

# I am enormously grateful to God

#### BY ARCHBISHOP COLIN JOHNSON

n Sept. 21, I informed the members of Diocesan Council that, after many months of prayerful discernment, I am asking diocesan Synod to concur with my request for the election of a coadjutor bishop for the diocese in the middle of next year. I will step down from my role as the Metropolitan of Ontario at the next Provincial Synod in October 2018 and concurrently as Bishop of Moosonee. More importantly for our diocese, I plan to retire as Bishop of Toronto at the end of December 2018. The Bishop of Ottawa, who is the next senior bishop of the province, is now in receipt of my letter of resignation. A coadjutor bishop is elected by Synod to assist the diocesan bishop prior to his retirement and to succeed the diocesan bishop immediately upon the diocesan's retirement.

I have now served the Diocese of Toronto for over 40 years of ordained ministry. It has been one of the greatest privileges of my life, and it has not been an easy or quick decision to bring it to a conclusion. By the time I retire, I will have passed my 66th birthday and have served as bishop for over 15 years, with an additional 12 years in the Bishop's Office as the executive assistant and archdeacon to my esteemed mentor and predecessor, Archbishop Terence Finlay. In each of the three parishes I served before that, I learned more and more from the



Archbishop Colin and Ellen Johnson at the opening of an exhibit of books and manuscripts from the Reformation on Oct. 4 at the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library at the University of Toronto. Archbishop Johnson will be retiring as Bishop of Toronto at the end of December 2018. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

people of God how to be a faithful pastor and priest. There is so much that I am thankful to God for in this great diocese: the tremendous richness of our diversity, the remarkably gifted clergy and strong faithfulness of our laity, the breadth of the resources we have been given, and the new opportunities we are afforded to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Over the past decade and a half, we have done some remarkable things: developed a growing team of high-capacity diocesan volunteers to work as coaches and facilitators with parishes; completed a very successful Our Faith-Our Hope: Re-imagine Church campaign to resource our ministry; intentionally focused on being missional as a diocese; increased our commitment to intercultural ministry; and renewed our witness to social justice both in our advocacy work and our direct compassionate service. There have been many challenges that we have faced together, including declining numbers and closing churches. But we have also named and faced our challenges squarely in the context of our Christian faith. We have a new strategic plan, aptly named Growing in Christ, to direct us in the next few years.

I am enormously grateful to God for the privilege of serving and leading this diocese, and especially for the opportunity to work and minister with such gifted and generous people as you. I am not retired yet! There is still much to do, and I look forward to continuing to work faithfully over the next year to reach our goals.

May I ask for your prayers for our diocese, and especially for Ellen and me, as we prepare for this transition. May God bless and keep you in his love.



# Cupboard connects church, homeless

#### **BY DIANA SWIFT**

**IN** a new twist on a neighbourhood service that usually provides food for the mind, an updated version is providing food for the body.

the Credit River, set up an outdoor pantry stocked with non-perishable food and beverage items. "Take what you need. Give what you can"

#### **NEW ADVENTURE**

Othman and Khadija Barghoud and their children, a Syrian refugee family who came to Canada with the help of St. John, Bowmanville, ride the bus to a pow wow at Curve Lake First Nation near Peterborough. The trip was organized by St. Saviour, Orono as part of its reconciliation efforts with Indigenous peoples. For story, see Page 9. PHOTO BY THE REV. AUGUSTO NUNEZ

The Little Deacon's Cupboard at St. Peter, Erindale has repurposed the free book exchange depot to get much-needed food into the hands of people in need – in a discreet and confidential way. It has also become a joint communication project between the middle-class parish and homeless people living in a nearby park.

This past June, parishioners of St. Peter's, located in an idyllic Mississauga neighbourhood along urges the slogan on the cupboard's signboard.

The 24/7 al fresco foodbank is the brainchild of the church's incumbent, the Rev. Canon Jennifer Reid, who modelled it on similar initiatives at churches in the southern United States. "People in the neighbourhood can take food as they need it without coming in to our regular Wednesday morning food bank, the Deacon's Cupboard," she explains. "It preserves their

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#### GOING ON A DIG - SEE PAGE 12

### NEWS

### Anonymous author pens note of gratitude

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privacy and anonymity. I've never seen anyone taking food, but I sometimes see people putting food in."

The cupboard was built at the bottom of the church's hill by the St. Peter's Phantoms, a group of handy volunteers who quietly repair things written on a fix-it list, explains parishioner John Bros. The cupboard's design and building was coordinated by Doug Duncan, a retired banker with a gift for carpentry, and its sign was painted by Peter Pook, a parishioner and local artist.

The cupboard soon morphed beyond its practical purpose into a dialogue between St. Peter's and homeless people living in wooded enclaves of nearby Erindale Park and Sawmill Valley Trail. This exchange was sparked by a handwritten note of gratitude penned by a mysterious cupboard user known only as "J."

J, who always ends his notes with "and I pray for this help to be there for all of us brothers and sisters always," started a process of communication through parishioner



St. Peter's outdoor cupboard has led to communications between the church and people living in nearby parks. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

and former churchwarden Allison Gray, who left a small notebook for listing needed items. "Later another spokesperson named Diana joined the conversation, reminding us that there are also homeless women living in the parks," says Ms. Gray.

Thanks to J's and Diana's notes left in the cupboard, the parish has expanded provisions to include fresh water, toiletries, socks, underwear for both genders, cutlery, and can openers. "And we've just added a few hooks on the posts so people can hang blankets, hats, scarves, and mitts," says Mr. Bros.

Now enthusiasm is mushrooming beyond the cupboard itself, with parishioners discussing the possibility converting a janitor's closet into a shower room for their homeless neighbours and installing a washer and dryer for the homeless people. "We haven't broached



Saturday, Nov. 25th, 2017 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. St. Paul's on-the-Hill Anglican Church 882 Kingston Rd., Pickering (North side of Kingston Rd between Whites and Liverpool) ALL ARE INVITED. these ideas with them yet because we don't want to scare them off," says Ms. Gray.

"There's just so much energy emerging around what we can do to help," says Canon Reid. "It's really snowballing – all starting with that first communication from J."

Although she has never seen any homeless people in the park, she's thinking of asking Parks and Recreation employees to take her to meet some of them. "I wonder if that might lead to a larger conversation about social justice and help me make the congregation understand why these people are having to live in the park."

At the least, Mr. Duncan hopes the cupboard's success will inspire other churches to follow suit, especially with winter on the way. "The project has given everyone so much joy," he says.

Diana Swift is a freelance writer.



## You're invited on a journey

**THIS** Lent, Archbishop Colin Johnson invites you to unite with him and your fellow Christians in a journey of prayer through the words of St. John the Evangelist. *Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John*, created by the Society of St. John the Evangelist (SSJE) and Virginia Theological Seminary, is a springboard and a framework to immerse yourself in scripture over six weeks.

In a short daily video, an SSJE Brother will comment on a verse from St. John, share facets of his own relationship with Jesus and suggest possibilities for further reflection. At the start of each week, participants are prompted to pray for a particular grace; at the end of each week, an inviting question helps them translate that grace into daily life.

Copies of the prayer journal will be available for \$2 each at the Resources Booth at the upcoming diocesan Synod, held on Nov. 24-25. In private devotions, study groups and online, participants can focus on the words of John, renew their acquaintance with the crucified and risen Messiah, and deepen their understanding of God's redeeming love for humanity.

Be part of something bigger this Lent: join Archbishop Johnson and the rest of the diocese in *Meeting Jesus in the Gospel of John.* For more information, visit www.meetingjesusinjohn.org.

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# Beekeeping good for her soul

## Hobby keeps priest connected, grounded

#### **BY MARTHA HOLMEN**

**IN** the village of Schomberg, an Anglican priest has found unusual common ground to help her connect with her neighbours: bees. The Rev. Sheilagh Ashworth, incumbent of Christ Church, Kettleby and St. Mary Magdalene, Schomberg, has been a beekeeper for about five years.

"I've always had a deep love for nature. I'd been in parish ministry for about 20 years at that point, and I realized I hadn't been doing much to take care of the earth," she says. She'd also heard about colony collapse disorder, in which worker bees disappear from a hive. "I'd always wanted to farm, and I thought, that's something I could learn and actually feel like I was doing something."

She says new conversations and relationships with her neighbours have been an unexpected benefit of her pastime. "When I tell people I'm a priest, they often don't know what to say, but everyone has something to say to a beekeeper. They're curious," she says. "It's a farming neighbourhood here, so it's a really good connection for people."

