

Three Anglican women honoured

Church explores 'ancient future'



A revelation for hard times

# The Anglican

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Newspaper ads invite people to church on Easter Day and show diocese's support for Earth Day.

## Diocese runs ads

BY HENRIETA PAUKOV

**THE** Diocese of Toronto invited 420,000 people to church on Easter Day and showed its support of Earth Day to another 700,000.

The diocese ran a large ad in *The Toronto Star*, the country's largest newspaper, during Holy Week. It invited people to church on April 4 to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

"You hit the nail on the head," said Paul Camilleri, a *Star* reader, after he read the ad. "Easter is the most important time of the year and we need to acknowledge it."

A Roman Catholic, he said he admired the Anglican Church for running the ad. "I was surprised

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## Anonymous donor offers challenge

Increased donations to FaithWorks matched

BY STUART MANN

**IN** celebration of FaithWorks' 15th anniversary, donors can now make their contributions go even further.

Thanks to a \$75,000 challenge grant from an anonymous donor, churches, individuals and corporations who give a higher amount to FaithWorks this year than they did last year will see their increased givings matched, up to a maximum of \$5,000 per contributor.

For example, if a church gave \$10,000 to FaithWorks last year and raises \$11,000 this year, the challenge grant will provide another \$1,000, resulting in a total donation to FaithWorks of \$12,000. Churches, individuals and corporations that have never before contributed to FaithWorks are also eligible to have their donations matched.

Donors can take advantage of this incentive until Oct. 31, 2010. Susan McCulloch, manager of

the FaithWorks campaign, hopes Anglicans will take advantage of this special challenge. "This is the first time we've had this opportunity to match donations dollar for dollar. Anglicans are very generous and they will see this as an opportunity to contribute even more meaningfully to the work of our FaithWorks' ministries and partners."

She says the extra funding will go a long way to help those most

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## Faith groups cook up plan

BY GAIL TURNER

**AS** Canada prepares to host the G8 and G20 meetings in Huntsville and Toronto June 25-27, Anglicans are encouraged to help organize or participate in interfaith dinners with their Member of Parliament.

The idea is simple: before June 20, together with people of other faiths in your neighbourhood, arrange a dinner with your MP where discussion will centre on three global concerns: poverty, care of creation and peace.

The dinner can be as simple or elaborate as you can arrange: perhaps 100 guests with special speakers or a gathering of eight people, including your MP, in private conversation around a dining room table.

To assist in preparing the dinner, Interfaith Partners, a coalition of 23 faith groups, has prepared a resource kit, which is available on its website, [www.faithchallengeg8.com](http://www.faithchallengeg8.com). The kit includes the group's statement, A Time for Inspired Leadership, as a basis for the dinner conversation.

In the statement, world leaders are asked to "put first the needs and values of the majority of the world's population, of future generations and of Earth itself." It calls on leaders to:

- address the immediate needs of the most vulnerable, while simultaneously making structural changes to close the

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## June paper will be late

**IN** order to report on General Synod, which will be held in Halifax June 3-11, the next issue of the *Anglican Journal* and *The Anglican* will be published in late June.

# Report near on pastoral response

BY STUART MANN

A commission appointed by Archbishop Colin Johnson to recommend a pastoral response to those who want their same-gender relationships blessed in the church was expected to submit its report to Archbishop Johnson and the College of Bishops by late April.

The commission has been meeting since last November. It includes the Rev. Andrew Federle, Archdeacon Peter Fenty, the Rev. Daniel Graves, the Rev. Canon Douglas Graydon, Sylvia Keesmaat, Suzanne Lawson, Leonard Leader, the Rev. Judy Paulsen, Sister Elizabeth Rolfe-Thomas SSJD, the Rev. Canon Gregory Symmes, the Rev. Nicola Skinner and Marilyn Yeung.

Archbishop Johnson asked the group to do the following:

- Review the recent literature

on the pertinent issues (e.g. The Galilee Report).

- Establish criteria for the selection of appropriate parishes to be given permission to bless same-gender relationships.
- Define the identifiable marks of "stable, longer-term and committed relationships."
- Prepare a set of broad liturgical guidelines for that which needs to be celebrated.
- Establish a defined list of that which must be excluded from such a service.
- Make recommendations for the care of clergy and parishes with conscientious and theological objections.
- Make recommendations for the pastoral care for same-gender couples in those parishes not designated.
- Define criteria for an appropriate evaluation to take place af-

ter one year.

Archbishop Johnson and the College of Bishops said last year that the issue of same-gender blessings requires a pastoral response rather than a legislative decision such as a vote at synod. "We are committed to remaining in alignment with the decisions and recommendations of General Synod and Lambeth," said Archbishop Johnson. "At the same time, we are trying to act in accordance with the House of Bishops' statement to develop the most generous pastoral response to our local situation. Given that, we think that a pastoral response and not a legislative one is the correct way to move forward." Synod discussed the bishops' proposal for a pastoral response at its gathering last May.

Archbishop Johnson and the College of Bishops are expected to receive and review the com-

mission's report and then determine what the pastoral response would look like.

Archdeacon Peter Fenty, who is the executive officer to the Bishop of Toronto, said he was impressed by the commission's work and discussions. "What's impressed me most is the very respectful way in which all members of the commission have come to this work – listening with respect, speaking with respect, very sensitive to the reality that we have different perspectives on same-gender relationships and same-gender blessings.

"For me, the commission modeled what I would like to see practised in the church on how we come to the issue of same-gender relationships in our community and when dealing with any other very difficult challenges facing the church."

## G8, G20 meetings spark action

Continued from Page 1

- growing gap between rich and poor;
- prioritize long-term environmental sustainability and halt climate change, while addressing its impacts on the poor;
- invest in peace and remove factors that feed cycles of violent conflict and costly militarism.

There are also helpful tips on organizing an interfaith dinner, such as checking with guests concerning dietary restrictions and encouraging everyone to speak from their own experience. Other helpful suggestions emphasize treating your MP as an ally and focusing on how our faith communities can work with him or her. Provision is made for multi-faith prayers and for acknowledging the aboriginal people on whose land we meet.

To organize a dinner, begin by contacting the leaders of another faith community in your area. Decide the style and format of a dinner you can arrange together. Contact your local MP to discuss a suitable date. Use the Interfaith Partners' resource kit to guide you throughout your planning and the dinner itself.

Be flexible. In some areas, interfaith dinners are already being planned. Offer to help, or encourage your parish to participate.

If a dinner is not feasible in your riding, there are other ways to carry forward the message:


- Have an interfaith group meet with your MP in his or her office.
- Distribute the petition prepared by Interfaith Partners, which is available on its website.
- Include concerns and prayers for the G8 and G20 leaders in your Prayers of the People during the month of June.
- Invite a person of another faith to speak in your parish about how and why they engage with issues of poverty, sustainable environment and peace.
- Jointly prepare an interfaith message as an op-ed to be published in your community newspaper.

On the national level, leaders from many faith traditions will be meeting June 21-23 in Winnipeg to discuss ways to communicate with world leaders and press them for action on the 2010 Interfaith Statement, which requests world leaders to address poverty, care for the earth and invest in peace. The Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, Archbishop Fred Hiltz, will chair the meeting.

If you plan to have a dinner with your MP or take part in interfaith initiatives leading up to the G8 and G20 meetings, contact the diocese's Social Justice and Advocacy consultant, Murray MacAdam, at mmacadam@toronto.anglican.ca.

Gail Turner is a member of Epiphany & St. Mark, Parkdale, and a member of the Diocesan Environmental Working Group.

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## Ads invite readers, promote Earth Day

Continued from Page 1

to see the ad. In this day and age, you don't often see a proclamation stated like that. I'm with you 100 per cent."

Another reader responded: "As I walked through the mall yesterday, it was all about Easter bunnies and face painting. But your ad reminded me that it is about the resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Thank you for doing that."

The diocese ran another ad on April 15 in *Metro*, the free commuter newspaper, and *NOW*, Toronto's alternative weekly, to

celebrate Earth Day. It urged people to care for God's creation.

The Earth Day ad was created by Jonathan Careless, a member of St. Paul, Bloor Street, and a copywriter at Dentsu advertising agency in Toronto. The text for the Easter ad was supplied by the Church Ad Project, an initiative of the Episcopal Church in the United States.

"Working on a campaign for the diocese was especially rewarding, as it's something I truly believe in," said Mr. Careless.

The diocese plans to produce a similar ad for Back to Church Sunday in September and another for Christmas in its continuing effort to engage with the culture.

The diocese published an ad in 2008 and two more in 2009. Two of the ads called on the provincial government to take steps to help the poor, and the third ad invited people to church for Christmas.

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# Three honoured for leadership

Women contribute to church, society

BY CAROLYN PURDEN

**THREE** Anglican women from the Diocese of Toronto have been honoured for their leadership and volunteer service.

Canon Alice Jean Finlay and Elizabeth Loweth are to receive the Anglican Award of Merit, while Delores Lawrence is a recipient of the Black Business and Professional Association Harry Jerome Award, which honours excellence in the African Canadian community.

