



What once was lost has now been found

About two and one half weeks after the King's College altar cross was stolen, Thomas McCallum sprang into action and with the help of wardens and other students posters were distributed throughout Halifax and beyond; pawn shops and antique stores throughout the Maritimes and Quebec were contacted, and various news media ran the story of the missing altar cross. A reward of \$200 was broadly publicized.

The altar cross would not have much value to whoever took it since it isn't worth much materially. It consists of a cross made of iron and brass with some inset glass elements. However, the true value of the cross is on the altar where it stood for decades. It was dearly missed by the chapel worshippers.

It appears to have vanished from the chapel between Saturday evening, Aug. 2 and Monday morning, Aug. 4. Police were contacted, posters pasted on power poles and the community started a social media campaign in hopes of getting the cross back.

On Sept 7, university chaplain Rev. Dr. Gary Thorne announced "Today the cross was recovered. I arranged to meet a young person (18/19 years old?) in the chapel. He brought out the cross from a kit

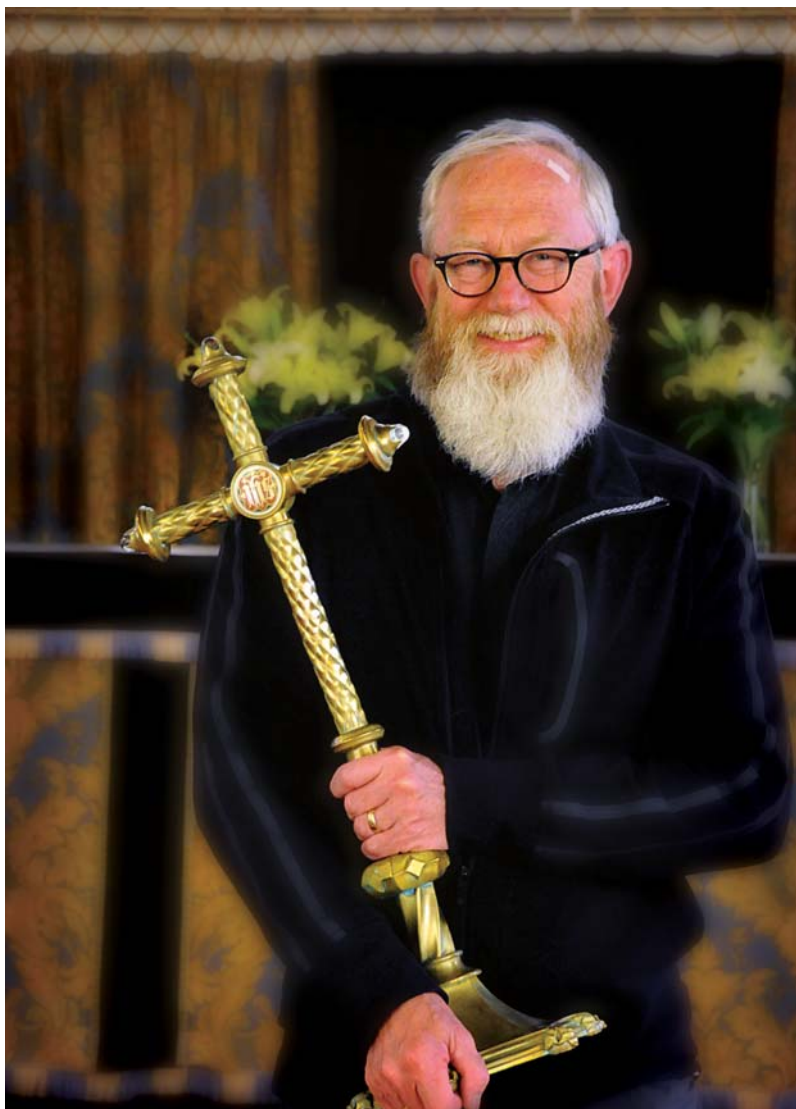
bag packed with clothes. I counted out ten twenty dollar bills. We shook hands, and I gave him a blessing as he left the chapel.

To my mind, the young man was desperate for money, and must have been very disappointed when he realized that the cross had no re-sale value. At that point in time it is a wonder that the cross was not thrown into a river or lake, or simply destroyed. I believe that it was only the reward of \$200 that prompted the young person to contact me. Without the determined efforts of the students to publicize the missing cross and the reward, the cross would not have been returned. Thank you! And pray that the young person will be able to make good use of the reward money."

To God be the Glory.

REV. DR. GARY THORNE IS THE CHAPLAIN AT KING'S COLLEGE AND DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY IN HALIFAX, NS.

Photo right: Rev. Gary Thorne stands in front of the King's College Chapel altar, happily holding the returned cross.



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COLUMNIST

Ashes and baby booties and home-made squares

We had a sad goodbye here by the Bog a few weeks ago. We had a funeral for an old parishioner from St. Bart's. This dear man had been in a nursing home for years so maybe it wasn't so sad after all. He would put a five dollar bill in his church envelope every week and when Rev. Billie took him Communion, he would hand her his bundle of filled envelopes. He was always interested in the life of his church. Old age, very old age...he was in his 97th year at his passing... was the cause of his death and because his family were scattered all across the country, he was cremated and his funeral held when the relatives could gather in mid-summer.

Cremation is becoming the norm it seems and to be practical, it makes the job of opening graves much easier. A small hole, 2 feet deep as opposed to a large 6 foot hole. It also makes things easier for



ST. BART'S BY THE BOG

Sarah Neish

distant family members.

There can be an issue about what happens with the ashes after the funeral service. In most cases they are buried in the churchyard, but occasionally family members want to scatter ashes in favourite places and that can be tricky and a legal question for the family. In other cases, family, especially close family

members have difficulty taking that final step of good bye. Rev Billie does her best to urge those left behind to complete the ritual with burial. Sometimes she fails and we have a few urns of ashes nestled on bookshelves and in one case a windowsill 'because Mum loved the view from there'. One widower who shall remain nameless took his wife out for afternoon drives .He strapped the urn on the front seat and shared his adventures with his partner. That went on for a year or so, then he met a fine lady at a New Horizons dance and # 1 was planted without further ado!

