



**Get ready,
bowling
is back!
Page 5**



**New mission
centre, food bank
in Saint John
Pages 6-7**



**A successful
visit to the
Diocese of Ho
Pages 8-9**



**BMC's
library
completed
Page 11**



THE NEW BRUNSWICK ANGLICAN



A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL

MARCH 2020

SERVING THE DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON



MCKNIGHT PHOTO

Play park opens in a church!

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Five years ago, the people of the Church of the Resurrection — the Rez, as it's known — had a big, dark warehouse-like space and a tiny glimmer of a vision.

Their mission statement — Jesus centred, in the community, for the community — led them to realize that space was destined for something beyond a simple hall and something far beyond themselves. And so the process to discover God's path began.

On the evening of Jan. 31, the path laid out by God, worked on by many volunteers and supported by a long list of community members, was celebrated with the opening of the Sunrise Play Park, an indoor recreational facility for children aged 1-12.

"We didn't need a big hall," said the Rev. Mike Caines, rector of the Parish of the Nerepis and St. John in Grand Bay-Westfield. "This is much more what the community needs."

The main elements of the play park are a large, open structure with two racer slides, bolster climb, moonwalk, yoga balls, talking tube, and zipline; a toddler centre for younger children; a birthday party room; second multipurpose room; accessible washrooms; and a reading tree. Several rooms have kitchenettes.

The reading tree was made possible by a donation from a teacher to support literacy. The large structural beam in the room is now a "tree trunk" sprouting whimsical green leaves, with a base to sit on, under which books are stored.

The all-day fee for one child is \$6; a second child is \$4; every additional child in the family is \$3. For more information, consult the website: sunriseplay-

park.ca .

April Medford is the play park director, who noted what parents are already telling her: this indoor, accessible play facility has been needed for a long time.

"Twelve-year-olds are having as much fun as one-year-olds," she said. "It's interesting to see the kids on the various equipment and what their creative minds want it to be."

Parents have already offered to volunteer, and she is mentoring teen volunteers on the weekends. She always has at least one volunteer on duty with her, more on Saturdays when they're busiest.

Mike spoke at the grand opening in front of several dozen parishioners, donors, community members and children.

He gave all the credit to a long list of others who have been instrumental in the four-year process to bring the vision to reality: his wife, Anna, who acted as project co-ordinator; Bishop David Edwards and Mike's parishioners, who supported the vision from its inception and worked to make it happen; and the community, which stepped up financially to support the \$620,000 project.

"I simply get to be the leader of an amazing team that lives and believes the vision," he said. "It was a big team effort, but if there was one person that carried the freight through the long, dry seasons, it was Anna."

Anna addressed the crowd as well, saying, "The message we want to convey tonight is thank you. Four years ago we had a vision for finishing the back space with something that

Play park continued on page 2

AT THE TOP OF ONE OF THE RACER SLIDES, the Rev. Kate Jones of Westfield United Church prepares to descend, while Assma, in yellow, has clearly enjoyed the ride to the bottom. The Sunrise Play Park officially opened Jan. 31 to a crowd of community supporters, volunteers, children and parishioners of the Church of the Resurrection in the Parish of the Nerepis & St. John in Grand Bay-Westfield. The opening was the culmination of four years of planning and fundraising.



"SHARING HOPE & HELP"

DIOCESAN SYNOD NEWS



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: ANNA CAINES, PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR, speaks during the opening of Sunrise Play Park on Jan. 31. At right are Bishop David & Debbie Edwards. Watching it all from the main play structure are best friends Assma and Ella. Guests enjoy fellowship during the opening. Judy's reading tree is visible on the left. The toddler area is gated. It is seen here with the reading tree and guests in the background.



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



Play park opens in Grand Bay church

Play park continued from page 1

would benefit the public. We had a deep conviction to give to the community.”

She went on to talk about the trend toward social isolation and the need for shared spaces to promote healthy communities.

“Here, kids are running off energy, but they’re doing more,” she said. “They’re making connections. Parents are meeting each other. Kids are becoming friends.”

She noted their business plan dictated they would need 75 children through the doors each month to break even. In the four weeks since opening on Jan. 2, they had 685.

They have birthday parties booked, two per Saturday, until the end of March, with some booking into the fall.

To enthusiastic applause upon hearing those stats, Anna said, “That’s a whole lot of community happening here, and it couldn’t have happened without the people sitting here tonight.”

Anna estimates that \$280,000 came from external sources, including the diocese, grants, local businesses and community support.

The Town of Grand Bay-Westfield donated \$15,000 and was a supporter early on.

“I want to say how very proud we are to be involved as a community partner,” said Mayor Grace Losier, adding that she too understands the need for social inclusion and spaces for people to gather as part of healthy lives and healthy communities.

Bishop David and his wife, Debbie, were on hand for the opening, and he too, spoke of

the need for gathering places.

Churches were those gathering places 50 years ago, he said, though that role has slipped away.

He spoke of the three main spaces humans inhabit: their work spaces, their home spaces and a third space, which in many communities is Starbucks—the place where people hang out, think, develop their life plans and sort out their values.

“Churches were third places for centuries,” he said. “This [play park] is an important pointer to the church of the future and an historic link to the past. I am hoping and praying that this is the first of many third spaces we are developing. Some are already in development.

“For those of us who identify as Christians, this is the gospel,” he said, pointing to the facility.



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



www.anglican.nb.ca

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON
A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL

The Rt. Rev. David Edwards Bishop and Publisher

Gisele McKnight Editor
Proofreaders Cheryl Jacobs & Ben Bourque

Published 10 times per year. Price of subscription \$10.00

Please send news and photo submissions to
115 Church St., Fredericton, NB E3B 4C8
Phone: 506-459-1801; E-mail: gmcknight@diofton.ca

Please send subscription renewals and changes of address to:
The New Brunswick Anglican, c/o Anglican Journal Circulation Dept.,
80 Hayden St, Toronto, Ont. M4Y 3G2
circulation@national.anglican.ca OR 1-866-924-9192 ext. 259

Printed & mailed in North York, Ontario
By Webnews Printing Inc.

— SAVE THE DATE —

PARISH OFFICERS DAY



A day of growth and learning

Saturday, May 2

**St. John the Evangelist Church,
75 Main St., Fredericton North**

Your toolbox opportunity for improved parish administration:

- > Information on insurance, finances, HR
- > Registered charity returns and HST forms
- > Nuts & bolts of budgeting
- > Parish website opportunity

Designed for parish treasurers, wardens, vestry members and others interested in improved parish operation

THE BISHOP'S PAGE

A love response to love



PHOTO BY ASCEND

Once again this year I want to thank every parish and each person for their support of the work and ministry of the Synod through the Shared Ministry Budget.

I fully appreciate that for many of us, this is a difficult time financially as we transition in our life together as a Diocese. I know that when the issue of financial giving is spoken of, it can cause quite a reaction within us, but every so often I believe it is my responsibility to raise the matter.

The first thing I need to say is that I am not trying to make anyone feel guilty or to try to shame people into giving more.

What I am asking is that we each review our commitment to financially supporting God's mission and Kingdom. This has to do with what is for the common good and can be within or outside the ministry of the Church.

I want to share two main principles which I use when it comes to giving financially. I am not saying that they are the ones which everyone has to use.

I have found that in order to give effectively, we have to have a process to enable us to reflect upon why we are giving.

I begin with a question: do I believe that God loves me? Followed by: do I love God?

The reason for these two questions is that any giving should be a love response to love. The basis of any giving relationship is love — not necessarily romantic love, but wanting the best for the other person.

Most of us will have experienced this. It is easier to be generous to people we at least like than it is to those we dislike.

One of the issues Jesus had with some of the Pharisees and others during his earthly ministry was that their response to the love of God had largely become

a duty from which they tried to escape through various sophisticated schemes.

My question when I consider giving is based around my love for God rather than my response to his local church.

I discovered as a young newly married man that my opinion about the ministry in the church I attended would lead me to giving out of duty, if I did not look beyond it to the blessings I had received from God.

In those far off days, I had moved to the town where Janet lived and attended the rather traditional parish church where she went.

In my youthful enthusiasm I thought this was a congregation certainly not doing God's work. I had no desire to give anything to ministry there. I could think of much better ways to support God's work.

As I wrestled with this, it became clear to me that my calling was to give to God through the Church, not to judge the ministry of a particular congregation and its rector against my subjective criteria.

Once I had climbed over that hurdle, I was more able to appreciate the ministry that was happening through that church.

Did I embrace their way of doing things wholeheartedly? No, but I lost my sense of giving out of duty.

