



**Installation of
the Metropolitan**
Page 7



**Mission to
Seafarers
meets**
Page 8



**Community
Treasure**
Page 9



**A ministry to
grieving pet
owners**
Page 14



THE NEW BRUNSWICK

ANGLICAN



A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL

DECEMBER 2017

SERVING THE DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON

Diocesan Synod: It's all about mission

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

If you were to choose a theme word the sum up the 136th Diocesan Synod, it would be missional.

The day-long synod was held Nov. 4 at Christ Church (Parish) Church in Fredericton, with 75 clergy and 149 laity in attendance, plus several guests and observers. Many noted this synod was more youthful in appearance. Last year's move to encourage parishes to send a third delegate — between the ages of 16-35 — has resulted in a younger synod membership.

In this program synod, the main part of the day was spent discussing mission, using the book, and accompanying video, *Surprise the World: The Five Habits of Highly Missional People*, by Michael Frost. The acronym BELLS forms the crux of the book and the five habits: Bless, Eat, Listen, Learn, Sent.

Threshold Ministries' national director Shawn Branch was the facilitator as the five habits were illustrated, first via video from the author, and then by short interviews with five people illustrating the five aspects. Delegate packages included the Michael



DOROTHY SHEPHARD PHOTO

The 136th Diocesan Synod saw 75 clergy and 149 laity members, plus observers and guests, gather to learn how to be more missional. It was held Nov. 4 at Christ Church (Parish) Church in Fredericton.

Frost book to take home. See the BELLS story for more on this, which also includes a presentation by Hockey Ministries International leader Bruce Smith.

Bishop David Edwards opened the 136th Diocesan Syn-

od with these words: "I would like to begin by acknowledging that the land on which we gather is the traditional unceded territory of the Wolastoqiyik (Mali-seet) and Mi'kmaq peoples."

The Rev. David Peer was ap-

pointed recording secretary of the 136th Diocesan Synod. Bishop David thanked Canon Leo Martin for 13 years of service to Diocesan Council and Diocesan Synod as recording secretary.

The bishop introduced two

new staff members. Nicole Chouinard is the financial and administrative assistant. Allyson Caldwell is the half-time assistant to the director of youth and intergenerational ministries.

Ecumenical guests included the Rev. Lisa Vaughn, the parish vitality coordinator in the Anglican Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island; the Rev. Richard Bowley, president of the Maritime Conference of the United Church of Canada and pastor at St. Paul's United in Fredericton; the Rev. Ralph Weigold, eastern synod representative of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada and of the New Denmark Lutheran Parish; and Andrew Scollick, director of vocations and recruitment at Atlantic School of Theology in Halifax.

The Rev. Christopher Ketch, a volunteer firefighter with the Beersville Fire Department, co-ordinated first aid for the day and identified all first aid volunteers present. As the new Safe Church officer, Ben Bourque noted the location of fire extinguishers and exits, and outlined the exit plan in case of emergen-

Synod continued on page 5

BELLS program was the highlight of diocesan synod

By Gisele McKnight

The best part of the 136th Diocesan Synod, according to many participant surveys, was the BELLS program presented by six speakers through the main part of the day.

Diocesan Synod was held Nov. 4 at Christ Church (Parish) Church.

Threshold Ministries' national director Shawn Branch facilitated BELLS, introducing videos

and interviewing five parishioners whose mission illustrated points from the book *Surprise the World: The Five Habits of Highly Missional People*, by Michael Frost. Each member of synod was given a copy of the book to take home and share with their parish.

The acronym BELLS forms the crux of the book and the five habits: Bless, Eat, Listen, Learn, Sent. Between each of the five parts, synod members sang a

verse of the hymn *Lift High The Cross*.

B for BLESS: Frost explained the value of blessing, and suggested a prayer to ask God which three people to bless each week. An act of kindness, like mowing someone's lawn; a gift of food, cash or something else; and words of affirmation, like identifying something in someone you value or want to encourage comprise the B is blessing.

"Every Monday morning, get

on your knees and ask God 'who do you want me to bless' — people from church, non-Christians from work and anyone from either category," said Frost in the video. "I can't tell you the impact this will have. It binds you to the people you are blessing."

Dawn Mary Baker, a member of the Parish of Madawaska, discussed her mission to illustrate blessing. A retired nurse, she shares her experience, skills and compassion with the women of

the Edmundston region, a city with its fair share of drug abuse, alcoholism and family violence.

"The church leadership gives me the opportunity to speak to

Bells continued on page 4

**More Diocesan
Synod coverage on
pages 2, 4, 5, and 6**

136TH DIOCESAN SYNOD

Reaction to synod

The Rev. Shirley Noseworthy, Parish of Woodstock

It was the best synod I have attended! I was greatly inspired by the five passionate speakers who shared how they are living out the five habits of highly missional people!

I am very thankful to have Michael Frost's book "Surprise the World" that we will be using in our parish this Easter. It will be exciting to see how this guide will transform our congregation to be missional people, following the simple and "doable" BELLS program!

Thank you to the organizing committee and all the participants for such an enriching Synod! God is good!

The Rev. Douglas Painter, Parish of Kingston

Over the past 16 years as priest and many more as a youth and deanery delegate to Synod in Montreal, I have never been so impressed by a gathering of the diocese. I was truly moved by the intentionality and thought that had gone into Synod.

Business was left to later in the day so the focus could be on mission and prayer. Our Bishop's Charge set the stage for Shawn Branch to introduce five personal reflections and examples of Michael Frost's BELLS stages of mission (Blessing, Eating, Listening, Learning, Sent).

The individuals from the dio-

cese who spoke were articulate and deeply committed to Christ and His Gospel.

Our Synod this year prepared us for a path forward that could assist bringing about the Kingdom of God in our various parts of New Brunswick. It was a privilege to be a member of Synod this year.

Rob Pitman, Threshold Ministries parish evangelist, Parish of Portland

It is very exciting to see Bishop Edwards and the Synod committee steering us towards a more mission-minded diocese.

At Synod we learned about the BELLS approach to mission that Michael Frost wrote about in his book, *Surprise the World: The Five Habits of Highly Missional People*. This book lays out a blueprint for us to follow based on Jesus's teachings and how he conducted His ministry 2,000 years ago. His teachings and example still holds true today.

If we follow the BELLS approach to being missional people, we will have the tools necessary to lead others to Jesus.

The Rev. Chris Hayes, Parish of Salisbury & Havelock

The annual Diocesan Synod gatherings have come to include a kind of "homecoming" aspect for me, getting to see friends and colleagues I don't get to see nearly as often as I would like.

This past Synod had that familial aspect to it once again, especially as we considered the missionary aspect of our shared faith that is utterly vital to our continued well-being, and a key part of or calling to follow Jesus.

I feel more and more a part of the great whole of our diocese, and less and less as an isolated island. Shawn Branch's presentation, enabling the stories of many other people and ministries, had a powerful impact on me.

That, combined with the encouragement of Michael Frost's book, could contain a key to the fuller expression of the Christian faith, perhaps how it is meant to be.

This is what I think about post Synod; this is what I tell others when they ask about the meeting. This, I believe, is what I will continue to think about.

Jason A. Smith, chair of YIG (Youth & Intergenerational Ministries team)

I have been to a few synods and this was very different from the others. I enjoyed the practical aspect to it with the mission series. I hope the parishes decide to do the mission series.

I think it might unite the diocese and allow a chance to fulfil the bishop's charge. I believe we are in an exciting time and I am glad to be part of it.

The Rev. Dwight Stuart, Parish of Fundy and the Lakes

Reflecting upon the 136th Synod of the Diocese of Fredericton, I cannot help but hear again and again that simple prayer Bishop David suggested in his charge that we silently pray to allow God to intervene and for us to listen: "Jesus, Saviour of the world, have mercy on me."

His point that love is central but risky because it can lead to crucifixion captures for me the

focus of the daylong synod.

Then, of course, the tragedy the next day in Sutherland Springs, Texas, where over two dozen people died in their Sunday morning worship service puts a new twist on what the Bishop described as the R-I-S-K involved in living a life of faith.

In a world so often filled with acts of hate and violence, how much more important it becomes for us to cling to Matthew 22:35-40 and demonstrate to others that we love the Lord our God with heart, soul, and mind, and also our neighbours as ourselves. Yes Tina Turner, love has EVERYTHING to do with it!

Kathy Asch, Parish of Woodstock

The 136th Synod of the Diocese of Fredericton was the third Synod for me, and the best! Mid-morning we were singing: "Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim. Till all the world, adore his sacred name" ... quite a few times, and I love singing!

It directly related to learning about a new program the diocese is introducing for Easter, a new, hopeful and encouraging path forward for all parishes.

The bishop's charge was hopeful as well, and I encourage you to read it - anglican.nb.ca/synod/sessions/

In it Bishop David says, "This leads us into a direction which is very risky for us. We will be looking outwards rather than inwards."

We will not be concentrating on what is good for us but what is the best for others. We will be making a difference in the communities where we live with the intention of seeing people enter into communion with God through Jesus the Son."

Do you know why this sounds a bit familiar? It is exactly what our Vision Statement says! I came away from Synod gratified that our parish is well on the way to understanding how to be highly missional people.

Chase McLean, Parish of Wicklow, Wilmot, Peel and Aberdeen

The 136th session of Synod was once again a good experience. I was privileged to attend and have the opportunity of seeing how the operations of Synod works.

I saw some familiar faces whom I don't see very often, so of course I had to head back home to my parish and inform some of my fellow parishioners who I saw. It's a great way to see former ministers and old friends, and to see where the Holy Spirit has directed them in their lives to date.



