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APRIL, 2007

Stepping Stones lead to new ideas

BY KAREN STILLER

WHAT do you get when you cross a workshop on Tolkien, a primer on church finances for wardens and insights into the spiritual life of Florence Nightingale?

You get "Stepping Stones, Joyfully Walking in Faith," Trent-Durham's area day of celebration, held on March 3 at St. Peter's, Cobourg.

About 300 people attended the event to engage in what the Rev. Steven Smith called "an opportunity for learning in non-traditional ways. It is allowing all the different expressions of the Anglican Church to come together and learn."

Workshop topics included grief, child poverty, contemplative music, how to get publicity for your church, and youth work.

Hilary Calderwood, 13, arrived from Brighton for the day, partly because her father "dragged her," but mostly because "I thought it would be a good opportunity to meet more youth who believe in God."



Jan Stapleton tells children the story of the Creation at Trent-Durham's area day. Each of the cut-outs represents the seven days in which Genesis states the Creation took place. PHOTO BY PETE FISHER

Belief in God at the event was a given. It was all about being equipped to live out that belief in churches and the wider community.

At the Sacred Laughter workshop, led by chaplain Don Shields, participants learned about the

healing power of a good belly laugh. In a workshop on opportunities through sport, participants learned how a soccer ball can transform their church's outreach efforts.

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New churches create energy, says expert

Bishop wants five churches planted in next 10 years

BY STUART MANN

FOR the Rev. Christopher Snow, the Vital Church Planting Conference proved to be the perfect tonic for the bad-news blues.

Mr. Snow, who made the trip from St. John's, Newfoundland, to Toronto for the three-day conference in late February, said he needed a shot of good news and hope for himself, his congregation and his diocese.

"I got tired of hearing about downsizing and decline and diminishing resources, and I thought it would be nice to spend some time with a group of people who are actually talking of growing the church," he said.

He wasn't disappointed. The conference, which attracted 61 people from five dioceses in Canada, gave participants lots of inspiration and

practical ideas to revitalize their churches and create new ones.

The Rev. Canon Victoria Heard, church planting officer for the Diocese of Dallas, was the keynote speaker at the gathering, which was held at St. Paul's, Bloor Street. The event was sponsored by Wycliffe College and the Diocese of Toronto.

Canon Heard popped a number of myths about church planting, one of which is that you need a lot of money to get started. "We've found that when you plant churches, God provides," she said.

Before moving to Texas, Canon Heard was in charge of creating new churches in the Diocese of Virginia, where she helped start more than a dozen parishes. "When we began, we had \$60,000 to plant one church. Then, out of

Continued on Page 2

'Growth problem' leads to breakthrough

BY GEORGE GOODWIN

EIGHTEEN months ago, a group of parishioners at St. Timothy, North Toronto, began to consider how the parish might address its "growth problem." As with many Toronto-area churches, St. Timothy's membership had stagnated for a few years, and the congregation was concerned that slippage in attendance could lead to an increasingly worrisome financial situation.

Over the next few months, the group met regularly to consider ways in which the church – a North Toronto neighbourhood fixture since the early 1950s – could attract new members. Several initiatives were considered in the areas of community outreach, youth programming, and Sunday serv-

ices, but the real breakthrough came when the group discovered the Natural Church Development (NCD) program in the fall of 2005.

NCD uses a survey of church members to measure the health of a church and to identify the weakest of eight key areas: leadership, ministry, passionate spirituality, structures, worship service, small groups, evangelism, and relationships. The church then focuses exclusively on improving the "weakest link" for a period of six to 12 months. At the end of that period, the members re-take the survey. Inevitably, all of the work done on the weakest factor has had a beneficial effect and a new "weak link" is identified. The church's energies are refocused on the next weak area, and the

process repeats itself.

The intriguing element of the NCD process is that the church doesn't actually focus on growing its membership. Rather, it concentrates on improvement, and growth simply happens as a beneficial by-product. NCD reports that churches that have done three or more surveys experience, on average, an increase of 51 per cent in their growth rate between the first and third survey.