When people stop at her Happy Honey stand at the end of her driveway, conversations often turn to religion. "We joke that people come for honey and stay for Jesus," she says. "It's put me in touch with a lot more people than I ever would have met."

Ms. Ashworth has quickly become an enthusiastic advocate for bees and for humans' role in caring for them. "They tell us about the direction we've been driving the world in. I like that people take an interest in them, because it's showing us what we need to do to get back on track," she says. While no single cause has been identified, experts believe pesticides, climate change and loss of habitat all contribute to colony collapse.

She says beekeeping can be quite physically demanding. "In the springtime, you go in and you see how they overwintered, if they need to be split," she says. "When they procreate, they swarm. What we try to do as a beekeeper is prevent the swarming and give them enough space so they can pull in honey and get ready for the winter." In the summer, she also has



The Rev. Sheilagh Ashworth with her beehives near St. Mary Magdalene, Schomberg. At right, her Happy Honey stand. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

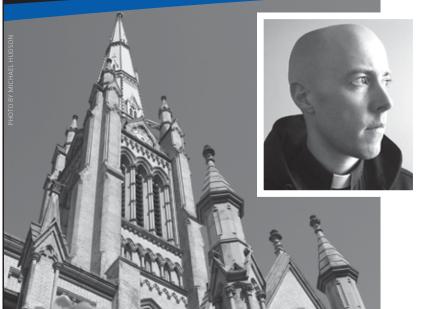
to protect the hives against bears, racoons and skunks, all of which like to eat bees.

But amidst the hard work of beekeeping, Ms. Ashworth says she's seen a benefit to her spiritual health. "Everything about bees

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**NOVEMBER** AT ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL



## NUCLEAR WEAPONS & CHRISTIAN WITNESS IN AN ANXIOUS AGE WITH THE REV'D TYLER WIGG STEVENSON

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8 6:00PM SERVICE (CATHEDRAL) 6:30PM LIGHT SUPPER (CATHEDRAL CENTRE)

7:00PM LECTURE (CATHEDRAL CENTRE)

What are we to think, feel, and do in our anxious age? This evening will supply a brief primer on the history and current state of nuclear weapons, deterrence, and disarmament. The Rev'd Tyler Wigg-Stevenson is the Assistant Pastor at Little Trinity Anglican Church and the author of several



books, including the multiple-award-winning The World Is Not Ours To Save.

#### "ON RECONCILIATION" with BISHOP MARK MACDONALD "Truth & Reconciliation" Lecture Series

#### **TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14**

Join the Cathedral this lecture with the National Indigenous Anglican Bishop beginning with a service in the Cathedral at 6:00pm, light supper in the Cathedral Centre at 6:30pm and lecture at 7:00pm.

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#### WHEN CHRISTMAS IS A DIFFICULT TIME A Service of Prayer & Reflection

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12 | 6:00PM

Christmas is a difficult time for many of us, especially those grieving the loss of a loved one. The Cathedral offers a service of prayer and reflection to help us prepare for the holiday in faith and hope, despite our losses.

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## **Pastoral Statement**



This is a pastoral statement on the commitment to diverse theological positions in the Diocese of Toronto, written by Archbishop Colin Johnson and endorsed by the bishops suffragan of Toronto: the Rt. Rev. Peter Fenty, the Rt. Rev.

Riscylla Shaw, the Rt. Rev. Kevin Robertson, and the Rt. Rev. Jenny Andison.

rom the earliest expressions of an Anglican way of living out the Christian faith, there has been diversity. That diversity has historically taken many forms, from tension, conflict and violence, to coexistence, indifference, and eventual synthesis. Whatever the witness of the past, however, the Diocese of Toronto is committed to reflecting our own diversity in a way that avoids the conflictual examples with which we are, alas, too familiar.

We believe that there have been positive forms of difference that have allowed the Church to flourish in many places and with many people, not only within Anglicanism, but elsewhere. It is this aspect of our heritage that we have valued in this diocese, and as bishops of this diocese, it is a value we wish to affirm strongly and preserve faithfully. Unlike in some periods and places of Anglicanism, here at least our unity does not imply uniformity in all things.

My pastoral decision as Archbishop to make provision to permit the marriage of same-sex couples in prescribed conditions is set within a broader process of discernment within the Anglican Communion and the whole Church. This is complex, multi-faceted and unsettling. All churches are dealing with these matters, some more publicly as we are, some internally, but it is a discussion that is global. The Roman Catholic Church and the Orthodox Churches, with whom we share the historic episcopate, although we are not in communion with each other, and most of the Provinces of the Anglican Communion, remain unchanged in their teaching of the historic Christian understanding of marriage as a sacramental covenant between one woman and one man. Some other churches, including Lutheran churches and Old Catholic churches with whom we share full communion and a number of Provinces of the Anglican Communion, have adopted changes to include couples of the same sex. There are also divergent views about how people and institutions can and should respond in a period of change when the parameters of those changes have not been fully agreed. The history of Anglicanism as well as of the wider Church has shown that matters of the faith,

#### **ARCHBISHOP'S DIARY**

#### BY ARCHBISHOP COLIN JOHNSON

including those governing sexual morals, are not straightforwardly, consistently or unanimously divided into important and not-so-important. It will undoubtedly take a very long time to come to consensus and may not do so.

In the Diocese of Toronto, we have formally and informally discussed issues of sexuality for nearly 50 years. When our General Synod in 2007 received the St. Michael Report, it adopted a resolution that same-sex commitments have significant doctrinal implications but not at the level of core doctrine, that is, something needing to be held by all as a matter of salvation. A second motion was passed affirming that this is not a communion-breaking issue. Obviously, this last motion expresses a hope, not a prescription, since matters of conscience cannot be legislated or coerced. I take the St. Michael Report to open the possibility of a newly expanded understanding of marriage but, as a corollary, I believe it implicitly affirms the continuing Christian authenticity and legitimacy of those who hold a traditional understanding of marriage and the faithfulness of the theology and practice that support it.

In fact, the norm for the Church continues to be the marriage of couples of opposite sex. The Anglican Church of Canada is currently in a discernment process to include the marriage of same-sex couples. Until that decision has been finalized, and as an interim pastoral response, as Bishop of Toronto with canonical authority and responsibility for the pastoral care and oversight of this diocese, I have permitted a small number of priests, licensed to the cure of souls in a community, to preside in their parish at the marriage of a same-sex couple in certain limited circumstances. Both priest and congregation must concur that this ministry will be offered. No one will be obligated to act against their conscience. Neither parishes nor individual clergy will be required to celebrate marriages contrary to their convictions.

Not all welcome this new development: some because it goes too far, some because it is not enough.

We recognize there are theological and cultural differences across our diocese and within parishes that are strained by both the limits and permission represented in blessing same-sex relationships and more specifically marriage.

I wish to reiterate – and this is unanimously affirmed by the area bishops – that there is and will be a continued and honoured place in all aspects of diocesan life for those who do not agree to the provisional arrangements for same-sex marriages. Theirs is an authentic, sustainable conviction that bears significant and historic weight. It remains a coherent theological and biblical position within our Anglican tradition.

As bishops we endorse unequivocally the principle that the Diocese of Toronto must honour and safeguard the diversity represented in its parishes and clergy, including those holding to an historic understanding of Christian marriage, so as to maintain the highest degree of communion possible, and together participate in the mission to make the crucified and risen Christ known in the world. We are personally committed to continuing the face-to-face conversations that will foster this. This diversity will continue to be reflected in the selection, ordination and appointment of clergy, and in the lay and clerical membership of committees and councils of the diocese. It will also include the honoring of clergy conscience in the celebration and blessing of marriage.

We have seen that there is diversity within parishes that are generally opposed to samesex commitments, just as there is in parishes that are generally in favour. There is a rich breadth of life in our parishes, with parishioners who are theologically astute, prayerful and deeply committed Christians legitimately holding differing convictions. We are in very different places and have been formed in very diverse contexts, theologically, spiritually, scripturally, experientially. The diversity of our diocesan community is a precious gift, challenging as it might be. It is vital to maintain this as it enriches, not diminishes, our common witness to the faith in a variety of ways. Though such witness is rooted in differing interpretations and understanding of Holy Scripture and the tradition, these are now within the contemporary spectrum of Anglicanism. They need to be engaged if we are to learn and grow together in fuller maturity in Christ.