Canon Finlay says she is “absolutely surprised and grateful” to receive the Award of Merit. The national church’s Council of General Synod confers the award on lay people who have made an outstanding contribution to the church.

A member of the Church of the Redeemer in Toronto, Canon Finlay has served with many church organizations, including Kairos, the Fellowship of the Least Coin and the World Day of Prayer. She was a member of the central com-



Canon Alice Jean Finlay

mittee of the World Council of Churches and served on its general assembly planning committee.

She has also served the national church, helping to draw up and implement its strategic plan in the mid-’90s. Today, she sits on the board of trustees of the centennial fund of the World Student Christian Federation in Geneva.

Of all her service, Canon Finlay takes most satisfaction from her participation in an ecumenical tour in 2001 of southern Sudan, which was being torn apart by civil war. The five-person group talked to displaced people about whether the oil companies, and particularly Talisman Energy, were exacerbating the civil war. “In the conversations we had, it became clear that that



Delores Lawrence

was the case,” she says. When the group returned to Canada, they raised public awareness of Talisman’s role, and ultimately Talisman pulled out of the country.

During her career, Elizabeth Loweth has been a strong champion for human rights. She has served as human rights officer for the United Church, chair of the human rights committee of the Canadian Council of Churches and as a member of ecumenical coalitions.

A member of St. Clement, Eglinton, Ms. Loweth is a former president of the diocesan Anglican Church Women and a former executive director of the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews and the Canadian Centre for Ethics and Corporate Policy. She is currently



Elizabeth Loweth

the Canadian coordinator for the Anglican Communion’s International Anglican Women’s Network.

Women’s concerns are a priority for Ms. Loweth. “Since 2002, I have benefited from being at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, where thousands of women volunteers come each year to speak out for justice and peace,” she says.

“While I deeply appreciate being honoured with the Anglican Award of Merit, I have to accept it as an acknowledgement of the contributions of all the women in our church,” she adds. “I realize that it represents all of those women here and abroad who labour continuously for a peace-

ful and just world order.”

Delores Lawrence, a member of the Order of Ontario and a recent appointee to the Ontario Judicial Council, is the founder, president and CEO of NHI Nursing and Homemakers Inc. She spent six years on the board of governors of Seneca College, two of them as chair, and has been a dedicated volunteer in the African Canadian community.

Ms. Lawrence is also an involved Anglican. A member of Diocesan Council and the diocesan Executive Committee, she is a long-time church warden at St. Matthew the Apostle, Oriole, and has been on the parish advisory board for 14 years. In May, she will be graduating from the lay ministry program at Wycliffe College.

Ms. Lawrence says that receiving the Harry Jerome Award is a “nice compliment,” adding, “I’m very grateful.”

Her professional life has been a source of pride, she says, especially the ability of her company — which employs more than 1,000 nurses — to offer employment to a diverse group of people. Most of her employees are women, many of them are from minority groups and many are single mothers.

“The important thing for me is to be able to help a lot of people,” she says.

## Fresh expressions course coming to episcopal areas

BY STUART MANN

**HAVE** you ever thought about starting a fresh expression of church? Do you wonder what all the talk about “being missional” means or have concerns about it?

The diocese has a course for you. It’s called Mission Shaped Intro, and it will be held in each episcopal area this fall so that wherever you are in the diocese, you will have the chance to attend.

“It’s for those who are curious about what fresh expressions actually are,” says the Rev. Jenny Andison, the archbishop’s officer for mission. “What are they? Why do we need them? Why are they so important to the future of the church?”

Fresh expressions are new forms of church created primarily for those who are not members of any church. There are more than 2,000 in the U.K. and new ones are popping up in Canada. They can be held in pubs, coffee shops, offices — wherever people gather.

“If you realize that the world has changed hugely and you want to see how your local church can pass on the faith it has received to

the next generation and how you can be part of that, this is the place to come,” says Ms. Andison, referring to the course.

She says the course is for everyone. “It values every single member of the congregation. This is not just for keepers. It’s for all of us.”

In fact, she says, most fresh expressions of church are started by two or three lay people who want to connect with those people in their neighborhood who have no experience of church. “It’s the quiet, small groups of people that start things. That’s the history of the church. These people do something amazing for God.”

Mission Shaped Intro follows up on Mission Possible, a Bible study that was held in many parishes in Lent. It looks in depth at how society has changed, and what are some of the ways that the church is now called to be faithful and innovative in the midst of that rapid change.

Ms. Andison says it’s not a how-to course. “You’re not going to come out of this knowing how to start a fresh expression. Rather, it’s about why we should be creating fresh expressions of church in

the first place. What has happened in our world that we need to come together and think about how to do church in faithful and innovative ways so as to pass on the faith? This course is about developing a missional mind-set.” A how-to course is in the works, she adds.

Mission Shaped Intro will be held over six weeks in the fall. The dates and locations for the course in each episcopal area have not been finalized. Ms. Andison hopes churches will send teams of people so the learning and excitement can be shared and multiplied.

She urges those who are reluctant to get involved to give it a try. “To be effective in reaching out to those who are not part of church, any Christian community requires all of its members to be playing their specific part. Some are going to be out in front leading the church; others are going to be behind the scenes. But it takes all of us to really be the face of Christ in our local neighbourhoods.”

More information on Mission Shaped Intro will be published on the diocese’s website as it becomes available, or email Ms. Andison at [jandison@toronto.anglican.ca](mailto:jandison@toronto.anglican.ca).

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# How will we live amidst change?



Sometimes you pick up a book that manages to sum up the half-thoughts and unfinished discussions that have been circling in your own head. That is how I felt as I read *The Great Emergence*, by

Phyllis Tickle. I read the entire book in a few hours and knew that it was articulating what I had been sensing. It gave me a framework for many conversations that I know will follow.

It will be of no surprise to many that we are in a time of rapid and dramatic change in all aspects of our lives, secular and religious. Ms. Tickle offers a broad overview of the shift in which we find ourselves, a shift like that of the Reformation in the 16th century and similar ones prior to it. For example, the upheavals of the 20th century — in science through nuclear and quantum physics; in human relationships by the invention of the birth control pill and the emancipation of women; in communication through radio, television and the Internet — have radically altered centres of power and authority. Even though people identify themselves as “spiritual,” their connection to particular expressions of spirituality in church have become

## BISHOP'S OPINION

BY BISHOP LINDA NICHOLLS

weaker. With the speed and availability of communication, denominational demarcations are less important as people create their own communities, drawing on the traditions, scriptural passages and experiences that feed them. Responses from the church vary from retrenchment along dogmatic lines to experimentation with emerging alternatives. These kinds of shifts often involve deep and painful conflicts. The Reformation itself was a time of bloodshed over such theological and ecclesiastical differences. Ms. Tickle is clear that the end of the upheaval is not yet in sight and we will be in the midst of this shift for some time to come.

The good news is that each shift in the past has resulted in the extension of the church across the world. Though divided into new forms, the church has spread through its reformations and rebirths. Ms. Tickle tries to name possible characteristics of what is emerging, though she admits it is difficult to have enough distance for a clear perspective while we are in the midst of such change.

The Great Emergence is one piece in the ongoing conversation we need to have about what is happening in our church and the world. Greater clarity about the big picture can help us listen in new ways to the conflicts we experience in our families, our parishes and our world. How will we live while we are in our time of transformation? What is the clearest message about the Gospel that we can give in the midst of upheavals and change? The early disciples dealt with this as they emerged from Easter and were empowered at Pentecost. The world would not be the same again. Their passionate faith, clarity about the message of forgiveness and new life in Christ, and care for one another can be a starting place for us as we seek to be faithful in our generation in the midst of change. At times we need the articulation of a broad overview, like Ms. Tickle's, to focus on the present and help continue the conversation leading into the future. Maybe your next parish book study could be this one!

*Phyllis Tickle will be speaking at St. John's Convent May 13-16. For more information, visit the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine's website, [www.ssjd.ca](http://www.ssjd.ca).*

# Stepping into the unknown

BY HELEN ROBINSON

One Sunday morning last November, I stood at the Toronto docks, waiting for the ferry to take me to Ward's Island. Thick fog hid the island. It was impossible to prove land was really there. As the ferry traveled across the harbour, trees and houses gradually emerged from the mist. When the ferry docked and I set foot on solid ground, there was no doubt that the island was really there.

There have been times in my life when I have felt God pushing me to go in a different direction. I have been uncertain. I have wanted to know for sure that I was taking the right step. It seemed to me as if God was saying, “Take that step, then you will know.”

Last fall, I loosened my ties with the church I had attended for many years. This was an unexpected decision. I had spent the summer going to other churches. When September arrived, I realized that God had moved me to another place. I had

changed. I felt I was invited to leave the pew I had occupied on Sundays and explore God's world outside the familiar community. It was a decision with which I struggled. But it seemed as if God was saying, “Take this first step, then I will show you where I am taking you.”