Some of you may say that it is rather subjective to base one's giving upon a love response to the love one feels one has received from God.

Perhaps in 2003 I felt loved 20 per cent less by God. Therefore, do I cut my giving accordingly? Clearly not.

There is an objective measure of love which goes beyond

feelings and requires us to set our response to God according to it. It is summed up in John 3: 16, but is the foundation of our belief:

"God loved the world so much that he gave his only begotten Son that whoever believes (trusts) in him shall not perish but will have eternal life."

Here we see a loving God, whose love leads to the giving of himself in order to remove the curse of death from us, so that his life can be seen through us individually and together as the Church.

Thereby our love response to God goes beyond feeling to faith. We believe that God loves us, hence we respond to him and to others in love. Part of showing this is through financial giving to the work of God through His Church and beyond.

This brings me to my second principle which centres around how much should I give? I do not want to get into the minutiae of should we give on the net or the gross of our income. That path tends to lead me to duty again.

I need an objective guideline to help me give appropriately. I therefore take the position that to tithe (give 10 per cent) and then make offerings over and above this is the way I am enabled to be generous.

The governing principle here is not the numbers but generosity. In Philippians 2: 1-11 we see this in action. God in Christ empties himself of all that he has and is in order to take on the role of a servant even to death on a cross.

The first question I ask is what will I give to the worshipping community(ies) of which I am part in order to enable the

mission of God to be carried on through them?

This represents about half of my giving and they are also likely to receive offerings above and beyond the tithe for special projects and initiatives.

These could vary from contributing towards building renovations through to a particular outreach project. After this my giving goes to mission and community initiatives beyond the congregation.

In my case one of the things I do is support a child in India. I also give to charities which have no church connection but work on issues about which I am passionate, such as homelessness.

It is not my intention in sharing this information for you to form any opinion, positive or negative about the way I give or the amounts (in percentage terms).

My purpose is to say that in my experience, it is necessary to think through why we give and what we give. In addition, it is to emphasize that our giving is a love response to God.

There are two other principles to which I adhere. I try to ensure that my regular giving goes out as soon as possible after payday.

Obviously, this is not the case with offerings, because they are special gifts. The reason I do this is because I believe it is biblical to give the first fruits of our income to God.

It also means that I am not tempted to shortchange God by waiting to see what I have left.

Secondly, my regular giving is done through e-offering, which provides a consistent income to the recipient.

During my time in church leadership, I have found it easier to plan for mission and ministry when we can have a good sense of what we have to spend during a particular period.

There is also a faith element to this. If a particular month is tight financially, I must trust God to meet the need.

On the few occasions this has happened, I have discovered that God is faithful.

David Edwards is
Diocesan Bishop of Fredericton.

PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS

MARCH 1
PARISH OF
MILLIDGEVILLE

MARCH 4
PARISH OF
NEWCASTLE-
NELSON-
HARDWICKE LENT
SERIES

MARCH 6-7 & 8-9
DIOCESAN LENTEN
RETREATS

MARCH 8
PARISH OF THE
NEREPIS AND
ST. JOHN

MARCH 13-15
COUNCIL OF
GENERAL SYNOD

MARCH 19, 26
PARISH OF
ST. GEORGE
LENTEN SERIES

MARCH 22
PARISH OF
OROMOCTO &
MAUGERVILLE;
DECONSECRATION
OF TRINITY,
SPRINGFIELD

MARCH 24
BISHOP'S COUNSEL

MARCH 29
PARISH OF GRAND
MANAN

APRIL 2
RENEWAL OF
ORDINATION VOWS
& BLESSING OF OILS

APRIL 5
PARISH OF ST. MARK
(STONE CHURCH)



CATHEDRAL NEWS

Cathedral welcomes new music director

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Some call it happenstance. Others call it God's hand.

Thomas Gonder believes it was definitely God's hand that brought him to Fredericton — specifically to Christ Church Cathedral as its new director of music. He began his role here in early January.

Thomas, 48 and originally from London, Ont., lived in Toronto for more than 12 years, working as an organist in Anglican Churches. His path to New Brunswick began last summer, when he was invited by Leo Marchildon to perform at St. Dunstan's Roman Catholic Basilica in Charlottetown.

A lifelong Anglican, Thomas decided to make the trip really count. He'd always wanted to visit Christ Church Cathedral in Fredericton.

"I'd seen pictures, so I thought, 'why not see if I can play there,'" he said. "Might as well make the trip more worthwhile."

So he wrote to then-director of music, David Drinkell, who extended a hearty invitation. Thomas spent four or five days in the city, and loved every minute.

"I played an organ concert here on a Saturday night," he said. "There were about 100 people there. I thought I might get 20."

But while preparing to return to Toronto, he realized he didn't really want to leave.



MCKNIGHT PHOTO

THOMAS GONDER IS CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL'S new director of music. After many years playing in various Anglican churches in southern Ontario, he finally has a cathedral in which to play. It was an offer he could not refuse. The beautiful, natural surrounding of Fredericton are an added bonus, he says.

"I was overwhelmed by the kindness of strangers, the enthusiasm people have for music," he said. "I was surrounded by trees instead of condos."

"When I went back to Toronto, I sank into a bit of a depression. I felt as if I really connected to this place in a specific way — not just with

the Cathedral, but with the whole city. I crave nature and I couldn't find that in Toronto."

The sad and untimely death of David Drinkell later that fall opened up an opportunity that Thomas did not see coming. He's struck up a Facebook friendship with Elspeth, David's wife, and had lively correspondence with David. Now he realizes his August visit to the city was all God's plan, not his. When the vacancy appeared, he felt he had to apply.

With an offer in hand, Thomas left St. Matthew's Anglican Church in Islington, in the Diocese of Toronto, to direct music in his first cathedral, and he couldn't be happier.

"The draw to come here was irresistible," he said. "I didn't need this job. I had one I really liked, but I had to take this chance."

"I was growing so weary of Toronto — the cost of living, the hustle and bustle, the noise — it became too much for me. It was wearing down my senses."

Now he walks to work via Odell Park, and revels in the bird song and the smell of trees, things he has sorely missed for many years. Moving to a new city in the middle of winter isn't ideal, he said, but he's enjoying the nature, the people and the work.

"I feel like it's healing me," he said. "Now that I'm here, all those feelings I had are confirmed."

THE PEOPLE

What Thomas has found so far is a group of people — the choir and the 11:45 worship band — who are enthusiastic and skilled.

"I get to work with such a terrific choir," he said. "And the 11:45 worship band is so talented. Everyone has made it very easy for me. I feel no stress."

He's also thrilled to return to his roots, "being able to play all aspects of Anglican liturgical music. I feel like a kid again!"

His great love of church music began when he was 10 years old, joining the choir at St. Paul's Cathedral in London.

"It was a revelation, if 10-year-olds can have revelations," he said. "I'll never forget that moment."

THE PLANS

He describes himself as a concert organist and liturgical musician, and he aims to put those talents to good use. As for the work, he's got big plans.

At St. Matthews, he and the parish replaced the organ through a vigorous fundraising campaign and he hopes to use that experience here. The Christ Church Cathedral organ was last rebuilt in 1981, and Thomas believes it's overdue.

"The goal is to renovate this instrument," he said. "It's showing wear and tear. Oddly enough, it's a bit big for its environment. I think it needs to be reimagined for the space."

Thomas sees that as a long-term project of up to 10 years, but in the end, "this could be the finest instrument in the Maritimes."

He also sees a great deal of potential in the Cathedral itself: a beacon of inspiration for the diocese, a centre for arts and culture, a dynamic music program to share with the community.

"My goal is to make the Cathedral what most cathedrals have been for centuries — a centre for the arts," he said.

Recently, as he listened to Dean Geoffrey Hall preach, he was struck by the sermon's theme: "hearing the call, answering the call."

"I had no urgency to leave my job, but I had to answer the call," he said.

LENTEN RESOURCES

Diocesan Lenten Retreat
Plowing the Fields
with Bishop David Edwards

March 6-7, 2020 OR March 8-9, 2020
4PM - 4PM
Villa Madonna Retreat Centre, Rothesay NB

Two opportunities to gather together for teaching and reflection this coming Lent. Preregistration is required for all participants. For more details & to register, visit: nb.anglican.ca/Lent2020

Lenten Study

Bishop David, with the Spiritual Development Team, is recommending the book *Liturgy of the Ordinary* by Anglican priest Tish Harrison Warren (IVP) for parish/group study in Lent. Pricing is expected at about \$12 per book. Contact Cheryl Jacobs to order: 506-459-1801, ext. 223, or cjacobs@diofton.ca

Liturgy of the Ordinary
Foreword by Andy Crouch
Tish Harrison Warren

Christianity Today's 2018 Book of the Year Winner - Spiritual Formation | Christianity Today's 2018 Book of the Year - Beautiful Orthodoxy

BOWLING TOURNAMENT

Bowling tournament plans underway

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Saturday, April 18 has been announced as the date of the fourth annual bowling tournament in the diocese. From humble beginnings in 2017, this tournament has grown beyond Fredericton to involve parishioners from all seven archdeaconries.