DEADLINE for news and photos for the January edition of the New Brunswick Anglican is Dec. 1. Send submissions to gmcknight@diofton.ca

Mark your 2018 calendars for future Greater Chapter Meetings

- **ST. ANDREWS** – Jan. 30, 7 p.m. at Church of the Good Shepherd (snow date: Feb. 1)
- **SAINT JOHN** – Jan. 30, 7 p.m. at St. Mary and St. Bartholomew (snow date: Feb. 6)
- **WOODSTOCK** – Jan. 30, 7 p.m. at Trinity, Andover (snow date: Feb. 6)
- **KINGSTON & THE KENNEBECASIS** – Jan. 31, 7:30 p.m. at St. Paul, Hampton (snow date: Feb. 7)
- **FREDERICTON** – Feb. 1, 7 p.m. at Christ Church (Parish) Church (snow date: Feb. 8)
- **CHATHAM** – Feb. 3, 10 a.m. at St. Alban, Salmon Beach (snow date: Feb. 10)
- **MONCTON** – Feb. 3, 10 a.m. at Parish of Shediack Hall (snow date: Feb. 8, 7 p.m.)

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THE BISHOP'S PAGE

Put yourself in the story

It is a very warm evening at the end of October as I sit in my office at home writing this.

The wind from the tail end of a tropical storm is raging outside and we have had much needed rain today.

The result of this is that it is really hard to imagine chestnuts roasting on an open fire and Jack Frost nipping at my nose, but when you read this it is likely that such ideas will be at the front of your mind. Christmas and all its anticipation and dread will be heading towards us like a Mac truck.

Ignatius Loyola was the founder of the Jesuits. Pope Francis is the first Pope from that Order. Both of these men will have practised the Ignatian spiritual exercises.

When I was discerning whether or not to allow my name to stand in the 2014 episcopal election, I deliberately spent several weeks working with a spiritual director using these established methods of



insight in order to try and hear from God.

After about six weeks, I then went to the Villa Madonna for a three-day directed silent retreat.

During those days I was asked to dwell in the story of Jesus in the boat with his disciples when a storm came up on the Sea of Galilee.

As we know, Jesus remained asleep in the midst of the winds and the waves until his friends roused him and he commanded everything to be still.

The idea was that I was to imagine myself in the story — as a participant, one of the disciples, perhaps someone on the shore watching this unfold, maybe someone on the boat.

Placing myself in the story, I was to imagine the scene — the things that would be around me: the good weather as the boat left the shore; the fear that rose up in the middle of the lake. What was I feeling? What did I need? Where was I in the story? Where would I feel safe?

Over the three days, I went more deeply into the passage, time and again imagining being in the boat, the disciples around me, Jesus talking to them and then going to sleep.

As my spiritual director and I worked through this process day after day, I came to know the minute detail of every scene.

Things about my life and my relationship were revealed to me. Ultimately I came to realize that I wanted to be in the back of the boat with Jesus, lying next to him at peace.

In coming to that place I felt at peace enough to allow my name to stand.

What has this to do with chestnuts roasting on an open fire? It is hard for me to imagine Christmas from here in October, but as you read this, Advent will be beginning.

I suggest that each one of us take one of the Christmas stories from Matthew or Luke (if you are feeling really brave perhaps John 1) and read it every day.

Imagine yourself in the story. Who are you, where are you, what do you see and feel?

Ask God to show you the amazing truth of the Incarnation, God with us in Jesus, as you meditate upon his word.

David Edwards is
Diocesan Bishop of Fredericton.

Stewardship conference and a book review



Michael Briggs

As I wrote last month, I spent the first few days of October at a conference organized by our National Church Office, 'With our Thanks and Praise Stewardship Gathering.'

I had the opportunity of meeting with Anglicans from all the dioceses east of Manitoba in an idyllic setting on the banks of the Saint Lawrence River in Chateauguay.

The setting was conducive to meditation on the beauty of this country and how thankful we should all be for the peace and stability we enjoy compared with other parts of this world.

While at Chateauguay I had the opportunity to meet and talk with over 50 people from different situations in the church. We worshipped and prayed together, met and talked about our challenges not only in stewardship but in other aspects of Christian life.

Over the three days I listened to the presenters on a number of topics with a stewardship theme. It all came down to trusting that God has a path for us, difficult though it might seem at times.

The topics were varied and I had to choose two of four workshops on the second day so I was in one called "I Intend" which started in one Ontario parish and has been followed by a few more. The material was interesting and may be of use to some or all of our parishes.

The second was "Being Missional for Small and

Rural Congregations" which sum up most of our diocese. One of the presenters was the Rev. Lisa Vaughan who is the Parish Vitality Coordinator for our sister Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Despite the differences in our settings from large urban parishes to small rural parishes, we all face much the same issues. Some of the ideas presented made me think that there are ways of working smarter, not harder, that we can follow. I will explore these with the stewardship team and diocese in the next few months.

If our music columnist can do a film review, then I see no problem with my writing a book review. While at the conference I was given a book written by Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, that was his personal Lenten reflection in 2017. It tied in to the theme of the conference.

It was a very interesting read and made me think deeply on stewardship. The title is *Dethroning Mammon: Making Money Serve Grace*. It's a quick read at first, but by rereading it, the subject starts to resonate and can alter the way we think about the power of money, or lack thereof, in our lives.

As this will be published at the beginning of December I would like to wish you all a joyous Advent journey and Christmas as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Saviour.

Michael Briggs is the diocesan stewardship officer.

PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS

DECEMBER 1-2
DIOCESAN COUNCIL

DECEMBER 3
PARISH OF MILLIDGEVILLE;
ARCHDEACONRY OF MONCTON
- LESSONS AND CAROLS

DECEMBER 10
SALISBURY & HAVELOCK
(ALL SAINTS) - LESSONS AND CAROLS;
* PARISHES OF CENTRAL KINGS AND UPHAM

DECEMBER 16
SAINT JOHN COMMUNITY CAROL SERVICE (TRINITY)

DECEMBER 24
PARISH OF MUSQUASH;
CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

DECEMBER 25
CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

JANUARY 1
CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

* CONFIRMATION

Bishop David and the Diocesan Spiritual Development Team are recommending Bishop Bill Hockin's new book "Reflections on the Lord's Prayer" for the 2018 diocesan Lenten study.

The book includes five chapters, each with a reflection and group study questions. Bill's book will be published early in the new year. Details to follow on how to purchase.

WHEN YOU ... listen with all your heart • HONOUR YOUR ELDERS • encourage young people to take over the church often and loudly • choose good over evil • welcome the stranger • write the government about the issues that matter • INVITE A CO-WORKER TO CHURCH • help your dad do housework • get messy with your Sunday school kids • SAY "THANK YOU LORD" AND MEAN IT • Tweet your blessings one by one • introduce your grandchildren to nature • READ AND SHARE GOD'S WORD • ...THEN YOU ARE LIVING THE MARKS OF MISSION www.anglican.ca/marks

DIOCESAN SYNOD

BELLS inspires, motivates

Bells continued from page 1

other women, to women in the community,” said Dawn Mary.

Her ministry is Wellness Women, which brings women together to hear guest speakers on topics of interest, and allows them to express themselves and form bonds.

“It’s fulfilling a purpose in me that I can still grow,” she told synod. “I’m getting to know my church community, my community and it’s growing.”

“Can non-nurses do this? Absolutely! Nursing is really just caring about people.”

E for EAT: “When sharing food and drink at the table, the conversation flows more freely,” said Frost in the video. “It’s a unique missional habit.”

He suggests eating with one member of the church, one non-Christian and one more person each week — three of 21 meals we usually eat.

Rob Pitman, Threshold Ministries’ parish evangelist and outreach pastor at St. Luke’s in the Parish of Portland, was the interviewee. He runs a food ministry out of St. Luke’s serves more than 5,000 meals a year.

St. Luke’s is in a priority neighbourhood in Saint John’s old north end, one of the poorest in the city. In addition, Saint John has the highest rate of child poverty in the country.

“We forge relationships with people as part of St. Luke’s family. Even if they don’t worship at St. Luke’s, they are part of St. Luke’s,” said Rob. “And some come because they are lonely. They have the means to support themselves but they’re looking for a place to call home.”

Volunteers used to stay in the kitchen, but they’ve learned that the real mission is with the diners, and they continue to nurture the St. Luke’s family with an open and accepting welcome.

Long ago, said Rob, a man came in during a church service asking for money. He was quickly sent on his way. Much has changed at St. Luke’s since then.

Just recently, a sex trade worker attended church, dressed in leather pants and a tank top, pumping her fist to the Christian music, “and no one batted an eye,” he said.

“We went from a suit and tie kind of place to jeans and t-shirt,” he said. “It’s more like we changed for them than they changed for us. The church that sought to bless the community is now being blessed by the com-

munity.”

L for LISTEN: Frost, in the video, discussed the importance of creating space to listen for the prompting of the Holy Spirit.

Missional people must be in tune with the outside world, yet remain different from the world, he said.

“How do you navigate that? Listen to the spirit,” he said.

Listening to the Holy Spirit has changed her life, said Anna Caines, the third of five speakers.

After growing up in a Christian family, she became very sick in her 20s. That led to all sorts of questions: Does God really owe me anything? Does he owe me my health? An easy life? She remembered the words of retired Bishop Bill Hockin concerning three truths: Life is hard, God is good, heaven is sure.

“He doesn’t owe me my health, and I don’t need my health to serve people,” she decided, adding she decided to start a quiet meditation, “sitting in God’s love.”

“Sick as I was, I knew I could do this. But it turns out I wasn’t very good at it,” she said, blaming an overactive mind that just wouldn’t shut off.

But she persisted, setting aside one hour a day to sit in God’s love, adding she still needs time to settle down at the beginning and focus.

“I praise God for my physical healing, but he had in mind a much bigger healing,” she said. “I find if I’m not anchoring myself in God’s love every day, it’s not long until I’m flailing.”