At St. Timothy's, the results of our first survey shocked us all. Our overall score was 31 out of 100, and our "weakest link" was passionate spirituality, with a score of just six! NCD does not provide a church with a plan for dealing with its weakest score after taking the survey. Instead, the develop-

ment of a response is left up to the congregation. After getting over the shock of scoring six out of 100 on spirituality, and with terrific support from our clergy, the Rev. Canon Dr. David Barker and the Rev. David Montgomery, we got to work on improving our results.

Over the past nine months, guided by the results on individual survey questions, we have started a host of initiatives. To get people thinking about thankfulness, clergy began to focus their sermons on why we should be thankful. To encourage people to read the Bible outside church, we held sales of Bibles and reference works after church on Sunday and ultimately sold more than \$1,500 worth of books to parishioners.

Continued on Page 2

Anglicans give generously to newspapers

ANGLICANS in the Diocese of Toronto gave \$138,695 to the *Anglican Journal* and *The Anglican* in 2006. As in previous years, the total amount will be divided equally between the national and diocesan paper. After expenses, the diocesan paper, *The Anglican*, will receive \$51,636.

"This is a tremendous show of support for *The Anglican*," says Stuart Mann, editor. "This will allow us to continue to tell the good news of what is going on in our parishes and in our diocese, especially in the areas of welcome and hospitality, diversity, and social justice and advocacy. Thank you to everyone who donated."

Church planter pops myths

Continued from Page 1

the blue, we discovered a gift of land. Following that, we received \$400,000 from someone who was not even a Christian so that our church planting might increase."

She said the amount of giving on the collection plate and through fundraising actually goes up when churches are being planted because people want to contribute and they know exactly where their money is going. "Not only does the money go up, but ministry options of serving the poor and being responsible stewards of our communities also go up because the new churches reach out."

She cites, as an example, a new church in Texas which held a five-kilometre run to raise money for children who could not afford preschool classes. "That church raised \$25,000 not for its members, not for church schools, but for the community. That energizes people and brings them into a relationship with the church."

She said planting new churches can have an energizing effect on the clergy and laity of a diocese, no matter how hard they are working at other projects. "I don't

know how often people have gone home thinking, 'I just can't possibly do one more thing,' and then they find the energy to deal with their child, who gives them energy. New churches are the children of the church, and they give energy to other churches, the diocese and to other Christians. It's like the fun you have watching your children rediscover the books you loved when you were a kid."

She said existing parishes do not need to feel threatened by new churches. "In every case, we found that when you put in a new church, the churches around it experienced moderate growth and the new church experienced exponential growth."

Bishop Colin Johnson said after the conference that he would like to see five new churches planted in the diocese in the next 10 years. "We have a tradition of church planting in this diocese and we need to revitalize that," he said. "I think there are people in the diocese who will have a heart for this and will be excited about the possibility of giving generously to ensure that their grandchildren



The Rev. Canon Victoria Heard says that when people want to plant churches, 'God will provide.' PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

and great-grandchildren have a church that brings them into a deep relationship with God."

He noted that the diocese currently has a Bishop's Church Plant Working Group and he would like to see its membership increased.

He said he was "enormously moved" by the conference. "It strikes a profound chord in my sense of being that I think God is

calling me and us to this.

"We get caught up in the negative things that are happening in the church, but I think we really need to be caught up about the exciting things that God is doing, and that God is calling us to grow."

For more information about the Bishop's Church Plant Working Group, contact Dave Robinson, at drobinson@toronto.anglican.ca.

BRIEFLY

Walk for environment

Join Christians from many denominations on April 6 at 2 p.m. at Holy Trinity, Trinity Square (behind the Eaton Centre) for a creative, contemporary Stations of the Cross through downtown Toronto. The walk will link the Good Friday story with environmental threats such as global warming, using drama, song, and prayer. It finishes at 4:30 p.m. with fellowship at Holy Trinity. All are welcome. This is an ideal event for a parish youth group or outreach group. To learn more, contact the diocese's Social Justice and Advocacy consultant, Murray MacAdam, mmacadam@toronto.anglican.ca or visit www.goodfridaywalk.ca.