One of the challenges of traveling an unfamiliar path is finding that the usual landmarks are not present. For years, I attended bible studies, belonged to small groups, and worshipped at traditional and contemporary services. These landmarks grounded me in my faith. They also gave me security, and I was comfortable with them. Now I am discovering other markers to show me the way.

Perhaps God prepared me for this change in direction when I attended an Advent retreat led by the Rev. Philip Roderick, founder of Contemplative Fire, one of the fresh expressions of the Anglican and Methodist churches in England. I was awakened to different experi-

ences of worship, and I was reminded that if I listen, God sometimes speaks to me through the reflective side of my nature.

I met for several weeks with the Rev. Anne Crosthwait, who is seeding this ministry in Canada through the Diocese of Toronto. After exploring what it means to have a rhythm of life based on prayer, study and action, I decided to become a member of Contemplative Fire. As I encounter God's world outside the traditional church, I am drawn to the description of this ministry as “a community of Christ on the edge” and “a monastery without walls.”

I now attend St. Andrew-by-the-Lake on Toronto Island. The island in winter looks quite different from the island in summer. The temperature is lower than it is in the city. Sometimes there is ice and snow piled in front of the church. Boys play hockey on a frozen lake. I have found a new landscape. I am gaining a new perspective and appreciation of how the island community lives in winter.

In her book, *An Altar in the World*, the Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor writes of Abraham and Sarah and their willingness to set off on a divinely inspired trip without a map, equipped with nothing but God's promise to be with them. They could have said, “No, thank you.” But they would never have found out what Egypt looked like. There were people they would never have met. Life would not have changed.

Like Abraham and Sarah, I am not young. This is an adventure. I am not alone. There are other companions who are following the path of Contemplative Fire. I am getting to know the members of a new church that reaches out to the people who live around it with unconditional hospitality. These two ministries complement each other and nourish me as I venture into uncharted territory. They reassure me that I am on solid ground and going in the right direction.

*Helen Robinson is a member of Contemplative Fire and lives in Toronto.*

## LETTERS

### An opportunity to pull together

I read Archbishop Johnson's Diary in the March issue in which he reflected on the first 15 years of FaithWorks. Of special interest to me were his recollections of how FaithWorks was born. At the time, it did not occur to the four-person team that created FaithWorks that we were taking a risk in proposing this new annual program. It seemed to us to

be the most natural thing in the world to do: we only had to create the name and process through which our parishes could act together to make a bigger difference to the many lives in need of help. The name FaithWorks had a double meaning: it was to be a concrete example of how our faith works through our works of faith. The program was to be ongoing as, sadly, the needs never end.

I recall the synod meeting when FaithWorks was proposed and our small team's excitement at giving our diocese this opportunity to pull together and ex-

ceed our expectations. One of the most exciting parts of FaithWorks was that it enabled all parishes in the diocese to hitch their own outreach programs to the FaithWorks wagon, so as to be successful in their communities when their own outreach programs were falling short. We suggested that parish clusters could pool their resources to fund a larger program that none could support on their own or use FaithWorks as a pool to fund programs that could not get off the ground without help.

It is not surprising to me that FaithWorks continues to be suc-

cessful, as it represents the works of our faith at its best. However, I still get a lump in my throat every time I see the “thank you” messages from the FaithWorks partners. Just hearing parishes use the name FaithWorks with their good news stories continues to give my faith in our church a boost.

Thank you for recalling the memories: they were exciting times for us, and they keep on happening through FaithWorks every day.

Ward McCance  
Cobourg



## The Anglican

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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 language-based congregations, including African, Caribbean, Chinese, Filipino, French, Hispanic, Japanese, Korean and Tamil. The City of Toronto has the largest population of aboriginal peoples in the country.

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# Don't be afraid to question

BY AMIT PARASAR

I recently read a claim made by a religious sceptic that religion fosters ignorance because people are discouraged from questioning their faith. I feel that this is a dubious assertion because I've had quite the opposite experience with Christianity. Ever since I was a teenager, my pastors encouraged me to question my faith. At the time, I thought this was strange advice considering the source. Only now do I understand the reasoning behind this encouragement.

I've experienced the most intellectual and professional growth when I was challenged in those areas. The challenges always required a lot of effort, but the effort I invested paid off tenfold in the understanding that it yielded. Likewise, since our faith is our relationship with God, it shouldn't be stagnant but should be cultivated to grow. Like our intellect and professional skill, faith grows when it's challenged. "If faith never encounters doubt, if truth never struggles with error...how can faith know its own power?" asks Gary Parker in *The Gift of Doubt*.

I should clarify that questions and doubt aren't the same thing. A question can be defined as a matter for discussion or investiga-

tion. A doubt is a feeling of uncertainty about the truth, reality or nature of something. Questions can lead to doubts and doubts should raise questions. I believe that doubts only become an impediment to faith when people stop questioning, discussing and investigating.

Imagine you have tough questions about your faith. You have devout friends that you mistakenly think can answer your questions. You inquire of them and they're stumped. You could approach someone like a priest who has the knowledge and ability to help you, but you don't do that.

It's odd that people are sensible enough to go to a doctor as a specialist in health care when they're sick, but are reluctant to approach a specialist in matters of faith when faith is suffering. It might be a fear of judgement for doubts that prevents people from approaching priests. If your priest is someone who would judge or condemn you because you have serious questions about your faith, then I suggest finding another priest.

Some people decide that faith and Christianity can't overcome the doubt that has developed in them. This is laziness. It is a failure to put the right effort into faith. If a child hasn't put the right effort into studying and fails

a test, what would the parent's reaction be?

Christianity is thousands of years old and is rooted in Judaism, which is thousands of years older. The chances are that someone has had the same questions as you and someone has answered them. You simply haven't sought out the answer. Loss of faith doesn't happen because faith is silly, like some critics claim. Faith is lost because of a decision made that faith isn't worth the effort.

People have told me that they really want to believe but can't. Frankly, I don't believe them because if they really wanted to believe, they would put more effort into their faith. As King David said to his son Solomon, "If you seek (God), He will be found by you..." [1 Chronicles 28: 9].

Don't be afraid to question and even to doubt, but don't let your doubts overwhelm you. God gave you an inquisitive mind to think for yourself, so use it. God won't abandon you because of your doubts. Just look at Peter when he walked on water with Jesus, doubted and began to sink. Jesus didn't let him drown. Rather, he took Peter by the hand and pulled him out of the sea.

*Amit Parasar is a member of St. Paul on-the-Hill, Pickering.*

## EDITOR'S CORNER

BY STUART MANN

# Adventure awaits on the road

Our tour guide spoke with the unmistakable twang of the American south. This was unusual, as we were standing in the cathedral in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

After we finished the tour, I asked him how he ended up there. It turned out he had gone to the University of Maine, where he had met his future wife. Upon graduation they had come back to her hometown, Fredericton, and there they had remained. Taking people on a walkabout of the cathedral and pointing out all the odd nooks and crannies was one of the joys of his life.

This sort of story is common in churches all across our country, and is one of the reasons why I love going to them. For the past 16 years I've had the good fortune of belonging to a group of Anglican editors who meet in a Canadian city once a year. During our stay we always attend a service at a local church, and it is always one of the highlights of my trip.

I remember the cathedral in St. John's, Newfoundland, with its impressive stone walls. By contrast, I will never forget the little wooden church beside the Red River, south of Winnipeg, that had a stovepipe running up the middle of it and out the roof. The pulpit seemed dangerously high and I hoped it wouldn't topple over during the bishop's sermon.

The restored church in Lunenburg is staggeringly beautiful, the cathedral in Victoria has gorgeous natural light and Trinity church in Saint John, New Brunswick, oozes history on an overcast day, so much so that you can almost hear the colonial troops marching by as the rain comes in off the Bay of Fundy.

While all of the churches are Anglican, they're each very different, shaped by the materials at hand, the people who built them, their history and the weather. In every case we've been treated to great hospitality. Anglicans love to show visitors around their churches and then celebrate afterwards with a tea or even a barbecue on the lawn. Some of the best meals I've ever had were at such gatherings.

If you're going to travel in Canada this summer on your vacation, plan to stop at the local church. Chances are, you'll find someone who will let you in to have a look. It could be the start of a beautiful adventure.

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# Lessons learned from sailing

BY THE REV. W. TAY MOSS

I'm very happy that we have finally come to sailing season after a winter that was, well, mediocre as winters go. Where was Eliot's "forgetful snow?" April has indeed been the cruelest month, teasing us with the possibility of lunch on the deck and softball in the park. But now, dear friends, we have finally arrived at the beginning of the summer. And the beginning of summer brings sailing and sailing brings over-wrought sermon illustrations. Here is mine, purely fictitious.

Once upon a time the synod of the Diocese of Toronto was held on the Toronto Islands. The morning of registration, several priests and their delegates arrived late to the ferry dock. Dismayed by missing the boat, several attempted to find their own passage to the island.