I have an old friend who keeps her mother's ashes on a small shelf at the bend of the stairs. She can't decide whether to bury mom with husband #1 who died years ago, or husband #2 who gave her mother a few years of great happiness. So there the ashes sit and my friend says "morning Mum" every day as she passes. My Orin says

those ashes will sit there on that small shelf until we bury the daughter; then they can be put into same hole. Orin can be a little cold and practical at times!

In the midst of death we are in life and we have had the joy of welcoming a new baby to the community and to St. Bart's this summer. We look forward to a Baptism in a few weeks.

Rev Billie is always referring to us as a big family with all the woes and joys that come with family life.

Whether it is at the time of loss or new life we rally around with our casseroles and pans of squares and home-made bread and with booties and bonnets knitted with love. We come up to the back door because we are family and very often we find Billie is there before us.

Such is life at St. Bart's.

I'll keep you posted, Aunt Madge



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THE HYMNS

HOW THEY ARE CHOSEN EVERY WEEK

© Dave Walker CartoonChurch.com

BISHOP'S MESSAGE

Going beyond thanks



*The Right Reverend Ron Cutler,
Bishop of Nova Scotia and Prince
Edward Island.*

For many years our table grace at supper time was an opportunity for our family to name what we were thankful for on that day. Like many families, the supper table was the only place where we were pretty sure everyone would be present on most days. Now that it is usually only Marianne and I at the table we still spend some time to think about and name the things that we are thankful for. Depending on our mood, our experiences on that day and perhaps the news we have heard, our offering of thanks may vary from the profound to the silly. Not surprisingly for a prayer at our table, the prayer always names the food we have and the people with whom we share that food, but it frequently also identifies; peace, health, family, friends, the weather, our work and the presence of Seumas the cat. Sitting at the supper table is not the only time that we are thankful, but it is the time each day when we pause to intentionally think about the ways we have been blessed.

At this time of the year we are encouraged to give thanks, through the observance of the feast of Harvest Thanksgiving and in the celebration of the national Thanksgiving holiday. These two events are tied to the agricultural cycle in this part of the world. They recognize that October is harvest time and a time to remember the food that sustains life. That food goes far beyond the produce that is harvested at this time of the year and what sustains our life is much more than food. (Jesus said that we do not live on bread alone). This 'season of thanksgiving' is an opportunity to pause and to think about all of the ingredients that give us something to celebrate. The pause is necessary in order to get past the busyness of our daily lives, the unthinking routines that make up so much of our days. It is necessary in order to get

When we give into this pervasive message of 'more, more, more', it is next to impossible to have a thankful heart.

past the comparisons to those who may enjoy a higher standard of living than we do. Much of our consumer oriented culture teaches us to believe that we are living in scarcity when in fact we are surrounded by abundance. When we give into this pervasive message of 'more, more, more', it is next to impossible to have a thankful heart.

In order to find a sense of gratitude we do not have to look for some great gift or magnificent opportunity. Instead we need to appreciate the small gifts which life gives, every moment of every day. Training our thoughts in this way will give us greater sense of peace and I also believe that it fits with the saying that 'we must think globally, but act locally'. Recognition of the small actions, the good deeds, the simple gifts, can engender a much broader sense of thanksgiving.

This not only helps frame a thankful life, but helps to deal with some of the greater challenges that surround us. The past few months have seen an unremitting list of terrible news stories. War, massacre, plague seem to dominate the headlines day after day. In the face of such tragedy how do we cope? There is a sense of helplessness where we feel that there is little we can do as individuals to influence the course of these events. In fact there are our prayers, giving money to relief efforts, and perhaps lobbying our government members for policies that lead to peace (although those policies are not always clear). There is one other way that we can work for peace and reconciliation, and that is to take responsibility to lead peaceful lives. To bring some measure of peace into our relationships. To recognise that not everything is worth fighting about. If we want a world characterised by respect for all people, then we have to start offering respect to all people.

Seeing the blessings right in front of us will help us live thankfully, seizing the opportunities right in front of us (not waiting for someone else) will bring about the peace and justice and the respect for that dignity of every human being that the baptismal covenant calls us to.

+Ron

The Order of St. Luke (OSL) – a new face for an old ministry



Rev. Dr. John Roddam

The mandate of the Early Christian Church was to Preach, to Teach, and to Heal. The International Order of St. Luke The Physician (OSL) has sought to encourage Healing Ministries in the Church. The Order was launched by Rev. John Gayner Banks, a visionary Episcopal Priest in California in 1932. This fall, a new OSL Chapter has been added in Halifax – at Trinity Anglican Church, 321 Main Avenue. You can learn more about the vision of the OSL by going to the International OSL Website at: www.orderofstluke.org

The monthly Healing Service at Christ (Anglican) Church, corner of Ochterloney and Wentworth Streets, Dartmouth continues but moves to the second Sunday (2 PM). There will be a monthly Healing Service at Trinity Anglican Church, Halifax on the first Thursday (7 PM).

Training in how the Holy Spirit manifests in a corporate setting will be led by Dr. John & Holly Roddam at Trinity Anglican Church, Halifax on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Thursdays (7 PM). Father Roddam, originally from this diocese, was Rector of St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Seattle, WA (2000 to 2010) the Mother Church of the Charismatic Renewal Movement.

This weekly training will help participants understand how the Holy Spirit's gifts (cf. 1 Corinthians 12: 1ff) are expressed. St. Paul begins this chapter by stating, "Now concerning Spiritual Gifts brothers and sisters, I would not have you be ignorant..." Sadly, many faithful Christians have not received instruction in how the Holy Spirit operates in the life of a believer and in the Church gathered! Ignorance breeds fear and suspicion. The three keys to foster spiritual

renewal in parishes are to teach, to teach, and to teach!!