Forum explores child poverty

Clergy and laity are invited to attend a forum at Queen's Park in Toronto on April 19 to highlight child poverty issues, sponsored by the Interfaith Social Assistance Reform Coalition. Respected child poverty expert Laurel Rothman is a keynote speaker. A hard-hitting book on poverty in Ontario, *Lives Still in the Balance*, edited by Murray MacAdam, the diocese's Social Justice and Advocacy consultant, will be launched. MPPs will be present. Visit www.isarc.ca to learn more.

Congregation works on weakest link

Continued from Page 1

We built community by holding potluck dinners in parishioners' homes. To increase people's familiarity with the basis of their faith, we began a series of Bible studies before church on Sunday that now draws 25-30 people weekly. We have also produced a series of monthly bookmarks that are distributed with our bulletins to help support all of the other initiatives.

The Rev. Dr. Isaac Kawuki-Mukasa, a congregational development consultant for the Diocese of Toronto, has been very helpful in facilitating our use of NCD. We are about to take our second survey. While those results will help to validate the work of the past nine months, we already know how much we have benefited from the NCD process. People are talking to each other more — about the dinners, about the books they've bought and read, and yes, about sermons on thankfulness. And every Sunday before church, a large group assembles in the parlour to learn more about the roots of their faith. There's a buzz at St. Timothy's now, and we're eager to start attacking whatever the survey tells us is the next "weakest link."

George Goodwin is a member of St. Timothy, North Toronto.

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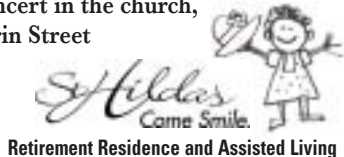


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ANDREW Weeks will be presenting his popular Magnetic Church conference April 27-28 at St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough. All are invited.

Mr. Weeks teaches a non-confrontational, practical approach to evangelism which helps churches attract and retain new mem-

bers. He has held several conferences in the diocese during the past year, and many have been sold out.

Churches are encouraged to send teams to the conferences rather than a few individuals. "The only negative comments we heard were from folks who wished that their entire parish council, and evangelism, property, communications and worship teams had attended," he says.

To register, call David Fisher at (416) 363-6021 or 1-800-668-8932, ext. 225, or email dfisher@toronto.anglican.ca. For more information on the Magnetic Church conference and previous gatherings in the diocese, visit the diocese's website, www.toronto.anglican.ca.

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Service emphasizes unity, humanity

BY HENRIETA PAUKOV

MORE than 1,000 people gathered at St. Paul's, Bloor Street, on Feb. 25 for the 12th annual Black Heritage Service, celebrated by Bishop Patrick Yu. This year's theme was "Ghanaian Linkages to Our Heritage: We Are One," commemorating the 50th anniversary of Ghanaian independence, as well as the bicentenary of the passage of the *Abolition of the Slave Trade Act* in England.

In his greeting, Bishop Colin Johnson, who presided over the service, said: "Two hundred years ago, slavery was abolished. But it took a lot of work. I won't say patience, because one cannot be patient in the face of inequality and inequity and injustice. But I can say perseverance. [William] Wilberforce spent 20 years, every year introducing a motion to the British parliament to abolish slavery. Twenty years, every year. It finally passed. But it took another 25 years before it was extended throughout the whole of the British Empire and it was on his deathbed that he finally saw it. And yet we know that even today, slavery still exists, as people are sold for whatever they can get, and we need to



Top: Bishop Patrick Yu greets Ama Asare, wife of the consul general of Ghana in Toronto. Above: clergy and choristers process up the main aisle to begin the Black Heritage Service. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

continue to work against that injustice in the name of Christ."

This year's service, more subdued than in years past, focused on the theme of unity. As he welcomed the congregation to St. Paul's, the Rev. Canon Dr. Barry Parker, incumbent, pointed out to participants: "On the cover [of the order of service] there are three little words, but they have very potent meaning for us gathering here tonight at the Lord's table: 'We are one.' We are one not simply because of ethnicity or colour or language, we are one in Christ."

The service celebrated the participants' African heritage, with hymns, readings and prayers of the people delivered in a variety of languages spoken in Ghana. The Hon. Kwabena Asare, the consul general of Ghana at Toronto, asked the Ghanaians in the congregation to rise up and sing the African song of victory. They were joined by the Augmented

Choir, which, along with organist Asare Bediako and drummers playing Kete drums, provided the music for the evening.