One priest, fond of "power walks" and "power shakes" and "circuit training" until he throws up, decided to rent a kayak. He strapped his delegate to the hull and pushed off. With brute force, he pulled himself across the inner harbour, one paddle-full of water at a time. Alas, a strong wind and current forced them off course and he ended up giving up in frustration. Naturally, he blamed himself for his inability to "get it done" and went home sulking.

Another priest commandeered a dragon boat and forced his delegates to row across the water to a steady drum beat of fear and intimidation. "Paddle for your lives or we will sink!" Most of his crew quickly burned out. When he threatened to throw them overboard, there was a mutiny and he was the one who ended up floating miserably next to discarded sandwich wrappers, water bottles and other debris.

A third priest, a young one, put down her iPhone after tweeting to her Facebook account, "OMG, missed boat 2 mtng of #synod! WWJD?" and decided to put her trust in a different technology. She rented a powerboat. Alas, technology has a way of failing at the most inappropriate times. She made it halfway across the harbour before the motor stopped. Shrugging to her bewildered synod reps, she pulled out her iPhone and tweeted, "Stuck on water, but have cell phone reception, TBG."

The fourth priest was wise in the ways of Zen and the Force. A decorated veteran of the liturgy wars with the scars to prove it, this sharp-eyed master of pragmatic ministry put his hopes in a 27-foot sloop he saw tied up the dock. As he untied the sleek sailboat, someone asked him what he was doing. "The Lord Bishop has need of it," he replied.

Setting the sails in tight, the Canon-of-Calm and his crew zig-zagged against a

south wind. Relaxed yet attentive, he trimmed his sails and then settled down at the helm; only small adjustments were necessary as the wind moved the boat on God's time. One of his synod reps, a retired bartender, liberated the rum in the galley to make a recreational beverage or three. As providence would have it, they arrived at the island just in time for lunch.

The obvious lesson is that ministry, like sailing, is about creating a structure that harnesses the prevailing dynamics of the environment to bring change. Sailing is all about balancing the forces. More aesthetics than athletics, a well-configured sailboat seems to sail itself – such is the harmony of water and wind and fiberglass and Kevlar. Of course, sometimes there simply isn't much wind, and on days like that it is still pleasant to sit with friends and wait on the water. Other times, you might get the exhilarating feeling that comes with a strong wind and an occasional spray of lake water.

I find myself spending far too much time with a paddle in hand, attempting to power my parish to prosperity, but if I were wiser I would spend more time with a finger up in the air, feeling for wind.

*The Rev. W. Tay Moss is the incumbent of Church of the Messiah, Toronto.*

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# Walk focuses on exclusion of poor

Christians urged to remove barriers to jobs, housing

BY MAGGIE HELWIG

FOR more than 30 years, an ecumenical group has presented, and invited participation in, the Good Friday Walk for Justice in downtown Toronto. Each year, a series of "stations" considers a different theme related to social justice, but the overriding theme remains the same – the continuing crucifixion of the marginalized and oppressed in our community at the hands of the powerful and privileged. On April 2, the focus of the walk was on exclusion, inclusion and the barriers that our system erects to full participation in society.

The walk began with a service at Holy Trinity, Trinity Square; then, about 100 people moved out from the church to follow the route of the "stations." Near the Eaton Centre, children from Philippine Advocacy Through Arts and Culture used music and drama to tell the story of highly trained immigrants who are unable to practice their professions in Canada and often end up doing menial work for very low wages, without benefits or job protection.

Between the Gateway Shelter for Men and a new condominium, shelter director Dion Oxford used ropes and colleagues to demonstrate the amount of space available to luxury condo dwellers as opposed to social assistance recipients, who can often barely afford poorly maintained single units for large families. He asked that the

walkers consider the nature of a system in which the wealthy can purchase space, property and privacy unavailable to the poor, and proposed that Toronto is "for sale to the highest bidder."

At the next station, FoodShare presented a dialogue between a "farmer" and a low-income Toronto resident, pointing out the contradictions in a situation where the urban poor are unable to have access to fresh, local fruits and vegetables, while farmers are unable to make a living through small-scale diversified farming. They asked the walkers to think more deeply about food production and distribution systems, and why it is that stores are filled with imported food produced by the agribusiness monoculture model, while local produce is unavailable or prohibitively expensive. They also distributed information about community garden projects and ways that churches can make connections to food justice.

At the final station, members of L'Arche Toronto (an intentional faith community in the Danforth and Riverdale neighbourhoods, in which adults with different intellectual abilities live, work and create a home together) presented a visually striking and mostly non-verbal performance which spoke of some of the reasons for, and feelings around, exclusion of the disabled, the elderly, and the different.

As the walk's mission statement said, "Jesus confronted the life-



Children from the group Philippine Advocacy Through Arts and Culture make a statement at the Good Friday Walk for Justice in downtown Toronto on April 2. At right, Christians walk to another stop on the route. The theme of this year's ecumenical walk was exclusion.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

denying forces of his day and entered death, showing us that our lives, too, can confront and overcome the forces of death in our day. Conversion of our lives and of the death-dealing power systems of our times is within our reach."

The walk presented us with a call to conversion of life and action for justice, which should be a central part not only of our Good Friday but of our Eastertide as well.



## Gala celebrates composer

A gala concert and reception are planned to celebrate the 100th birthday of the late Walter MacNutt, a Canadian composer, organist, choir director, and teacher. The event will be held on June 2 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Thomas, 383 Huron St., Toronto.

In the realm of church music, "Walter was one of the giants who roamed the land," says John Tuttle, organist of St. Thomas's, the University of Toronto, and Trinity College, who will lead choristers in a broad sampling of Mr.

MacNutt's music.

The host of the concert will be Giles Bryant, former organist of St. James Cathedral and St. Mary Magdalene, Toronto. Piano solos and vocal accompaniments will be provided by pianist, composer, and radio host Peter Tiefenbach. Vocal soloists will include tenor James Tuttle and soprano Denise Williams.

Most of Mr. MacNutt's compositions are sacred works, dating from his 23 years as director of music at St. Thomas's. He is per-

haps best known and revered by those who make music in church, but he sought to craft pieces that would be appealing and accessible to performers and listeners alike.

"He knew instinctively how to convey the meaning of the liturgy through music, and to encourage congregational singing," says Robert MacLennan. "Many visitors, including church musicians, made the pilgrimage to St. Thomas's to hear his thrilling improvisations and hymn accompaniments."

## FaithWorks has raised nearly \$18 million

Continued from Page 1

at need. "What we want to do is raise money to support the work of our ministries in the community. We know that the need is there and we want to encourage people to give generously."

Donations can be made through participating churches, online at [www.faithworks.ca](http://www.faithworks.ca), or by calling (416) 363-6021 or 1-800-668-8932, ext. 244.

Ms. McCulloch says the incentive will help FaithWorks reach its goal of \$1.55 million in 2010. The campaign raised \$1.44 million in 2009.

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need, youth at risk, people living with HIV/AIDS and terminal illnesses, the homeless, prisoners and those with special needs.

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As part of its 15th anniversary celebrations, FaithWorks is participating in episcopal area ministry days, the diocese's annual Outreach Networking Conference, and the Anglican Church Women's annual general meeting.

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# Church explores 'ancient future'

## Winnipeg congregation reimagines tradition

BY HENRIETA PAUKOV

The Rev. Jamie Howison feels slightly uneasy when he hears phrases like “fresh expressions” and “emergent church.” This is ironic, given that for five years he has been running a very successful fresh expression of church, Saint Benedict’s Table, in Winnipeg. “The risk is that it becomes a brand name,” he tells a gathering at Trinity College in Toronto on March 10. “That makes me nervous, because then it’s simply the next package. People are selling massive amounts of stuff to churches that are hoping that this will be the answer.”

The answer, he suggests, is to find solutions that work in each church’s own context. That’s why, instead of offering a “transferable template” to his audience, he simply shares some insights his congregation gained as they founded Saint Benedict’s Table, named after a saint with a unique vision of community. “What we do at Saint Benedict’s Table, liturgically and otherwise, is related to a very particular community in a very particular context,” he says. That happens to be downtown Winnipeg, in the midst of a vibrant music scene and among many who were brought up in the Mennonite tradition.

Every Sunday evening, about 200 people meet at All Saints Anglican Church, where Saint Benedict’s Table rents space. They grab coffee at the back—“fair-trade, dark-roast, decaf; it is night after all”—and visit for a while, before heading to their pews. Then the musicians start playing, signaling the beginning of the service. Instead of books or handouts, people get colourful menus that contain all the text and music they will need to participate in the liturgy. “We have declared ourselves a PowerPoint free zone,” says Mr. Howison, who prefers a low-tech approach, but insists on good sound equipment. The visual focus is the communion table, placed at the foot of the chancel steps, with an icon or other piece of art at the top of the steps.