In 2017, the goal was \$5,000, earmarked for Bishop McAllister College in Uganda. The resulting \$7,500 raised helped to kick off the library building project at the college, which has just recently been completed.

In 2018, the tournament spread to the Kennebecasis Valley and Moncton, with about \$25,000 raised to combat childhood hunger.

The Rev. Kevin McAllister, the organizer, had heard Bishop David Edwards speak on the high poverty rates among New Brunswick children, and shifted the focus of the tournament closer to home.

In 2019, every archdeaconry participated in some way, with about \$40,000 raised for various local programs that feed children.

"We're encouraging parishes to do this again," said Kevin. "Every year the goal goes up because the problem hasn't gone away."

In his parish of Marysville, he and parishioners have a real heart for the cause. Once a month they gather at the Fredericton Community Kitchen's Student Hunger Program headquarters and load backpacks for students.

"We pack a week's worth of food — 15 pounds — that are sent home on the weekends," said Kevin. "It's been an eye-opening experience for us when you see how much 15 pounds of food is. It's not much."

Kevin feels this activity has helped bring the issue much closer to home for parishioners and it will again be the recipient of money raised in the Fredericton area.

"It's been very good for our church," he said. "We'll be supporting the student hunger program for a long time."

The Student Hunger Program in Fredericton prepares 355 bagged lunches every school day for children in



15 schools. They also prepare snacks and breakfasts in schools throughout the Fredericton area, and fill the weekend backpacks. For more information, check their website. <http://frederictoncommunitykitchen.com/school-hunger-program/>

This student hunger initiative began in 2014, with the thought that "a healthy lunch is essential to students reaching their full academic potential," says the kitchen's website.

THIS YEAR'S PLANS

Kevin is busy lining up leaders in the archdeaconries to organize local tournaments, hoping for even greater participation and more funds raised for the cause.

At home in Fredericton, he had to negotiate a contract with the new owners of The Drome on the city's north side. On April 18, registration will begin at 12 noon, with bowling at 1 p.m.

Other archdeaconries will develop their own bowling plans and decide on recipients for the resulting funds, but parishioners are encouraged to participate by forming bowling teams, sponsoring bowlers and/or cheerleading at the alleys on April 18.

Insulated lunch bags, sold last year, are still available for \$15. All the profits go toward the cause. Contact Kevin for details.

TRASH TALK

As in past years, trash talk among priests and parishes is highly encouraged!

Last year the Rev. Paul Ranson challenged the priest with the lowest bowling score to sing a solo at Clergy Conference in September.

"No one sang," said Kevin.



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS

AT TOP LEFT IS THE REV. KEVIN MCALLISTER, TOURNAMENT ORGANIZER. Above, taken last year, are tournament bowlers at Fairview Lanes in Saint John.

MISSION IN MOTION: food security

"But it was probably me [with the lowest score.]"

A rivalry between Kevin and Paul has continued to develop. This year, Kevin is thinking about instituting a minimum height requirement for all bowlers, as he believes Paul is too close to the lanes, making the competition unfair to others.

"If you can't ride at the

FREX, you shouldn't bowl," said Kevin, referring to the city's summer festival. "To use Paul's own words, 'it's on like Donkeykong!'"

Paul has offered a safety caution, saying, "It might be best if Kevin didn't even show up at the bowling lanes. Someone might mistake his head for a bowling ball!"

"It's all for a good cause,

so I don't want to be THAT guy, but, I feel there should be a stronger emphasis on drug testing, and maybe an audit of the score sheets. I'm very skeptical of one church in charge of it all," said Paul.

To form a team or if you have questions, contact Kevin, call him: 506-897-2686; or email him: micksizet@ yahoo.ca .

ACE PRESENTATIONS AVAILABLE



Promoting healthy families

Is your group looking for a guest speaker at an upcoming function? Erin Rideout and the Rev. Jasmine Chandra have recently qualified to give presentations on ACE Interface, a concept to better understand how trauma experienced in childhood can affect physical and mental health in adulthood.

CONTACTS:

Erin: icymjsj@gmail.com or 506-647-9813
Jasmine: jasminechandra@gmail.com

MISSION

All in good time: God's time

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Ecclesiastes 3:1 *There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens.*

This is a story about timing — God's timing, not ours! The Parish of Coldbrook-St. Mary set into motion events that took more than a decade to come full circle, which was not really their plan. Emphasis on the word "their."

But their desire to help feed their community is about to become a reality as they prepare for the April grand opening of the Saint John East Food Bank, housed in the new St. Mary & St. Bartholomew Mission Centre.

The church sits high up on Westmorland Road in East Saint John. From the back of the church, the view of the city is grand. The church owns most of the land, starting from its position on that hill, almost all the way down to Golden Grove Road.

But about 15 years ago, the decision was made to sell that parcel of land. Perhaps with the money, the parish would build an addition or upgrade the church. The Rev. Canon Greg McMullin owned his own home, so they sold the rectory too.

THE VISIONING

About six years ago, the parish's mission and outreach committee held a visioning exercise.

"We wanted to move outward," said committee chair Harold McInnis, who is also a warden and a layreader. "We came up with a lot of ideas based on Vibrant Communities Saint John, city and provincial studies. One of the things was food security — a food bank."

In the meantime, someone donated money to buy back the parcel of land they'd sold. Then they heard the rectory owners wanted to sell. They asked for the first right of refusal.

"We talked about it but we didn't have the money," said Harold. "And we had no defined purpose for the building other than as an extension of church usage."

They'd heard they should expect a bequest, but how much and when were unknown. They couldn't finance, or even plan a project on a possibility.

Not yet, said God.

Greg was curious about establishing a satellite food bank on the premises, so he sent Harold to the Saint John East Food Bank, a 10-minute drive from the church, to make the offer.

"He asked me to go along and propose the idea, but they didn't bite," said Harold. "They didn't have any extra volunteers."

"We didn't either, and our church building wasn't conducive to it at that time."

Not yet, said God.

THE TIMING

But one of the things that came out of Harold's errand was an offer to help.

"I said 'I can help you get organized' and they said, 'we need a treasurer.'"

Meanwhile, the food bank was facing a dilemma. The Park Avenue United Church, where they were headquartered, was being sold. They went ahead with an interim plan to continue to rent the church hall, but in January, 2019, they were told they would have to vacate the building by July.

That's when God began to say, "Yes! Now!"

"I got an email — the final notification that the lease was not being renewed," said Harold. "And within the hour, Greg got confirmation of the inheritance!"

Things were beginning to fall into place. Around the same time, the parish formed a property development committee to investigate uses for the property, so Harold presented a plan to buy back the rectory to house the food bank.

"It was in line with our visioning," he said. "It was one of the things we'd put on the 'eventual' burner."

The committee sent Harold off to make a presentation to the food bank.

"They were thrilled. They agreed," he said. "It was divine providence, no doubt about it!"

With the rectory back in the parish's hands, they used the expertise on their property committee — an architect — to make a plan for the parish mission centre which would house the food bank.

THE PLAN



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



TOP RIGHT, HAROLD MCINNIS IN THE former living room of the Parish of Coldbrook-St. Mary's rectory, which is now a food bank. At top left, the land the parish owns behind the church. Members are still discerning how the land could be used. Immediately above, a worker in the new reception centre that visitors will see when they enter the food bank; and at right, volunteers from the Saint John East Food Bank enjoy a coffee break in the rectory's former dining room.



The rectory, paid for with the bequest, has doubled in size. An interparish loan of \$150,000 from the Parish of St. Andrews is paying for the addition and renovation.

"Everything just fell into place," said Harold.

The parish is running a fundraising campaign to pay down the loan — hopefully, two years ahead of the five-year term. Individual and corporate donations, dinners, concerts and other events are on the horizon.

The food bank will rent two-thirds

of the space, at \$1,000 a month, and the remaining space will be used for other activities.

"The whole idea is to be self-sufficient, for us to provide the space, the organizing and co-ordinating, but it's for the community. We're providing the facility and location at minimum expense to the parish so it's not a drain."