All of us need to extend to each the most generous Christian charity that Jesus our Redeemer calls us to exercise as we, together, seek to discern and live out God's will. Unfortunately, this has not always been the case, and we cannot condone such lack of charity. The Gospel and our baptismal covenant call us to love one another with the love of Christ and treat each other with dignity, respect and forbearance. We need to be tender with one another, recognizing each other as a beloved child of God redeemed by our Saviour Jesus Christ, each one bearing the image of God, each one the desire of God's heart and will.

Written on the feast of St. Michael and All Angels, Sept. 29, 2017.

**School of ministry** 

to take sabbatical

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#### In the Diocese of Toronto:

A community of 254 congregations in 210 parishes covering 26,000 square kilometers Of the nearly 5 million people who live within the diocesan boundaries, 376,000 claim to be affiliated with the Anglican Church, with about 80,000 people identified on the parish rolls. The diocese is home to many ethnic and languagebased congregations, including African, Caribbean, Chinese, Filipino, French, Hispanic, Japanese, and Tamil. The City c Toronto has the largest population of aboriginal peoples in the country.

#### DRIEL2

CANADA

## Anglicans protest against rally

LONDON - Clergy and laity from the Diocese of Huron, led by Bishop Linda Nicholls, joined 500 counterprotesters on Aug. 26, in response to an anti-Islamic rally led by the Patriots of Canada Against the Islamization of the West, a group that says it opposes "the Islamization of the West."

The collective Anglican response was organized within a day's notice as word spread of the counterthe anti-Islamic group arrived at noon and were met by the counterdemonstrators. Those involved in the counter-rally carried signs, listened to speeches and sang 1960s protest songs. The counter-protest ended with a march, led by drummers, around nearby Victoria Park. *Huron Church News* 

demonstration. Bishop Nicholls led

the group of 40 Anglicans from the

parking lot at Huron Church House,

where they prayed, to London's

City Hall. About 20 members of

#### Parish solves bee problem

EDMONTON - The rural parish of St. Matthew's in Viking, Alta., has found a way to solve a bothersome bee problem while saving the hive of these essential insects. The inside. She also found a number of dead bees throughout the church. Due to the honeybee's status as an important, yet threatened, part of the world's ecosystem, St. Matthew's parishioners stressed the importance of saving the bees while removing them from the parish. With this in mind. Ms. Gotobed sought help from her son, Darren, who is a beekeeper. He was able to locate the hive and determine the bees' point of entry into the church. In early August, he uncovered the beehive between the exterior and interior walls of the church's narthex, and relocated the bees to a new hive. The Messenger

bee infestation in the parish was

discovered in mid-July, when long-

time parishioner Frances Gotobed

opened the church to discover a

number of honeybees flying about

year so that the ministry committee can evaluate what has been accomplished, explore new directions for the school and engage in a discussion with other dioceses about the future of local training in western Canada.

KELOWNA - The Kootenay School

of Ministry will take a sabbatical

The school's curriculum was designed for those who have been called to ministry as locally trained deacons and priests, and included courses for other lay ministries and topics of interest for adult Christians. The school was modelled on a vision of a "disseminary," with no physical buildings except for local congregations Continued on Page 5 The Archbishop of Toronto: The Most Rev. Colin Johnson

York-Credit Valley: The Rt. Rev. Jenny Andison

Trent-Durham: The Rt. Rev. Riscylla Shaw

York-Scarborough: The Rt. Rev. Kevin Robertson

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# **Reclaiming disciple-making**



illiam Temple – an Archbishop of Canterbury in the '40s – once famously remarked that the Church is the only institution that exists primarily

for the benefit of those who are not its members. Archbishop Temple's words encourage the Church to make decisions, engage in activities and take up causes not with the objective of making those of us on the inside feel secure or good about ourselves, but instead in order to share the love of Christ with those from whom we expect nothing in return. To paraphrase my predecessor, Bishop Poole, God always wants us in the Church to be the ones with dirt under our fingernails.

Archbishop Temple's statement can also remind us that the Church is called to exist for the benefit of those who are not "yet" its members. Individual parishes are invited to be continually asking themselves which of their practices will contribute most effectively towards drawing others into the love of God, and to discern what other practices might be better modified or discarded. Archbishop Temple's observation suggests a framework for making decisions about where to spend our time and resources – a frame-

#### **BISHOP'S OPINION**

#### BY BISHOP JENNY ANDISON

work that prioritizes those currently outside our churches or those who are just starting to explore what Christian faith and community might look like for them.

Just as the nurturing of an outward focus is an ongoing priority for parishes, many individual Christians innately understand the importance of sharing the good news of God in Christ with those who have not yet heard it, or who have only experienced it in limited ways. In many cases, the easiest and most natural sphere for this is our own immediate families and dearest friends. Some of us might remember benefiting, as children, from hearing God's stories in the Bible read to us, praying with our parents or helping to plan or participate in acts of service to others, and are now imagining how to translate those memories into our own present contexts.

I have found, during my years of ministry, that one of the most important questions individual Christians can ask is how to create an environment in which they can encounter Jesus Christ, not just on their own, but together with their children, partners and friends. For example, what are the best ways to create a home environment, or friend network, where we and those closest to us can engage with scripture, ask questions, explore, and pray together while trying to grow into committed followers of Jesus Christ? How can we create opportunities to live out our faith, with acts of service and compassion?

Christians have for generations looked for ways to pass along their faith, heeding the words of Deuteronomy 6:5-7: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. Take to heart these words that I give you today. Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you're at home or away, when you lie down or get up." The shaping of others in the Christian faith is called discipleship, catechesis or – my personal favorite - the making of saints. Given that the Christian church is always one generation away from extinction, it is essential that our homes and parishes be effective disciple-making communities places where the claims of Jesus Christ can be intelligently examined, tested and lived out.

Discipleship is a gradual process, neither linear nor predictable, and lasting over the course of a lifetime. People at all stages of their spiritual journeys need safe and non-judgmental communities where they can hear the Gospel and find other disciples who are willing to walk alongside them as they explore and grow. Forming someone in the faith of Christ can take many guises, some of which include one-to-one mentoring, learning through service in social justice ministries, small-group Bible studies, and structured programs such as Christian Foundations, Alpha, Road to Emmaus, the Pilgrim series and others.

Our beloved Anglican Church has enormous potential to be the kind of body that creates and supports such communities, where intentional discipleship for all ages is made a top priority. I am sure that many of us are aware of creative and winsome ways that people in our diocese are already being shaped and transformed into disciples of Jesus Christ, but we have room for many more. C.S. Lewis wrote that "if the Church is not making disciples, then all the cathedrals, clergy, missions, sermons, even the Bible, are a waste of time." As Anglicans, I believe we can both reach into our rich past and learn from other traditions, as we reclaim the making of saints as being central to our life together and the continued, and exciting, revitalization of our Church.

## Where faith might be caught



**BY NORAH BOLTON** 

all brings a new term of Sunday School to my parish. We use a lectionary-based curriculum and have a good cadre of dedicated

men and women to teach the 44 children enrolled. But we aren't reaching all the kids in our neighborhood. About 200 adults and children came joyfully to our fun fair in July. We will see many at our Halloween open house and some on Christmas Eve – but they don't buy into Sunday School. We try hard with teacher training, meetings and better curricula. But there is always the underlying question: will our children have faith?

John Westerhoff's *Will Our Children Have Faith*, written in the 1970s and updated in 2012, continues to ask provocative questions, as well as providing some tentative answers. He has firm theological and educational credentials, and has served in a variety of denominational ministries.

We often forget that in our Church's long history, Sunday School is a relatively new thing, growing out of a need to provide basic literacy. As public education developed, the Church co-opted the model and soon we, too, had teachers, curricula, age-graded classes, dedicated classroom materials and supplies – and ultimately, paid professionals. We have rarely questioned this model. It's not always a winner for the small parish or even a larger one with only six children. It has produced a fair amount of nostalgia, depression, guilt and sometimes burnt-out volunteers.

Mr. Westerhoff's book takes us back to the basics. Any form of education is influenced by history, society, culture and denomination. There is a difference between schooling – primarily concerned with learning-about and how-to – and education, which involves not just knowledge but also attitudes, values, behaviours and sensibilities.

The parish Sunday School competes with the family, regular school, other recreational and learning programs, selflearning through books and an endless flow of media – not to mention peers. The parish church is no longer the neighborhood community centre. Schools abandoned daily prayers a long time ago. New social structures include divorced, living-together and blended families, in addition to single parents and interfaith parents – all who likely work outside the home. There is much less interchange among generations. Housing and geographic location of families change frequently. If television once competed with Evensong, we now have competition from an almost infinite offering of technology and entertainment.