Music is an important part of worship at Saint Benedict’s Table, with contributions from the many



Steve Bell, a Juno-nominated musician, sings at the launch of the book *Beautiful Mercy*, published by the congregation of Saint Benedict’s Table, a fresh expression of church in Winnipeg. PHOTO BY BRAMWELL RYAN

musicians in the congregation. Mr. Howison learned from former Taizé brother Dirk Lange that worship music can be inspired by tradition, but should reflect the “authentic, ongoing life” of a community, and that it is often best led from within the congregation. “We have song writers who have begun to write out of the Winnipeg prairie roots tradition, music that picks up on the insights of Taizé but happens in our context,” says Mr. Howison.

Moments of silence and stillness, also inspired by Taizé, are built into the liturgy. Mr. Lange told Mr. Howison that “young people want real substance, including deep silence, and they will not long be satisfied with anything that refuses to go deep.” Icons, sounding bowls, incense and communion vessels are used to create an atmosphere rich with symbolism. “Be unafraid of appropriate vestments, ritual, and solemnity,” says Mr. Howison, “but then let those bump up against the joyous human chaos.” At Saint Benedict’s Table, after the service finishes, “it explodes into this extended coffee hour all over this big old building.”

He points out that what Saint Benedict’s Table does liturgically is not particularly radical or experimental. Instead, he believes that it offers “a reimagination of the great sacramental, liturgical tradition that’s providing deep resources for people in their real life.” It is his interpretation of

the idea of the church’s “ancient future,” which he first heard about from liturgical theologian Robert Webber at a clergy conference in 1991, “this idea that to go deep into the roots is the thing that will give the church its greatest strength to move over the coming years.”

The idea of reimagining the tradition stayed with him for the next decade after that conference, through “coffee conversations and pints of beer with friends, who have ultimately deeply shaped the music and the worship life of our community — conversations in which we would sit and thrash around questions of life, faith and the church, and deepen our bonds of friendship.” In 2000, when Mr. Howison and his wife Catherine began to draw up a plan for a new church, the Diocese of Rupert’s Land had not planted a new church since the mid-1960. “We were cutting some new turf,” he says. There was no money available, but by spring of 2003, a group of people started meeting anyway.

“We had three gatherings in a recently vacated church building,” says Mr. Howison. “We had one in somebody’s home and one out on our back terrace. Nine people came to the first one, and by the fifth, there were 25.” Several months in, the fledgling congregation received an unexpected gift. All Saints offered them space rent-free for two years, and \$20,000 as seed money each of those two years. “That was a

huge gift from that community,” he says. They now pay rent to All Saints and are entirely self-sustaining. The administrative structure is minimal, with a part-time ministry coordinator and a volunteer administrator.

Besides musicians, Saint Benedict’s Table has attracted other artists and writers—the congregation recently pooled its talents to create the full-colour book *Beautiful Mercy*, a compilation of music, visual art, creative writing, meditations and reflections—as well as students from Canadian Mennonite University. In his initial proposal, Mr. Howison had envisioned Saint Benedict’s Table would draw people in their 20s and 30s “and others who are looking for a home outside of the conventional parish church.”

“The best thing that happened

to us was ‘and others,’” he says. “We don’t have groups that are in any way defined by age, so everybody is potentially onboard for everything. In *Beautiful Mercy*, the youngest contributor is 13 and the oldest is in her late 60s. The younger musicians love to play with the veterans, because the veterans play differently, and the veterans like to play with the younger players, because they are always stretching. This cross-fertilization has saved us from being a demographically defined church.”

The congregation has a weekly bible study called Table Talk, two breakfast book discussion groups, a lecture series in a local bookstore, and “Theology by the Glass” gatherings in a local pub. Two parishioners with a mental health background run a depression support group. Saint Benedict’s Table has formed a connection with a Benedictine monastery north of the city, helping the nuns with gardening and bringing produce back for the soup kitchen housed at All Saints.

The Sunday evening format has been a blessing, says Mr. Howison. “There is something quite different about an evening service. Again and again people have said: ‘I feel like I finally have something like a Sabbath day.’ They feel like Sunday is actually a breathing day that ends with worship. It’s also meant it’s become a real centre for students. And we have quite a number of working musicians who are often playing late on Saturday night.” They are now trying out a second, earlier service for parents with children.

The best part of being a young congregation, in every sense of the word, says Mr. Howison, is that “energy and ideas are always getting generated, and nobody says: ‘Well, we used to do it this way.’ Everything is still possible.”

For more information about Saint Benedict’s Table, visit [www.stbenedictstable.ca](http://www.stbenedictstable.ca).

## Canadians elected to American Theological Society

THE Rev. Dr. Ann Jervis of the Church of the Redeemer and Wycliffe College, Toronto, was elected to the American Theological Society, meeting at Princeton Theological Seminary in March. At that meeting, the Rev. Dr. Peter

Slater of Christ Church, Deer Park, and Trinity College, Toronto, became the third Canadian ever to be elected president in its 100 year history. The other Canadians were the Rev. Dr. Joanne McWilliam and the Rev. Canon Eugene Fairweath-

er, also of Trinity College. The American Theological Society is an honour society of 100 active members from mostly theological colleges and seminaries on the eastern seaboard.

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# Trent-Durham area day draws 300

## Church growth sessions popular

BY JIM WELLER

**THE** Trent-Durham Area Day, held on March 6 at St. Peter, Cobourg, drew over 300 people and was widely considered one of the best ever.

The day was built around 25 workshops for adults that covered a broad range of topics. There were also workshops for youth and a program for younger children. The theme for the day was "Waters of Life" and Bishop Linda Nicholls told how she sees our faith and our church from her perspective as a canoeist. As well, the closing eucharist featured a canoe in the sanctuary into which the congregation placed their hopes and prayers written on paper paddles.

Five well-attended workshops dealt with a topic that is on the minds of many Anglicans: how to come to grips with the reality of declining church membership despite a sustained thirst for spirituality within the public at large. Bishop Nicholls noted that we are in a "radical paradigm shift" and that "while the message we proclaim is timeless, the package it comes in is not." This much-needed change in packaging was dealt with in sessions by Dr. John Bowen, a professor at Wycliffe College, and the Rev. Jenny Anderson, the archbishop's officer for mission. Both focused on the topic of fresh expressions of church. They said we need to take the church to where people are, whether it be coffee shops or pubs. The church must be like water: flexible, fluid and changeable, said Dr. Bowen.

Another standing-room-only workshop on church growth was presented by Dave Robinson, the diocese's director of congregation-

al development. He talked about Natural Church Development and described it as the "fastest growing phenomenon in church health in Canada." It aims to "release the growth potential that God has already implanted in churches" through a series of analytical processes. In addition to these workshops, the Rev. Michael Calderwood spoke on ways of using Back to Church Sunday for reactivating lapsed church members and attracting new ones.

In contrast to those workshops, others dealt with more personal aspects of our faith. Notable among these was a lively session by Christian Harvey, the area youth coordinator for Trent-Durham, who spoke about the controversial best-selling book *The Shack* by William Young. Other workshops dealt with hearing the voice of God in ordinary human experience, dealing with divorce and remarriage, and learning to see through the eyes of people approaching their final days. One session was on the historical roots of the Christian faith and how the Christian faith became the single most important influence on Western civilization. This was presented by the Rev. Paul Walker.

The Rev. Steven Smith, incumbent of St. Luke, Peterborough, together with many others from the area, organized this important and popular event on the church calendar.

*Jim Weller is a member of St. Peter, Cobourg.*



### GOOD TIMES

Margaret Farr and Katherine Kern enjoy the 2010 World Day of Prayer Community Youth Service at St. John the Baptist, Norway, in Toronto on March 27. Each March, Christians are encouraged to come together to share a common day of prayer.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

## Speakers cause a stir

### Talks given between Sunday services

**FOR** the past two years, a number of speakers have been exciting parishioners and attracting visitors to St. Clement, Eglinton.

A series called the Forty Minute Forum presents a speaker from outside the parish who talks about a topic that is usually not religion. The forums are held from 10:10 to 10:50 a.m., between the church's two main Sunday morning services. They are open to anyone, admission is free, and there is no obligation or pressure for participants to attend church. Most speakers talk for about 30 minutes, followed by a discussion and questions and answers.

Speakers have included Julie Angus, the first woman to row

across the Atlantic; Palestinian doctor and peace activist Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish; feminist Muslim author and filmmaker Raheel Raza; and Brigadier-General John Collin, who gave a soldier's view of Afghanistan.

"In a world of plenty, churches feed those who are hungry," says Dave Appleyard, chair of the Forum Committee. "And so in a world dominated by babble about celebrities, the Forty Minute Forum is trying to feed the mind."

He says audiences are growing. "More and more neighbours are discovering the joy of the intellectual stimulation and the comfort of a welcoming community," he says, adding that each event drew

between 100 and 125 people over the winter.

Susan Houston, who helps organize the talks, says the challenge is "to narrow the list down to make a balanced and high-quality program to suit a wide range of interests."

Long-time church member Jamie Goodwin is a typical fan of the series. "It is stimulating, educational, humorous and heart-warming to listen to the speakers. This program has drawn members of the church who might not always attend a service. These wonderful speakers are bringing parishioners back."