Last fall (2013), the OSL hosted the popular Intensive Bible Study on the Healing Miracles of Christ – a DVD-based 12 Week study. Over 30 participants from across the denominational spectrum attended this DVD Series in Halifax. The course is again being offered at the Lutheran Church of Our Saviour, 255 Portland Street, Dartmouth on Friday mornings (10 AM to 12 Noon). For further information, please email Rev. Stephen and Anne Croft at preachingpastor09@gmail.com

The OSL Intensive Bible Study DVD series presenter, Rev. Josh Acton from San Diego will be speaking at the Fall OSL Conference on Friday October 24th (7 PM) and Saturday October 25th (9 AM to 4 PM) at Trinity Anglican Church, 321 Main Avenue, Halifax. Josh is the Chair of the

International Order of St. Luke Board. He oversees Desert Call Ministries based in southern California. On Sunday October 26th (11 AM) Father Acton will be the guest preacher at St. Stephen's Anglican Church, Chester (11 AM) and then leads a Healing Seminar (2 to 5 PM) and Healing Service (6:45 PM) at Aeon Baptist Church in Chester Basin. All are welcome!!

The Sunday October 26th program will be hosted by the South Shore Chapter of the OSL. Berit Andersen is the Convener and Father John Mills is the chaplain. The South Shore Chapter hosts OSL Healing Services on the fourth Sunday of the month at The Western Shore & Area Improvement Association Building (Basement Hall), #6485 Hwy #3, Western Shore, NS at 6:45 PM.

It's A New Day!

member or disciple?

BY REV. LISA G. VAUGHN

I've always wondered about that credit card commercial which promised that "membership has its privileges." Sometimes I think we apply this to Churchland.

Do we find ourselves asking people to "join the church"? Are our outreach efforts of welcoming and hospitality ultimately about hoping new folks will become members? They will be regular attendees and envelope givers? Perhaps serve on the property committee or bake a pie for a sale?

There's a distinct difference between membership and discipleship. By definition a member is a person who belongs to a group or an organization. For example, these relationships are like our club memberships at a gym, or golf course, or even Costco. They are contractual obligations in those types of arrangements.

However, a disciple in Latin means a pupil or learner. A disciple is one who embraces and actively shares in spreading the teachings of another. They are an apprentice to the Master.

A disciple in Jesus day in the 1st. Century Jewish context meant they committed themselves to a teacher or "rabbi". They imitate the teacher's life, incorporate his values, and share his teachings.

The writer of Matthew's Gospel depicts the Christian disciple best, not only using the word frequently (45 instances), but also relating it to identity. He or she is one who accepts, teaches and lives out what Jesus taught and did. Disciples were serious about learning, growing and preaching his Good News with others. How does that compare with the way we sometimes view involvement in our congregations?

Here are a few differences between

membership and discipleship.

- Membership is contractual in nature. (An agreement of equal exchange.)
- Discipleship is covenantal. (A relationship involving grace.)
- Church members are spectators.
- Disciples are active participants.
- Membership is about an obligation "come to church" for one hour on Sunday.
- Discipleship is about "being the church" – everyday.
- Membership is about attendance, submitting a financial contribution and perhaps doing some volunteer service.
- Discipleship is about an active, sacrificing commitment to Jesus Christ and joining others who are living the same way.
- Members pay their dues, and expect to receive something for their money.
- Disciples give sacrificially of all their gifts (time, talent and treasure) and expect their money will be used to make a difference in God's Kingdom.
- Members assume there will be regular visits from the paid staff.
- Disciples assume they (themselves) will be visiting those who are lonely, suffering or in prison.
- Members "help out" the clergy.
- Disciples discover their gifts and eagerly offer them in ministry.
- Members make maintenance a priority.
- Disciples make mission a priority.
- Members frequently talk about the good old days, their history with the church, and their long-standing membership.
- Disciples talk about the difference Christ has made in their life, how others have been affected by God's amazing grace and dream of future generations sharing in a similar journey.

Jesus summarized his view of discipleship succinctly. In Mark 8:34, he said, "He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."



Now, it's not a bad thing to be a member. I love being a member of GoodLife gym and enjoy the deals at Costco, but involvement in a church community is not the same. Jesus never asked anyone to be member. He called people to be disciples. He even commanded them as disciples to replicate themselves. "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations." (Matthew 28:19a)

Ultimately, when we get discipleship right it positively affects our congregation. Author Dwight Zscheile in his book, *People of the Way* says, "The vitality of our identity as the church depends on the vitality of our discipleship."

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



100 Readers Who Care

A few years ago, a small group of women from Halifax asked themselves "Can we make a difference to local charities with only our small efforts?" The answer and final result was a resounding Yes!. They started with individual contributions of \$100 and before long, more than 100 women had each donated \$100 towards local charities. They are so successful that they now award \$10,000

four times a year to charities selected by the group. The Diocesan Times is looking for **100 Readers Who Care** to each donate \$100 to help us meet our financial obligations to the diocese. Who are these 100 Readers? Previously we featured Canon Gary Thome as the very first **Reader Who Cared**. You might be one if you are a retired bishop (or archbishop) or Primate.

Or perhaps you belong to the Mothers' Union, ACW, Cursillo, TEC, DYC, Diocesan Council or Lay Readers. Or are one of the many deacons who recently gathered for a national conference in Halifax this past August! Whether you're clergy or laity, we need your help. In return, you will receive a **tax receipt for the full amount of your donation** and a letter of thanks.

Dare to dream and Reimagine Church



HAVE YOU TRIED IT YET? IT'S FREE!

The "Reimagining Church in the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island" series is for parishes to explore themes of church, discipleship and mission. The program for small groups is designed to teach basic concepts and create opportunities to discuss the changes facing church in a rapidly shifting culture.

Anyone can lead it - lay and clergy leaders. It can be run as a mid-week study, at an ACW gathering, during a council meeting or over a weekend. The discussion part is the most important as it assists participants to consider the questions in their own community context. Adapted for our Maritime Anglican context, it is a complete kit created by members of the

Building Healthy Parishes Team based on the original from Fresh Expressions Canada, an initiative of the Wycliffe College Institute of Evangelism in Toronto.

Easy to roll out, the five-part video course and all the supporting materials are available to Anglicans of the Diocese via the website (www.nspeiocese.ca). DVD copies are also available. Included are a local churches in a rapidly shifting culture. A facilitator's explanation sheet, evaluation form, graduation certificate template, as well as participant hand-out sheets for each session. A colour poster and brochure are provided too to assist in promotion of the series.