Quiet meditation might not be the right style for everyone. She knows a jogger who worships and prays during the run.

“You have to start with desire,” she said.

L for LEARN: “It’s amazing how little people know about Jesus,” said Frost in the video. “If you’re reading the gospels over and over, you’ll be continually shaped by Jesus.”

He suggested finding at least one time a week solely for immersing yourself in the example of Jesus — reading aloud, using study materials and entering into the story. From that learning, you can then insert the words, experiences and teachings of Jesus into conversations.

Eric Sample was the next guest. He and his wife, Nicole, are house parents at the Bishop’s Court community, overseeing and mentoring several young people.

“We have a really cool opportunity to be immersed in

community — in a community of people who want to know Jesus. We read the bible together, eat together. There is a good opportunity for growth,” he said.

Eric holds up St. Francis of Assisi as a role model. The saint said we have to constantly go back and forth from the gospel to our lives in order to shape us.

“Marinating on the gospels — it’s changed my life,” he said. “It motivates you to live a life that’s different. If we follow his example, it’s going to look different.”

He said as a musician, he could probably quote a few famous drummers, but not so much Jesus.

“Quoting Jesus? That’s one of the most convicting things I’ve heard,” he said.

S for SENT: The word mission means to be sent, said Frost in the video. We mistakenly think that only priests and archbishops are sent, he said.

“When you teach, serve... I want you to see yourself as sent,” he said. “Realize you’ve already been sent.”

Klaudia Ross was the fifth BELLS presenter. She used to be a cancer researcher, but through the calling of the Holy Spirit, over time and rather persistently, she is now the Parish Outreach Coordinator at St. George’s in Moncton.

“I was always a Christian, but this was a more intense calling,” she said. “It took two and a half years to actually do it (quit her job). God withdrew me more and more away from what I was doing. He was filling my mind with scripture, with the Holy Spirit. In the end it wasn’t that frightening.”

A month later she began her new position. Her job is to follow up with every person baptized at the church in the last 10 years. She goes to their last known address, church newsletter in hand. Sometimes she meets new people at the address, which is an opportunity to connect.

She talked about knocking on doors and the fear of rejection.

“They cannot go through life without knowing about Jesus. If we’re not nurtured, helped to learn about him, we might never get to know him, so the fear of knocking on doors is less than that,” she said.

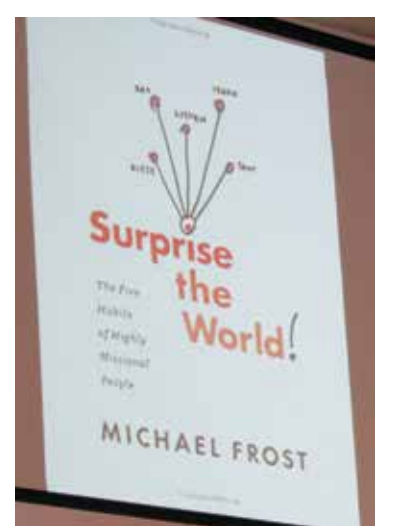
After listening to God, her life is completely different.

“I feel that everything in my life has led me to this point. All of my skills are slowly coming in to place. It’s extremely fulfilling. It’s worth all the risk.”



DOROTHY SHEPARD PHOTOS

Shawn Branch interviews Rob Pitman about his outreach program at the Parish of Portland that serves more than 5,000 meals a year. Below, Anna Caines recounts her journey of listening to God; the cover of the book by Michael Frost.



Shawn prayed for each of the five presenters after their interview.

Hockey Ministries International

After his charge to Synod and the five BELLS presenters, Bishop David introduced Bruce Smith of Hockey Ministries International. Bruce’s invitation to Diocesan Synod came about after a question put repeatedly to the bishop in various forms as he travelled around the diocese in the past year: what are you going to do about Sunday morning hockey?

He asked what they wanted him to do about it, and one of the responses was, “You need to write to the premier and tell him to ban it.”

“That might have worked in Archbishop O’Neill’s time, but it won’t work now,” the bishop told Diocesan Synod.

Bruce Smith works extensively with hockey leagues in the Maritimes, offering chapel services in arenas.

“Jesus saw the crowds as sheep without a shepherd, a harassed and helpless people and had compassion on them,” said Bruce. “How do we connect with these people?”

There has always been a conflict between Sunday morning church and Sunday morn-

ing hockey, and his approach is to stop waiting for people to choose church, and take God to them, where they are.

“I decided I’d had enough of the conflict and I was going to use it as a ministry,” he said.

His first approach to his child’s coach led to a parents’ meeting and from there, 13 yes responses to Bruce’s question ‘do you want a chapel service at the rink?’

Now he speaks to many Maritime hockey leagues, including the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League.

Very recently, he spoke to a Maritime junior team saying, “I’m not here to jam [the gospel] down your throats, but would you like to take 15 minutes of your life to come and check it out?”

“I go down the hall and 19 of 21 guys come down the hall for chapel,” he said. “Everything you read about that age group (17-19), that they have no interest in the bible or the gospel, it’s wrong.”

He recalls the QMJHL president being shocked when Bruce told him that 56 of his players had requested a French-English bible.

“He couldn’t believe it. He kept repeating it over and over,” said Bruce. “It’s a work of God.”

Bells continued on page 6

DIOCESAN SYNOD

Synod: mission was the word of the day

Synod continued from page 1

cy. He told those gathered that he appreciated the feedback on the online Safe Church training and would be making changes.

Charge to Synod

Dean of Fredericton Geoffrey Hall officiated at Morning Prayer, and then Bishop David began his much-anticipated charge to synod.

Based on Matthew 22:35-40, the bishop began by speaking about love. He cited the Tina Turner hit called "What's love got to do with it."

"The answer from the view point of Jesus is absolutely everything. Being a follower of Jesus is pretty simple: we are to love God through him and love our neighbours, period.

"For God so loved the world, not God so loved the church," he reminded those gathered.

He went on to talk about the status of the diocese and the somewhat inadequate measuring sticks we have to gauge parish and diocesan health.

"In total we have 72 parishes and the cathedral. The two measures we have are giving and average attendance," he said, adding the following statistics are from the past five years.

Twenty-six have grown numerically, with 11 showing double digit percentage growth. Eight have remained numerically stable. Fifty parishes have shown growth in average giving, of which 23 are in double percentage digits.

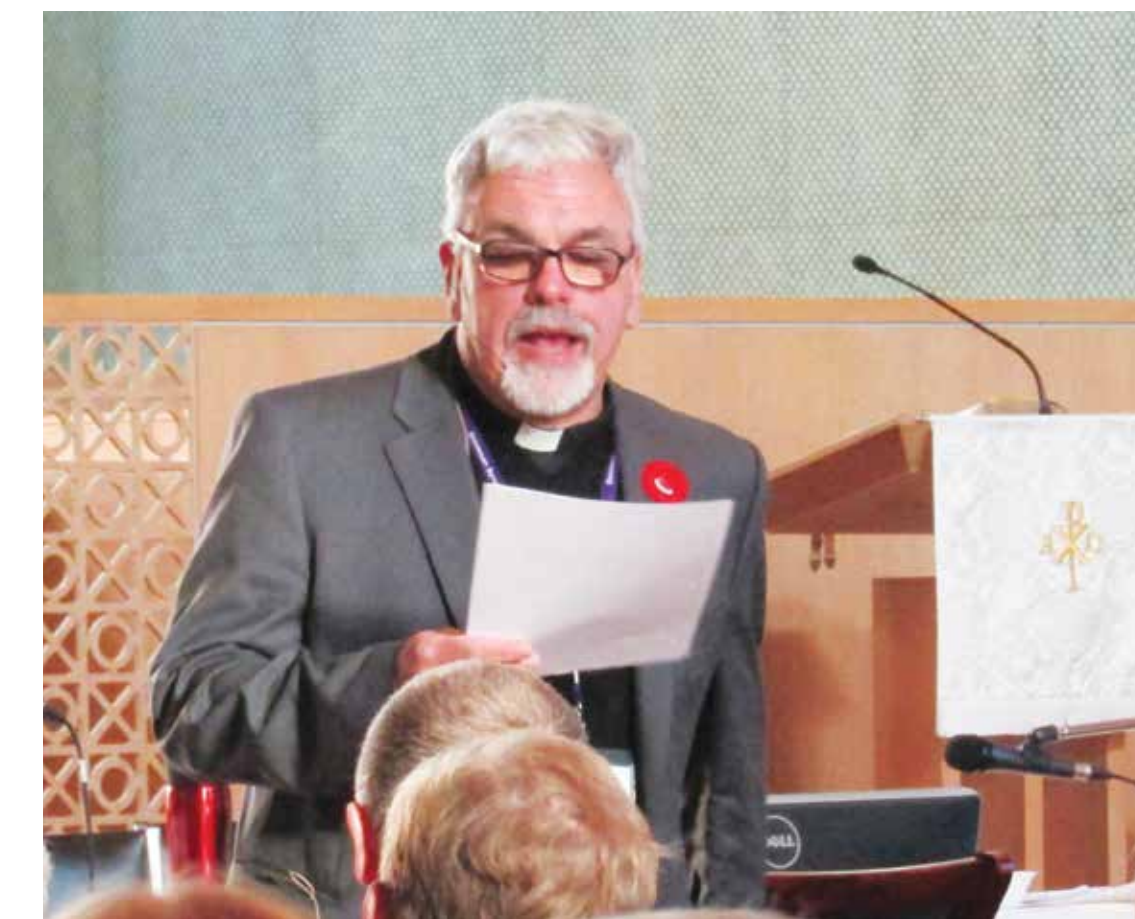
"Often I hear people telling me that things are going from bad to worse. I am not suggesting that we are out of the woods by any means, but there are signs of hope," he said.