To respond to these changes, Mr. Westerhoff suggests moving from schooling to a faith community model. A congregation has a rich memory of its past, the role of authority, changing ways of life and recognition of diversity and multiple gifts. It can be a place to know people and be known, where three generations meet regularly – the older with memories of the past, the middle immersed in the present, the youngest already dreaming of the future. Any true community of faith looks outward and is interested in more than its own survival, asking what God is up to and how it might get involved.

Such a community is rooted in worship rituals; helping people of all ages make sense of them is the primary task of religious education. Rituals help us develop a sense of continuity; they also address life crises when they happen. We need to understand their role in our culture here and now. We aren't here to escape our problems, but to create a world of *shalom* where head and heart unite. We learn by telling and hearing our common stories, making things and taking action.

Community life means we can eliminate labels like teacher and pupil and do things like taking hikes, making things, having parties and playing games. The faith journey is both sequential and serendipitous, starting with an experience of being nurtured and affiliating with our denomination. Then as adolescents, we need to explore, experiment and question. Later we integrate the learnings of heart and mind and come to own our faith. We are all on a common journey where faith is a gift that can't be taught – but in a community of faith, it might be *caught*.

In times of public worship, we might think of our congregation as a family. Some other good times are hanging out, going places and learning together. Congregational life is really about life – births, deaths, celebrations, seasons, eating and drinking, growing up and growing old. Mr. Westerhoff's book provides much food for thought.

Norah Bolton is a member of St. Mary Magdalene, Toronto.

## BRIEFLY

#### LOFT's CEO to retire

Terry McCullum, chief executive officer of LOFT Community Services (formerly Anglican Houses), is retiring on Dec. 31 after 35 years with the not-for-profit organization. He will be succeeded by Heather McDonald, LOFT's director of adult and youth services.

"The voice of those we serve has always inspired me and encour-

aged me to keep at it, to take risks to create new programs, to meet incredible needs, to innovate, to collaborate, and to cross service and bureaucratic boundaries", says Mr. McCullum. "It has been an honour to be part of this journey with LOFT."

The agency serves more than 5,000 individuals a year through a variety of supportive housing and community support services for youth, adults and seniors in Toronto, York Region and Simcoe County. It promotes health recovery and independence for people



#### **Terry McCullum**

with complex challenges including dementia, substance abuse issues, physical health challenges and homelessness.

## **Canada Briefs**

#### Continued from Page 4

where courses have been held. In this model, qualified instructors travel to where the students live. The support of hosting congregations has helped to keep costs to students at a minimum.

In the seven years of the school's operation, courses have been held in eight parishes in four of the five regions of the Diocese of Kootenay. There have been 16 instructors from across Canada and 82 students have participated in courses.

During the sabbatical year, the school will experiment with online course delivery. The school is also entering into discussions with 10 other dioceses across the country and may enter into a co-operative venture with other regions to provide Christian education beyond Kootenay. *The High Way* 







#### FOR WATER

The Rev. Ian LaFleur of St. Cuthbert, Leaside and Bishop Riscylla Shaw of Trent-Durham (top left) take part in the Indigenous-led Great Lakes Water Walk along the Toronto waterfront on Sept. 24 to honour water. Following Anishinaabe ceremonial protocols, grandmothers and elders made water offerings, sang songs and petitioned for water to be clean and pure. Several Anglicans took part in the walk. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

## Diocese gives \$100,000 to healing fund

#### **BY STUART MANN**

**THE** Diocese of Toronto is giving \$100,000 to help replenish the national church's Anglican Healing Fund.

The fund, which has provided grants to 300 projects and programs for Indigenous people across Canada, is seeking to raise \$1 million through an appeal called Giving with Grace (formerly the Anglican Appeal).

"I think it's wonderful," says Esther Wesley, program coordinator of the healing fund, speaking of the diocese's gift.

She says the focus of the fund in the coming years will be to teach traditional languages to young people. "Many kids have lost their identity because their parents were institutionalized in the residential schools. One of the best things we can do for them is to teach or try to recapture the language. The number of communities that have already picked up on this is amazing."

The gift comes from the diocese's Ministry Allocation Fund, 10 per

cent of which is tithed to projects or ministries outside the diocesan budget. Previous grants have included \$100,000 to the Diocese of Athabasca to help youth in Fort McMurray, \$500,000 for refugee sponsorship matching grants, and \$100,000 for a Habitat for Humanity build in Scarborough.

The Anglican Church of Canada established the healing fund for Indigenous people more than 25 years ago, long before the Indian Residential Schools Settlement Agreement was reached. The fund supports local, community-led healing projects. As a response to the ongoing legacy of the residential school system, grants are made to encourage and initiate programs that help heal, educate and recover language and culture. Some 45 projects have been funded in the Diocese of Toronto.

In 2003, the Diocese of Toronto and its parishioners contributed about 20 per cent or \$5 million to the Anglican commitment of the residential schools settlement. Most of that came from the Ministry Allocation Fund, which receives the proceeds of the sales of church properties. A portion was returned to the diocese a couple of years ago as a result of an amended agreement with the government and churches. The diocese chose to establish the Robert Falby Fund for Indigenous Ministry. (Canon Robert Falby was one of the chief negotiators of the settlement.) It is held in the Anglican Diocese of Toronto Foundation and is being used to fund a portion of the diocese's Indigenous ministry.



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# Large turnout for town hall

### Bishop listens to hopes, concerns in York-Credit Valley

#### BY STUART MANN

**MORE** than 100 people – twice the number hoped - attended Bishop Jenny Andison's first town hall meeting in York-Credit Valley to hear people's hopes, concerns and ideas for the future of the episcopal area, located in the southwest corner of the diocese.

Held at St. John the Baptist, Dixie in Mississauga on Sept. 19, the event included passionate discussions, insightful comments, stirring remarks by Bishop Andison, and lots of opportunities for people to get to know each other.

"It's my first time at something like this and I really enjoyed meeting everyone from the different churches," said Grace Karram Stephenson, a member of St. Martin in-the-Fields, Toronto. "I'm a young parent trying to figure out how to raise my kids and how to get to church on Sunday, so to meet people with different priorities is really helpful.'

Her comments were echoed by others. "I thought it was a great forum for networking between clergy and laypeople," said the Rev. Julie Meaken, incumbent of Holy Family, Heart Lake, in Brampton. "It was a really good opportunity to hear other people's thoughts and ideas about who we are as Church in York-Credit Valley and what we're being called to in terms of ministry. I felt it was very open and honest, and I really appreciated Bishop Jenny telling us how she would use what was shared to pray for this area and how she was open to listening to our concerns and our hopes.3

Participants were seated at tables with people from other parishes. Over the course of the evening, they were asked to answer four questions: Where do you most clearly see God's transformative action today in the world and your neighbourhood? What place or situation in our world or neighbourhoods do you think needs to be transformed by God's love and mercy? What is the most exciting thing about doing ministry in York-Credit Valley? What are the two aspects of ministry in York-Credit Valley that require increased attention and resources?

other table groups. Some groups were asked to report back to the entire gathering. There was a lot of common ground. Areas of interest included children's and youth ministry, Christian formation and discipleship, sharing the gospel in word and action, and providing financial support for churches with good ideas for ministry.

Bishop Andison said she will read every answer and pray about them. She said she was energized by the responses. "There's a lot of hope. I didn't hear resistance to change. I didn't hear doom and gloom. I heard a clear-eyed realism about where we're at and some of the changes we need to make.

"People are not apathetic," she added. "They love their churches, they love God, they love their neighbourhood, and they're trying to figure out how to connect all those up. They want to see a vision and be involved in it. They want to build a culture of trust and collaboration."

Halfway through the evening, Bishop Andison shared some of her observations about York-Credit Valley, where she has been the area bishop for the past nine months. Among her observations are that many parishes are well connected to their neighbourhoods and are asking what God is calling them to do. She said many churches are open to thoughtful, discerning change for the sake of the gospel. She spoke about the generational shift taking place and the need to raise up the next generation of lay leaders. She spoke about her passion for catechesis and "the making of saints."