Be sure to join the Facebook page "Reimagining Church Diocese of NS & PEI". Articles are posted regularly to share ideas on ways to reimagine church.

Lookin' for a date?

A good place to start to look is on a **2015 Canadian Church Calendar**. The Nova Scotia Board of the Anglican Church Women has recently received a supply of these calendars. Along with having colourful pictures, the calendars also indicate "liturgical colors" for the various church seasons. For groups wishing to sell the 2015 Church Calendars as a fund raising project in their



parish, now is the time to place an order. For more information please contact the ACW Calendar Chairperson,

Anna Langille, at 902-406-8981 (o), 902-479-2778 (h) or write to Anna at the ACW Room - 1340 Martello Street, Halifax, NS B3H 2Z1. Weather and good health permitting, Anna expects to be in the office on Mondays and Wednesdays from 11-3 and on Fridays from 12-3. To pick up orders at other times, there will be a key for the ACW Room with Jan Connors at the Synod Office.

Vital Church Maritimes 2015

WE ARE BUSY planning the next diocesan-sponsored Vital Church Maritimes Conference in the wake of the enthusiastic response from our first event. Our VCM 2014 held in February called "Groundhog Day: Seeking Signs of Hope" was an overwhelming success. There were more participants than we expected, the teaching was inspiring and the discussion was at times electric.

The learning opportunity for both lay and clergy leaders, ran over three days and included an international key-note speaker as well as several workshops on new and healthy

approaches to ministry.

Details of next year's speakers, dates and location are still being worked out as the task group from Building Healthy Parishes Team begins to put plans in place. If you are interested in helping out with this exciting initiative, contact Rev. Fran Boutilier (frances-boutilier@eastlink.ca) and Rev. Lisa Vaughn (lgvaughn@eastlink.ca and 902-852-4580).

To stay informed on VCM 2015 developments, join our Facebook group "Vital Church Maritimes 2014".

60 years ordained and still going strong



Primate Fred Hiltz traveled to Nova Scotia in August to celebrate Donald Neish's 60th year of ordained ministry. Bishop Fred was the guest preacher and the service was held in the tiny church in Karsdale where Donald's family settled as Loyalists in the late 1700s; the property remains in his extended family to this day! The church is in Karsdale (Christ Church 1791) and Karsdale is approximately

7 miles down the Granville Road from Port Royal. It is a beautiful little church and said to be a church that Bishop Inglis had built! The service was held on August 10th on the Feast of the Transfiguration. Donald was ordained on March 25th and priested on Nov 30th . So the parish has picked this time and date to celebrate the anniversary.

Photos

Above: Rev. Donald Neish, brother Rev. Gordon Neish, Archbishop Fred Hiltz and Rev. Canon Ken Vaughan gather before the service.

Right: Sarah and Donald Neish take a break from the celebrations long enough for a photo. Sarah is also "Aunt Madge" who writes the St. Bart's by the Bog column each month.

Below: The church in Karsdale built nearly 225 years ago.



Correction



Photo: Music Director John Overton is from the parish of Holy Trinity Anglican church in Yarmouth. He is currently restoring the Gerhard Brunzema Baroque organ from St. Andrew's United Church in Wolfville that he and his team gently removed and relocated to Yarmouth.

There are lots more photos of this organ and its careful removal on the Facebook page of the Diocesan Times:

www.facebook.com/diotimes

Diocesan discernment weekend



Photo: Back Row: Rev. Mark Kingsbury, Rev. Neale Bennet, Michael Tutton, Darryl Faulkner, Keith Campbell.
 Third Row: Cate Ratcliffe, Nicola Fish-Cumine
 Second Row: Sheri Gallivan, Faye Tetford, Bishop Ronald Cutler, Bonnie Skerritt
 Front Row: Bill Canning, Deacon Marilyn Hamlin, Shirley Carras, Maxine Simpkin

BY MAXINE SIMPKIN

On the weekend of August 22-24th, I joined a group of Anglicans from across the diocese at the Harold T. Barrett Fun Camp (Scout Camp) in Beaver Bank. The beds might have lacked mattresses, but the food was excellent and the company warm and inviting.

The participants were all active in the respective churches and were exploring various calls to ministry: Deacon or Priest (Stipendiary or Non-stipendiary). The three facilitators were Archdeacon Mark Kingsbury from St. Francis by the Lakes, Deacon Marilyn Hamlin from

St. Nicolas and Rev. Neale Bennet who is a hospital chaplain.

The weekend followed the journey of Holy Week beginning with preparatory work on the Great Commandment and then the services for Good Friday, Saturday and Easter Sunday. Bishop Ron Cutler joined us on the final Sunday for Holy Eucharist followed by a Question and Answer session where he sat in the "hot seat" and responded to our queries. He also outlined the steps forward and gave us some homework to complete.

We came from all over, large towns and small, big congregations and little rural ones, but each was

discerning what God's call to them actually was. We were encouraged to consider our gifts of ministry first and then see where that leads. Each of the facilitators shared their discernment journeys which are never straightforward or easy to walk.

This is just one part of the discernment process: We will all continue to reflect on our own calls. Some are already at AST, some start in the Fall, others may have to get a degree first and some are considering what they will do in retirement.

It was a privilege to be in such good company and to hear their stories which were food for the journey.



The Diocesan Environment Challenge!

BY REV. MARIAN LUCAS-JEFFERIES

LOTS OF PEOPLE have lots of different ideas about how exactly the relationship between people and nature should work. Some believe that the earth and all that is in it is there for us to make use of. Others believe that we are the stewards of the earth, that we can use what exists in the earth, but that we should do so in a responsible and sustainable way. And there are those who believe that we are equal to the earth, and should limit our use of it at all costs.

Regardless of where you fall in this spectrum, there is one thing I think that we all can agree on: there is a lot that we can learn from nature.

Job says (12:7-10) "But ask the animals, and they will teach you; the birds of the air, and they will tell you; ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Who among all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In his hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of every human being."