"We've made contact with Public Health," he said. "Schools have ap-

Food bank continued on page 7

MISSION

Food bank, mission centre opening in God's time

Food bank continued from page 6

proached us to do reading programs there."

THE UPGRADE

The corporate community has been very generous in donating or cutting the cost of many building materials: shingles, railings, drywall, siding, paint, fixtures and so on. Home Depot and Sherwin-Williams have been especially generous, said Harold. Emery Chapell is the contractor.

The house has been reconfigured to allow for a great deal of food storage, both upstairs in the old rectory and in the basement of the addition. A new walk-in freezer has been installed and a garage door will allow for easy deliveries. Food bank clients will enjoy a large, bright, accessible reception room in the new addition. The lower floor of the old rectory will be parish space.

"It's going to be an excellent facility and very much in line with our mission and outreach visioning," said Harold. "It was a no brainer."

"I am humbled by the God-given



HAROLD MCINNIS PHOTO

THE PARISH MISSION CENTRE AND SAINT JOHN EAST FOOD BANK now occupy the former rectory of the Parish of Coldbrook-St. Mary in Saint John. The building addition is seen at the left side of the former rectory.



opportunity our parish has been given to provide more outreach ministry to our local community. Only by God's grace. Thanks be to God," said Greg.

THE NEED

If the parish needed more affirmation that their plans are God-inspired, they've got it from Bishop David Edwards.

"This project represents the direction in which our parishes need go," said the bishop. "The decision to provide a home for the Saint John East Food Bank and other initiatives

is a well thought out Biblically-based response to issues in the area.

"This has been done in a timely way and those who have led and been involved in this ministry development are to be congratulated."

The Saint John East Food Bank, run by volunteers from several churches including the parish, has been operating at the new site, but at limited capacity, since leaving the United Church. Even so, their numbers have jumped by 30 per cent, a sure sign of the need in their new neighbourhood.

There is still the issue of bus ser-

vice. The city bus stops at the bottom of the hill, and it's a long walk to carry groceries. The parish hopes to work for a change to the route.

Recently a sign went up on the building, with these words: "St. Mary & St. Bartholomew Mission Centre — Reaching out with the love of Christ."

But what about all that land on the hillside behind the church — owned, sold, bought back, but for what? Seniors housing? Some other mission-minded project?

The parish awaits God's plan — and his timing.

Lenten reflections

Lent is a time of annual reflection and repentance. How many of us actually take that time to reflect on, and improve our relationship with God?



Mike Briggs

I was struggling with what to write this month. It was just a few days ago that we received our copy of the Anglican Journal and the NB Anglican. It was very interesting to read Bishop David's column as it seemed to me that he and I have shared some experiences, although from a much different time frame.

Reflecting on that gave me some of the inspiration and thoughts for this

column as I focus on the journey I have been on for 67 years with God.

He is just starting on his second marriage, while I am in the 36th year of my second marriage. I have to admit that when my first wife died in 1980, I was pretty annoyed with God for the loss and moved away from the church.

It is only in hindsight that I see that He had a plan for me and that He ended her suffering at that time so she could be at peace. Reflecting on this as we approach Lent gives me more strength in my faith.

It took me many years to come back to the church, and despite God prodding me through the years, it took an accident to my wife, Judy, to bring me back.

She broke her wrist at a nephew's wedding and I offered to help her in the choir as she could not hold her hymn book. Since then I have been involved

with St. Philip Moncton where we were married in 1984. Now I look back and reflect: what a journey it has been since then!

I have been singing in the choir since her accident, treasurer at St. Philip for over 10 years now, and stewardship officer for the Diocese since 2016.

My faith has grown in that time as I have been guided by different incumbents over the years and have also been inspired when I have met with clergy and parishes to talk to them on stewardship.

As I wrote last month, I am still learning. Just reading and rereading Archbishop Justin's book has been an Epiphany for me and sets my path forward for the next phase of our lives as we are both retired.

Faith is a journey for all of us. We should be spending Lent reflecting on just how good God has been to us and how we can use what God has given us to help to spread the Good News of His Kingdom to everyone and help others as we are able.

We are all disciples on a journey, and unless we go out into the world

and help others, we are denying Jesus' message.

As he said in Matthew 25: 40, 'And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."'

Sometimes it is the little things that count the most. Give what you can whenever you can and you will be rewarded.

In my own Parish we hold a service of Stations of the Cross every Friday evening during Lent when a layreader or cleric reflects on one of the Stations as we move from station to station.

As a layreader, the reflection I write makes me focus on God and my relationship with Him and adds to my Lenten journey.

I wish you all a contemplative Lent to renew and add to your relationship with God and to be a good steward of all the gifts he has given you.

Michael Briggs is the diocesan stewardship officer. He lives in Moncton.

God guides Companion Diocese team in Ho, Ghana

On Jan. 12, Cheryl Jacobs, Lilian Ketch and Robert Griffin headed for Ho, Ghana, on a Companion Diocese trip, to determine the viability of a mobile clinic project in the Volta Region of Ghana.

Ghana is located on the southern coast of West Africa. It is about three times the size of New Brunswick but has a population of close to 30,000,000. The Diocese of Ho covers the south-east corner of Ghana, including the Volta and Oti Regions (like our provinces), and the neighbouring country of Togo.

The Ghana part is one of the poorest regions in the country and the diocese is primarily rural. The Volta Region and the south of Togo are generally populated with the same people group and use the same native language (Ewe).

The city of Ho, where the Cathedral is located, has a population of about 120,000 and is the capital of the Volta Region. Lake Volta, which forms the western border of the diocese and was created as a result of a hydro-electric dam, is the largest man-made lake in the world by surface area.

When Robert visited the diocese in May 2019, Bishop Matthias identified the desperate need for medical care in the rural parts of his diocese. He proposed a mobile clinic could be a start in providing some care for the rural areas.

Robert, a Rotarian of the Rotary Club of Grand Manan, felt this project could qualify for a Rotary Global Grant in order to help pay for it. Our Companion Diocese Committee decided to explore the possibility of providing a mobile clinic for the Volta Region, hopefully in partnership with Rotary, so a second visit was planned.

ROBERT’S REFLECTIONS

My primary goal was to begin to gather the documentation regarding needs analysis and project sustainability required for an application for a Rotary Global Grant.

As District 7810 Rotary Foundation chair, I have recently been trained in the operations of the Rotary Foundation. Funds raised locally can be matched several times by Rotary divisions, to multiply funds raised.

We went with a number of concerns and questions concerning the mobile clinic. This list of questions grew as the visit began.

After a delayed start hampered by weather, the group arrived in Accra, the capital city of Ghana, on Jan. 13. Following a claim for misplaced luggage, the group endured a three and one-half hour trip to Ho, over what Bishop Mat-



MISSION IN MOTION: international

thias best described as “holey roads.”

On the second day of the visit, we attended the regular meeting of the Rotary Club of Ho. I had visited the club in May and introduced the project then. Grand Manan could be the sponsor club and Ho would be the host club.

This time, I further explained the project and asked for a commitment from the Rotary Club of Ho to participate in the Global Grant.

A meeting was called for us to meet with the executive immediately following the regular meeting. One of the Ho Rotary Club members, Kwesi Dzramedo, is part of the staff of the Ho Teaching Hospital that trains medical staff for the region.

He suggested a partnership among the Diocese of Ho, the Rotary Club of Ho, and the Teaching Hospital of Ho would be a good fit to see this project to reality.

The results of the discussion of the meeting were then taken back to Bishop Matthias, who expressed concerns with the partnership.

He had been involved in another project for an eye clinic for the northern portion of his diocese that had gone

awry, as the Ministry of Health had used the funds raised for the eye clinic for other purposes.

Unless certain conditions could be met, he saw this partnership as a “non-starter.”

The group then met with Dr. Nee Ayhre, family physician from Accra and a long-time medical missionary affiliated with the Christian Health Association of Ghana, whose vision statement is “A Healthy Nation; Christ’s Ministry Fulfilled.”

Dr. Ayhre has also worked with Community Health Program Services (CHPS), so he is well informed with providing medical services in underserved regions of Ghana.

He strongly advised that we work with the Ho Teaching Hospital for a number of reasons.

First and foremost, they are already a licensed hospital, under the authority of the Ministry of Health in Ghana.

Meeting the government’s criteria to obtain a license to operate a mobile hospital would be onerous at best.

The teaching hospital already has medical personnel and students that could staff the mobile clinic.

They have the supplies that would be needed for the sustainability of the clinic, and a secure compound to protect the vehicle when in Ho.