In her closing remarks, she provided hope and encouragement for her area. "I believe that God gives us everything we need to do God's work at this time and in this place. I believe we have everything we need to follow where God is leading in York-Credit Valley. We will need to realign some of our resources, we will need to refocus a number of our priorities, and we will need to let go of some things that are no longer building the kingdom. We may not always like or be able to Another town hall is planned for anticipate where God is leading,

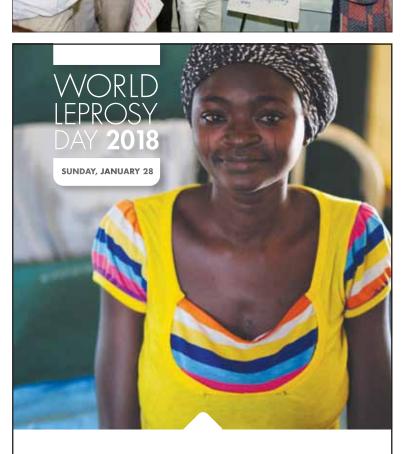




**Clockwise from top: Grace Karram** Stephenson of St. Martin in-the-Fields, Toronto, listens during small group discussions; André Lyn of St. Joseph of Nazareth, Bramalea, shares ideas with other groups; Bishop Jenny Andison gives some of her observations about York-Credit Valley. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

but I can promise you that it will be good. It will be good because our gracious God either gives what we ask for in prayer, or our gracious God will give us what we would have asked for if we knew everything that God knows. So it will be good. Our trust and hope for the future is not in ourselves, it's not in me or area council or Synod-it's in the character of our God, who is gracious and loving, and will only give us what we would have prayed for if we had the mind of Christ."

A report on the meeting will be made available to participants from Bishop Andison's office.



Participants shared their answers with each other and with

January to discuss next steps.



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## **PARISH NEWS**



#### **ALL FOR OUTREACH**

St. John, York Mills held a fundraising event on Sept. 10 in support of its outreach activities. A car wash, barbecue and silent auction were among the events. The silent auction included buying the opportunity to throw a pie at St. John's clergy and two visiting bishops – Bishop Kevin Robertson and Bishop Patrick White. From left, winning bidder Kim Anderson gets ready to throw a pie at Bishop Robertson, then decides to turn it on herself instead. Bishop White (far right) had no such luck. He received a full pie from Jim Parish, one of the churchwardens. PHOTOS BY MARTIN BLOCK







Clockwise from above: parishioners and friends enjoy dinner at the Balmy Beach Club; opera singers and parishioners Marcelle Boisjoli and Michael Barrett perform; Mike Downie talks about Chanie Wenjack. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON



## St. Aidan's celebrates life in the Beach

BY LORI ANN COMEAU

**THROUGHOUT** the Beach's history – from forest to farmlands, from resort to city neighbourhoods – St. Aidan, Toronto has served the lakeside community in the city's east end for 125 years. It continues to make a difference to those who walk through its doors for worship or outreach programs.

community – the community of faith connecting with the community of the Beach. Together, we're working

band and opera singer parishioners Michael Barrett and Marcelle Boisjoli. St. Aidan's service to the Beach has been as constant as the canoes and swimmers. "The parish serves community lunches, hosts Out of the Cold, offers programming for voung families and supports St. Stephen in-the-Fields' Sunday breakfasts," says Deacon Michael Van Dusen. The church's programs include partnering to support a refugee family from Syria, educating about truth and reconciliation with First Nations peoples, and leading youth service and learning trips to Nicaragua.

November 2017

#### **IN ENGLAND**

The choir of All Saints, Peterborough pose for a picture in York Minster Cathedral in England in July. The choir, joined by the Peterborough Singers and the Kawartha Lake Singers, enjoyed a week as the visiting choir at the historic cathedral. The combined choir was directed by Syd Birrell, the director of the Peterborough Singers and organist and choir director at All Saints. The choir sang at Evensong on six occasions, as well as at the Holy Eucharist and Matins on Sunday. 'We had a wonderful time and were very well received by the cathedral staff and the public,' said Mr. Birrell. PHOTO COURTESY OF ALL SAINTS, PETERBOROUGH

Local and acclaimed artists in word and music came together on the evening of Sept. 28 to celebrate the community's people and service to others. The event was hosted by St. Aidan's and held at the nearby Balmy Beach Club.

"St Aidan's has been rooted in the Beach for many years, and the evening was a great celebration of to make a difference," says the Rev. Lucy Reid, incumbent.

Award-winning filmmaker Mike Downie shared the story of Chanie Wenjak, a 12-year-old Ojibwe boy who died while fleeing a residential school in 1966. Mr. Downie's work encourages people to walk the path of reconciliation with Indigenous people in Canada. Crime novelist Peter Robinson, known for his Inspector Banks mystery series, along with authors Catherine Dunphy and Lisa de Nikolits, provided inspiration and laughter during the evening. St. Aidan's ministries were showcased, and there were musical performances by St. Aidan's Regrets

Lori Ann Comeau is a member of St. Aidan's.

## Parish visits First Nation's pow wow

## Small church makes big strides towards reconciliation

#### BY MURRAY MACADAM

WHEN it comes to living out the call to reconciliation with First Nations, St. Saviour, Orono is a small parish that thinks big. The parish has carried out a range of activities to deepen its awareness of First Nations issues. It has launched a reading group in which parishioners read books by Indigenous writers or about Indigenous issues. It has also held a town hall meeting and a hosted a Blanket Exercise.

The church advanced its commitment on Sept. 16 by chartering a bus to take parishioners and other local residents to a pow wow at the Curve Lake First Nation community near Peterborough. The trip developed after a group from St. Saviour's met with a leader from the Curve Lake band council.

Churchwarden Bill Tomlinson, who helped organize the trip, sees outreach efforts such as reconciliation with First Nations as essential. "We have to reach out to the community," he says. "The days are over when people went to church, came home and you had done your duty. The church has a unique ability to deal with social issues, better than any other group."

As an example of community outreach, the busload to Curve Lake included Syrian refugees that local parishes helped to sponsor. There were also members of two other parishes, United Church members and non-Anglican residents from Orono.

At Curve Lake, "we were treated to song and dance, stories and regalia," says the Rev. Augusto Nunez, priest-in-charge of St. Saviour's. "All of us were very happy to have experienced such an event."

Highlights of the day included a refugee family being welcomed to Canada by a native chief, and a prize given to a 12-year-old member of the delegation who joined in the dancing. Indigenous and political leaders told the gathering of the importance of learning from each other, noting the pow wow's theme



Fatima Mohamed and her children, members of a Syrian refugee family sponsored by St. Saviour, Orono, are welcomed to Canada by two elders from Curve Lake First Nation. PHOTO BY THE REV. AUGUSTO NUNEZ

of "Honouring Our Treaties."

Mr. Nunez says, "It's about getting out there and being active for the Lord. It's about building relationships, getting to know the people at Curve Lake. We want to be of assistance and convey to them that you're not alone."

Adds Mr. Tomlinson, "We look at First Nations as educating us, and we in turn being supportive of them. There are some real issues that First Nations people would like to resolve."

A major challenge, he says, is that some local residents seem hostile to First Nations people, a feeling he thinks can be softened when residents return from a pow wow and can speak about it to others as being a positive experience. Connections with the band will continue after the pow wow, says Mr. Nunez. A town hall meeting in Orono is planned for the winter, following consultations with Curve Lake band members. The parish is also considering how it might support other, more remote First Nations communities.

Murray MacAdam is a freelance writer.



## **Cookbook helps people living in poverty**

#### **BY STUART MANN**

**AS** part of an employment program at The Bridge, a centre for ex-prisoners in Brampton, staff were teaching cooking classes when they asked the men where they shopped for food.

"At 7-Eleven" they said. The staff were shocked and troubled by the answer. The popular convenience store chain is known for its Slurpees and prepared foods. "For the three dollars you pay for a burrito, you could make three meals if you have a stove," says Garry Glowacki, The Bridge's executive director. After some brainstorming with a local community kitchen, they came up with the idea of a cookbook specifically for those living in poverty, to help them make their dollars go farther. Mr. Glowacki enlisted the support of Regeneration, an agency that serves the homeless in Peel Region, then received a \$3,500 grant from the York-Credit Valley episcopal area.

for breakfast, lunch, dinner, snacks and sweets. There are tips on how to shop for less, buying nutritious food and using coupons. It includes photos and comments from those who are struggling to get by.

"We're not going to cure poverty, but I'm hoping it will help people have more disposable income so they can do other things like buy their kids sneakers," he says.