In looking to all of those things, the animals, birds,

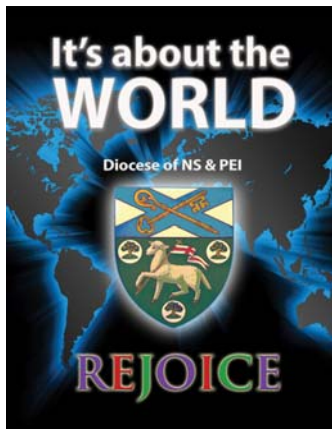
plants, and the fish, there is so much we can learn. We can learn about living in community with others if you look at the way that plants in a forest live together and share the available nutrients and develop and change over time. We can learn from the way that birds nurture and care for their young. We can learn from salmon's natural instinct to return to the place that they were born. And we can learn from the curiosity that many animals have. And deeper than all of those things, we can see that all of these things are held in a balance, are part of a beautiful creation, and can find the wonder of God in all of it.

For this month's Environment Challenge, we encourage you to get out there and find what you can learn from nature. See what you learn about yourself, your faith, and the world. You can gather as a church or a parish to share the things that you learn, and as always there are resources available on the website for churches, parishes, and youth groups, as well as details about how you can share your experiences of this challenge with others.

Advent – it's about the WORLD

Keep watch!

Watch for a new series of Advent wreath candle-lighting rites connecting with our theme "It's About the World." These beautiful and relevant readings, responses and prayers will be available for worship planning at least six weeks prior to the beginning of that holy season. Watch the Diocesan Times, Anglican Net News and the diocesan website. This is a project of the Diocesan Innovation Group (innovation@nspeidiocese.ca).



There's lots more to see on our Facebook page at:

www.facebook.com/diotimes

More photos PLUS video clips and you do not need a Facebook account to view it!

Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Bishop Ron Cutler, Dean Paul Smith and others are featured in a new prayer video section.

Red doors - and red chairs!

Things continue to be bustling and busy at St. Alban's, Woodside. This August we welcomed students from the Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine, as part of their "Dal Med Gives Back" orientation activities. Eleven first and second year students offered their youthful enthusiasm and three volunteer hours each. In that relatively short time they gave the front, ramp and hall doors of the church a cheery coat of red paint. They also did a marvellous job painting the long stretch of railings on the wheelchair ramp. Their eager willingness to do a good job and their keen interest in volunteering in the community bode well for the future of medical practice in our province! Things have also been happening inside the church building. For the last two years, our hall has been a neighbourhood venue for free health-related programs offered to Dartmouth residents by the Community Health Team. As some of those attending programs have varying degrees of mobility and other physical limitations, we wondered if more comfortable, ergonomic seating would encourage attendance and enhance the participants' ability to more fully engage in the programs. Our 50 year-old wooden chairs were neither comfortable nor stable. In the fall of 2012 we submitted a grant proposal to the Community Health Board seeking funding to begin replacing the 100 chairs in our hall. The proposal, "Welcoming Neighbours", is a fitting description of our

community connections. The hall is a gathering space to many Woodside groups, including the HRM 4-H group, SHYM (Supportive Housing for Young Mothers) and is a designated evacuation site for a local school, a seniors' home, and a residential care facility for adults, located next door to us. The new chairs will benefit a lot of people. In June, through the gifts of a number of generous donors, we finally reached our goal. Among the gifts was a Community Investment Grant from Imperial Oil, a grant from the municipality through District 5 Capital Funds, and a few private donations for which we are very grateful. Atlantic Business Interiors, the company through which we purchased the chairs, not only gave us an excellent price, they also donated four dollies that will enable volunteers to store and set out the chairs with ease. On September 18 we will acknowledge our donors in a "celebratory sit-in" in which we hope to fill all one hundred chairs with our friends and neighbours. Anglican worship in Woodside began in 1914 in the Mission Hall located further along Pleasant Street from where we are located today. For one hundred years St. Alban's has been an integral part of the Woodside neighbourhood. These on-going and new partnerships speak to how we remain deeply connected to our neighbours, involved in our community, serving the world, in Jesus' name.

Photo right: Our Welcome sign offers all visitors through our newly painted red door.

Photo middle: The Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine students helping to update and improve accessibility to the facility.

Photo bottom: Some of the Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine students performing part of their "Dal Med Gives Back" orientation activities.



New suffragan bishop - or not?

(an abridged report from the Mitre Task group and the status of a new Suffragan Bishop position for our diocese)

April 30, 2014

To: The Members of the Anglican Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island
Re: The Episcopal Leadership Task Group (The Mitre Task Group) Report

The Mitre Task Group has completed six months of work commissioned by the Diocesan Council reviewing the Episcopal Leadership Structure of the Diocese. The Task Group's Final Report is a summary of the research they conducted and prayerfully analyzed over this period.

At the November 2013 Electoral Synod, the following motion was passed:

Moved and Seconded: Resolved, "that, in view of the study of the roles and responsibilities of two Bishops and Executive Director of the Diocese being undertaken by Diocesan Council (the "Study"), Synod concurs with the opinion of the Diocesan Bishop and the newly elected Coadjutor Bishop that a (Suffragan Bishop) or (Assistant Bishop) is required, subject to the completion of the Study and the agreement of Diocesan Council at that time that there is a need for a second Bishop and that funding for the position is available." Carried.

As instructed by Synod, the Mitre Task Group conducted its work and presented its findings to the Diocesan Council at the February, 2014 Diocesan Council meeting.

The Results:

The following was decided by the Diocesan Council at the February 2014 meeting:

"In relation to the report of the Mitre Task Group, the one reviewing the positions of Diocesan Bishop, Suffragan Bishop and Executive Director, because this involves current staff positions, there was an "In Camera" discussion. The Task Group had not had time to complete the analysis of the many responses to the survey. Discussion included the job descriptions of each position, the expectations for the three positions, their value to parishes, the current context and needs of the diocese for episcopal ministry, and the need to focus on spiritual leadership rather than management and administrative tasks. The Task Group was asked to complete the survey analysis, to meet with Bishop Ron about his discernment about Episcopal Leadership over his Sabbatical, and to bring clear options with their implications to the April meeting of Diocesan Council for a decision."