Apart from the statistics above, there are other methods to measure success, one of them being the ways in which congregations and individuals are engaged in God's mission, he said, alluding to the BELLS presentation that would come later in the day.

The good news of some positive statistics and stories of mission, though, aren't enough to cement a successful future for the diocese.

"If we only look to things like structures, buildings — the markers that have helped us to feel secure in the past — we will ultimately be lost.

"Please do not think that I am saying that we will not exist. I think that in some form or another we as a diocese can go



DOROTHY SHEPARD PHOTO

Bishop David Edwards delivers his charge at the 136th Diocesan Synod on Nov. 4.

on for a very long time.

"The question I have is will we exist or will we thrive? Will Jesus be glorified? Will we love? If we, as part of the church in this province, are to show Jesus, to be Jesus in our communities, then we have to be willing to be engaged with others in new and costly ways."

With that he referred to his November column in the New Brunswick Anglican about lighthouses and rafts, a scenario he learned at the Vital Church Maritimes conference in Nova Scotia this fall. In the past, churches were seen as lighthouses for the lost. Nowadays, though, people might not even understand the function of a lighthouse. Nor will people often come to the lighthouse of their own accord.

"The situation we have now is rather like people floating on rafts across the ocean. There are small groups and large groups. People may even live on several rafts, swimming between them at different times. Each of these rafts has a culture: one may be work, the other the gym, many different things.

"The task of the church is to swim out to the rafts and join the people there," he said. "We need to learn from them what is important for them and look to see where God is already working.

"It means that the ways in which we do mission adapt to

those we seek to serve, rather than expecting them to adapt to us."

The point, he said, is not to get hung up on packing a church building, but to be the Body of Christ in our communities.

"This leads in a direction which is very risky for us. We will be looking outwards rather than inwards. We will not be concentrating on what is good for us but what is the best for others.

"We will be making a difference in the communities where we live with the intention of seeing people enter into communion with God through Jesus the Son. If this is to happen, we have to turn to one of the basic pillars of our faith, prayer."

To illustrate, Bishop David led the gathering in a simple, repetitive prayer: "Jesus, Saviour of the world, have mercy on us."

That simple prayer creates an opportunity for God to intervene and for us to listen for his voice, he said, adding we have to listen and be willing to change and take risk — or we risk losing what we have.

The bishop acknowledged that mission will look different in different parishes, but he believes that risk — large or small — is the key to our future. He asked that synod members take the BELLS lessons back to their parishes and share them there.

"As your Bishop, I believe this is the direction in which we

should travel as a diocese. Why? So that all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

The bishop's charge was read by many clerics on Sunday. The video of the charge is on the diocesan website (anglican.nb.ca). The entire charge can be read at this link, and you can ask your synod delegate for their impressions as well: http://anglican.nb.ca/synod/sessions/2017/17_bishops_charge_to_synod.pdf

Motions passed

Several motions were passed during the afternoon session.

• **Motion 2017-09** – A Missional People, moved by David Peer, seconded by Coralie Losier that:

a) The Diocesan Synod recommend to the Greater Chapters that their January/February meeting agenda include the video series based on the book *Surprise The World: The Five Habits of Highly Missional People* by Michael Frost;

b) The Archdeacon, Lay and Cleric members of Diocesan Council from each Greater Chapter work together to provide leadership for this meeting and encourage and support the clergy, parish lay and substitute synod members and wardens to enable parishes or groups of parishes to engage with the book during Easter;

c) Each Parish Corporation's cleric, wardens, delegates and substitutes to synod work together to have their parish and

its congregations study the book during Easter; and

d) After Easter, the Archdeacon, Cleric, and Lay member of Diocesan Council report back to council at each meeting on the missional actions taken by parishes or groups of parishes in their Greater Chapter.

• Two motions dealt with receiving diocesan reports from various people and groups. Diocesan Synod also accepted the election reports that will form a new Diocesan Council. The new members list appears on page 6.

• **Omnibus Constitutional and Canonical Amendments (Motion 2017-01)**, moved by Sandra Craft, seconded by Geoffrey Hall that the Constitution of the Diocesan Synod of Fredericton and Canons One, Five, Six and Seven be amended as presented.

• **Canon Three Amendments (Implementing Recommendations of the Episcopal Elections Taskforce) (Motion 2017-02)**, moved by Sandra Craft, seconded by Geoffrey Hall that Canon Three be amended as presented.

Both laity and clergy passed the motion, with one nay vote recorded from the laity.

• **Canon Two Amendments (Timing of election of delegates to the Provincial and General Synods) (Motion 2017-03)**, moved by Sandra Craft, seconded by Geoffrey Hall that s.12 of Canon Two be amended as presented.

The motion was passed with at least two nay votes from both laity and clergy.

• **Motion 2017-07** Mediation Support in New Brunswick Family Courts, moved by Thomas Nisbett, seconded by Kathy Page that the Diocesan Synod urge the Government of New Brunswick to:

Introduce a system of Mediation Support for all cases proceeding through the New Brunswick Court of Queen's Bench - Family Division that cannot be resolved with a single hearing;

b) Give judges in the Court of Queen's Bench - Family Division the option, through legislation, of requiring parties to participate in a Mediation Program prior to any Court hearing; and, c) Establish a cadre of trained, volunteer professionals to provide Mediation Services to parties journeying through the Family Court system.

• **Motion 2017-08** - Protection of Religious Freedom, moved by Shirley Noseworthy,

Synod continued on page 6

DIOCESAN SYNOD



DIOCESAN COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Archdeaconry	Lay	Clergy
Chatham	Siobhan Laskey, Parish of Derby & Blackville	The Rev. Ted Quann, Parish of Chatham
Fredericton	Sandra Craft, Parish of New Maryland	The Rev. Christian Persaud, Parishes of Cambridge & Waterborough and Gagetown
Kingston & the Kennebecasis	Robert Taylor, Parish of Rothesay	The Rev. Tom Stradwick, Parish of Sussex
Moncton	Cheryl Young, Parish of Salisbury & Havelock	The Rev. Chris Hayes
Saint John	Coralie Losier, Parish of St. Mark	The Rev. Canon David Barrett
St. Andrews	Susan Jack, Parish of Lancaster	See Note
Woodstock	Kathy Asch, Parish of Woodstock	The Rev. Roderick Black, Parish of Richmond

Note: No cleric was elected at the Greater Chapter meeting, so responsibility for filling the vacancy falls to Diocesan Council. Note also that Diocesan Council’s entire membership includes others as well the newly elected, whose names appear above.



- 1. Lionel Hayter
- 2. Klaudia Ross
- 3. Bruce Smith
- 4. Dawn Mary Baker
- 5. Lunch at Diocesan Synod was also a time for fellowship.



Members will take the mission to their parishes

Bells continued from page 4

I’ve discovered we can go into arenas.”

On the flip side, “I’ve been thrown out. I’ve been told to clear off, but I’ve discovered there are lot of people out there, harassed and helpless sheep without a shepherd. Then they’re asked to come to chapel at a rink.”

It doesn’t have to be a rink, he said. A gym, a soccer field, a

boathouse all work.

“Be a little bit bold and simply extend an invitation,” he said. “I’ve discovered when you extend an invitation, stand back!”

At the end of the presentation, Bishop David prayed for Bruce and the hockey ministry.

Synod delegates left with the book; practical tips to become more missional; inspiration from Bruce Smith’s story and

the other five presenters; and a motion that the diocese will to become a missional people, starting with each parish studying Frost’s work during the Easter season.

After Easter, the archdeacon, cleric and lay member of Diocesan Council will report back to council on the missional actions taken by their parishes or groups of parishes in their Greater Chapter.

All motions were passed

Synod continued from page 5

seconded by Bob LeBlanc that the Diocesan Synod write the federal Minister of Justice, Chair of the Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights, and the Chair of the Standing Senate Committee on Legal & Constitutional Affairs to express the Synod’s opposition to the proposed repeal of section 176 of the Criminal Code, which specially protects faith leaders and faith communities from violence and disturbance in worship.

• **Notice of Motion**

The Rev. Dan McMullen presented his intent to move a motion at the next diocesan synod. He proposes that the upper-age definition of a youth delegate be lowered from 35 to 25.

Guest remarks

the many interesting stories of the speakers, and prayed for the diocese.

Response to the charge

Lionel Hayter, Parish of St. Andrews, gave the response to the bishop’s charge.

“The book chosen for today’s program is brilliant,” he said. “It goes hand-in-hand with the bishop’s charge.

“We must expand upon our strength of rituals to propel ourselves into the world. We as Anglicans, as Christians, have the opportunity to do something great. Let’s keep our eyes on Jesus.”

Lionel prayed for action and encouragement in the mission to come.

The offering collected at Diocesan Synod amounted to \$1,786.80 and will be used to support the construction of the library at Bishop McAllister College in Uganda.

The 136th Diocesan Synod was adjourned and the Rev. Paul Ranson officiated at Evening prayer to close the day.

The Rev. Richard Bowley, of the United Church, spoke for the ecumenical guests, calling the day’s experience a powerful one, beginning with the bishop’s charge.

