx?CharityID=s50860.

By phone: For credit card donations contact: Jennifer Brown 416-924-9192 ext. 355; 1-866-308-7973 Please do not send your credit card number by email or fax.



By mail: Please make cheques payable to "PWRDF", mark them for "Horn of Africa Drought" and send them to: The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund

The Anglican Church of Canada
80 Hayden Street
Toronto, Ontario M4Y 3G2

Partners for Refugees sponsor the Al- Ali family

SUBMITTED BY ROD GILLIS

Partners for Refugees was formed in June 2010. Parishioners at St. James Armdale responded to a request from The Diocesan Refugee coordinator to Chebucto Region for assistance in sponsoring the Al-Ali family. The family was residing in a UN Refugee Camp in Syria. The Al-Ali family had to leave their home, family and friends in Baghdad and flee to safety in fear of persecution, violence and death after the fall of Saddam Hussein. Parishioners at St. James and St. Mark's partnered to form Partners for

Refugees in order to take on the challenge of bringing the Al-Ali family to live in Halifax. The family was welcomed to their new home on September 30, 2010. The committee worked diligently to make their new home safe and secure and to support the family for the first year in their new home in Halifax. Other parishes that provided financial support and donations in kind are: St. Matthias, St. Margaret of Scotland, All Saints Cathedral, St. Thomas Fall River, and St. Philips. Partners also received a grant from the Primate's Fund and a grant from the Diocese of NS & PEI refugee fund.



Photo: A fundraiser concert was held at St. James Armdale on March 26, 2011. From left to right are Audrey Li, Alice Nicholson, Ruaa Al-Ali, Alice Hadley, Asma Al-Ali, Khawla Al-Ali, Barbara Tremills, Margaret Bayer, Jamal Al-Ali, Sarah Jane Raine, Canon Rod Gillis. Missing are David Routledge, Andy Harvey, Robin Calder, Peter Van Loon, Sharon Stone.

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In case you missed it ...

The Diocesan Times produced an online summer edition for August. You can find it on the diocesan web site at:

www.nspeidiocese.ca/times/times.htm



Photo: Deacon David Chapman tells the story of the missing bell during the children's talk at St Thomas, Fall River in June.

Ringling in 20 years at Fall River

ST THOMAS' CHURCH in Fall River celebrated its 20th anniversary in June. It is the spiritual home of the previous congregations of St John's, Waverley, St Stephen's, Windsor Junction and the new communities that continue to grow around it. The church bell pictured above

was 'missing' for many years; some say hidden, some say 'borrowed' but none can say for sure where it lay out of sight for so many years. It was found, cleaned and rededicated to the new church during the anniversary service. Bishop Ron Cutler attended the service and was reunited

with his former archdeacon from Newfoundland, Fr. Jim Reid. Fr. Jim celebrated his own anniversary of 59 years of ordained ministry and is still active in ministry as honorary assistant priest at St Thomas' Church.

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LEAP for Faith

supporting faith development

As highlighted in the online Summer edition of the Diocesan Times, LEAP FOR FAITH is a 5-week program that supports faith development.

It outlines an easy to understand process for a 'how-to' approach to growing one's faith. It is done in a nonthreatening way through a fictional, yet realistic, story.

The purpose of LEAP for faith is to:

- promote and guide personal spiritual growth of the reader or participants in the program
- become a tool for congregational development and church growth
- reach out to those who feel do not have a meaningful relationship with God.
- show people how to grow in their faith.
- provide an easy-to-follow process that can be used to coach others (witness) in their faith development.

Chapter 1 – The Question

As a boisterous audience rose to its feet, their loud, appreciative applause rang out, interspersed with whistles and hoots of acknowledgement as the cast made their final bow during the curtain call. The

dinner theatre had come to an end. With the houselights back on the audience mingled with the cast, congratulating them on a great performance.

Troy offered his own congratulations to Nick, his co-worker, and the writer and director of the production. Nick had invited Troy to come see the play he and his fellow church members had been performing as a fundraiser.

The production was about a couple of golfing buddies, one of who was questioning his likelihood of getting into heaven. The conclusion of the plot didn't provide any certainty for the two friends but the thought of his own likelihood of going to heaven crept into Troy's mind as he made his way to the parking lot.