The Decision of the Diocesan Council- April 26, 2014

The Diocesan Council members reviewed and discussed the reports in great detail. Bishop Ron shared his sabbatical reflections with the Council members clearly stating that he sees himself as a Pastoral Bishop leading the Diocese in this manner. After listening to Bishop Ron's reflections and after prayerful consideration of the leadership direction and the projected budget presented, the Diocesan Council made the following decision:

Moved and Seconded

Resolved that, the Diocesan Council, after much careful review of the "Study" conducted by the Mitre Task Group and further discussion with the Coadjutor Bishop, has decided that **a suffragan or assistant bishop is not warranted, nor affordable, in the current and near future structure of the Episcopal Ministry in the Diocese of NS and PEI and therefore that no suffragan or assistant bishop shall be elected or appointed at this time.**

Be it further resolved that the Diocesan Council has decided that the staffing of the Episcopal Ministry structure and allocation of responsibilities among the staff within the approved Episcopal ministry budget, other than the electing of a suffragan or appointment of an assistant bishop, shall be under the purview and responsibility of and be determined by the Diocesan Bishop, in order for the Bishop to fulfill the Episcopal work of the Diocese and carry out the elected and anointed episcopal vocation of the Diocesan Bishop. Carried.

Summary:

Diocesan Council was tasked by the motion at the November Synod 2013 to review the current Episcopal Ministry structure and to decide whether or not a suffragan or an assistant bishop was the most appropriate model of Episcopal support at this time and the budget implications of such a decision.

Diocesan Council has reviewed in great detail the "Study" conducted by the Mitre Task Group, reviewed the results of the Diocesan Survey, and has heard the vision of the Coadjutor Bishop and is satisfied with their recommendation. It is not the intent of the Diocesan Council to micromanage the staffing of the Episcopal Ministry structure but to allow the Diocesan Bishop some freedom, within the realities of our current budget, to efficiently staff the Episcopal office in a way that demonstrates prudent stewardship of the resources in this Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Both Bishop Ron, and the members of Diocesan Council are in agreement that the Motion carried at this April meeting is a challenging opportunity to reimagine Episcopal ministry, and a realistic workable solution.

Over the coming months, Bishop Ron, in consultation with others, will decide what supporting Episcopal Ministry structure will best fit his vision, and the needs of the people of our Diocese. Diocesan Council would like to thank the Mitre Task Group for the depth and breadth of their research and for their diligent and hard work they did in fulfilling their task set out in the November 2013 Synod.

PAMELA BARKHOUSE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF SYNOD
DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

How we are called to serve the Lord

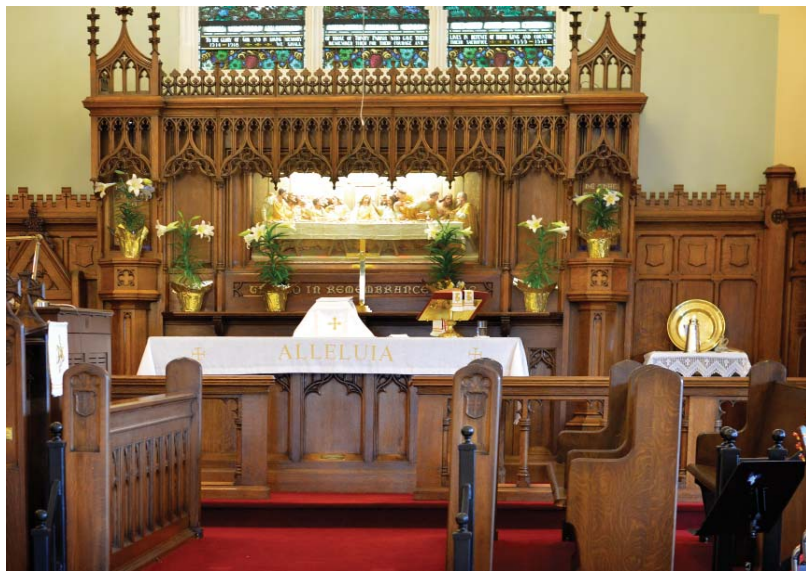


Photo: The altar at Trinity Church, Halifax.

By KRISTIN MACKENZIE
In preparation for the joys and challenges of parish ministry, Anglican postulants in our diocese serve a number of parish placements during their time at seminary. As one such postulant (in my final year at the Atlantic School of Theology) I recently had the pleasure of serving a three-month summer placement at Trinity Church in Halifax under the supervision of Father Rob Elford.

The purpose of these placements is simple: to get insight in the full time, day-to-day life and workings of a parish, and to develop a leadership style appropriate to the responsibilities of a parish rector.

Although my time at Trinity was short, I received all of this (and more) and greatly benefitted from the congregation's support and direction of my supervisor. I was drawn into parish life at Trinity, and was privileged to walk alongside people on their personal and spiritual journeys, participate regularly in the

liturgy, preach, and pray. I will take many learnings with me from my time at Trinity. But what I value above all else is the reminder that we do nothing in this life alone. We are strengthened by a community that sustains itself by having roots in Christ.

It is a great failure to become so disenchanted by the pain of this world that we forget we're not our own saviors. No one is immune to this failure, (myself included) and we often see this thinking make its way into our churches. It makes us feel like success can be measured by human values such as money and ownership. In fact, we should not occupy our thoughts primarily with wealth and power, but by the bigger picture—one that depicts a Saviour who died for us. One that doesn't assure us of an easy go on earth, but does assure us of something greater: eternal life.