The group and Bishop Matthias met once again with the Rotary Club of Ho. The club members reiterated many of the positives that Dr. Ayhre had expressed.

As a result, a meeting was set on Monday, Jan. 20, with Bishop Matthias, the Fredericton group, the Rotary Club of Ho, and the administration of the Ho Teaching Hospital.

Administration and head doctors from every department in the hospital, along with several Rotarians, and our group were in attendance for the meeting — 22 people in all.

An excellent proposal was given by the teaching hospital, explaining their vision statement and goals set for rural medical services in the Volta Region.

They expressed the requirements for the mobile clinic, how it would operate, and how the project would be sustainable.

Bishop Matthias expressed his concerns with the partnership, and the Rotarians and Robert explained what was needed for the global grant application.

The meeting ended with a positive appreciation for everyone’s position, and a meeting was set for the following week to begin

negotiations toward a partnership for the mobile clinic, and the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding.

While the Fredericton Diocesan Committee had reservations how this project could ever come together — we did not see how we could do it successfully — God intervened and put all the pieces together.

We could not manage all the pieces of this project, but He certainly could. The partnership among the Diocese of Ho for conception of the project, the Diocese of Fredericton for fundraising, the co-operation of Rotary Clubs of Grand Manan and of Ho for applying for the Global Grant, and the Teaching Hospital of Ho for the actual operation of the clinic, all came together in a matter of one week — lightning speed, or God Speed, in the best of circumstances.

A company has been contacted for plans for the medical clinic to meet the conditions in Ghana. The Rotary Club of Ho and the Ho Teaching Hospital are forwarding information for Robert to begin the application for the Rotary Global Grant.

Now, the remaining piece of the puzzle is to raise the funds, here in the

Diocese of Fredericton, for the mobile clinic.

A budget is being prepared for the project, estimated at this time for just under \$200,000 USD. This would provide the vehicle, medical diagnostic equipment such as portable x-ray, ultrasound, diagnostic testing equipment, tents for examining rooms and procedures, a generator for the clinic, a pharmacy, and medical supplies.

The Diocese is looking at fundraising about \$30,000 USD, with various divisions of Rotary International funding the rest — if the project is accepted.

We leave this now in God’s hands. We pray He gives us the ability to bring this life-saving project to fruition, so that the mission of the Body of Christ will bring His Kingdom nearer, and for His will to be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

LILIAN’S REFLECTIONS

The 2020 theme for the world-wide Mothers’ Union is Building Hope and Confidence. It is important to recognize all that MU, through its members and supporters, does to care for families both locally and globally.

This theme was the focus on my decision, as a representative of MU in the Diocese of Fredericton, to be part of this team. The people I met and the experience during the two weeks allowed me to increase my vision globally.

Ghana is a very friendly country and the people are very helpful and welcoming; in fact, the main greeting is “You are welcome!”

Bishop Matthias and his family live in the heart of the city of Ho on a piece of property called the Anglican compound. His family includes his wife Lucy, their son, grandchildren (children of their daughters who live there to attend the school) and a nephew.

His chaplain also lives with them. His home is an open place of welcome and their hospitality is incomparable. When visiting you will also meet the pet goat, a cat and two dogs.

The local Anglican school buildings (grades K to 9) are in his front yard and the little Cathedral is at the front of his house. This school includes the only classes for special needs children in the city.

Ho continued on page 10



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

PHOTO CAPTIONS, FROM LEFT:

Cheryl Jacobs, Robert Griffin, Bishop Matthias and Lilian Ketch at the Sunday Holy Eucharist service at the Cathedral of Ho.

Lilian, Cheryl and Robert having fun with a statue outside their lodgings.

The streets of Ho, Ghana.

Robert, Bishop Matthias (in red), and some of the doctors from the Ho Teaching Hospital.

COMPANION DIOCESE OF HO

School visits, MU meeting among other highlights of trip to Ho

Ho continued from page 9

Bishop Matthias and Edward Matsi, director of Anglican schools for Ho, travelled with us around the Volta section of the diocese to visit schools as well as meet with teachers, local villagers, and parishioners.

On a visit to one school, 240 students provided us with a closing assembly in the school yard. They sang their school song and many of the children found it quite interesting to see three “white people” roaming amongst them.

The students were all very orderly and polite. They would want to shake our hand and know our name. It was noted that several schools need repair and/or completion of sections that had been started for additional classrooms but had been halted due to lack of funding.

In addition to working with Robbie and Cheryl on the mobile van project, I was very excited to be able to meet members of the MU in the Diocese.

The work of the Mothers' Union is very important to me and the fact that it is a global, women-led, volunteer movement allows members to be united in their diversity and to live out their faith by supporting families and individuals.

Representatives from six MU branches, dressed in traditional MU uniforms, travelled to the Cathedral. I asked each branch to share their activities with me and any barriers they encounter in their branch.

Most branches meet weekly for prayer and bible study, provide nursery and gifts to new babies, visit the sick and elderly, help with funeral costs and assist members of their parish as needed.

When asked about particular needs for their branch, one lady instantly spoke up and said “money,” to which all the others agreed.

Due to the vast geographical distances between parishes, transportation is expensive, so visiting members or getting together with other branches for a diocesan event is difficult. It was a hardship for some to come to the meeting.

At the end of our gathering I committed to the following:



- Share their concerns at the next Diocese of Fredericton Mothers' Union meeting.
- Establish a networking link between the two dioceses to offer support and prayer.
- Follow up with Mothers' Union Worldwide and investigate how MU might be able to assist in equipping and empowering members to reach their potential and transform their communities through grassroots projects.

During our stay, we also experienced the local cuisine. I would love to host an African night and try out some of the recipes: banku, a dough of cassava and corn which is steamed and used as the ‘bread’ with a meal; fufu, a mixture of plantain and cassava pounded in a large stone bowl with a long stick with a flat end, red-red, a dish composed of spicy beans; plantain — steamed, fried, and chips; green-green, a soup made from cocoyam leaves, smoked fish and spices served with banku; abolo, steamed bread made of corn flour, sugar and water; pino, powdered baked cassava (gari) in beef stew sauce without the beef.

All dishes were generally served with a hot sauce. Several of the dishes are eaten without utensils. Often at a restaurant you will be given a washing bowl (with dish soap) and a rinsing bowl.

Dessert was often fresh mango and pineapple. We also tried “Lucy’s drink” of home-

made sobolo, a drink made with bissap leaves, ginger, sugar and water.

In closing I am truly thankful to have been able to visit the Diocese of Ho and, particularly, meet the MU members.

The trip exceeded my expectations and helped me expand my understanding of members in other areas of the world.

MU offers a special kind of fellowship which is very nurturing and has been my strength for 34 years. I am looking forward to establishing a permanent link with some of the women I met, and I pray that God will fill us with his energy to carry out his will.

CHERYL'S REFLECTIONS

It was a true honour to be able to visit our Companion Diocese of Ho with the Diocese of Fredericton delegation.

I was keen, not only to visit a continent I had never been to, but to connect with the people and priests of Ho. We use our diocesan intercessions at staff prayers every morning and it was good to put faces and places to the names we pray for.

We visited the Ho market a couple of times. This runs every day while it is light out and I understand the market sellers come from all over the region and even Togo.

For me, the market epitomized many aspects of Ghanaian culture. The number of

MARKET DAY WAS A COLOURFUL display of goods available; A “spreadsheet” lesson in a school with no computers; Cheryl Jacobs practices her baby-carrying skills.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

booths and items for sale were amazing, and we were not even there on the big market days.

For the end of the dry season, the produce available all looked great: fresh leafy greens, tomatoes, onions, plantain, cassava, yams and sweet potatoes, peppers galore; then mangoes, papayas, coconuts, bananas, limes, oranges and even apples.

There were loaves of bread like we would have here, as well as traditional doughy items like banku, made from corn and cassava; eggs, dried beans, spices, and a very great number of smoked whole fish (think very dry) of varying sizes.

I was particularly struck by the number and variety of Ghanaian-made wax-print patterned fabrics, which provide so much colour to Ghana as many people wear clothing made from these.

Of course, there were also many sellers of “western” clothing and accessories.

We also visited a number of schools. There appears to be a good education system in Ghana, with teachers resourced by the government, even in church-run schools, and most elementary and middle level children attending school.

There is a need for more high schools and that is something Bishop Matthias wishes to build; they already have a piece of property for it outside the city.

As a former computer instructor, however, I think I was most taken aback by seeing a full lesson on (Excel) spreadsheets written across a wall of boards and then learning that the school, a very rural one, did not have any computers for the students to actually use a spreadsheet application.