He enjoyed the play, and the timing of his attending couldn't have been better or worse, depending on your point of view. Troy was experiencing mixed emotions over the topic of religion and faith. He felt he may be missing something by not having a connection to

a church or really knowing anything about God. Yet, what he had seen from the church recently wasn't overly impressive and was far from enticing him to take part. The headlines and TV news about Ministers of the church being charged with this and that repulsed him. These people who were supposed to be examples and guides were so far off track. Hypocritical was the only word that came to mind and he felt it justified his decision not to go to church. Any inkling of attending was quickly squashed.

....

CHAPTER 1 STUDY AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

How have your past experiences influenced your current relationship with God?

Read Philippians Chapter 1, verses 3 to 11 (Philippians 1:3-11)

Read Psalm 104

List the benefits you can think of by understanding faith development as a process?



Use the QR code below to link to the LEAP for faith site.



or visit us at www.leapforfaith.org

L “Yes, exactly,” Nick answered. “The letter ‘L’ is the first letter in LEAP. ‘LEAP for faith’ is how I like to put it. L stands for Look and Listen to Him.”

Page 26 LEAP for faith written by Gary P. Cox

www.leapforfaith.org

E “This is great”, he thought. “I’m already on step two. So, “E” stands for Explore and Examine. That’s it!”

Page 107 LEAP for faith written by Gary P. Cox

www.leapforfaith.org

A “Nick has been explaining a few things to me, and while he says I’m on the Acknowledge and Accept step of the LEAP process, I feel I’m stuck there!”

Page 182 LEAP for faith written by Gary P. Cox

www.leapforfaith.org

P “Nick added, ‘I need the P in LEAP more than ever. I needed to continue to Practice and Pray for my faith to grow.’”

Page 243 LEAP for faith written by Gary P. Cox

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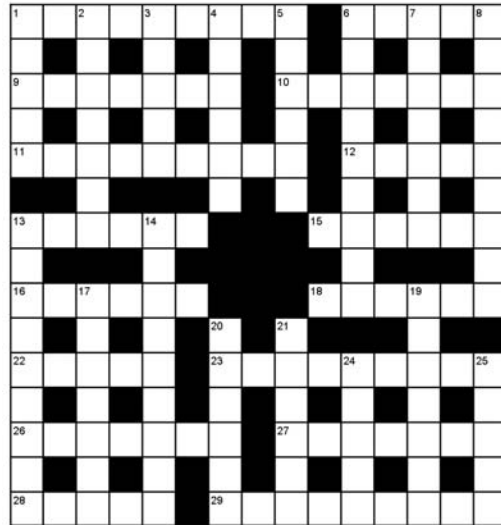
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Bible Crossword

by Maureen Yeats



September Puzzle Clues

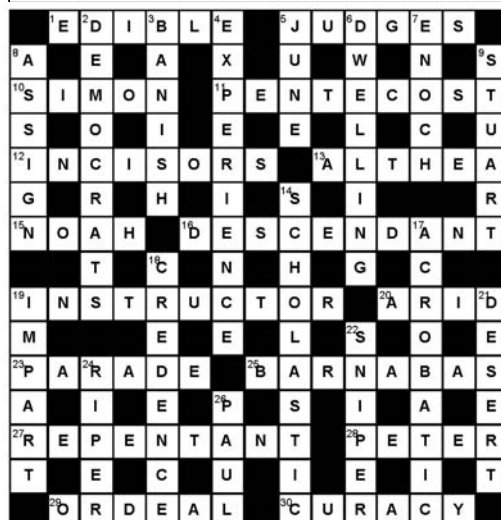
ACROSS:

- 1 – He helped the man who was robbed and beaten (Luke 10:25-37) (9)
- 6 – “Halley’s _____”, seen every 76 years (5)
- 9 – Paints again (7)
- 10 – “I _____ them and took them” (eagerly desired) (Joshua 7:21) (7)
- 11 – Pulse (9)
- 12 – Old Testament prophet (5)
- 13 – Thirty pieces of _____ that Judas took to betray Jesus (Matt. 26:15) (6)
- 15 – “When they call to me, I will _____ them,” (respond) (Ps. 91:15) (6)
- 16 – “The Lord’s _____” – entreaty to God (Matt. 6:9-13) (6)
- 18 – Songs, hymns and prayers collected in a Bible book (6)
- 22 – Small and sprightly (5)
- 23 – Books not in the Protestant Bible (9)
- 26 – “By the rivers of _____, there we sat down and...wept” (ancient city) (Ps.137:1) (7)
- 27 – Sheets and blankets used for sleeping outdoors (7)
- 28 – Sounding like a clarinet or saxophone (5)
- 29 – Not frivolously (9)

DOWN:

- 1 – Abraham’s wife (Gen. 11-23) (5)
- 2 – Warrior angel (7)
- 3 – To cook in an oven, especially meat (5)
- 4 – “the Israelites quarrelled and _____ the Lord” (tried severely) (Exodus 17:7) (6)
- 5 – Fine point (6)
- 6 – Formal agreements (9)
- 7 – Saint of the month (7)
- 8 – Seaweed lines on the shore (9)
- 13 – Month school usually starts (9)
- 14 – Forever (9)
- 17 – Warmly polite (7)
- 19 – Small portable computers (7)
- 20 – “Contributes to the needs of the _____” (Christians) (Rom. 12:13) (6)
- 21 – Thief (6)
- 24 – This can be FM, AM or satellite (most cars have one) (5)
- 25 – Put fear to rest (5)

June Puzzle Solution



Atlantic Canada's newest Christian Business Magazine

Integrity Magazine started as a joint venture by several Christian marketplace leaders from different churches and different denominations working in harmony to build up the Christian community in our region. We have assembled to use our varying gifts and talents to collaborate and launch this resource to encourage you to grow in your faith, stand up for Biblical principles in your workplace, and represent Jesus as you serve in your local business capacity Integrity Magazine is both

a print and electronic quarterly business magazine with a focus on the important role that faith plays in today's workplace. The inaugural issue will publish in September 2011. More details on availability for the print edition as well as the electronic edition can be found on the web site: <http://integritymagazine.ca/>

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REVIEWS

Jesus Christ: superstar?



Review Editor

Paul Friesen

Our family doesn't get to a lot of theatrical productions in the city other than ones put on by their school. So this spring, having received news of a gift of tickets to be enjoyed while on a visit to family in what is (generously) called 'central Canada', we looked forward to a refreshing afternoon. The matinee performance was necessary to avoid the potential comedy of weary, holidaying parents...falling asleep, never mind the kids' potential for bedtime boredom. Why did I choose a performance of 'Jesus Christ Superstar'? Though some of our best friends are...ummm ... 'Sixties people', my wife and I are a little too young to belong. But, like many in the generation that followed, I have long felt

a vague sense of guilt at not being inspired enough by Sixties sorts of things, so I caved in. My wife, not feeling proportional guilt in the moment of decision, jumped at the chance to see, with her father, the same afternoon, a comedy: Shakespeare's 'Merry Wives of Windsor' in which, of course, men are guilty...of being men—well, in which at least Falstaff is the comic idiot which any man could become. In any case, it was dad and daughters who were off to a 40th anniversary performance of the famed 'Rock Opera'.

Jesus Christ Superstar Lyrics by Tim Rice and Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber;

Directed by Des McAnuff (Avon Theatre, Stratford Shakespeare Festival, Stratford, Ontario, Summer 2011).

WELL, IT WAS QUITE THE SHOW both for me and my companions. I wasn't concerned about my older daughter (age thirteen) but a little worried about my younger daughter (age eight) losing interest as the show was described as 'suitable' for those age twelve and up while the simultaneous production of Shakespeare's *Merry Wives of Windsor* was (puzzlingly) recommended for those age eight and up. I needn't of worried; both my children were riveted throughout, my younger daughter often on her toes, eyes glued to the stage, for once not complaining about the racket adults create with their own kind of music. The performance was astonishingly energetic. On this basis alone, news that the show may be going south at the end of the *Stratford Festival* season, possibly to Los Angeles, is not hard to believe.