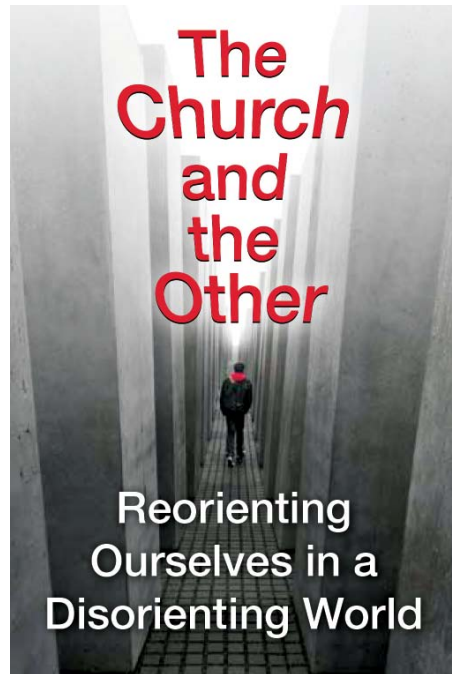
Our hope as Christians is in the cross; it is in Christ's love for us. In community, we find a sustaining faith fueled by this hope. A piece

of scripture that followed me throughout the summer is from the Acts of the Apostles: "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in the breaking of bread, and in prayers (2.42)." I regularly revisit this verse, as it contains the building blocks of our Anglican expression of faith: how we value the traditions and teachings of our Church Fathers, our focus on fellowship, community and prayer, and of course in the breaking of bread through the Eucharist.

As we journey through our struggles, both as individuals and communities of faith, these must be the words that guide us. We define ourselves by these unifying traits and values.

So, as we discern both our place in this world and how we are called to serve the Lord, let us remember that with Jesus, we do nothing alone. While we walk as a broken people, we are part of a world made whole by the broken body of Christ.

The church & the other: reorienting ourselves in a disorienting world



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"It feels like we've been asleep for a generation. While we were sleeping the whole world outside the church changed. Now we're awake, and we don't know where we are." More than one layperson has confessed this sense of disorientation. Many clergy have, too. The world that was once familiar, even comfortable for church folk is now a world of others and of otherness. While God has always called the church

outward and toward others, Canadian Christians have long assumed their mission was to call others inward, that all might become one and the same in belief and behaviour. Now neighbours who believe differently, or profess no set of beliefs, perceive Christians as others. Two generations of the church's children have grown up, fully awake and experiencing the world in a way their parents and grandparents struggle to accept. The children see the worldview of their parents reflected in the church. "We're awake, and we don't know where we are."

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WHAT'S NEW

Rev. David Garrett has resigned from the parish of Cornwallis effective Oct 31st, 2014.

Rev. David Garrett appointed assistant priest of the parish of St. Peter's, PEI effective Nov 1st, 2014.

Ms. Melanie Cohoon appointed curate in the Parish of Horton effective Sept 1. Melanie will be ordained to the transitional deaconate on Fri, Oct 10 at St. John's Church in Wolfville.

Rev. Pam Bishop appointed priest-in-charge of the parish of Tangier.

Rev. Vernon Reid appointed Regional Dean of Cape Breton as of September 1st

Rev. Tom Henderson appointed Regional Dean of the Valley as of Sept 16.

Rev. Glen Kent appointed priest-in-charge of the parish of St. John the Baptist, North Sydney.

CORRECTIONS

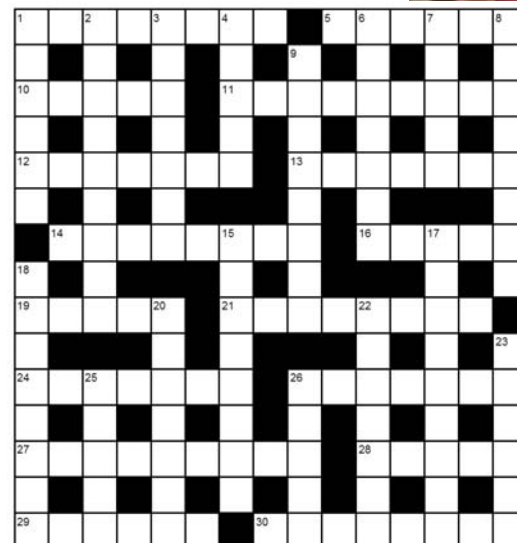
In an article headed, 200 Years of Service were two critical errors. They were:
 1. The church in Amherst is Christ Church.
 2. The ladies mentioned in the article are still active members of St. Martha's Ladies Group.
 The unfortunate part of the errors was that members very quickly picked them out and chatted about them at Sunday service. The good thing is, parish ladies ARE reading the Times. I would appreciate a correction being made if possible.

MARIE OSBORNE
 WARDEN, CHRIST CHURCH,
 AMHERST

Bible Crossword



by Maureen Yeats



October 2014 Clues

ACROSS:

- 1 – "For the Lord our God, the _____ reigns" omnipotent (Rev. 19:6) (8)
- 5 – "I not only locked up many of the _____ in prison," Christian believers (Acts 26:10) (6)
- 10 – Colour of vestments, etc., for most of this month (5)
- 11 – There go the ships, and _____ that you formed to sport in it" sea monster (Ps. 104:26) (9)
- 12 – Type of pasta, alternative spelling (7)
- 13 – To let in again (7)
- 14 – Items carried by bishops (8)
- 16 – "...he was a _____; he kept the common purse" robber (John 12:6) (5)
- 19 – Wanderer (5)
- 21 – Uncertainty (8)
- 24 – "Jesus was going through the region between _____ and Galilee" district in ancient Palestine (Luke 17:11) (7)
- 26 – "When I am laid _____", also known as Dido's lament, by Purcell (2, 5)
- 27 – Art of assisting women in childbirth (9)
- 28 – First English martyr, 3rd century (5)
- 29 – Old Testament prophet (6)
- 30 – Small leaflike structures on plants such as asparagus ferns (8)

DOWN:

- 1 – "For he will command the _____ concerning you" heavenly beings (Ps. 91:11) (6)
- 2 – Tumultuous state of affairs (9)
- 3 – Large ornamental trees native to China (7)
- 4 – Thin, fine net fabric (5)
- 6 – Utterly unyielding (7)
- 7 – Minor Old Testament prophet (5)
- 8 – "_____ them in the truth;" make holy (John 17:17) (8)
- 9 – Uses excessively (8)
- 15 – "So with us; while we were minors, we were _____ to the elemental spirits" under full control (Gal. 4:3) (8)
- 17 – "O that they were _____ in a book" written (Job 20:23) (9)
- 18 – Servant of Philemon (8)
- 20 – Old World rodents, one of which is found in "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland" (7)
- 22 – Green gemstone (7)
- 23 – "It is good to give _____ to the Lord" grateful appreciation (Ps. 92:1) (6)
- 25 – Device once used to connect a computer to a telephone line (5)
- 26 – Pastoral poem (5)

September Solution



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A deluge of deacons



BY MARILYN HAMLIN

During the recent 2014 conference of the Association of Anglican Deacons in Canada held in Halifax this August, someone referred to our gathering as a “Deluge of Deacons”. I am of the opinion this was an apt description of the four-day event.