"Over 400 years ago, Ghana became a central factor and the gateway for this mass departure of great men and women, daughters and children, from this great continent Africa in the name of slavery," said the preacher, the Very Rev. Jacob William French, superintendent minister of Canada Mission Circuit of the Methodist Church Ghana and minister-in-charge of Ghana Methodist Church of Toronto.

"But praise be to God, 50 years ago, Ghana became the gateway for the rights of the African people and for the pan-African movement on the continent of Africa. Ghana's independence is a major historical landmark in the history of the people south of the Sahara and Africa as a whole."

Continued on Page 4

Are you ready for pandemic?

Resource helps parishes plan for major disruption

BY STUART MANN

IF there was a worldwide epidemic of influenza or avian bird flu, would your parish be ready for it?

If not, the diocese has developed a resource to help parishes start thinking about what they would do in the event of a global illness, or pandemic.

"The more we know about a pandemic and how to plan for it, the less anxious we will be about it," says the Rev. Canon Douglas Graydon, the diocese's coordinator of Chaplaincy.

One of the key parts of the Influenza Pandemic Response Plan is a checklist which helps parishes develop their own, simple plans. The checklist touches on many aspects of parish life, including liturgy, pastoral care and outreach.

"The checklist will help raise questions in your own mind that you need to answer to make your own plan," says Canon Graydon, who was recently appointed the diocese's pandemic planning coordinator. In this position he will be a resource to parishes and the diocese. "You will know the areas that require more attention, and where to connect with other people and resources."

The Influenza Pandemic Response Plan sets out the responsibilities of the diocesan bishop, area bishops, deaneries, congregations and diocesan ministries, particularly in the areas of communications, leadership, pastoral care and finance.

The plan also includes theological reflections on risk, illness and pastoral response by Bishop Victoria Matthews, the Rev. Canon Dr. Linda Nicholls and the Rev. Canon Eric Beresford.

In his pastoral letter, Bishop Colin Johnson says Anglicans throughout history have responded in times of great need and uncertainty.

"History reminds us that we are not strangers to catastrophic events of disease and illness," he writes. "Our tradition as a community of faith is one which re-

sponded to the demands of such events. We have maintained a compassionate and costly ministry of tending to the needs of those who have suffered and died during times of epidemics."

He asks every cleric, all churchwardens and those in leadership roles to review the checklist in order to create their own plan, and to follow the communication and leadership protocols of the diocese.

"This will be fundamental to successful and rapid response," he writes. "During the period of an identified pandemic crisis, I expect everyone to strictly follow episcopal directives concerning the emergency."

Canon Graydon says he wants people to read the plan and give him their comments so he can refine it and make it more effective. "What would thrill me is for people to go to the website and read the plan and if they have any questions or comments, contact me and give me their first impression, because that's the only way to refine it and make it of maximum use. This was never to be a finished product; it is the first of an ongoing refinement."

The plan was created after the bishops of Huron, Niagara and Toronto issued a pastoral letter raising their concerns regarding the threat of an influenza pandemic. The threat, if realized, would have far-reaching effects upon society and the faith community.

Canon Graydon and a working group made up of clergy and laity in the diocese developed the plan after consultation with the Tri-Diocesan Pandemic Preparedness Working Group (Huron, Niagara and Toronto) and the national office.

The Influenza Pandemic Response Plan is available on the diocese's website, www.toronto.anglican.ca. For more information or to arrange a workshop, contact the Rev. Canon Douglas Graydon at (416) 363-6021 or 1-800-668-8932, ext. 236 or email dgraydon@toronto.anglican.ca.

Speakers connect synod to broader Anglican community

BY HENRIETA PAUKOV

AT the residential synod held May 3-5, synod members will hear from several distinguished speakers, on topics ranging from HIV/AIDS to the ministry of those living in isolated communities in Canada's north. "We have selected speakers who will connect us to the wider Anglican Church and the diverse relationships that we have devel-

oped over the years," says Evelyn Butler, chair of the agenda committee.