In fact it was quite the show partly because of the music. The director set the tone with a pre-recorded welcome in which he invited the audience to unwrap throat lozenges at will as there would be so much musical noise no one could possibly notice the crinkling of wrappers. In fact Lloyd Webber's music, performed at times in an over-the-top celebratory, or persistently ominous, or depressingly tragic mood fed the driving, unrelenting action of the performance.

The raw energy of the music was matched by the energy of the acting, at times acrobatic. It was a very, very *physical* show. Costuming and staging went hand-in-hand with this. Those who might have come to mock a 'hippy-dippy-flower-power' memory of 'Jesus People' smiling beatifically or radiating gentle melancholy must have been disappointed. The whole feel of the stage was of a totalitarian world, a world of military black-and-silver oppression, of metal grids and walkways set against the feeble hopes of the deluded Jesus and his naïve disciples, who were garbed in white, like post-modern Franciscans.

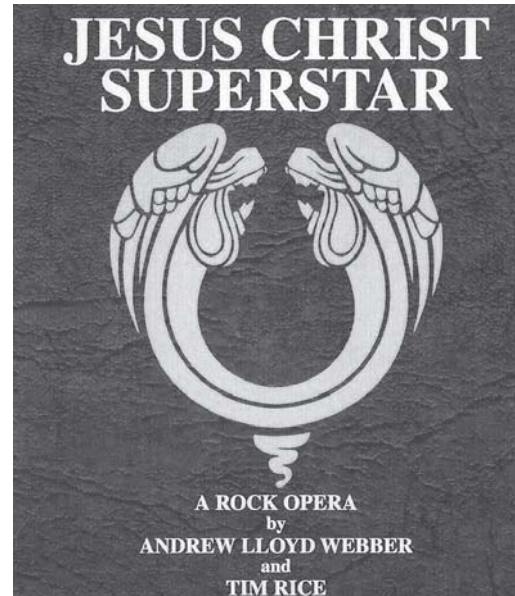
The other contrast to the black-and-silver mood was the burlesque court of King Herod, wonderfully enacted—colourful, profane and vulgar, completely out of touch with the aspirations of the Jesus revealed by Tim Rice—non-judgmental, inclusive, naïve, self-absorbed, open to the future but increasingly anxious about it.

I've been wondering if in fact the director, with these decisions, was playing on the emerging interest of younger teens with popular post-apocalyptic novels—revealing a sort of world that makes more sense now than it did in the late 1960s when *Jesus Christ Super Star* was conceived. It is a dark world today in which goodness is only achieved heroically, in the small space between the dark totalitarianism revealed in our news media and the bread-and-circus offerings of reality-show and talent-show television. We really should ask our youth what they think.

I've left the original lyrics to the last, words some readers may know well. Some are memorable, some are not. While Mary Magdalene's 'I don't know how to love him' may stick for a generation, no amount of acting or genius in singing can make memorable the Apostles singing phrases like 'What's the buzz? Tell me what's happening.'

“

In fact, Lloyd Webber's music ... fed the driving, unrelenting action of the performance.



But behind them all is three narrative decisions on the part of the lyricist, Tim Rice; first, seen in the repeated phrase about Jesus, 'He's just a man...He's just a man'; second, seen in his imagined love affair with Mary Magdalene; third, seen in the need to rehabilitate Judas Iscariot. The first is of course a decision that exchanges the old, old story of the creed (Jesus, as the incarnate son of God) whose refrain might be 'God, but still a man, still a man' with the desire for 'contemporary non-supernatural relevance'—therefore the plot must be a new plot. It obligates the story to be a tragedy ending with the crucifixion, rather than the victory of the resurrection. The second, the love affair (non-existent in the Gospels), owes itself to Hollywood or perhaps the legends of heroic couples like Napoleon and Josephine or Anthony and Cleopatra—an opportunity to improve on the Gospel story of Jesus. The third decision, to make a misunderstood traitor, Judas, into a loyal, clear-thinking practitioner of practical politics for the good of the wider world, owes itself to a recurring desire to re-write the origins of the Christian church.