“Thank you for making a space for us, for praying for folks so readily,” he said. He noted

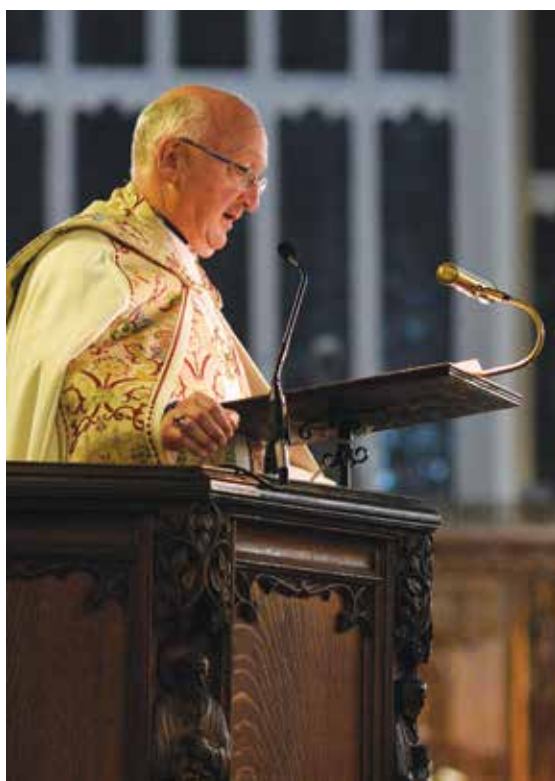
BEYOND THE DIOCESE



Bishop David Edwards, centre, read the examination of Archbishop Cutler, lower right. At back, from left: Percy Coffin, Mary Irwin-Gibson, Bruce Meyers, John Watton and Arthur Peters.



Bishops of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, from left: Mary Irwin-Gibson (Bishop of Montreal), John Watton (Bishop of Central Newfoundland), Bruce Meyers (Bishop of Quebec), Ron Cutler (Archbishop of Nova Scotia and Newfoundland), David Edwards (Bishop of Fredericton), Arthur Peters (Archbishop of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island -Ret'd), Percy Coffin (Archbishop of Western Newfoundland and outgoing Metropolitan). Missing from photo is Geoff Peddle (Bishop of Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador).



PAUL SHERWOOD PHOTOS



LEFT: Percy Coffin delivers the homily.
ABOVE: Ron Cutler and David Edwards sing during the service.
RIGHT: David Edwards presents Ron Cutler with the Metropolitan Cross.



Ron Cutler installed as Metropolitan

BY PAUL SHERWOOD

There was a full house of bishops at the installation service for Archbishop Ron Cutler as Metropolitan for the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada.

In attendance were Mary Irwin-Gibson (Bishop of Montreal), Bruce Meyers (Bishop of Quebec), David Edwards (Bishop of Fredericton), Arthur Peters (Archbishop of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island -Ret'd), Percy Coffin (Archbishop of Western Newfoundland and outgoing Metropolitan) and

John Watton (Bishop of Central Newfoundland).

The service took place the evening of Nov. 1 on All Saints Day at the Cathedral Church of All Saints.

The homilist for the service, the Most Rev. Percy Coffin, preached on blessings, Beatitudes and forgiveness.

He remarked that, after his resignation as outgoing Metropolitan, he will miss the installation of bishops; but he will not miss the preparations required to chair meetings for the Province of Canada.

Bishop David Edwards read the examination of Archbishop Cutler and presented him with the Metropolitan Cross at the conclusion.

Bishops, priests and all assembled expressed their joy by clapping as Metropolitan Archbishop Cutler was presented to the congregation.

At the conclusion of the installation, Maureen Yeats, cathedral sacristan, presented a stole as a gift from the cathedral to Archbishop Cutler. The stole is cross-stitched with the crest for the Metropolitan Archbishop.

The event was a family affair for Archbishop Cutler as his mother, Rita, wife, Mariann and daughter, Victoria watched from the front pew during the service.

The Ecclesiastical Province of Canada was founded in 1860 and is one of four provinces in the Anglican Church of Canada.

The province covers the former, historic territory of Lower Canada, the Maritimes and Newfoundland and Labrador.

There are seven dioceses in the province:

- Montreal
- Quebec

- Fredericton
- Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island
- Western Newfoundland
- Central Newfoundland
- Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador

The provinces of the Anglican Church of Canada are headed by a Metropolitan from among the provinces' diocesan bishops by members of the Provincial Synod.

The bishop then becomes Archbishop of his or her diocese and Metropolitan of the Province.

MISSION TO SEAFARERS

Mission to Seafarers holds annual conference

Primate installs new regional director of Canada

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

If you're fortunate enough to live near the ocean, you'll often see large ships passing by — on their way to the next port, or perhaps heading home.

Did you ever wonder about the people who work onboard — the seafarers? The Anglican Church has, in the form of a ministry called the Mission to Seafarers that is now more than 160 years old.

It's a vast international group with headquarters in London, UK, but there are local missions in 200 ports in 50 countries around the world. Each one is there to help make the life of seafarers in port a little easier.

"Piracy, shipwreck, abandonment and separation from loved ones are just a few of the problems merchant seafarers face.

"Around the world, the Mission to Seafarers provides help and support to the 1.5 million men and women who face danger every day to keep our global economy afloat," says missiontoseafarers.org.

In Saint John and Halifax, as in many other ports, staff, chaplains and volunteers offer friendship, spiritual support, ship visits, drop-in centres, help in emergencies and advocacy for health and labour issues.

"We try to visit as many ships as possible," said the Rev. Maggie Whittingham-Lamont, chaplain in Halifax. "We go on board and talk to the guys. Are they fed, paid? Do they need medical or dental?"

Maggie, the widow of a seafarer, has lived it both ways, and has devoted many years to the mission, so much so that she's developed a few skills that come in handy.

"There's less of a language barrier after 26 years," she said. "Even listening to them in their own language, I can usually figure out what they need."

The Diocese of Fredericton has two priests involved in the mission. The Rev. Eric Phinney, Parish of Renforth, is the chaplain of the Saint John mission and sits on the Canadian



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



TOP: The Rev. Maggie Whittingham-Lamont was installed as regional director for Canada of the Mission to Seafarers. The Most Rev. Fred Hiltz, primate, presided over the ceremony. Hiltz is the liaison bishop to the mission, a throw-back to his days serving in Nova Scotia.

BOTTOM: The Rev. Eric Phinney, the Rev. Ed Swayze and the Most Rev. Fred Hiltz sing during the service of installation.

board.

The Rev. Rob Salloum of the Westside Anglican Mission sits on the Saint John board.

From Oct. 15-19, about 20 people from the Mission to Seafarers Canada met at Villa Madonna in Rothesay for its annual conference, discussing policy and making plans for

future endeavours.

During a service at St. James the Less on Oct. 16, the Most Rev. Fred Hiltz, Primate, installed Maggie as the regional director for Canada. It's a post she's held since May, but the installation made it official. She remains the station chaplain in Halifax.

Hiltz was in the diocese, not in his role as primate, but because he is the acting liaison bishop to the mission, a post he has held since 2014.

"The Primate has a long history with the Mission to Seafarers," said Maggie. "He was on my board for many years when he was bishop in Halifax.

We worked closely during those years. He's marvellous — very attentive to the needs."

At the Oct. 16 service, Eric asked for prayer for Maggie in her new role.

"When it comes to ships and ship things, Maggie is the go-to person for all of Canada," he said. "We're all standing with her tonight and pray for this new ministry."

Primate Hiltz offered a prayer for seafarers worldwide, asking God for safe journeys and calm seas.

The Rev. Heather MacEachern, a deacon from the Halifax area, gave the homily.

"After a particularly arduous day, the call comes and you're needed for just one more thing. You can't put it off 'til tomorrow and so you must go," she said. "Often they are the most rewarding times."

She quoted Luke, chapter 4: "He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed."

"I would suggest that paragraph is your job description," she said.

Speaking of the installation ceremony, she said, "Maggie is taking on a huge task. I have no doubt she'll do a wonderful job. After all, she has God in her corner. She needs your support and encouragement because her vineyard just got a whole lot bigger."

Primate Hiltz used the occasion to recognize the Rev. Ed Swayze of Thunder Bay for his organizational work over the years with the mission.

Ed is chaplain to the mission in the Port of Thunder Bay, the incumbent in the Parish of St. Stephen the Martyr, the staff officer to the Royal Canadian Navy Command Chaplain and a Royal Canadian Navy lieutenant commander (Reserves).

Maggie's role in Halifax will still include hands-on ministry at the port, but about one-third of her time will be spent in her new role.

That includes promoting and growing the mission in Canada and meeting with the worldwide regional directors who manage the mission in Europe, Asia, Oceania, the U.S., Africa and Australia.

To learn more about the Mission to Seafarers, visit www.missiontoseafarers.org.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

There is no civic number on the door, but the best guess is that Treasures Charity Shop is located at 46 Front Street on Gagetown's waterfront. Its neighbours are a gallery on one side, and a pub called The Old Boot on the other.

The historic, double-fronted building once housed two sisters, one on each side. It has been a craft store and a taxidermist's shop. But for the past five years, it's been home to an eclectic mix of items, donated by residents and for sale to residents — and visitors.

This authentic, old-school, cash-only shop, selling clothing, jewellery, household goods, toys, books and odds and ends, was born out of necessity.

"We needed some funds for the hall," said Dona King, one of three women in the Parish of Gagetown who came up with the idea of a shop in a village that draws more than its share of tourists each summer.

"It really wasn't a seriously thought-out strategy. We just thought, 'Wouldn't it be fun if...'" she said.

The parish hall at St. John's needed painting. It got painted alright, and much more got done. The rug got cleaned, and they purchased new tables, chairs and a CD player. They planted flower bulbs, hosted a two-day retreat led by Bishop Bill Hockin, donated to the local school's breakfast program and assisted with VBS.

By popular demand, they reopened the little shop for the following tourist season. And so it's been since 2012, a fixture in the village.

"I think it's a wonderful shop," said resident Debbie Little, who says she pops in at least once a week. "We jokingly call it the Great Village Swap."

Donated items don't end up in the landfill, and people get bargain prices on things they want or need, she said.

"We all have each other's stuff, and we think it's hilarious!" she said.

"My friend said to me one day, 'My, that's a pretty blouse you're wearing.' I said, 'Why, was it yours?'" said Dona.