On Thursday night, the Most Rev. Caleb Lawrence, archbishop and metropolitan of Ontario, will speak about the Council of the North. The Friday evening gathering will focus on how the church is dealing with the issue of HIV/AIDS at the diocesan, national and international levels. Archbishop An-

drew Hutchison, Primate, will speak to synod members about the national church's work on the issue. His wife, Lois Hutchison, will introduce the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund's "Facing AIDS, Facing Reality" exhibit, which will be on display throughout synod. Mrs. Hutchison is the patron of the exhibit. Other speakers will be confirmed later.

The organizers are hoping that the setting of synod itself, at Durham College in Oshawa, will prove enjoyable for synod members. "The facilities are barrier-free and have the latest computer and communications technology," says Laura Walton-Clouston, a member of the agenda committee. "The accommodations have conveniences like data ports for Internet access and kitchenettes.

Synod members will also have access to an 'internet café' so they can stay connected while at synod, even if they do not bring their laptops. There is a pub onsite where people can unwind and socialize after a day of business." Adds Ms. Butler: "Living in community for the three days of synod will help foster and build relationships amongst synod members and parishes."

Lots of ways to grow: author

It's not just about numbers

BY NANCY DEVINE

PASTORS and congregations who focus on growth for growth's sake, instead of community needs, often end up in needless conflict, says the Rev. Alice Mann, an Episcopal priest from Boston and a senior consultant with the Virginia-based Alban Institute.

Ms. Mann was the presenter at a seminar called Growing the Community of Faith, held at Grace Church, Markham, on Mar. 2. She also spoke at St. James', Orillia, on Mar. 3.

She says growth can mean different things to different congregations. "There are four kinds of growth. It is important to know that not all four are priorities. It is a matter of discerning which kind is the top priority at any given time in a congregation's life."

She is the author of two books on congregational growth: *The In-Between Church: Navigating Size Transitions in Congregations*; and *Raising the Roof: The Pastoral-to-Program Size Transition*. She also

works as a coach for other pastors.

"We get pretty confident, and we figure that if we are really passionate about something, others will be too," she says. "Be prepared for being told they aren't. And listen. If a congregation can't say no, it also can't say yes. The congregation needs to experience its own vitality."

Numerical growth is just part of the equation, she says. Some churches choose to grow spiritually by exploring ways to help people develop trust in God and make a case for God in the secular world. Others may want to focus on incarnational growth — how members work in the communities as people of faith. Still other congregations might want to improve their organizational structures, including how to adapt roles to meet ministerial needs.

"Growth is sometimes difficult in some contexts," she says. "It may not even happen. It is a discernment process for the pastor, the lay leadership, and the congregation as a whole. Where is



The Rev. Alice Mann

God calling you?"

She tells the story of one congregation's dawning realization during a visioning process. "Some churches have a life cycle of about 20 to 30 years. During the redevelopment process, this congregation discovered they were at a natural end. They had run the race and finished the course. That is always sad, but it is not tragic.

Freed of their former ministry, they were allowed to look at fresh ministries. They grieved and celebrated their old church, but they also embraced the opportunity to let something new form."

She told the gathering that reaching out into the world is an important commission that requires flexibility and a willingness to meet people where they are on life's journey. Some of them have no knowledge of the church, and many have a limited knowledge of God.

"So many people seem to long for that post-war time when church attendance was at an all-time high. Get over it. That was an anomaly in the religious life of the mainline churches. It was also the last time in our history when just about everyone had some kind of religious practice."

Being open to all the ways of growth is an exciting challenge to God's people, she says.

"The purposes of God are not fulfilled unless the peace and purposes of God are offered in the world," she says. "Christ died for the world, not the church."

Four church sizes

THE Rev. Alice Mann, in her book, *Raising the Roof: The Pastoral-to-Program Size Transition*, says there are four church sizes. The numbers represent the average attendance throughout the week in church worship services, whether they occur on the Sabbath or not.

1. Family size churches: 0-50
2. Pastoral size churches: 50-150
3. Program sized churches: 150-400
4. Corporate sized churches: 400-1000

Each have unique characteris-

tics and pose different challenges to church leadership and members. Congregations can grow, and even decline, over the course of their life cycle. She says it is vital to listen to the members and address their concerns

"Not every congregation is called to be a program-sized church," she says. "This is not an assembly line. If there is a powerful spiritual reason for growth, then there will be motivation to carry the congregation through the process."