Other than helping to work towards the mobile clinic project, I had two particular things I wanted to accomplish.

The first was to update our Diocese of Ho list included in our diocesan intercessions. Please watch for the changes in the next quarterly edition.

Secondly, I was pleased to be able to tell a Godly Play story and introduce that program to the meeting of Mothers' Union parish representatives.

Bishop Matthias translated for those whose English was not good. Ghana is a new country in the Godly Play international association, though this diocese was not yet aware of it. They appreciated the story and way of presenting.

I will likely never forget the condition of the roads into the city of Ho - like pavement half torn up and then left to erode for a few years, partially the result of a change in government and the Ho Region not voting in the winning party.

Some things are the same everywhere! But I will not complain about New Brunswick roads for some time. It was also nice to enjoy the thick tropical heat for a few days in January!

Robert Griffin is chair of the diocesan Companion Diocese Committee; Lilian Ketch is on the Diocesan Mothers' Union executive; Cheryl Jacobs is secretary to Bishop David Edwards and chair of the diocesan Spiritual Development Team.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

How to listen

Three women in the diocese take training on sexual assault crisis intervention

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

By their accounts, five days of training in sexual assault crisis intervention training was heavy and difficult, but absolutely necessary for their roles in their diocese and in their communities.

Erin Rideout, Diane McKay and the Rev. Jasmine Chandra took the intervention training in January, facilitated by Sexual Violence New Brunswick, the newer name for the Fredericton Sexual Assault Crisis Centre. This now-provincial non-profit began as a crisis line in 1976 and has expanded its mandate over the years.

It was Jasmine who brought the training to Saint John, held at Villa Madonna.

"In the spring of 2019, I was talking to a couple of frontline workers about the lack of training in the area, especially with the number of disclosures we have here," said Jasmine. "None of the organizations had dedicated training."

So she began a conversation with SVNB, which led to the January training course in Saint John for 30 frontline workers from six organizations.

"We got funding from SVNB and the Diocese of Fredericton to offer training free for nine [of the 30] frontline workers," she said. "So the diocese really invested in the community with this. It's made a big difference. It's enabled a lot of people to take the training."

The course is described as "training on sexual assault, its causes, impacts and tools to respond effectively – includes the legal and medical aspects of sexual assault, as well as childhood sexual abuse and adult survivors," according to SVNB's website.

"The main thing was disclosure — how to listen, and how to do that well," said Erin. "It's not if that happens, but when."

BETTER EQUIPPED FOR THE JOB

As the director of the Inner City Youth Ministry, under Threshold Ministry, Erin considers such training vital for her work.

"It's something I see a lot of in the community," she said. "It's so pervasive. But this is about being prepared for helping somebody in crisis. It's another tool in the tool kit."

Diane runs a suicide survivors support group in Sussex and is a postulant in the diocese. She also sits on the board of Domestic Violence Outreach Services, Sussex Committee for the Prevention of Family Violence.

She came to the training after taking a course at Threshold Ministry with Jasmine and her husband, the Rev. Terence Chandra.

For Jasmine, the course was a rare



MCKNIGHT PHOTO

THE REV. JASMINE CHANDRA, ERIN RIDEOUT and Diane McKay (sitting) accessed training on sexual assault crisis intervention, a tool that will help all three in their roles.



look inside the processes that take place after a report of sexual assault.

"It helped me understand how the system works," she said, adding their guest presenters included a Crown prosecutor, a sexual assault nurse examiner, a police officer and an investigator from the Department of Social Development.

"Hearing from all those people helped me understand what happens from the time you call," she said.

For Erin, while she learned about the medical and legal systems in place, she also saw the deficiencies.

"We have a long way to go — for survivors, resources," she said. "So few people report. The system sucks. What we have is really good people in a broken system."

"I agree with Erin on the whole judicial system," said Diane. "One question I went in with was why survivors aren't reporting, but so many out there have a fear of not being believed. It gave me more of an understanding."

"Something more needs to be done," she said. "I don't know how that will

look, but I'm not content just to sit. It's been on my mind. Our province is behind the times."

WORK TO BE DONE

All three say the training will better equip them in their various roles.

"When I hear a disclosure, now I know how to respond. And it's helped me process disclosures I heard in the past and why they didn't go forward," said Jasmine.

For Erin, working with middle school-aged girls, "we talk about healthy relationships, consent, worth and prevention, too. I'll be passing this information along."

"The hopeful part is people are working with a passion to change things," said Erin. "We have the power to make a difference by preventing secondary trauma."

One of the first things Diane wants to do is to share and use the information she's gained with her suicide and domestic violence groups and with the community, including local pastors, since they sometimes hear disclosures

STATISTICS

Jasmine, Erin and Diane shared some statistics they learned in their training:

- Only seven per cent of victims have physical injuries.
- 78 per cent of sexual assault victims know the perpetrator.
- Among adult Canadians, 53 per cent of women and 31 per cent of men were sexually abused as children.
- Girls with disabilities are four times more likely than the national average to be sexually abused.
- If you are aboriginal, your risk of being a victim of sexual assault is three times higher than among non-aboriginals.

More statistics on sexual assault from Statistics Canada:

- Percentage of sexual assault victims who are women or girls – 82 per cent (1999)
- Percentage of offenders who are men – 98 per cent (1999)
- Percentage of assaults that occurred in the home – 67 per cent (1999)
- Percentage of sexual assaults reported to police – Less than 1 in 10 (2009)

from parishioners.

For Jasmine, working with the poor and needy in uptown Saint John, she's never been so aware of the connection between various traumas people endure.

"I think about why we have poverty and mental health issues. We don't link them, but [sexual violence] is contributing to the bigger societal challenges we have," she said.

Erin believes the training will further equip her for trauma-informed ministry.

"It's another link to 'what does trauma look like?'" she said. "It's a conversation about our entire organization being informed and supportive. We learned about 'compassion grief' — it enters into us, which is perfectly reflected in Christ. You take it on."

One of the most disturbing facts the women learned was the high risk people of both sexes face if they have intellectual disabilities.

"All this is about power," said Erin. "The most vulnerable are at the greatest risk."

MISSION

That's a lot of goats!

MISSION IN MOTION: international

BY CHRIS HAYES

The Parish of Salisbury & Havelock seem to love goats. I mean, really love goats!

For the past three years now, their Advent and Christmas “beyond the parish” ministry effort has been to raise funds for the purchase of goats through PWRDF’s World of Gifts program.

This year, they raised the highest number to date — 59 goats. Their three-year total came out to a whopping 149 goats for people that need some help!

Why goats? Why not medical supplies, or malaria nets, or school backpacks? All are good things. The people of the parish were attracted to the long-term sustainability of goats, as well as the federal government’s six-time multiplier of funds for the program.

Every \$30 given is multiplied by our federal government, to the tune of \$180, bringing a total of \$210, or one goat!

Looking long-term, goats can be bred, provide milk, help

with some small chores, and also provide fertilizer for gardens. At the end of their life, they can become a food source.

People of the parish saw this as a great financial investment that will bring even greater return for the people who “get the goat” (bad pun, I know).

The people of Salisbury & Havelock are thrilled to be able to do this, and seem to be inspired to dream beyond just the money given, or what the money provides initially.

Perhaps other parishes in our Diocese might be interested in taking on a similar item from the catalogue. Maybe a friendly challenge might be in the works next Advent?

Thank You, Heavenly Father, for the desire to help others we likely will never meet, and for the joy it brings us to know that we have helped in some small way.

Chris Hayes is rector of the Parish of Salisbury & Havelock.

• • •

Valerie Stewart, from the

Parish of Derby & Blackville, reported similar success from their Sunday School project during Advent:

We were very pleased to be able to raise enough funds to purchase four farms this year. We raised \$1,800. A farm, at \$450, includes one cow, one goat, two piglets, 20 kg bag of seeds, organic farm supplies and farm tools.

On Sept. 18, I spoke to the ACW Deanery meeting in Miramichi about our project in 2018 when we raised enough money for two farms. They gave me the goodwill offering for lunch which was \$250.

That gave us a start for 2019. Then we had a bake sale which raised \$573. Our ACW gave \$100.

The remaining funds came from generous donations throughout the parish. One individual gave us \$450 — enough for one farm.

My daughter, Hollie Sturgeon, and I were amazed because we have only six children in our Sunday School this year.



CHRIS HAYES PHOTO

AFTER ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS, parishioners were invited during Sunday worship services to tack pictures of goats to wooden crosses to show that donating money for goats is a way of serving Jesus. As noted in Michael Frost’s book, *Surprise the World*, it is a form of blessing people, even if we never lay eyes on them!