He hopes the booklet will change the perception of those living in poverty. "We're hoping to show the general public that poverty and homelessness is a human issue not just statistics." He also hopes the booklet will show those in need that other people care. "We wanted to give them something of importance," he says. "I wanted people who will receive it to feel they're getting a good gift. I wanted them to read it and say, Hey, we can do things." About 2,000 copies of the free booklet will be printed and distributed to food banks, community kitchens and other outreach ministries in Peel Region. For more information about Living Well on Less, contact Mr. Glowacki at garryg@golden.net.

#### **HOUSING DONATION**

The Parish of Minden, Kinmount and Maple Lake donates \$4,000 to Places for People, a not-for-profit organization in Haliburton County that buys and renovates houses for low-income families and those at risk of homelessness. From left is Fay Martin, vice-president of Places for People; the Rev. Joan Cavanaugh-Clark, incumbent; John Rogers, president of Places for People and treasurer of St. Peter, Maple Lake; Deacon Martha Waind, manager of St. Paul, Minden's thrift shop; and the Rev. Max Ward of the United Church and the treasurer of Places for People.

The result is *Living Well on Less*, a cooking and life-skills booklet that is full of simple and affordable recipes

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

To submit items for Looking Ahead, email editor@toronto.anglican. ca. The deadline for the December issue is Nov. 1. Parishes can also promote their events on the diocese's website Calendar at www. toronto.anglican.ca.

#### **Music & Worship**

**OCT. 29 & NOV. 26** - Rezonance Baroque Concert, 2-4 p.m., on Oct. 29; cello concert by Julia Kim, 2-3:30 p.m., Nov. 26. Both at St. Barnabas, 361 Danforth Ave., Toronto.

NOV. 8 – DEC. 20 - Kingsway Organ Recital Series, 12:30-1:15 p.m., All Saints, Kingsway, 2850 Bloor St. W., Toronto. A freewill offering appreciated. Nov. 8: Michael Capon, director of music at St. George's Cathedral, Kingston; Nov. 22: William O'Meara, former organist and music director at Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, currently music director at St. Michael's Cathedral, Toronto; Dec. 6: Hanné Becker, former student of John Tuttle at the University of Toronto, now studying organ in Basel, Switzerland; Dec. 20: Stefani Bedin, currently pursuing Master of Music in Organ Performance at the University of Toronto and organist at Bloor Street United Church. OCT. 29 - "Not Your Average Church Service," 10:30 a.m., a modern worship service with guest musicians and children's program, Holy Trinity, Guildwood, 85 Livingston Rd., Toronto. Guest speaker: Michael Coren, author, radio personality and columnist.

NOV. 5 – All Souls' Requiem featuring excerpts from Duruflé's Requiem, 7 p.m at Church of the Redeemer, Bloor Street and Avenue Road.
NOV. 5 - Choral Evensong for All Souls at 4 p.m., followed by Pumpkin Tea. At 5 p.m., a sequence of classical, contemporary and popular flute pieces suitable for the season, as Toronto's City Flutes return to St. Olave, Bloor Street and Windermere Avenue, Toronto.

**NOV. 10** - Remembrance concert and reception featuring New Horizons Band of Toronto, 7:30 p.m., Holy Trinity, Guildwood, 85 Livingston St., Toronto. Donations accepted for The Tony Stacey Centre for Veterans' Care.

**NOV. 12** - A Concert for Remembrance Day, 7:30 p.m., St. Paul, 59 Toronto St. S., Uxbridge. For tickets, call 866-808-2006.

**NOV. 26** - Christmas Classic, 7 p.m., St. Paul, 59 Toronto St. S., Uxbridge. Bach Christmas Oratorio with soloists and choir. Tickets \$20. Call 866-808-2006.

**DEC. 5** - Advent Carol Service, 7 p.m., Church of the Redeemer, Bloor Street and Avenue Road, Toronto. Redeemer's choir will be joined by



#### **AT LAST**

The St. Andrew's Anglers hoist the Rev. Peter Trant Memorial Trophy after winning the annual Scarborough Anglican Youth Movement baseball tournament on Sept. 30. It was the first time in 20 years that a team from St. Andrew, Scarborough won the tourney. Seven teams from Anglican, Baptist and other denominations competed in this year's event. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

Village, 155 Markham Rd. Bake sale, knitwear, crafts and more.

**NOV. 4** - St. Matthew's Poinsettia Bazaar, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the church, 135 Wilson Rd. S., Oshawa. Knitting, baking and more.

**NOV. 4** - Christmas market, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., St. Barnabas, Chester, 361 Danforth Ave., Toronto.

**NOV. 4** - The Sugar Plum Christmas Bazaar, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at St. Margaret in-the-Pines, 4130 Lawrence Ave. E., Scarborough. Baked goods, craft table, collectible table, Internet Café and lunch room, and more. Tables available for rent as well. Call 416-284-4121.

**NOV. 4** - St. Nicholas' Christmas Bazaar, noon to 3 p.m., 1512 Kingston Rd. (just east of Warden Avenue). Crafts, baked goods and more.

**NOV. 4** - Bazaar, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Mary & St. Martha, 1149 Weston Rd., Toronto. Baking and deli, gifts, crafts and more.

**NOV. 4** – Bazaar with raffle, bake table, café and more, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Joseph of Nazareth, 290 Balmoral Dr., Brampton. Call 905-793-8020.

**NOV. 4** - A Faire to Remember, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at St. Peter, Erindale, 1745 Dundas St. W., Mississauga. This bazaar will have a silent auction, baking, jewellery and more. Donations of non-perishable food (south of Davisville Avenue), 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Artsy items, books, cheese, church calendars, crafts, lunch and raffle of a beautiful handsewn quilt. As it is Remembrance Day, a service will be held outside the St. Cuthbert's Road entrance starting at 10:45 a.m. Please come early and join us.

NOV. 18 – ACW of Grace Church's Christmas Bazaar with antiques, knitting, baking, lunch and more, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Grace Church, 19 Parkway Ave., Markham. Call 905-294-3184.

**NOV. 18** – Holly Berry Bazaar with crafts, baking, lunch room, toys, books, DVDs, household goods, a visit from Santa Claus and more, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Dunstan of Canterbury, 56 Lawson Rd., Scarborough. Accessible building. Call 416-283-1844.

**NOV. 18** – Christmas bazaar, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Church of the Holy Family, Kennedy Road, Heart Lake, Brampton. Crafts, bake table, lunch room and more. The church is located on the west side of Kennedy Road, north of Bovaird, south of Sandalwood.

**NOV. 18** - All Saints, Whitby's annual Christmas Bazaar, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., gift ideas, silent auction, baked goods, crafts, tea toom and homemade lunch. At All Saints, 300 Dundas St. W., Whitby.



**NOV. 18** - Christmas bazaar, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. John the Baptist, 710 Dundas St. E. (just east of Cawthra Road), Mississauga. Vendors welcome. Call 416-709 9299.

NOV. 25 – St. Timothy's Christmas Kitchen, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., at the church, 100 Old Orchard Grove, north Toronto. Silent auction and more. NOV. 25 - Snowflake Bazaar, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. John, Bowmanville, featuring bake shop, jewelry, crafts and much more. Visit Martha's Lunch Room between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.

**NOV. 25** - Festival of Christmas, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Holy Trinity, Thornhill, 140 Brook St., Thornhill. Baked goods, hand-crafted items and more. Luncheon from noon to 2 p.m. **DEC. 2** – Holly Berry Fair with tea candy, games, prizes for best costume, and collecting canned goods, Holy Trinity, Guildwood, 85 Livingston Rd., Toronto.

**NOV. 1** - All Saints Communion at 6 p.m., followed by light supper at 6.30 p.m. From 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., the Rev. Canon Dr. David Neelands discusses the history and theology of the Reformation and Counter-Reformation, as we mark the 500th anniversary of the start of the Reformation. St. Olave, Bloor Street and Windermere Avenue, Toronto.