Archbishop Colin Johnson gives a silver jubilee stole to the Rev. Fran Kovar during the annual Blessing of Oils and Reaffirmation of Vows of Bishops, Priests and Deacons at St. James Cathedral on March 30. At left, Mary-Jane Tuthill pours the consecrated oil. Photos by Michael Hudson



**Kids have fun at Messy Church**

Inspired by workshops at recent Vital Church Planting Conferences, the people of St. Philip, Etobicoke, decided to start their own Messy Church celebration. "We held our first Messy Church last Halloween, and the kids came dressed in an array of scary costumes," says the incumbent, the Rev. Canon Al Budzin. The first service attracted 34 people, including children, parents, and curious parishioners. "Everyone loved it, especially the kids," says Canon Budzin.

At the second Messy Church, the children came in their pyjamas for a theme focused on hibernation. Canon Budzin is thrilled with the results. "It may be the best ministry we've introduced in the past couple of years at St. Philip's," he says. "Like many churches, we've struggled with attracting a consistent number of children to our Sunday School. At Messy Church, at least 90 per cent of the children come, and now they've started bringing their friends. I bet we'll have more than 50 people at this month's celebration. It's a great way for kids and parents to celebrate church."

**Out of the Cold honours volunteer**

At its vestry on Feb. 14, All Saints, Kingsway, honoured parishioner David Jenkins, who retired in December from his volunteer position as coordinator of the church's Out of the Cold (OOTC) shelter after five years of service. The congregation presented him with a picture painted by one of the shelter's guests.

"David exemplified the best of those who rise to the challenge that our clergy throws out to all of us," says John Varley, another former OOTC coordinator. "He did so calmly, with a wry sense of humour and a big smile, looking for no reward beyond being able to follow in the example of Christ."

The shelter, which All Saints has operated for more than fourteen years, provides 21 Friday nights every winter season, serving between 70 and 100 hot dinners each shelter night. It also has an art program for Out of the Cold guests, culminating in an annual art show, with proceeds from each painting going directly to the artist.

**Renovation improves access**

On March 5, the people of St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough, celebrated the end of a renovation project that has enhanced worship, made the church more accessible, and will help conserve energy. The project, which cost almost \$1.1 million, included the installation of a new elevator and accessible entrances, the doubling of the church's organ, an upgrade to the lighting in the chancel area, an energy audit and improvements to the insulation and windows.

The parish raised \$650,000 toward the venture, with the rest coming from various grants from the diocese and from community



David Jenkins, above, shows off the painting he received in thanks for his work as the Out of the Cold coordinator at All Saints, Kingsway. At right, visitors and volunteers hold up some of the 140 original works of art at the church's Out of the Cold Art Show and Sale held March 27-28. Photo on right by Michael Hudson.



Children decorate cookies at St. Philip, Etobicoke's, Messy Church service on Feb. 27.



Bishop Linda Nicholls cuts the ribbon in front of the new elevator that was part of the renovations at St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough. Others, from left to right: Archdeacon Gordon Finney, Elaine Hewitt, MPP Jeff Leal, and Lois Rutter.

organizations, says the incumbent, Archdeacon Gordon Finney. He added: "We are excited, and it's

creating a tremendous resource for the parish for the future."



**HEROINE**

Leslie McCurdy, actor, dancer and singer, portrays abolitionist Harriet Tubman in her one-woman play *The Spirit of Harriet Tubman*, at St. Andrew, Scarborough, on March 2. The church's youth group, led by the assistant curate, the Rev. Vernal Savage, organized the play in celebration of Black History Month.



**DAY OF PRAYER**

Mary Helen Garvin (left), a psychotherapist who has volunteered as a counselor for people affected by HIV/AIDS in Malawi, and Carole Pawsey-Ciraco smile for the camera on March 5 at St. Peter, Churchill. Ms. Pawsey-Ciraco arranged for Ms. Garvin to speak at the church's World Day of Prayer service, which included participants from the United churches in nearby Lefroy and Gilford.

## LOOKING AHEAD

Items for Looking Ahead should be emailed to [hpaukov@toronto.anglican.ca](mailto:hpaukov@toronto.anglican.ca). The deadline for the June issue is May 1. Please note that due to General Synod, the June issue of The Anglican will be mailed in late June. Parishes can also promote their events on the diocese's website. Visit [www.toronto.anglican.ca](http://www.toronto.anglican.ca), click Calendar, then click Submit an Event.

## Services

**MAY 2** — Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, will visit St. Thomas, Millbrook, at 10:30 a.m., as the church celebrates 125 years of ministry. Call 705-932-2233.

**MAY 9 & 23** — Jazz Vespers at Christ Church Deer Park, 1570 Yonge St., Toronto, at 4:30 p.m. Scripture reading, prayers and a brief reflection. May 9, Nancy Walker Trio; May 23, TBA. Call 416-920-5211 or visit [www.christchurchdeerpark.org](http://www.christchurchdeerpark.org).

**MAY 13** — Ascension Evensong at St. Olave, Swansea, at 6 p.m., followed by light supper and feature talk at 7 p.m. The Rev. Anne Crosthwaite discusses her innovative work in Canada with Contemplative Fire, a fresh expression of church that uses the Christian contemplative traditions. Contributions appreciated. For more details, call 416-769-5686 or visit [www.stolaves.ca](http://www.stolaves.ca).

**MAY 30** — St. Philip the Apostle in Toronto will hold a Service of Dedication at 4 p.m. Bishop Philip Poole will be the preacher and celebrant. A reception will follow. Clergy who wish to attend and robe should contact the parish office at 416-783-5606.

## Lectures/Social

**MAY 2, 9, 16** — St. Clement, Eglinton, 59 Briar Hill Ave., Toronto, presents the Forty Minute Forum Series, Sunday mornings, 10:10 to 10:50 a.m., in the Canon Nicholson Hall. May 2, CBC-Radio broadcaster Robert Harris on the first million-seller recording; May 9, Shelton Chen on his Yousuf Karsh collection; May 16, environmental journalist Alanna Mitchell on the hidden crisis in the global ocean. Free admission; everyone welcome. Call 416-483-6664.

**MAY 13-16** — The Sisterhood of St. John the Divine invites clergy and laypeople to hear Phyllis Tickle, writer and speaker on the Emerging Church and new monasticism and the founding editor of the Religion Department of Publishers Weekly. A series of events with Ms. Tickle will take place May 13-16 at St. John's Convent in Toronto. For more information, visit <http://www.ssjd.ca/>.

**MAY 15** — The Health Council of St. James' Cathedral is offering a quiet day of reflection on our relationship to creation and a Christian response to global warming, led by Dr. Dennis Patrick O'Hara, Director of the Elliott Allen Insti-



## CURIOUS

Young churchgoers at St. Paul, Midhurst, watch their names disappear from paper crosses, as the Rev. Tobie Osmond sinks them into a bowl of water, symbolizing the washing away of sins. The ceremony took place on March 8, during the church's Family Sunday, with Bishop George Elliott in attendance.

PHOTO BY R. BYERS

tute for Theology and Ecology at St. Michael's College. The event will be held at the Diocesan Centre, 135 Adelaide St. E., in Toronto, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Enrollment is limited; to register, contact the St. James' Cathedral Office at 416-364-7865 or email [info@stjamescathedral.on.ca](mailto:info@stjamescathedral.on.ca). A vegetarian lunch will be served. Suggested donation: \$5 - \$15.

**MAY 15** — The Anglican Church Women of the Diocese of Toronto will hold its annual general meeting at St. Clement, Eglinton, in Toronto, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The keynote speaker will be Bishop Ann Tottenham. Tickets are \$20 per person. For more information, call 416-363-0018 or email [acw@toronto.anglican.ca](mailto:acw@toronto.anglican.ca).

**MAY 29** — The Rev. Canon George Kovoor, Principal of Trinity College, Bristol, UK, will speak at St. Paul, Bloor Street, in Toronto, from 10 a.m. until 12 noon, on the topic of "Transformational Leadership for Mission and Ministry." The event is sponsored by the Anglican Communion Alliance. An offering will be taken. Call 416-961-8116.

**MAY 29-30** — Bishop John Shelby Spong will speak at the Church of the Incarnation, 1240 Old Abbey Lane, Oakville, at 7:30 p.m. on May 29 and at the 10 a.m. worship service on May 30. Tickets are \$25 before May 1 and \$35 after. Contact Graham Hughes at 905-825-2851 or [office@incarnationchurch.ca](mailto:office@incarnationchurch.ca). For more information, visit [www.incarnationchurch.ca/spong/](http://www.incarnationchurch.ca/spong/).

**JUNE 11** — Fish Dinner and Silent Auction at St. Paul, Midhurst, 5 Noraline Ave., from 5 to 7 p.m. Tasty Georgian Bay fish, cooked

on the spot, and lots of homemade pie. This event will support World Vision. For more information, call the church office at 705-721-9722.