One meaning of “deluge” is “a great quantity of something arriving at the same time”. There was no doubt that the arrival of all these delegates was certainly “a great quantity of something coming together at the same time.”

“Deluge” conjures up picturesque images of moving water, a great flood, a large wave, a rushing river, a showering cascade, a strong current. How appropriate for this conference whose LOGO was “Servants by the Sea”..... deacons who are never static, but like running water always on the move.

Our keynote speaker, Archbishop Fred Hiltz, was present for the entire conference. He likened deacons to the “salt that flavours for good, the light that shines in the darkness of despair, the psalm that lifts a heavy heart, the song that begins a quiet symphony of healing and hope for a brighter future”. And I would like to add “the stream of water that refreshes a thirsty soul”.

In September’s “View from the Deacon’s Bench”, Heather MacEachern recounted the busyness of the past months preparing for this conference, and she gave thanks for the

many people who worked so diligently to host “Servants By The Sea”. She wrote, “I realize, even if this conference does not happen, we are so blessed.....it truly is a gift God gives us to be able to interact with one another with the common denominator of His Love”. Well Heather, the conference did happen and it was a success. Yes, we are blessed. God was and is among us.

The conference began on Thursday evening with the Blessing of Water and Renewal of Baptismal Vows, at which time each and every one of those present was well and truly saturated. Archbishop Fred moved about the room enthusiastically showering the delegates and guests with Holy Water. It was evident he was delighted with his results, if the grin on his face was any indication.

In his address that evening, the Primate reminded us of the spontaneous, congregational, institutional and political aspects of deacons’ ministries..... missional ministries that take place in communities and in the wider world. His Friday morning Meditation time with us was a soul- searching hour which inspired us to reach deep into our hearts, listening for the Song of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and to truly hear and reflect upon what the words are calling deacons to be and to do. Archbishop Fred posed these questions: Is Mary’s Song the song of deacons? Is The Magnificat the song of our parishes? Is it the song of the Anglican Church of Canada?

Friday’s workshops were engaging, stimulating, and humorous. Each one was led by a dedicated individual whose life reflects the light of Christ. A former Lieutenant Governor, a postulant for the diaconate, two priests, two lay persons, a deacon and a church organist provided stimulating opportunities for discussion and hands-on activities. Even the titles of these workshops aroused one’s curiosity: A Vocational Life of Secular Humanitarian Service, Art and Soul, Team Ministry, Faith and Christian Beliefs in a Public Forum, the Labyrinth, Missions to Seafarers, Playing Second Fiddle but Singing Your Song, the Anglican Rosary.

Friday was a long and busy day, but the evening was devoted to having fun. At 5 p.m. sharp a massive bus picked up our group, (74 in number) and transported this deluge of deacons, their spouses, families and guests from the hotel to the Diocesan Centre for a night of food, fellowship and frolic. A kilted bagpiper welcomed us into the Great Hall where food and drinks were plentiful. We thankfully sat down to enjoy a delicious banquet, but not before a Grace was said which ended with the words, “O Lord, come to our table/as guest and giver, to dine.”

Lobster was on the menu, and it was entertaining to watch some of our western delegates who had never eaten this crustacean, as they tried to retrieve every piece of edible meat from the shells. Following our meal, the Maylanne Maybee award

was presented to the Rev. (Deacon) Alice Beaumont, St. Mary’s Diocese in B.C., an award given for “carrying out Christ’s work in our midst.” A talented Celtic Band entertained us and for the rest of the evening it was a true Nova Scotia Ceilidh and Kitchen Party as we “sang our hearts out and danced our legs off”.

Saturday morning opened with worship followed by the general meeting of the AADC and plenary sessions led by the Primate and the Rev. Dr. Eileen Scully, Director and Co-ordinator for Worship and Theological Education of the Anglican Church in Canada. These plenary sessions continued on the topic of Mission in the Church today. Again, the theme of water seemed to draw us in as we were asked to think about questions. “What is God doing in the world? Are we on board the God Boat? If not, can we get on board? How are we, God’s Servants by the Sea, interpreting to the Church the needs, hopes and concerns of the world? What tools are required to equip deacons for their ministries?”

During the latter part of the afternoon the Rev. Dr. Richard Leggett, a strong supporter of the diaconate spoke about the Deacon in the Liturgy and expressed these sentiments: “Never preside without one (a deacon) if you can help it.” Following a buffet supper, Archbishop Fred led a Fireside Chat which was a question and answer session and a period of discussion about matters that speak to us all. The service of Compline

quieted our hearts and minds.

Sunday morning the “Big Bus” took us to the Cathedral of All Saints where we joined the worshippers for the 10:30 service of Holy Eucharist. A light lunch followed in the Great Hall at which time many said their good byes before leaving to catch their flights home. Others would be with us a little longer, while still others were staying on in Nova Scotia for sightseeing.

This was my first experience at an AADC conference. Being part of the host committee, I was aware of the time spent in the preparations and the effort that went into making this event an opportunity for fellowship, for refreshment, for education and for the joy of coming together to just be ourselves.... “Servants by the Sea”. I was bursting with pride (if I can use that phrase) as I witnessed many examples of the ministry of hospitality. An attempt was made to accommodate the needs of the delegates, their families and other guests. Any hitches seemed to work themselves out. When God is in the midst, storms calm, so-called problems seem to trickle away, muddy waters clear and solutions become more visible.

Along with the “Deluge of Deacons” at this conference, there was a deluge of another kind. It was a great quantity of something called love....the love of and for God. We are truly blessed!