Dona and the other 20 volunteers are constantly amazed at what comes into the store.

"People give us lovely things," she said. "We've had pretty near everything. I don't think we've had a chainsaw, but just about everything else!"

Because the Village of

COMMUNITY TREASURE

An Anglican charity shop blesses a village with its profits



Above, customer Debbie Little and shop volunteer Dona King chat about the possible purchase of a scarf.



Debbie Little and Dona King at the cash register.



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS

At top is Dona King, one of three women in the Parish of Gagetown who conceived of Treasures five years ago.

Gagetown is known as a centre for artisans, they avoid selling New Brunswick crafts, not wanting to be in competition with their neighbours.

Puzzles are a big seller for boaters who tie up at the nearby village wharf. And Treasures makes sure it has low priced toys for its youngest customers. What isn't sold is found a new home.

Treasures surely fulfills the 5th Mark of Mission — To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth — and there's a positive impact on the community with the store profits.

A board of seven people decides what to do with the proceeds.

"It's informal," said Dona. "Someone has an idea and mentions it. It's yea or nay, but mostly yea."

Some of those profits have been spent on 135th anniversary celebrations at St. John's; the local Royal Canadian Legion; continuing support of the school breakfast program and the church's VBS; the local recreation council, fire department and heritage board; and families at Christmas. They purchased nativity-themed Christmas books for children and gave them out at a village event.

They also provided the food for a community barbecue after an ecumenical service last summer, and recently donated \$600 to an Anglican fundraising initiative for refugees in nearby Fredericton. And they hired a local craftsman to build a new communion table for St. John's. Almost all of the profits remain in the village.

"One of the things we did last year was a 'little library,'"

said Dona.

They had a weather-proof box built, set it up in the village and stocked it with books, with the operating instructions of 'take a book, leave a book.'

Sue McGibbon, along with Dona and Pat Stewart, is one of the original three.

"It's been very successful, but then it got to be so much fun giving money to so many things," she said.

That generosity also extends both to and from their customers. Sue recalls a mom and three boys looking at skates, priced at \$3 a pair. Despite the boys' pleas, the mother said she couldn't afford it.

"It's only \$3," Sue told the woman. "\$3 each? she asked. No, \$3 for the three."

"It's a feel-good store," said Sue.

Likewise, when Debbie found a good winter dog-walk-

ing coat, the price was more than flexible.

'Jackets are \$5, so how about \$8 for a winter coat?' asked Dona. 'Make it \$10,' was Debbie's reply.

While Treasures began as an Anglican initiative, it's gone far beyond, with both volunteers and grateful recipients from the entire village.

"I like to think of it as an outreach," said Dona.

Treasures planned to be open on the weekend of Nov. 25 and 26 for the annual Christmas In The Village event. It's a popular weekend that features festive activities and Christmas shopping. Village stores, including Treasures, have open hours from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

Treasures invites everyone to visit the store on the banks of the St. John River next summer.

AROUND THE DIOCESE



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

St. George's Anglican Church in Bathurst held its third annual food drive for the Volunteer Centre Food Bank on Thanksgiving weekend. The non-perishable food was collected in two wheelbarrows at the front of the church during the Thanksgiving service on Sunday and on Monday morning a food chain was formed passing the food hand-to-hand to reach the Volunteer Centre. Shown gathered around the food table are, from left to right, Michel Godin, Hazel Carroll, Ken Knowles, Ester Good, Myrna Good-Hollett, Wesley Miller, Wanetta Walls, Norma Coombs, Dawn Branch, Rev. Sandy MacPherson, Sharon Guignard, Craig Nickum and Pat Guignard.

PARISH EVENTS



Members of St. Margaret's Church in Fredericton took the ABC Food Safety Course on Oct. 14. Here they are receiving their certificates. The group included Kevin Dean, Cynthia Noble, Bob Boucher, Cathy Lutes, Krista Dean, Peggy Boucher, Carolyn Pellow and Nancy Robinson. Helen Brown was absent. To receive your free training and certificate, call the Health Protection Branch (Public Health inspectors) at 506-453-2830.



Open house day at the Beersville Volunteer Fire Department featured fun for the children and demonstrations by fire fighters. At right, kids enjoyed the operating (albeit small) fire engine, dress-up and a bouncy castle made into a burning house (with a harmless smoke substitute). The lesson was on how to exit a burning house. The Rev. Chris Ketch, (far left) Parish of Kent, is a member of the fire department and is seen here during a demonstration.



BRUCE GLENCROSS PHOTOS

A NOTE FROM SAFE HARBOUR HOUSE

Safe Harbour House has been opened for just over six months now and we have had youth living in the home every night since we opened. It has been a very busy time as we have implemented a new approach and have been continuing to train staff and add new pieces to the program.

We deliver a transitional housing program for homeless youth, led by a registered social worker but we also have a full-time career counsellor on site and a full-time outreach worker who supports youth when they leave the home.

Over the last several months we have supported youth as they completed high school, found employment, addressed issues of addiction, rebuilt family relationships, moved into supportive housing and prepared applications for post-secondary education.

Thank you very much for your support, both financial and otherwise, it is making a significant difference.
John Sharpe, CEO, Partners For Youth Inc.

A NOTE FROM THE FAMILY OF
ARCHBISHOP HAROLD LEE NUTTER TO
THE DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON

We are so grateful to everyone involved in Harold's Requiem Eucharist. We are so proud of the man who was a priest, bishop and archbishop. To our family he was a loving husband, father and grandfather.

For many of you he will be remembered as an exceptional mentor and teacher, and a good friend. In the communion of love between heaven and earth may he intercede for us all.

Harold, may you rest in peace and rise in glory, and forever feel the joy of "flying with the angels."

The Nutter family: Edith, Patricia (Paul Gervais), and Bruce Nutter; Timothy and Christopher Hunsley

APPLE PIE WEEK

How to make
2,700 pies
in seven easy
steps.



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



1. Chopping and peeling, with Carol Sue Nielsen and Chris Smissaert.
2. Making pastry, with Kathy Sinstadt and Sandra Ferris.
3. The spice girls add the sugar and spice to the apples: Marilyn Thompson and Sheila Christensen and Kristell Unick (unseen).
4. Rolling out the pastry and filling the pie tins: Clark Wilcox and Heather Storey.



5. Crimping the pastry takes a whole crew, each with her own style: Pat Lawson, Doreen Copage, Fran Purdue, Anne MacMullin and Erma Price.
6. Bagging the pies for sale, with Gladys Stephens and her helper, Isaac Ranson.
7. Selling pies: Dale Morgan buys pies from Sharyn Nicholls and Barb Hart.



WHO: St. John the Evangelist, Parish of Douglas & Nashwaaksis, Fredericton

WHAT: Annual pie making fundraiser

WHEN: Oct. 23-27

HOW: Approximately 75 volunteers a day, working one or two of three daily shifts — morning, afternoon and evening.



PARISH NEWS



MCKNIGHT PHOTO



CHRIS HAYES PHOTO



SUBMITTED PHOTO

TOP LEFT: Women of the Parish of Fundy and the Lakes held their annual Koinonia Day of Reflection Oct. 24 at Threshold Ministries. The guest speaker was diocesan communications officer Gisele McKnight, who spoke on the importance of finding your voice as a woman, and on communication in the diocese.

TOP RIGHT: A warm reception awaited the Rev. Wendy Amos-Binks at the Celebration of New Ministry Service for her on Sunday, Oct. 29. She's holding a gift given her by her new parish, St. James in Moncton. Welcome back from all of us, Wendy!

LEFT: Warden Pat Carr has a talent for innovation and used it to recycle an old sign from his business into a new sign for St. Mary's in Hillsborough. His beautiful sign compliments the old style of the church, saved the church money and has freed up funds for outreach and other projects. The parish is very proud of both the sign and Pat Carr, and thanks John Whitmore for his help in the project.



MARTINA PARKS PHOTO

The Parish of Upper Kennebecasis once again held its annual pumpkin carving party, this time at the Belleisle Creek Hall on Sunday, Oct 29. Young and young at heart got messy, enjoyed morning snacks, and moved and danced to spiritual music, with guitar and drums provided by T.J. Trenzek-Jeall and Nat Fetter, assisted by the Rev. Dan McMullen.

PARISH NEWS

Planning underway for ONE conference

This upcoming May 11-12, 2018, Moncton Coliseum will host the ONE conference.

This is an interdenominational youth event that combines the Baptist Springforth and the Wesleyan Rally in the Valley youth events which have happened in New Brunswick a week apart for about 10 years.

They decided to join forces, invite other denominations and combine them into one youth event on a much larger scale.

Keynote speakers include Jason Ballard from Youth Alpha, Danielle Strickland who serves with the Salvation Army and focuses on social justice, and Clayton King, evangelist and world-renowned speaker

and author.

The ONE conference will not just be for youth but for leaders as well. Leaders will have workshops and training throughout the weekend.

Registration will open Jan. 2 with early bird prices of \$75. Regular prices begin Feb. 17 at \$80 and after April 21 the price increases to \$90. See www.one-con.ca for more information.

The YIG team is encouraging parishes and youth leaders to consider the ONE conference for 2018. We believe this will be a fantastic weekend for all and it will include not just our youth but all youth in our province who are there for one reason, Jesus Christ.

Contact the YIG team if you are interested and we can work together to make an Anglican impression. yigftn@gmail.com



JASON SMITH PHOTO

TRUNK OR TREAT SUCCESS!

The Church of the Resurrection's CLAY team hosted a fundraiser Trunk or Treat during the afternoon of Sunday, Oct. 29. This was the first time the town of Grand Bay-Westfield had a Trunk or Treat and the first for the Rez Church. There were 20 beautifully decorated trunks and between 150-200 kids trunk or treating. A free-will offering was taken up and a small bake sale brought in over \$350 for the Rez's CLAY team. There were prizes for best trunk and three draws for kid participants. The participants had a blast and look forward to next year!