DEC. 8-10, 15-17, 21-24 - The Christmas Story, a Toronto tradition since 1938, at Holy Trinity, 19 Trinity Square, Toronto. Professional musicians and a volunteer cast present this charming hour-long nativity pageant. Evening performances are at 7:30 p.m. on Dec. 8, 15, 16, 21, 22 and 23; matinees are at 4:30 p.m. on Dec. 9, 10, 16, 17, 23 and 24. Suggested donation: \$20 for adults, \$5 for children. Visit www. thechristmasstory.ca to reserve or call 416-598-4521, ext. 301. DEC. 10 - Annual Community Carol Sing at St. Dunstan of Canterbury, 7:30 p.m., 56 Lawson Rd., Scarborough. This is a fun, seasonal event for all ages. There will be a free-will offering with all proceeds going to the Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities Food Bank. Refreshments following program. Call 416-283-1844.

the Cantabile Chamber Singers. **DEC. 10** - Annual Advent carol service, 7:30 p.m., St. Martin in-the-Fields, 151 Glenlake Ave., Toronto. Presented by the church choir directed by Jack Hattey, with Thomas Fitches on organ, Paul Sandvidotti on trumpet and Nancy Nourse on flute. A freewill collection will be taken for a deserving charity in our neighbourhood. A reception follows.

#### Sales

**NOV. 4** - Christmas bazaar, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Christ Church, Scarborough

for the Deacon's Cupboard food bank are welcome.

**NOV. 4** - Annual Christmas bazaar, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. James the Apostle, 3 Cathedral Rd., Brampton. Featuring a lunch of homemade soups, sandwiches and dessert, a silent auction, an art sale and more. Call 905-451-7711.

NOV. 4 - Annual Christmas Bazaar, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., silent auction, bake table, Christmas decoration, café and more, Holy Trinity, Guildwood, 85 Livingston Rd., Toronto. Santa Claus will be there for photos between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. NOV. 11 - St. Cuthbert's Christmas Fair, 1399 Bayview Ave., Toronto **NOV. 18** - Annual bazaar with bake table, craft tables, lunch room, Nearly New room and more, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Christ Church, Bolton, 22 Nancy St.

**NOV. 18** - Nutcracker Fair with silent auction, baked goods, crafts, morning barbecue, lunch and more, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Martin in-the-Fields, 151 Glenlake Ave., Toronto. Call 416-767-7491.

**NOV. 18** - Christmas craft show and coffee house at St. Olave, Bloor Street and Windermere Avenue, Toronto, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Crafts, book fair with ACW, coffee house with festive treats and music.

room, crafts, baking, quilt raffle, books, Christmas items, attic treasures and more, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Luke, East York, 904 Coxwell Ave. Call 416-421-6878, ext. 21.

**DEC. 2** – Old-fashioned Christmas bazaar with lunch and tea room, festive handmade home décor, gift items, baking and mystery raffle, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Church of the Ascension, 266 North St., Port Perry.

#### **Workshops & Gatherings**

**00T. 31** - Converge Youth Group's Harvest Festival & Trick or Treat for Hope, 7 p.m., hot chocolate,

## AnglicanClassifieds

November 2017

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#### **REAL ESTATE** COUNSELLING COUNSELLING **DAVID A.S. WRIGHT** ACCOUNT **Pastoral Counsellor** Award-winning real estate in Toronto B.A. M.Div. Rife and Drogrees Registered for over 25 years Registered **Psychotherapist** Psychotherapist Carolyn **McIntire Smyth** Pastoral Counsellor Individual / Couple Sales Representative Chestnut Park Real Estate Psychotherapy Limited, Brokerage Psychoanalysis Susan E. Haig Helping Sellers obtain Supervision / LL.B., M.Div. the best prices for Consultation their homes. 110 Eglinton Ave. W., Suite 303D 416.925.9191 204 St. George Street Toronto, ON M4R 1A3 I look forward to hearing Toronto, Ontario M5R 2N5 from you. Tel. 416-960-6486 416.605.3588 PERSONAL **PRAYER CYCLE** Toronto 16. Synod Planning and Agenda Jennifer Spencer is a member Committee FOR NOVEMBER of All Saints Anglican Church 17. The Synod of the Diocese of 1. All Saints, Whitby in Collingwood Ontario. She Toronto has been past president and secretary of the ACW, a 2. Ascension, Port Perry 18. The Synod of the Diocese of 3. Christ Memorial Church, Oshawa Toronto 4. St. George Memorial, Oshawa member of the choir and a **19. Toronto East Deanery** 5. Oshawa Deanery generous volunteer. Last year tragic news came and she was 6. St. George, Pickering Village (Ajax) 20. St. Aidan, Toronto diagnosed with ALS, commonly 21. St. Andrew, Japanese 7. St. John, Blackstock (Cartwright) known as Lou Gehrig's disease. 22. St. Barnabas, Chester 8. St. John, Whitby 23. St. Bede, Toronto 9. St. Martin, Bay Ridges (Pickering) Friends mentioned that 24. St. David, Donlands 10. St. Martin, Courtice a funding website could 25. St. John the Baptist, Norway **11. Military Chaplains** possibly help individuals who 26. Primate's World Relief and come across unfortunate 12. Members of the Synod of the **Development Fund** circumstances. We encourage **Diocese of Toronto** 27. St. Luke, East York you to look at the website 13. St. Matthew, Oshawa 28. St. Matthew, First Avenue www.gofundme.com/2bmk3xg 14. St. Paul on-the-Hill, Pickering to understand this devastating 29. St. Monica, Toronto **15. The Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor** illness and offer your support. **30. St. Nicholas, Birch Cliff** and Registrar of the Diocese of

#### IN MOTION

#### **Appointments**

- The Rev. Chris Horne, Interim Priest-in-Charge, St. Andrew, Scarborough, Sept. 15.
- The Rev. Ted Bartlett, Interim Priest-in-Charge, Christ Memorial Church, Oshawa, Sept. 18.
- The Rev. Bob Bettson, Interim Priest-in-Charge, St. Bede, Toronto, Sept. 30.
- The Rev. Canon Dr. David Neelands, Priest-in-Charge, Parish of Roche's Point, Oct. 1.
- The Rev. Kenneth Roguszka, Interim Priest-in-Charge, Christ Church, Holland Landing, Oct. 1.
- The Rev. Canon Cheryl Palmer. Incumbent, Christ Church, Deer Park, Toronto, Jan. 1, 2018

#### **Vacant Incumbencies**

- Area Bishop):
- Parish of Bobcaygeon, Dunsford & Burnt River (Trent-Durham)

Third Phase – Parish Selection Committee Interviewing (no longer receiving names):

· Christ Church, Bolton (York-Simcoe)

#### **Ordinations**

The Rev. Karen Isaacs was ordained a transitional deacon in the Diocese of Niagara, for the Diocese of Toronto, on Sept. 21 at Christ Church Cathedral, Hamilton.

#### Conclusions

• The Rev. Stephanie Douglas-Bowman has concluded her ministry at Christ Memorial Church, Oshawa. She will be taking up a new ministry appointment at Havergal

• The Rev. Floyd Green died on Sept. 24. Ordained deacon in 1960 and priest in 1961, he came to the Diocese of Toronto from the Diocese of Huron in 1980. He served as chaplain of the Queen Street Mental Health Centre, director of pastoral care at St. Michael's Hospital, priest-in-charge of St. Cuthbert, Leaside, and honorary assistant of St. James Cathedral and St. Augustine of Canterbury, Toronto during his retirement. His funeral was held at All Saints, King City on Oct. 13.



#### **Outreach conference** coming up

**OPENING NIGHT** 

William Penn's A Brief Account of the Rise and Progress of the People Called the Quakers, published in 1694, (top) is displayed at Flickering of the Flame: Print and the Reformation, an exhibit commemorating the 500th anniversary of the start of the Reformation. The exhibit, held at the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library at the University of Toronto until Dec. 20, includes books, manuscripts, pamphlets and engravings from the Reformation. About 120 people attended the official opening on Oct. 4. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

## **Priest happy** keeping bees

#### Continued from Page 3

is for healing and for good," she says. "What I love about it is how reflective they are, how good they are for people to be around. As soon as you come to the apiary and you get comfortable, your blood pressure comes down, your heart rate slows down."

She also finds that beekeeping fits well with her role as a priest providing pastoral care. "There's an old thing called telling the bees. Because they're such a communal creature, you had to tell the bees what was going on in your life, whether there was a birth or a death, and if you didn't tell the bees they would leave," she says. "They do draw that out; being around them makes you want to be gentler and in greater harmony with nature, with yourself, with your family and the people you care for." While Ms. Ashworth jokes that she's promised to limit references to beekeeping in her sermons,

she says she find the queen bee a particularly suitable image. "She only spends a couple of days out in the sunlight, and then everything else she does looks like sunlight. She makes honey that looks like sunlight, she makes wax that looks like sunlight, the wax creates a flame that looks like sunlight," she

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Clergy from outside the diocese with the permission of their bishop may apply through the Diocesan Executive Assistant, Mrs. Mary Conliffe.