Service celebrates black heritage

Continued from Page 3

Mr. French underscored the common ancestry and heritage shared by people of African descent. "We belong to one mother Africa, we share one spiritual journey and one spiritual heritage. We share one indelible past, which gives birth to the concept of pan-Africanism

and the black movement all over the world. We, whether we believe it or not, share a common destiny as black people and our call is: 'We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed but not in despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed.'"

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Stepping Stones lead to new ideas

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Arlene King said she valued the social and educational aspects of the day. "It's a great day to socialize, and I learn a lot that I take back to my church. I'm a Sunday School teacher and I'm always looking for new ideas."

Bishop Michael Bedford-Jones said the event was a chance for people to learn and worship together. "There is a cross-fertilization that goes on when you bring people from different parishes together. There is networking of some of the enormous resources we have in Trent-Durham."

As Joan Stover of St. George's, Grafton, said. "It gives you new ideas. It gets you in with a bunch of other Anglicans. I'm always amazed there are this many Anglicans!"



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Archbishop of Canterbury:

The Most Rev. and Rt. Hon. Rowan Williams, Lambeth Palace, London, England SE17JU.

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Primate:

The Most Rev. Andrew Hutchison, Church House, 80 Hayden St., Toronto, ON, M4Y 3G2.

In the Diocese of Toronto:

A community of 285 congregations in 217 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.

The Bishop of Toronto:

The Rt. Rev. Colin Johnson

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The Rt. Rev. Philip Poole

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Build up gifts that are present

GUEST COLUMN

BY THE REV. JENNY ANDISON

Writing a column on children's ministry is rather daunting for me. Actually, writing a column on anything is daunting. I have many thoughts to express about children's ministry, but putting them into a column is not as easy for me as it might be for others. Formal writing is definitely not one of my gifts.

Thank goodness, though, that each of us is blessed with rich and varied gifts. Where mine are lacking, another person will have a specific gift and can fill in the blanks. I can write this column and hope that our editor uses his gifts so that it makes some sort of sense.

Our gifts are what makes each of us a blessing to others and to our various ministries. Some of us are gifted at doing outreach while others excel at taking care of our buildings or administration or small group ministry, just to name a few.

Not everyone can be great at everything, and that includes children's ministry. Not every mother or father wants to help in the nursery or teach Sunday school. Many parishes assume that because a person is a parent they are a great find for children's ministry. I

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

BY LAURA WALTON-CLOUSTON

have seen young families walk into a church, and the first thing they are asked as they drop off their child at the nursery is if they would sign up for a turn working there. The parents are asked to do this without a thought to their gifts and needs.

Perhaps the focus ought to be on what gifts we can give to the parents rather than what their gifts are for the church. The single parent who has taken care of the child all week may just need some time without the child to worship and have some quiet time with God. This is the church's opportunity to offer a helping hand, to give a gift. We can not only minister and bring the gospel to the child, but we can also support the parents. We can preach the gospel through word and action. We can offer our gifts to support a family.

When we look for those who have gifts in children's ministry, we have to cast the net far and wide. Many grandparents and other

seniors are wonderful in this ministry simply because they love the children and give them a warm embrace. Maybe there are musicians, youth, clergy, parents and others who have gifts in this area but who have never been asked.

For parishes that have trouble finding workers for children's ministry, perhaps it's time to change the way of doing things and build up the gifts that are present rather than continuously searching and trying to fit people into the neat little box we have always called children's ministry. Perhaps someone has a gift for the outdoors, music or cooking. What an opportunity to build a children's program around that type of gift!

As God's children, we are given many gifts. We need to discern what they are, offer them to those around us and let God's grace fill our parishes and programs as we give and receive these gifts. A gift will flourish and bless others in our ministries when given from the heart and with the intention of lifting up the gospel.

Laura Walton-Clouston is the diocese's Children's Ministry Network Co-ordinator.

Unfortunately, it takes time

I am by nature an impatient person. I purchased an amaryllis bulb at Christmas for my children to watch grow, and then found myself glaring at the plant each morning at breakfast as I couldn't believe how long it took to grow. Recently I had this less than desirable trait of mine challenged at the Vital Church Planting Conference.