Life lesson

A young lady named Sally related an experience she had in a seminary class taught by Dr. Smith.

Dr. Smith was known for his elaborate object lessons. One particular day, Sally walked into the seminary and knew they were in for a fun day. On the wall was a big target and on a nearby table were many darts.

Dr. Smith told the students to draw a picture of someone they disliked or someone who had made them angry in the past. Then he would allow them to throw darts at the person's picture.

Sally's friend drew a picture of a girl who had stolen her boyfriend. Another friend drew a picture of his little brother.

Sally drew a picture of a former friend, putting a great deal of detail into her drawing, even drawing pimples on the face. Sally was pleased at the overall

effect she had achieved.

The class lined up and began throwing darts. Some of the students threw their darts with such force that their targets were ripping apart. Sally looked forward to her turn, but was filled with disappointment when Dr. Smith, because of time limits, asked the students to return to their seats.

As Sally sat down, thinking about how angry she was because she didn't have a chance to throw any darts at her target, Dr. Smith began removing the targets from the wall. Underneath was a picture of Jesus.

A complete hush fell over the room as each student viewed the mangled picture of Jesus; holes and jagged marks covered His face and His eyes were pierced.

Dr. Smith said only these words: "I assure you, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!" (Matthew 25:40)

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Upcoming events in December

Saturday, Dec. 2, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Annual Christmas Tea at the Kingston Parish Hall. Admission is \$8. More information: 506-763-3183 or parishofkingston@gmail.com

Sunday, Dec. 3, 4 p.m. Annual Advent Archdeaconry Service of Lessons & Carols at St. George's Church in Moncton, featuring a choir made up of choristers from parishes throughout the archdeaconry, conducted by Carolyn Keirstead.

Interested choristers are asked to attend practice at 10 a.m. at St George on Nov. 18, Nov. 25 and Dec. 2.

Monday, Dec. 4, 12:15 p.m. Advent Series with Bishop Bill Hockin and Dr. Barry Craig entitled *A Christmas Reset — Finding the DNA of the Holiday Season*. Talks take place at the Crowne Plaza, Queen Street, Fredericton. This week's talk is called *Reading the "Maji Diaries"*.

Saturday, Dec. 9, 5 p.m. In support of the work of its mission, the Westside Anglican

Mission (WAM) is hosting a fundraising ham dinner with guest speaker Bishop David Edwards. Tickets are \$20 per plate and can be purchased through Rev. Rob Salloum or Jennifer Ramsay Salloum. All proceeds will go towards outreach within the community. Tickets: 506-214-6954, Facebook page (@WestsideAnglicanMission), or in the "contact us" section of the website www.Hiswestsidestory.ca



Saturday, Dec. 9 The Anglican Parish of Newcastle-Nelson-Hardwick will hold a Canada 150 turkey dinner with dessert at the St. Andrew's Hall with presold tickets only. Take-outs from 3-4 p.m. and dinner from 4-6 p.m. Get your tickets early: 622-7614.

Monday, Dec. 11, 12:15 p.m. Advent Series with Bishop Bill Hockin and Dr. Barry Craig entitled *A Christmas Reset — Finding the DNA of the Holiday Season*. Talks take place at the Crowne Plaza, Queen Street, Fredericton. This week's talk is called *God and the "Generous Gene."*

COMMENTARY

Antihistamines and prayer

A ministry to grieving pet owners

BY TERENCE CHANDRA

I've never been a pet lover. For one thing, like every other member of my birth family, I have a penchant for neatness and order and couldn't abide a dog, for example, gnawing away at my loafers or shedding hair all over my furniture.

More pertinently, though, is an allergy to pet dander — an allergy severe enough to make living with a dog or cat an experience of unmitigated suffering.

In fact, when I was in traditional parish ministry, I would prep myself for visits with pet-owning parishioners by taking enough antihistamines to kill an ordinary man (and even then I got itchy eyes and the sniffles).

Be that as it may, I understand the genuine bond that can potentially develop between, say, a man and his beloved Alaskan Husky — a companion who, unlike his human friends, is endlessly forgiving, limitlessly affectionate and a good deal less judgemental.

I also understand how the loss of this beloved husky — whether by accident, old-age or disease — could be devastating to that owner, yielding a level of grief comparable to the loss of a human friend or family member. In fact, over the course of my ministry, I've seen such grief on a number of occasions.

Take Maggie, one of my south-end neighbours, for example. For many years, Maggie was "mum" to Kramer — a Labrador retriever so named because, in her words, he "busted through the doors the same way Kramer does on Seinfeld."

Kramer came into Maggie's care when her now adult sons were still children, shortly after her husband had left her. "The vet said a lady was giving up a black lab and I couldn't dial the phone fast enough," Maggie explained in a recent post on Facebook. "I said I'd take him without even meeting him... I knew the intelligence,

the unconditional support, protection and love that a lab could offer his human siblings."

And, true to Maggie's predictions, Kramer was indeed a source of immense comfort to his "human siblings" (that is, Maggie's sons). For the entire duration of Kramer's life he would sleep on the same bed as the oldest son — a warm, furry friend to guard and comfort him during his difficult passage through adolescence.

When both boys finally grew up and left the home, Kramer remained, filling an otherwise empty nest with his loyal canine presence. No wonder, then, that Maggie was devastated when Kramer died. For her, the grief is still very real.

"I feel such physical pain," she continues in her Facebook post. "I feel like the best part of me has left. I cannot stand the silence... I don't want to ever forget how much I love that dog. I don't want to be without him and he's gone."

Over the course of my 12 years as an ordained priest, I can offer several more examples: The grown man from one of my country parishes who sobbed like a little boy after his mentally unstable neighbour, for some inexplicable reason, shot his German shepherd when it wandered too close to his property.

Or the middle-aged woman who — after having endured one loss after another — finally lost her cat, a blow which sent her spiralling into a grief that lasted for weeks.

Needless to say, there are a lot of people out there who are in grief over the loss of a pet. Indeed, you yourself might be one of them. And where there is genuine human need, I believe that there is opportunity for church communities like my own to help.

Several years ago, a friend of mine reached out to me on Facebook. As it turns out, her dog had died — a companion who had kept her and her family company throughout what were some of the most difficult years of her life.



MORGUEFILE.COM

The Rev. Terence Chandra has found that a short service of remembrance can bring about tremendous healing for grieving pet owners.

Punctuating her message with several awkward apologies, she hesitatingly asked me if I knew of any priests who performed memorial services for animals. Although, at that time, I hadn't done a single one, I did say that my wife and I would be willing to offer our help if she liked.

For whatever reason, she never took me up on that offer. However, in the years that have passed since then, I have had occasion to do a couple of pet memorial services.

For the most part, I keep it simple. I sit with the family in their back porch or living room, a framed picture of the animal nearby, perhaps sitting on a coffee table or mantle next to a lit candle.

I'll do a brief reading from the scriptures — perhaps the story of Adam meeting God's newly created menagerie of beasts, naming them one-by-one and taking responsibility for their care.

Or, I'll do a reading from the New Testament: the Apostle Paul writing in his letter to the Romans about "the groaning of all creation."

Next, I offer a brief reflection on these readings. For the most part, I avoid drawing definitive conclusions about purely speculative issues — the most common and obvious being, "Is my dog in heaven right now?"

If a little girl takes some comfort in the fact that Fluffy is in paradise, I'm not going to take that away from her.

Then, and most importantly, I'll give the family a

chance to talk — to share their favourite memories of their animal friends. Based on my observations, grief is rarely localized entirely around the lost pet. Rather, this specific grief is linked to a larger, matrix of grief — the loss of a sibling or parent; of homes or pregnancies; of marriages or careers.

To bring such loss out into the open — to expose it to the light of day and the hope of resurrection — can bring tremendous healing. Of course, I'll end the "service" with a prayer of some sort, often inviting the family — especially the children — to take part.

This past week, I enjoyed a long chat with my neighbour, Maggie, about how we can reach out to folks in our neighbourhood, struggling with the grief of pet-loss. Could we have an online support group?

Could we hold some kind of a get-together?

We haven't arrived at any definitive plans yet. In the meantime, I want my readers to know that I'm still available to meet with families grieving a lost animal friend and would be more than willing to facilitate some kind of memorial service.

However, if you still have living pets in your house, you're going to have to let me know well in advance. It usually takes about an hour for the allergy medication to kick in.

The Rev. Terence Chandra and his wife, the Rev. Jasmine Chandra, run the Central Saint John Community Ministry. Reprinted with permission from penniesandsparrows.org, the blog of the Central Saint John Community Ministry.

Become a volunteer reading mentor

All it takes is 2 hours/ week for 10 weeks.

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Elementary Literacy /
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Soup's On



Every Thursday
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
St. John's Parish Hall,
58 Broad Rd. Oromocto.
A variety of homemade
soups, rolls and desserts
~by donation only~

MUSIC COLUMN

New music for Advent and Christmas

As has become my habit, I'm looking at two different recordings for the upcoming Advent/Christmas season.

It is becoming harder and harder to find music specifically for Advent. Marketers know such a project is a hard sell, and likely not profitable, sadly, therefore, putting a stop to such work before they even get going.

This is especially true in the classical and choral genres. Here then, are my two picks for this year.

Casting Crowns last released a Christmas album in 2008 (*Peace on Earth*). This band has been the darlings of easy, safe music in the Christian pop market for a long time.

Their new album, rather surprisingly, does not contain too much of the typical holiday trappings, such as sleigh bells, overly bright piano sounds, orchestral bells in the background and so on.