First Phase – Parish Selection Committee in Formation (not yet receiving names):

- Parish of Churchill and Cookstown
- St. Andrew, Scarborough
- St. Augustine of Canterbury, Toronto
- St. Bede, Toronto

Second Phase – Parish Selection Committee (receiving names via

College, Toronto beginning Oct. 30.

#### Deaths

• The Rev. Canon Byron Yates died on Sept. 24. Ordained deacon in 1969, he served as assistant curate at St. Peter, Cobourg, incumbent of the Parish of Belmont and at St. John, Bowmanville, regional dean of Durham and Northumberland, and as priest-in-charge of the Parish of Campbellford, Hastings and Roseneath. His funeral was held at St. John, Bowmanville on Sept. 29.

The diocese's annual Outreach & Advocacy Conference will take place on Nov. 4 at St. John, York Mills, 19 Don Ridge Dr., Toronto. This year's theme is "Being God's People: Embracing Difference, Building Solidarity." There will be a keynote address from Dr. Carl James of York University and workshops covering many key justice issues. The cost is \$30, or \$15 for students and those with low incomes. Lunch is included, and childcare is available upon request. Visit the diocese's website, www.toronto.anglican.ca, to see workshop options and register.

says. "It's a great preaching point, that we have these encounters with God and we spend the rest of our lives trying to point to it, saying, 'It's like this.""

As she keeps sharing her experiences in her town and beyond, Ms. Ashworth says she hopes she can encourage people to support beekeeping and even think about becoming beekeepers themselves. "If people want to learn, I'm happy to teach them. There are seasons when it takes some time, but it's very manageable," she says. "It's not lucrative, but it's a good thing to do. It's worth my time, it's worth my effort for sure."

### **FEATURE**

# In the heart of ancient Jerusalem

### Priest realizes dream of going on dig in the Holy Land

#### BY THE REV. CANON CLAIRE WADE

or two weeks in July, I was privileged to participate in something that has been on my bucket list for years – an archaeological dig in the Holy Land, preferably in Jerusalem. The opportunity came to dig on Mount Zion, Jerusalem, mentioned numerous times in the scriptures.

For Jews and Christians in the last hundred years or so, biblical archaeology in the Holy Land and other biblical lands has played a major part in shedding light on our understanding of the Bible. (In my previous life, visiting and learning at such sites was very much part of the pilgrimage or study tours that I would organize for groups, but I never had the opportunity to dig.) The dig site itself is on the eastern slope of Mount Zion, near Zion Gate, on the south side of the city. It is just outside the current walls of Jerusalem, rebuilt by Ottoman sultan Suleiman the Magnificent in the 14th and 15th centuries. In the time of Jesus, the site was in the very heart of Jerusalem.

Excavations began in 1997 and closed temporarily, resuming in 2007 under the purview of the University of North Carolina (UNC) at Charlotte. The program is directed by wellknown biblical archaeological scholars Dr. Shimon Gibson, professor of archaeology at UNC and a senior fellow at the Albright Institute of Archaeological Research in Jerusalem, Dr. James Tabor, professor of ancient Judaism and early Christianity at UNC, and Prof. Rafi Lewis of Haifa University in Israel. Our group of around 50 came from all over the world. We stayed at a quaint pilgrim's hotel in the Christian Quarter of the Old City, near the New Gate - one of eight gates of the city. Our week of digging lasted Sunday through Thursday, from 6 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. We had Fridays and Saturdays off, so there was plenty of time to explore Jerusalem or take day trips to other places.

Our day began at 5 a.m., arriving downstairs in the lounge of the hotel for a cup of instant coffee and a piece of cake (sometimes



The Rev. Canon Claire Wade, at right, and others work on the site that is near the excavated home of Caiaphas, the high priest involved in the trial of Jesus that led to his crucifixion. PHOTOS COURTESY OF CANON WADE

chocolate). Armed with a trowel, kneeling pads, a hat, gloves, sunglasses and lots of water, we left the hotel at around 5:15 a.m. To get to the site, we had to walk to Zion Gate, over some slippery cobblestones, then descend a concrete stairway of some 70 steps. We would make our way through the narrow streets of Jerusalem that, by that time, were coming alive with two-way traffic and the odd rabbi on his way to prayer, whizzing by on his bike, robes flying in the breeze. I often made the 15-minute walk on my own – for me a coveted time of prayer.

On arrival at the site, we made a human chain to convey all our picks, hoes, buckets and gufas (wicker baskets) from their storage place across a busy street to the site. The early-morning scenery from the site was spectacular: looking north and east, one could see the sun rising over the Mount of Olives, and, just adjacent to the site, the lights of the City of David. Dr. Gibson would give us a daily briefing of what the goals of the day were and, with his famous words "let's get cracking," off we went to our assigned locations to begin digging.

For the first three hours, we slugged it out – picking, hoeing, sweeping and uncovering ancient treasures and special finds. They were identified by the archaeologists



on hand, then documented and sent off to be washed and catalogued. Breakfast was an interesting feature of the day. At around 9 a.m., volunteers were needed to climb up the 70 steps to pick up our breakfast, which a truck from the hotel delivered as close as it could get to the site. The well-deserved meal was an elaborate spread of cakes, jams, jellies, halva (a sesame seed and honey treat), breads with hummus, babba ganoush, cheeses, hard-boiled eggs and a tuna salad with black olives (which I loved) and more. There were cold juices as well as lots of hot black tea and Arabic coffee to wash it all down. We gathered under the breakfast tent and sat on massive dusty stones to eat our meal. (No doubt, we also consumed some of the dust that was everywhere!)

November 2017

The site being excavated is an elaborate mansion that was in the heart of Jerusalem 2,000 years ago - the time of Jesus. It is located near the excavated home of Caiaphas, the high priest involved in the trial of Jesus that led to his crucifixion (John 18:13-28). It is believed that the wealthy, priestly ruling class of Jerusalem lived in this neighbourhood. "Caiaphas was the son-in-law of Annas, who had six sons who were high priests. He (Annas) ran the show for about 60 years, putting his sons in one after the other, and his son-in-law Caiaphas, along the way. So perhaps these are the homes of that extended priestly dynasty," Dr. Tabor said. The mansion had its own cistern, a mikveh (a Jewish ritual bathing pool), a barrel-vaulted ceiling and a chamber with three bread ovens. A bathtub carved out of the bedrock with its ceiling intact was found - an extremely rare luxury that commoners of the time could not afford. "It's clear from the finds that the people living here were wealthy, aristocrats or even priests," said Dr. Gibson.

One of the highlights of the day was the popsicle break. It came at around 11:30 a.m. Some local boys who did small chores around the dig distributed popsicles of various flavours. I have never looked so forward to seeing a popsicle! By this time, the sun was right overhead and streaming through the holes, here and there, in the worn tarp over us. One was hot and covered with Crusader and first-century dust from head to toe! And, did I tell you that there happened to be a heat wave in Jerusalem at the time? By the time our day ended at 1:30 p.m. and we formed another human chain to return all our tools to the shed (across the busy street, with each passing car blaring its horn), the temperature was hovering near 40C. For me, the only dreaded part of my day was climbing up those 70 concrete steps, walking over those slippery cobblestones, through Zion Gate, then making my way through the crowded streets of Jerusalem - mostly uphill - back to the hotel, in the heat and covered in ancient dust!

Seriously, though, it was a very small price to pay for the invaluable learning experience and awesome blessing of digging on Mount Zion of the time of Jesus.

The Rev. Canon Claire Wade is the incumbent of St. Thomas, Brooklin.



Advent and Christmas at The Church of St Peter and St Simon-the-Apostle

Advent Lessons and Carols – Sunday December 3, 4pm Begin the Season of Advent with a service of readings and carols. A social gathering featuring fruit cake and sherry will follow the service.



**Nine Lessons and Carols – Sunday December 17, 4pm** A beloved traditional selection of carols and readings by candlelight. A social gathering featuring mince tarts and mulled wine will follow.

> **Christmas Eve – Sunday December 24, 10pm** A candlelit traditional Eucharist service featuring Christmas carols & choral music.

**Christmas Day – Monday December 25, 10:30am** A joyful and reverent celebration of the Nativity.

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All are welcome! The Church of St Peter and St Simon-the-Apostle 525 Bloor Street East / 40 Howard Street 416-923-8714 office@stsimons.ca ~ www.stsimons.ca LOFI

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