BMC library construction finished ahead of schedule

Editor’s note: Bishop McAllister College in Uganda, under the direction of Canon Paul Jeffries, is the grateful recipient of generous donations from many many groups and people in the Diocese of Fredericton. The library project was kicked off using \$7,500 raised at the first annual diocesan bowling tournament held in 2017.

BY PAUL JEFFRIES

There was much excitement amongst the students as we prepared to close for the end of our school year last November. Library construction was completed far sooner than we had anticipated (by four or five

years).

As parents were arriving to pick their children for holidays, many were snapping photos with their phones, quite impressed by our newest structure, which is our biggest project ever.

And we are so grateful to all those who have been supporting the project, locally and in Canada and the U.S.

We have embarked on furnishing the library, starting first with the upper floor, which is a large reading hall furnished with tables and chairs.

If all goes well, this part will be completed when students arrive in late January. We have



SUBMITTED PHOTO

STUDENTS LINE THE UPPER BALCONY AND LOWER DECK of the new library at Bishop McAllister College in Uganda. The campus has never had a library and hopes this addition will help encourage reading, not only for school subjects, but for pleasure as well. Fundraising of \$7,500 from the first annual bowling tournament in the diocese in 2017 helped to kick off construction.

engaged a local carpenter who has been working away for a while now here at the school.

Then we will quickly get started on the lower floor, the main library. We are planning for a special section just for the primary students to encourage

them in their reading. They have well established reading groups now which were started by Mari Robertson of Sackville.

Project boys were still digging at the site this holiday, but they will soon finish this

enormous task and we will begin landscaping.

Thank you so much to everyone for your continued support, and for making this ministry a success.

“SHARING HOPE & HELP”

COMMENTARY

Reflections on reading the Anglican Journal

COMMENTARY BY
CHERYL JACOBS

I will admit that I often just skim through the *Anglican Journal* when it arrives — reading the article titles and picture captions, and perhaps the letters to the editor to get a sense of the national temperature.

It is also often the case, that as a member of the bishop's staff, that I have read through a number of articles for the NB Anglican prior to them going to print — so I perhaps look at the paper as old news.

But, having some downtime while on my trip to the Diocese of Ho, I read through my copy of the *Journal* which I had brought with me.

The theme for the January edition of the *Anglican Journal* was around the challenge — the “wake-up call” — presented by the recent statistics report highlighting the declining numbers in the Anglican Church.

Despite this bad news that one could focus on, I found many a good word to our church at this time.

My eye was first caught by the letter from the Bishop of the Episcopal Church of Cuba to Canadian Anglicans with lessons from the change in the Cuban church — a church that could have been wiped out by the change to Communism in that country.

Bishop Maria noted the two-dimensional nature of the church, in Cuba and Canada, both an “institution that signaled guidelines and norms, and, the missional, sacramental and living church.”

She warns of this shadow of secularisms that exists in both countries which can distance us from a lively, passionate faith; but because Canadians are also loving and accepting of differences, we have “great possibilities of deepening faith in the lives of many.”

In his Editorial Letter, Matthew Townsend cautions on how we speak about the state of decline in attendance in Anglican (and other) churches. One way we do so is to lament the loss of Christendom; and here, I must agree with the editor that this is really a good thing for the spiritual health of the church.

Certainly, one can question how much long-term disciplining was going on when Christianity was part of the culture. The other is speaking of decline as if it is still a future thing and we just need to come up with a solution, not taking God's will into account.

Matthew's article ends well: “Every time two or three are gathered in the name of Jesus Christ, the true King, the church lives. Everything else is just statistics.”

Our new Primate, in her column, continues on this



MCKNIGHT PHOTO

THE JANUARY EDITION of the *Anglican Journal*.

theme, further encouraging us to keep our eyes on Jesus:

“Like the Israelites in the Exodus, we are being sent out not knowing our destination. We are being sent out of the comfort and plenty we once knew into discovering a new resiliency.”

Archbishop Mark MacDonald's column also helps us to accurately identify our challenge: “Survival, as a goal, tends to generate a morality and procedure ensuring death. The task is presented as the management of decline. The

real talk is the rediscovery of hope.”

He identifies the challenge in terms of four crises: of identity, of commitment, of people, and of resources which, to my thinking, he correctly rewords to a crisis of imagination and faith.

Though longer and perhaps more of a disjointed read, the interview with awarded philosopher Charles Taylor is worth the effort as he discusses the spiritual restlessness of our time and what we have to offer. And one should not miss

the articles in the 20-40 section, including an insightful one by our own Rev. Dr. Cole Hartin.

He also supposes that God's will is involved here and that we must realize we are in exile, grieve and then pray.

So let us not look back to Egypt. Let us set out on this new exodus, praising a God who is always faithful and grace-giving, who has entered our reality through the person of Jesus Christ to show us how to live, but who is God yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Let us look for the pillar of fire and the pillar of cloud, and go where the Holy Spirit leads, knowing God's people are destined for the Promised Land and we want to share that with all God's creation.

Borrowing from Archbishop Mark's letter, it will be as we turn to Jesus, rediscover discipleship and reach out to the other, that we will “imagine a form of Eucharistic community that is replicable, sustainable and transformational.”

One final note: Please do not miss the Green Shoots section on thriving congregations where two New Brunswick parishes are highlighted.

Psalms 126

5 Those who sow with tears will reap with songs of joy.
6 Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them.

Cheryl Jacobs is the bishop's secretary, chair of the diocesan spiritual development team and a member of Christ Church Cathedral.

CAMP MEDLEY - SUMMER 2020

Choose your favourite camps

<p>Family Camp - June 26-28</p> <p>Welcome to Camp (7-9) - June 28-July 1</p> <p>Boys & Girls Camp I (8-11) - June 28-July 3</p> <p>Jr Teen Camp I (12-14) - July 5-10</p> <p>Boys Adventure camp I (12-15) - July 5-10</p> <p>Boys & Girls Camp II (8-11) - July 12-17</p> <p>Girls Camp (8-11) - July 19-24</p>	<p>Girls Adventure I (12-15) - July 19-24</p> <p>Welcome to Camp II (7-9) - July 26-29</p> <p>Boys & Girls Camp III (8-11) - July 26-31</p> <p>Girls Adventure II / Boys Adventure II Camps - Aug. 2-7</p> <p>Medley Makers (13-15) - Aug. 2-7</p> <p>Jr. Teen II (12-14) - Aug. 9-14</p> <p>Sr. Teen (15-17) - Aug. 16-21</p>
---	--

Registration is now open | Visit campmedley.ca to register

Diocesan ACW Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 5th & Wednesday, May 6th

“Let Your Light Shine”

St. James the Less Anglican Church, 1760 Rothesay Avenue, Rothesay N.B.

Tuesday Registration:
9:30 a.m.
Service:
10:30 a.m.

St. James the Less has a large flat parking lot with enough space for everyone to park.

ROOMS:
20 non-smoking rooms being held at Quality Inn & Suites Amsterdam, 114 Millenium Drive, Quispamsis N.B. 506-849-8050

All rooms have 2 queen beds. Single rooms \$106, double \$116; Hot breakfast included. Room rates expire March 30.

BANQUET:
St. Luke's Anglican Church, Parish of Gondola Point, 12 Quispamsis Road, Quispamsis

REGISTER:
PAULA ADAMS, 16 KENSINGTON AVE. QUISPAMIS, N.B. E2E 2T9

DIOCESAN HISTORY

Clergy mysteries
We need your help!

For his continuing book on clergy in the diocese, Frank Morehouse, with assistance from Siobhan Laskey and the Rev. Canon David Barrett, is looking for any information and, if possible, photos, of clergy who have served in the Anglican Diocese of Fredericton.

Below is a list of clergy names that lack information and details. Please contact Siobhan (hal9000@nb.sympatico.ca), David (barrettdavid@rogers.com) or Frank (frankm@nbnet.nb.ca) with your information. All contributions are greatly appreciated.

NOTE: Because the list is long, it will appear in sections in several upcoming editions of the New Brunswick Anglican.