It's Finally Christmas is an EP of six songs, so not a full album, but it rather grew on me, as it is much more intimate, and challenges the listener to think about Christ's birth more than traditional holiday music for its own sake.

The album begins with a song that, thankfully, is not overly processed, and not



too catchy. *Gloria Angels We Have Heard On High* is a song that starts slow, and grows as it moves along. Lead singer Mark Hall still has some great chops, as this song shows.

The reputed "Casting Crowns sound" is not as evident in this project overall, as keyboardist and vocalist Megan Garrett is featured on a couple of songs. She should, in my opinion, have more time as lead singer. She has a wonderful voice. *What Child Is This* makes this evident.

The standout song of the set, *Somewhere In Your Silent Night* reminds the listener (as best a song can) what Christmas might be like for those who don't fit the holiday stereotypes.

It's a rather ironic Christmas song, in that this time of year is often oblivious and unsympathetic to hurting people, but its true subject deeply cares for the broken-hearted (i.e., Psalm 34:18).

The album ends with a guest vocalist, Matt Maher, whose harmonies with Hall



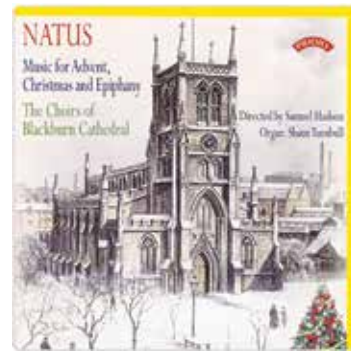
and Garrett are a beautiful way to end the project, with the ballad, *Make Room*. Unlike so many other seasonal albums, this little collection is a really nice addition to the contemporary music offered at this time of year.

And now to some musical "meat!" This year, the Choir of Blackburn Cathedral, in England, has released a project entitled *Natus: Music for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany*.

That's a tall undertaking, to cover music for three seasons of the church year on one recording (though technically, Epiphany gets only one track, *Of the Father's Love Begotten* at the end of the disc")!

This project also features music spanning from the 15th century to today, so it has length, breadth and width of music and topic!

The album is a little slow to get going, as it begins with one of four featured "O" Anti-



phons, set in the 15th century by an anonymous composer. William Byrd is next up, with one of the Sacred Cantic sets, *Vigilate*.

This arrangement is not only chronological, but also enables the music on the album to grow in intensity and complexity.

Do not fear that you won't know any of the music on the album! Gustav Holst's incredible setting of *In the Bleak Mid-Winter* is here, as well as John Rutter's *Candlelight Carol*, fast becoming a favourite of many.

Dan Wilcock's arrangement of *Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day* is a bright light on the disc. The hauntingly beautiful *O Magnum Mysterium* finds a home here, too.

It is worth noting that the recording of this choir is astounding. Many recordings are done in cavernous, reverberant cathedrals, or in suffocating, sound dampened recording

studios.

The result in either case is that you lose either brightness, depth of sound, intimacy of the voice, or perhaps all of these.

Somehow, though, the choir on this recording soars with great power at moments, and other times draws the listener in with quiet intensity, but every word is clear; every note on the organ has space. This is a highly recommended recording!

It is becoming exceedingly difficult to find physical copies of music CDs predetermined not to be a best-seller. Both of these recordings are available online via iTunes and Amazon. The Casting Crowns disc may also be available at the Lighthouse Bookstore in Fredericton.

Personally, I feel it worth the effort to track these down, and I hope this music, and other favourites are an important part of your preparation for and celebration of Christmas this year.

May you all be blessed in this beautiful season.

The Rev. Chris Hayes is a musician as well as a priest serving in the Parish of Salisbury and Havelock.



Retired Bishop Bill Hockin, author of nine books, including his latest on *The Lord's Prayer* (with study guide), due out Jan. 1.

Favourite book of the Bible – John's gospel

Birthplace – London, Ont.

What you love most about God – His compassion and mercy

Favourite place on Earth – Chautauqua, NY

Farthest you've been from home – Budapest, Hungary

Favourite meal or dessert – Prime rib; raisin pie

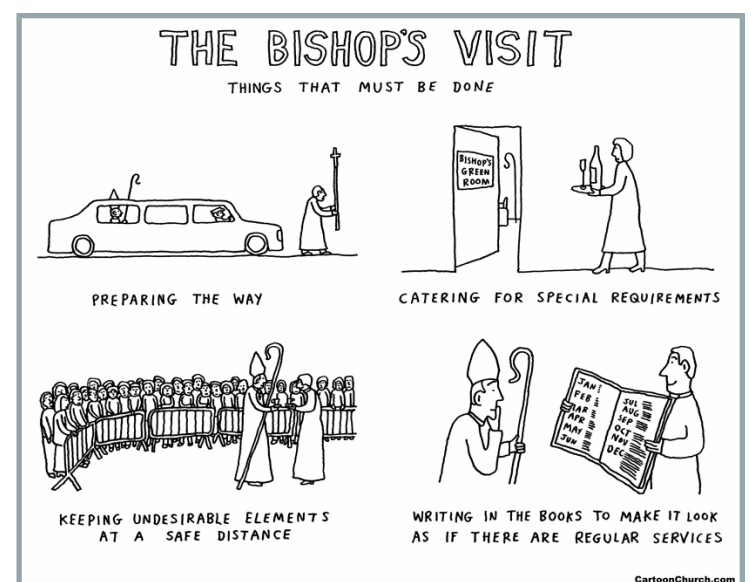
Hidden talent – Music

Favourite movie or book – *Protestants*, by Alec Ryrie

Your hobby – Writing

Three things always in your fridge – Eggs, butter and milk

Favourite sports team – Toronto Blue Jays



**"May the Blessings of Christmas be with you,
May the Christ Child light your way,
May God's holy angels guide you,
And keep you safe each day."**

This Irish Christmas blessing is our wish to you, from Bishop David and staff of the Anglican Diocese of Fredericton.

ODDS & ENDS

Episcopal Announcements

The Rev. Canon Albert Snelgrove was appointed interim priest-in-charge in the Parish of New Maryland, effective Oct. 24.

The Rev. Canon Keith Osborne was appointed part-time Director of Senior Ministry for the Archdeaconry of Saint John as of October. This new position is sponsored by the Parish of Coldbrook-St. Mary.

The appointment of the Rev. Stephen Harnish as priest-in-charge in the Parishes of Andover and Denmark has been extended to Sept. 30, 2019.

The Ven. John Matheson's appointment as Archdeacon of St. Andrews has been extended for a further three years, to Oct. 13, 2020.

The Rev. Sandy MacPherson's appointment as Regional Dean of the Deanery of Chaleur-Miramichi has been extended for a further three years, to Oct. 13, 2020.

Dr. Ken Neilson has resigned from his position as Diocesan Parish Development Officer, effective Oct. 31. He will continue to do work on a per diem basis for specific projects.



Tired of shopping for Christmas gifts? Tired of receiving gifts you don't need?

How about a new way to look at gift-giving? Give a blessing, in the form of a monetary gift to one of many worthy missions and ministries - in your loved one's name, or ask them to do the same:

- Central Saint John Community Ministry (Terence & Jasmine Chandra)
- A Foundation For Life
- Camp Brookwood
- Camp Medley,
- Jonathan Young Memorial Amphitheatre project at Camp Medley
- Inner City Youth Ministry
- Honduras Mission (Kara & Nelson Mejia)
- Bishop McAllister College (Canon Paul Jeffries)
- Diocesan Choir School
- Safe Harbour House
- PWRDF
- New Brunswick Anglican
- Toronto Mission Trip 2018
- The Anglican Foundation
- Various bursaries, and other wonderful initiatives

**Contact the Anglican Diocese of Fredericton:
506-459-1801; 115 Church St, Fredericton
E3B 4C8; or anglican.nb.ca/giving/**

Can You Help?

Saint John Seafarers' Mission Christmas Program

Each year during the Christmas season, the Saint John Seafarers' Mission provides gifts to the seafarers who are visiting our port.

These gifts are packaged with the goal of giving items of necessity, with a little something extra, at a time when these men and women are feeling the loneliness of being away from their families.

Last year the Seafarers' Mission distributed 219 Christmas packages to 11 ships during the Christmas season. The crew members were pleased!

Ideas for items you could include in a Christmas pack-

age:

- Toiletries: shampoo, shave cream, tooth paste, tooth brush, dental floss, mouth wash, body wash, deodorant, disposable razors, lip balm, comb, hand lotion, tissues
- Warm items: gloves, socks, scarf, toque
- A little something extra: playing cards, game book, pen, Canada souvenir (pin/magnet/key chain), candy (individually wrapped), chocolates, chocolate bars, Halloween sized bags of chips, gum.
- Christmas card

NOTE: Do not wrap individual items or the packag-



IMAGES NB

es. Port security controls, in the US and Canada, require us to scan the contents of any parcels before they go aboard ships.

If you want to support our Christmas program but don't want to do a package, you can donate some of the noted items, earmarked specifically for Christmas, or donate cash (tax receipts will be issued).

NOTE: We generally have a shortage of gloves, shampoo, deodorant, shave

cream, hand lotion, lip balm.

Approximate sizes of 'packages' we use: medium size shoe box or Christmas bags 12" (h), 10" (w) and 5" (d).

Drop donations at the Mission (92 Tilley Lane, Saint John) Monday – Friday, noon – 5 p.m. For pick-up, call Bev at (506) 635-1731 or email <seaf@nb.aibn.com>

Thank you! Without help from others, we could not provide these gifts.

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• **Eligibility:** Ordained and in good standing; acceptance at a recognized university; may be awarded to the same applicant for up to three years, or until the degree is obtained, whichever comes first, provided that satisfactory work is accomplished each year.

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**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SCHOLARSHIP FUND ARE MOST WELCOME.
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