**JUNE 26-27** — Homecoming Weekend at St. Thomas, Millbrook, as the parish celebrates 125 years of ministry. Strawberry Social on June 26, from 2 to 4 p.m., and special Anniversary Celebration on June 27, at 10:30 a.m. Call 705-932-2233.

**JUNE 27** — Victorian Garden and Tea Party at St. Paul, Midhurst, 5 Noraline Ave., from 1 to 4 p.m., in the gardens of Jim and Sharon Fitzsimmins, located just outside the village. Antique and collectible linens and china will be for sale. This event supports St. Paul's Outreach. For more information and directions to the Fitzsimmins home, call the church office at 705-721-9722.

**AUG. 22-23** — Christ Church, Cobocok, will celebrate its 125th anniversary in August. The church is seeking addresses and photos of former parishioners, priests, and those married or baptized in "the little white church on the hill." Write to Box 83, Cobocok, ON; email [jbmcg@sympatico.ca](mailto:jbmcg@sympatico.ca); or call Marg at 705-454-1547.

**OCT. 22-23** — Mark your calendar for this year's Prayer Conference, God Yearning to Hear, at St. John, York Mills. The keynote speaker will be the Rev. Mike Flynn, an Episcopal priest in California and director of FreshWind, a Christian ministry that teaches responsiveness to the Holy Spirit for life and ministry. Look for registration forms later this year. For more information, contact Tony

Day at [tonyday@sympatico.ca](mailto:tonyday@sympatico.ca).

## Sales

**MAY 1** — St. John's Rehab Hospital Volunteer Association will hold its Gigantic Garage Sale from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at St. John's Rehab Hospital, 285 Cummer Ave., Toronto. Free admission and free parking. Hundreds of items: household and kitchen items, clothing, china, pictures, jewellery, Christmas decorations. All funds raised are donated to the hospital. For further information, call 416-226-6780.

**MAY 15** — The Annual Attic Sale at Grace Church on-the-Hill, taking place 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., features treasures, "retro," pictures, jewelry, electronics, kitchenware, smaller furniture, linens, as well as the popular "Dollar Store." The church is located at 300 Lonsdale Rd. (near St. Clair Ave. W. subway). Call 416-488-7884.

**MAY 29** — "Ginormous" Garage Sale at St. Matthew the Apostle, Oriole, 80 George Henry Blvd., Willowdale (Sheppard/Don Mills), from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Indoor flea market, jewellery, books, furniture, clothing, bake table, barbecue, trinkets to treasures. Call 416-494-7020.

**JUNE 5** — Yard & Bake Sale at Trinity, Campbells Cross, 3515 King St., Caledon, from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Books, dishes, videos, and much more. Bake table and lunch counter. Rain or shine. Contact Ruth at 905-796-5342 or Terri at 905-838-3555.

**JUNE 19** — Yard Sale, Barbeque and Bake Sale, at St. Crispin, 77 Craiglee Dr., Scarborough, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call 416-267-7932.

## Art/Music/Film

**APR. 30** — Gershwin at Grace, featuring the York Jazz Ensemble, a swinging nine-piece jazz orchestra, at Grace Church on-the-Hill, 300 Lonsdale Rd., Toronto, at 7:30 p.m. With vocalists Alisa McCreary, Bev Jahnke & Francesca Groves and special guest, the Rev. Canon Peter Walker. Tickets are \$15/\$10. Call 416-488-7884, ext. 333, or visit [www.yje.ca](http://www.yje.ca) or [www.gracechurchonthehill.ca](http://www.gracechurchonthehill.ca).

**MAY 2** — Musicfest 2010 at St. John, York Mills, in Toronto, with the theme of "Juke Box Memories." Enjoy music from the 50s, 60s and 70s, presented by handbell ringers and singers. 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. Call 416-225-6611.

**MAY 2** — Jazzfest '10 featuring the Jazz Ensembles from Woburn Collegiate, at 3 p.m. at St. Dunstan of Canterbury, 56 Lawson Rd, Scarborough. Tickets are \$10. For information, contact 416-283-1844.

**MAY 6, 13, 20, 27** — Noon Hour Organ Recitals at St. Paul, Bloor Street, 227 Bloor St. E., Toronto. Thursdays at 12:10 p.m. May 6, John Paul Farahat, Organ Scholar, St. Clement, Eglinton; May 13, Andrew Adair, Assistant Organist, St. Mary Magdalene; May 20, Stephen Boda, Peaker Organ Scholar, St. Paul, Bloor St.; May 27, Janet Peak-

er, freelance organist, Toronto. Free admission. For more information, call 416-961-8116.

**MAY 6, 13, 20, 27** — Lunchtime Chamber Music at Christ Church, Deer Park, 1570 Yonge St., Toronto, Thursdays at 12:10 p.m. Admission free; donations welcome. For more information, visit [www.christchurchdeerpark.org](http://www.christchurchdeerpark.org).

**MAY 7** — The St. Mark's Heritage Foundation of St. Mark, Port Hope, will host a performance by The Three Cantors at the LeVan Theatre for the Performing Arts, Trinity College School, Port Hope. Guests will meet the Cantors at a reception after the concert. Tickets are available for \$35 each, in person or by phone, at the Concert Hall Box Office, Victoria Hall, Cobourg. Call 905-372-2210 or toll-free 1-888-262-6874 ext. 4153.

**MAY 8** — St. John the Baptist, Lakefield, invites all to an exhibition, at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., of two antique collections: the Lenora Milloy antique button collection dating from 1800s, presented by Martha Scott, and the Gustav Hahn family collection, presented by Kathy Hooke. Tickets are \$15 and include savoury and sweet refreshments. Proceeds will benefit Christ Church Community Museum. For more information, contact Shirley Twist at 705-652-6300 or email [gmcullen@nexus.com.net](mailto:gmcullen@nexus.com.net).

**MAY 15** — Toronto Welsh Male Voice Choir holds its 15th Anniversary Gala Concert, featuring soloist Mireille Asselin, artistic director William Woloschuk, and accompanist Julie Loveless. The concert takes place at St. Anne, Toronto, 270 Gladstone Ave., Toronto, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25. Call 416-410-2254 or 1-877-410-2254 (905/705 only) or visit [www.ticketweb.ca](http://www.ticketweb.ca) or [www.twmvc.com](http://www.twmvc.com).

**MAY 16** — Organist in Recital presents Thomas Fitches, Director of Music at St. Clement, Eglinton, at 3 p.m. Music by Bach, Bédard and Vierne. The 45-minute free recital precedes a service of ordination to the priesthood of Joanne Davies at 4 p.m. Call 416-483-6664, ext. 26.

**MAY 30** — Organist in Recital presents Valerie Hall at St. Clement, Eglinton, at 3 p.m. Ms. Hall is director of music at Holy Rosary Cathedral in Regina and the current National President of the Royal Canadian College of Organists. Tickets are \$20 for adults; \$15 for seniors & students. Call 416-483-6664, ext. 26.

**JUNE 2** — Gala concert and birthday reception to celebrate the centenary of the birth of Walter MacNutt, Canadian composer, organist, and choir director, at St. Thomas, 383 Huron St., Toronto, at 7:30 p.m. Call 416-979-2323.

**JUNE 5** — Raise the Roof with Bach: J.S. Bach Magnificat in D and selections by Vivaldi, at St. Anne, Toronto, 270 Gladstone Ave., at 7:30 p.m. St. Anne's Concert Choir and Orchestra with friends. Free will offering; \$10 suggested. All proceeds to repair historic St. Anne's Church. For more information, call 416-922-4415 or visit [info@stannes.on.ca](mailto:info@stannes.on.ca).

Continued on Page 11

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Continued from Page 10

**JUNE 5** — Summer Fair at Ascension, Don Mills, in Toronto, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Games, music, food, rummage sale, silent auction. Vendors welcome. Call 416-444-8881.

**JUNE 6, 20** — Jazz Vespers at Christ Church, Deer Park, 1570 Yonge St., Toronto, at 4:30 p.m. Scripture reading, prayers and a

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brief reflection. June 6 - Gordon Sheard Trio; June 20 - TBA. Call 416-920-5211 or

www.christchurchdeerpark.org.  
**JUNE 22** — Strawberry Social and Concert by the Toronto Police Association Male Chorus at St. Giles, Scarborough, 35 Kecala Rd., Scarborough. Social begins at 6:30 p.m.; concert at 8 p.m. Call 416-759-4972 or 416-431-1751.

## READING THE BIBLE

BY THE REV. CANON DON BEATTY

# A revelation for hard times

During the Easter season we hear some readings from "The Revelation to John" (sometimes called "The Apocalypse," from the Greek word apokalypsis, meaning to disclose or reveal). This is probably the most quoted and least understood book in the Bible.