Greer	William	1854		1879-1886, Burton; 1886-1890, Westfield
Griffin	Cornelius	1792	1867	1823-1824, Grand Manan
Groton	William Mansfield	1850	`	1878-1881, Trinity Church, St. Stephen
Gwilym	David Vaughan	1852	1911	1886, Campobello; 1887-1889, Richibucto
Haig	William Thomas	1886	1924	1913-1914, Curate, Christ Church Cathedral; 1914-1915, Richmond
Hall	Francis George	c. 1897		1924-1926, Grand Falls
Hancock	Walter	c 1859		1882-1890, St. Paul's, Rothesay
Hanford	Simeon James	c 1821	1898	1846-1848, curate, Woodstock, NB; 1849-1850, Tobique; 1851-1859, Missionary, Andover, NB; 1860-1896, Upham
Hanna	S. J.			
Hayden	Henry	1784	1862	1820-1821, missionary, Grand Lake
Heaton	Henry	c. 1849		1882, Cambridge and Waterborough
Hickman	Reginald George	c1905		1931-1932, Grand Falls ; 1932-1934, Prince William & Queensbury; 1934-1936, St. Martins
Higgins	C. F.			1881, Sackville
Hiscock	Edward Percy	1896	1983	1942-1943, Assistant, Christ Church (Parish Church), Fredericton
Hoadley	Arthur	1853	1891	1880-1883, curate, Hampton
Hobbins	John Vivian	1882	1966	1914-1915, Petersville
Holloway	Henry	1842		1884-1887, Weldford
Holmes	Arthur Hedley	1918	1998	1944-1948, Aberdeen & Brighton
Hooper	John Hugh	1872	1951	1898-1900, Ludlow & Blissfield; 1900-1902, Prince William & Dumfries; 1902-1907, Bathurst
Howell	Frederic Hyde	1870	1918	1913-1918, Drummond
Howes	Kenneth Bruce Randolph	1916		1959-1962, Westmorland; 1962-1963, curate, St. George's, Moncton
Hoyt	Leopold Augustus (Leo Alfred)	1840	1919	1869-1870, curate, Douglas & Bright; 1870-1893, Andover; 1893 - 1912, Rector, Simonds

MUSIC & MORE

We Are the City defies musical tropes

NOTE: The lyrical content of some of the songs on this album is not appropriate for young listeners. There are no "swear words," though the subjects in a few cases may not be ideal.



There are two things I've been looking for in popular Christian music for many years.

One of them is a group that is the musical equivalent of the great band Genesis, and that would also make it the second thing — something really, and truly, different from mainstream, radio-friendly pop rock.

Well, I have found a group that fulfills the second thing. Behold, the band We Are the City!

We Are the City (from Matthew 5:14) is a band known for never doing the same recording project twice. *RIP* is actually their fourth album to date, along with an EP.

They have done everything from experimental prog-rock to unabashed pop records, to soundtracks for Norwegian films.

This new album seems to combine elements of all of these, as well as beat poetry, ethereal sound effects and more.

The production is top-notch, the quality of sounds and attention given mixing tracks and layering instruments is excellent, and the thinking behind ordering of tracks is all greatly appreciated by this particular reviewer.

What I really see in this album is that even though every song is not about Jesus, or God, or faith, or the Church,

there is an overall message being conveyed.

It might be this (if I may be so bold as to try and summarize the message of someone else's music): the world is a tough, strange, hard place in some ways, and everyone has to really think about their lives and how they live them.

The band does not preach at the listener, but asks us to think deeply about what we believe, and what we do or don't do.

For example, the lyric in the song "God&Man" asks the questions, "If Jesus was really God and man/But never

sinned/Was He ever really man?"

They are not questioning church doctrine (heaven forbid!), but are asking us to ponder that topic.

As noted above, there are some challenging topics on this album. Pornography and losing one's virginity come up on the album, though not in any way that glorifies or condones such things.

As I said, this album will challenge a lot of people's thinking, and the music reflects that.

Sometimes the lyrics are spoken, almost beat poet style; other times, songs change rhythm abruptly, or the song ends and then next begins without warning.

Sometimes lead singer Cayne MacKenzie's soaring vocals over a beautiful melody in one song are lost in the whispered, wandering, spoken text of the next song. Some may find it annoying, though it certainly keeps you tuned in to the music at the moment.

And just to throw everyone off, there is an addictive pop-style song called, aptly enough, "Song In My Head."

It is not there just to get a potential hit single off the album, but perhaps to be offset against the rest of the album, to remind us that music comes in many forms, and just because some forms and habits of music making are more entrenched, doesn't mean that others cannot exist.

I doubt We Are the City will get a great deal of airplay from songs on this record (save for a couple, maybe), but that's not the point.

Listening to this album can make you think a lot about life, God, and music — and I think that's the intent. Well played, We Are the City, well played.

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

TWO MINUTE INTERVIEW



Thomas Gonder, director of music at Christ Church Cathedral

Favourite book of the Bible - Obadiah. Just because.

Birthplace - Cayuga, Ont.

What you love most about God - His infinite grace and mercy. And the gift of Carol Burnett.

Favourite place on Earth - The surface

Farthest you've been from home - I'm always home...

Favourite meal or dessert - Butter chicken and bacon-wrapped scallops

Biggest fear - Hearing loss or debilitating arthritis

Hidden talent - Stand-up comedy and singing

Favourite movie or book - Tie between *Amadeus*, *The Empire Strikes Back*, *A Fish Called Wanda*; and *Jude the Obscure* by Thomas Hardy, *The Pillars of the Earth* by Ken Follett

Your hobby - Hiking, birdwatching, studying history

Three things always in your fridge - Pâté, hummus, yogurt

Favourite sports team - Torvill and Dean

THE MABEL C. DEAN MEMORIAL BURSARY

- For post-secondary education of clergy children

- \$1,000 annual bursary in support of children of diocesan clergy at university, college, or other post-secondary institution.

- Based on financial need and academic standing.

- Preference to applicants graduating from high school.

- May be awarded to the same applicant in two or more years provided satisfactory academic standing is maintained.

- Mabel C. Dean Special Bursaries may be made to qualified students in a financial emergency, provided funds are available.

- Deadline: March 31. Apply online: <https://nb.anglican.ca/resources/financial-assistance>

NOTE: There are several other scholarships and bursaries available at the above web address. Have a look to see if you qualify!



AROUND THE DIOCESE



Christmas comes early to the Anglican Parish of Gagetown

For the last 10 years, volunteers at St. John's, Village of Gagetown have set up "Come to the Manger" nativity sets for display during the "Christmas in the Village" festival.

Over 80 sets from all over the world enthralled visitors this year. Families were given a children's Christmas book provided by Treasures, the Anglican-run charity shop.

As part of the same event, donuts, coffee and hot chocolate were available in the church hall where baked beans were for sale and a gift table offered many treats.

Donations collected during this event and loose change during coffee hour added up to enough to purchase from the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund an entire farm with farm tools to help people grow enough food to feed their family and sell to others.

The Saturday before Christmas, a special service, "Early Christmas," provided nine individuals who would normally not be able to get out for Christmas services the blessing of a Christmas Eucharist. Twelve parishioners were in attendance to help out and spread good cheer.

Still photography simply cannot catch the joy on the faces of the participants. As soon as they entered the hall, many in wheelchairs, they were singing carols along with the parishioners.

The day was bright and sunny, adding to our light and joyous event. The Rev. Andrew Horne explained to us how the word "condescension" was indeed a positive term relating how God's love is brought to us.

To illustrate the concept, he got down on the floor to show how his parents would lovingly "condescend" to join his brothers and sister to explore the "castle" that they had built on their living room floor.

A traditional Christmas Eve Service at St. Stephen's Anglican Church in Queenstown, and a combined service with Grace United Church in the Village of Gagetown, rounded out the Christmas season.

Below, the Early Christmas service on Dec. 21 is pictured. At left are nativity sets featured during "Come to the Manger" as part of Christmas in the Village celebrations.



MARIAN LANGHUS PHOTOS



MISSION IN MOTION: community



SUBMITTED PHOTO

MU cookie outreach to university students

The Christ Church Cathedral Mothers' Union (MU) was at it again in December taking goodie bags to university students at the UNB campus just prior to the start of exams.

MU members asked the Cathedral congregation for donations of homemade cookies, drinking boxes, hot chocolate, granola bars and small chocolate bars to hand out to students just prior to exams. An encouraging handwritten note was placed in each of the bags as well.

The Cathedral congregation responded in no time and about 400 bags of cookies were distributed in less than 15 minutes to students at Head Hall and Tilley Hall on the Fredericton campus.

The students were thrilled to receive the bags and responded: You are so kind. Thank you so much. You made my day! It's my third time receiving these cookies. I look forward to this!

It is such a thrill to be able to give the students something to assist with the stressful time of studying for exams. Diane Radford, Susan Watson, Susan Colpitts-Judd and Kathleen Snow distributed the 400 bags of cookies. Susan Watson stated, "the smiles that would light up their faces were amazing."

Here, Susan Colpitts-Judd is seen with a happy UNB student (UNB, even though his shirt says McGill).