These three decisions let us into the mind of the lyricist, and in part into the mind of popular theories growing out of scholarly speculation at a certain point in time, in a particular Western culture. And to be let into the mind of another, with the power of good showmanship is not a thing to be sneezed at—is to be artistically enjoyed, to be carefully thought about, even to be emotionally marvelled at—a fine afternoon (or evening) out. But to actually understand the ending of the Gospels requires a different kind of theatre, the theatre of the old, old 'Passion Plays', still being performed—not 40 years after their first production, but centuries and centuries later. I think you'll find the Jesus in them more human and more divine, more tragic and more victorious, more loving and more judging, more hopeful and more realistic than the Jesus now appearing in Stratford, Ontario. There's another matinee I look forward to viewing with my family.

PAUL FRIESEN



Finding common ground in Ontario

Photo above (standing) Allie Colp, Guelph, Ontario, and Parish of New Germany, represented PWRDF at Common Ground. Cathy Pharo, Rector, Parish of New London, Regional Dean PEI, Sarah Barnhill, St. Francis by the Lakes, Fort Sackville Region, Jen Schwartz, St. Paul's Lutheran, Bridgewater, Kyle Wagner, Rector, Parish of Seaforth, Eastern Shore Region, ichelle Bull, Parish of Aylesford/Berwick, Valley Region, Fiona Morrison, Cathedral Church of All Saints, Chibucto Region, Judi Colp, Parish of New Germany, South Shore Region, Dawn Geizer, St. Peter's, Eastern Passage, Dartmouth Region, Josh Findlay, All Saints, Springhill, Chignecto Region (Seated): Sandra Fyfe, Rector, Parish of Horton, Valley Region, Ashley Lockyer, Holy Spirit, Dartmouth Region, Cindy Naugle, St. Peter's, Eastern Passage, Dartmouth Region, Rebecca Sample, Rector, Parish of Three Harbours, Northumbria Region, Susan Naylor, Youth Ministry Coordinator, Diocese of NS&PEI, Carolyn McNally, Parish of Lantz, Chignecto Region (Missing from photo: Trent Galbraith, Parish of Lantz, Chignecto Region)

BY SUSAN NAYLOR
YOUTH MINISTRY

COMMON GROUND 2011 is a National Ecumenical Youth Ministry Forum. This five-day event for anyone whose work, life and ministry connects them in some way with young people in the faith community happened May 31-June 5, 2011 in London, Ontario. Those who represented

our diocese at Common Ground were diligent in their participation in all aspects of the event and gained a great deal of knowledge that will help develop the ministries in their parishes. They have committed to discussions about how to carry that development into the ten Regions and throughout the diocese. Please invite them to speak at your Regional Council meetings and plan

for opportunities for them to share their knowledge. Space prevents listing all their bios but here's a few to start with: **Judi Colp**, Parish of New Germany, South Shore Region Judi hails from a small parish and has a big heart for young people. She serves on the TEC Steering Committee and has helped plan NYC. She is passionate about telling the Good News to all ages. She

had a fantastic experience at Ask & Imagine and is looking forward to further study. **Josh Findlay**, All Saints, Springhill, Chignecto Region Josh is a young adult who has been raised in the church. He has served at NYC and TEC as a member of the leadership team. He has a great enthusiasm for music and youth ministry. It will be exciting to see him put his

learning at Common Ground into practice. **Rebecca Sample**, Rector, Parish of Three Harbours, Northumbria Region Rebecca is active in campus ministry at St. FX. and is a supporter of regional youth ministry. She participated in the PEI Youth Retreat and enjoyed her time with the young people of her parish.



"If you are seeking to develop your relationship with God but are at a loss as to how, LEAP for faith will give you a step-by-step approach that is uniquely rooted in ancient Christian tradition but still makes sense in today's world." The Right Reverend Sue Moxley

Participants take the same journey Troy took in the book *LEAP for faith*. Troy follows a process for developing his faith as his friend Nick navigates him through the LEAP process.

The six week program is offered **FREE** of charge through our website. Convenient ready-to-go program packages are available for purchase. For more information visit our website:

www.leapforfaith.org

- L- Look & Listen
- E- Explore & Examine
- A- Acknowledge & Accept
- P- Practice & Pray

LEAP for faith



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