First, let me give you a little background to this book. The author, John, probably lived in Ephesus, located on the coast of Asia Minor in what is now known as Turkey. This was the fourth largest city in the Roman Empire and was the capital of the Roman province of Asia. The Christian church had been established there by Paul during his second missionary journey, about 52 CE. (See the Acts of the Apostles, chapter 16 and following.) Paul returned during his third journey and spent two more years there. This was the longest period of time that he spent in any of his mission churches. Sometime later, the apostle John found his way to Ephesus and settled there, possibly with Mary, the mother of Jesus. John was accepted as the elder, or bishop, of that area and probably wrote his Gospel, and the epistles that bear his name, in Ephesus. He is not, however, the author of Revelation.

This was the work of another John, who came to this bustling city towards the end of the first century to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In Ephesus, we see the Christian church struggling to exist in the midst of a somewhat cruel and often hostile world. They tried to live out the Gospel and practiced an early form of Christianity. However, life was about to get much worse for them. About 81 CE, Domitian became the Emperor in Rome and life for Christians in most parts of the Empire became extremely harsh and difficult. This was one of the most intense periods of persecution for Christians. It often cost them their lives to admit to their faith in Jesus.

Our author, John the Divine, appears to have been sent into exile on the Island of Patmos, off the coast of Turkey, and here he had a vision which he recorded for the churches in Asia Minor. It was probably written around 95 CE and may have been the last book written in the New Testament. It was certainly the last book to be

accepted into the Canon of Scriptures. Revelation was a tract for hard times, encouraging Christians with the understanding that a better day was coming. It was written in a strange style, called apocalyptic, which is very difficult for us to understand. It uses symbolic language and is full of many images. It is undoubtedly the most difficult book in the whole Bible to comprehend.

Revelation is addressed to the seven churches in Asia Minor. If you check out a map of the ancient world, you will see that these seven churches form a circle, with Ephesus as the seaport of entry. (See Revelation, chapters one to three.) John records a prophetic message for each of the churches, and then he presents his rather long and intricate vision from God. Actually, the number seven appears some 52 times in the book and is often referred to as the perfect or divine number.

As we examine John's vision, we see it is a vision of hope in a seemingly hopeless world; a vision of triumph of good over evil; a vision of heaven. This writing, circulated to the seven churches in Asia Minor, encourages them in their faith in the midst of a harsh and brutal time. It gave the early Christians in Asia Minor a sense of well-being in a world torn apart by hostile and evil forces; a sense of the power of God over the power of evil; a sense that God will eventually triumph over the corrupt authority of their age.

If you want to see a vision of heaven, read Revelation. If you want to understand the church in the midst of persecution, read Revelation. If you want to understand the history of the church in the last decade of the first century, read Revelation. If you want to predict the future of the church or the world, you will not find it in this book, or anywhere else in the Bible for that matter!

In our dialogue with scriptures, we must read this book with great care, remembering it is the story about the first century church in the midst of very harsh persecution. Understanding this background, may we see a God who will also provide for our needs today.

*The Rev. Canon Don Beatty is an honorary assistant at St. Luke, Dixie South, Mississauga.*

## IN MOTION

### Appointments

- The Rev. Canon Kate Merri-man, Interim Director, All Saints, Sherbourne Street, Toronto, Feb. 22.
- The Rev. Canon Philip Hobson OGS, Ecumenical Officer for the Diocese of Toronto, March 10.
- The Rev. Hugh Kernohan, Honorary Assistant, Parish of Georgina, March 18.
- The Rev. Dr. Paul Scuse, Associate Priest, St. Paul-on-the-Hill, Pickering, April 1.

### Vacant Incumbencies

*Clergy from outside the diocese with the permission of their bishop may apply through the Ven. Peter Fenty.*

### First Phase - Parish Selection Committee in Formation

(not yet receiving names):

- St. Peter, Oshawa
- Minden-Kinmount
- St. Philip on-the-Hill, Unionville
- Holy Trinity, Thornhill
- St. Thomas, Brooklin
- All Saints, Sherbourne St.
- Transfiguration

### Second Phase - Parish Selection Committee Receiving Names

(via Area Bishop):

- St. Peter, Cobourg
- St. John, Norway, Toronto (York-Scarborough)

### Third Phase - Parish Selection Committee Interviewing

(not receiving names):

- Trinity, Streetsville

### Ordinations

- The Rev. Nola Crewe was ordained a priest at Holy Trinity, Trinity Square, Toronto, on April 25.
- The Rev. John Anderson was ordained a priest at Christ Church, Stouffville, on April 25.

### Retirements

- The Rev. Canon Michael Burgess has announced his retirement. His last Sunday at the Church of the Transfiguration will be June 27.
- The Rev. Robert Ross has announced his retirement. His last Sunday at St. Thomas, Huron Street, Toronto will be June 27.

### Resignation

- The Rev. Carol Langley has resigned as Honorary Assistant

at St. James, Caledon East, effective Feb. 24.

### Deaths

- The Rev. Leonard Ware died on Feb. 28. Ordained in 1962 for the Diocese of Toronto, he served in the parishes of St. George, Oshawa; Holy Trinity, Oshawa; St. Peter, Oshawa; Colborne & Grafton; and St. George, Scarborough, until his retirement in 1991. His funeral was held on March 5 at St. Peter, Cobourg, with interment at St. George, Grafton.
- The Rev. William Franklyn Edney died on March 7. Ordained for the Diocese of Toronto in 1960, he served his curacy at St. Columba, Toronto, then served as Incumbent of the Parish of Stayner, and later as Incumbent of St. Philip on-the-Hill, Unionville, until his retirement in 1982. In retirement, he served as Honorary Assistant at the Parishes of Elmvale and Craighurst, Midhurst & Minesing. His funeral was held on March 11 at Holy Trinity, Thornhill.

## PRAYER CYCLE

### FOR JUNE

1. Grace Church on-the-Hill
2. Church of the Messiah
3. St. Augustine of Canterbury
4. St. Clement, Eglinton
5. St. Cuthbert, Leaside
6. Eglinton Deanery
7. St. Leonard
8. St. Margaret, North Toronto

9. St. Michael and All Angels
10. St. Timothy, North Toronto
11. Church of the Transfiguration
12. Interfaith Social Assistance Reform Coalition
13. Mississauga Deanery
14. Holy Spirit, Dixie North
15. St. Bride, Clarkson
16. St. Francis of Assisi, Meadowvale West
17. St. Hilary (Cooksville)
18. St. John the Baptist (Dixie)
19. St. Luke (Dixie South)

20. College View Supportive Housing Service (LOFT)
21. St. Elizabeth, Mississauga
22. St. Paul (Lorne Park)
23. St. Peter, Erindale
24. St. Thomas à Becket (Erin Mills South)
25. Trinity, Port Credit
26. Trinity, Streetsville
27. Toronto East Deanery
28. Church of the Resurrection
29. St. Aidan, Toronto
30. St. Andrew, Japanese

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LEAVE A LEGACY™

# Surrounded by a Legacy of Faith



*The Most Rev.  
Colin R. Johnson  
Archbishop of Toronto  
Metropolitan of the  
Ecclesiastical Province  
of Ontario*

It is with a spirit of thanksgiving that I want everyone in the Diocese of Toronto to know that more than \$3 million in legacy gifts have now been identified for parishes in the diocese because of your generosity and your willingness to share the good news.

The positive response to the legacy gifts initiative is a wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate the abundance of God's blessings to us, and to rejoice in the generosity of our faith community.

Through this initiative I have seen further evidence of what I have always known about our faith community; we are indeed surrounded by a

legacy of faith. Our legacy to society and to one another is not made of bricks and mortar. Our legacy is our heart for giving, for loving, for service and sacrifice.

Every day, people are helped and lives are enriched by the work of faithful people in our diocese. Together we have built churches and hospitals and planted the seeds of those services which sustain our common life: worship, faith development, schools, medical services, care for the aged, and housing for the poor.

These are just some of the ways people in our diocese are making a difference in their communities, living their lives full of meaning and purpose. Your legacy gift, and that of others who are inspired by your example, will help us continue to do this very kind of work — God's work — for generations to come.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

*In thanksgiving to God  
for the gifts of life,  
and for the many  
blessings which God has  
showered upon us;*

*and in thanksgiving to God  
for the gifts of faith and hope  
through  
Jesus Christ;*

*and in thanksgiving to God  
for the gifts of  
nurture and love through  
the Church where we have  
shared  
faith and fellowship with  
one another;*

*we give thanks to God for  
the legacy of faith which  
surrounds us.*

If you would like to make a declaration of your legacy gift to your parish or if you would like more information about how to make a legacy gift, you may visit

[www.anglican.ca/legacygifts](http://www.anglican.ca/legacygifts)

or contact

**Peter Misiaszek, Director of Stewardship Development**  
**(416) 363-6021 x 246 or**  
**email: [pmisiaszek@toronto.anglican.ca](mailto:pmisiaszek@toronto.anglican.ca)**



Diocese of Toronto  
Anglican Church of Canada

*You may feel free to make your declaration anonymously if you prefer but the mission and ministry work of your parish will be greatly reinforced by the knowledge of your gift.*