Planting new churches takes time, patience, vision and an entrepreneurial spirit. Church planting, we heard, is the most effective form of evangelism, and always has been. The desire to plant new churches comes from the fundamental desire for more and more people to hear the good news about Jesus.

On the first night of the conference you could sense the excitement, tinged with awe, as we heard the Rev. Canon Victoria Heard, the keynote speaker, tell of the 16 new churches that were planted in 10 years in the Diocese of Virginia during her tenure there as Canon Missioner. Not only have the vast majority of those newly planted churches thrived, but the surrounding churches have also experienced growth, as a new church creates a buzz in the neighborhood which the established churches then benefit from as well.

But building these new churches takes time. To make sure that these church plants thrive, great care is taken in choosing the church planter, making sure that she or he is assessed properly as a church planter, and "has actually led someone to Christ." Then the planter is given the resources and time to extensively research the neighborhood they hope to plant in, and gather around themselves a team of people willing to go and be the launch team for the new church. This process takes an average of 12 to 18 months, which is not long when you think of the eternal difference that this new church could make in someone's life, but is certainly longer than it takes an amaryllis to grow.

It was fitting that the conference was held in the newly renovated St. Paul's, Bloor Street, where that community of followers of Jesus has decided to step out in faith and build for the future that they believe God is calling them to. It was mentioned several times that people thought they might look back in 10 years' time at this conference as having been a seminal moment, a moment when the Anglican Church in Canada began to regain its confidence and expertise in the historic ministry of church planting.

The Rev. Jenny Andison is the associate priest at St. Paul's, Bloor Street and is a member of the Bishop's Church Plant Working Group.

I'm a Christian. So what?

Bishop Michael Bedford-Jones was amidst a group of young teens, who stood smiling nervously on the lawn outside St. John's, York Mills. Several of them were clearly wearing their first suits or new dresses for the day. Cameras clicked as proud parents asked their child to look this way. In a few minutes, these young people would be kneeling before the bishop as he laid his hands on their heads, confirming them in their faith, and praying for the Holy Spirit to strengthen them.

Theologically, confirmation represents an opportunity for a person to stand up and avow, before the gathered Christian community, that they wish to live their life following Christ. Thus, they confirm the promises which were made on their behalf by their parents and godparents when they were infants or children and unable to speak for themselves at their baptism. In the words of the Episcopal Church in the USA, "Confirmation has been increasingly understood in terms of a mature, public reaffirmation of the Christian faith and the baptismal promises." If confirmation is a chance for someone to stand up and say that their faith is important to them, and that they wish to continue on the path as a Chris-

BEYOND YOUTH GROUP

BY SIMON CHAMBERS

tian, they should not be doing so because their parents (or grandparents, or anybody else for that matter) says they should.

I remember convincing my parents and the priest at my church that I was ready for confirmation when I was in junior high, and how proud I was when they agreed. I was being allowed to make a decision for myself! All I had to do was go to confirmation classes, and then I would be able to be confirmed when the bishop visited. I remember memorizing the Lord's Prayer, Creed, 23rd Psalm, and other important passages, having to write them out, and then having discussions about what they meant.

When I began to teach confirmation classes, I wanted to make the experience more meaningful for the youth I worked with. The question I wanted to explore was: "So what?" - as in, "I'm a Christian. So what? What difference does it make when I get to school on Monday and have to face the bully again that I'm a Christian? What should I do when my after-

school job wants me to work on Christmas Eve and I want to be in church? What does it mean to love my neighbor as myself?"

In order to explore these questions, I began to use a mentoring process, teaming up confirmands with adult mentors in the parish. The incumbent and I would sit down and brainstorm the names of committed, faithful parishioners who would be willing and able to share their own faith stories as well as to hear the faith stories of each individual confirmand. We also tried to match them by interests, looking for exactly the right mentor for each youth. These pairs met for six months to talk about the "So what?" questions.

How did it work? Well, some of the pairs never hit it off. But many of them worked really well. Some of them are still in contact today, five or more years later! It has worked well enough that I continue to use this process at St. Peter's, Erindale, where right now, 15 young people are meeting with 15 adults, beginning their conversations with "So what?"

Simon Chambers is the diocese's youth ministry consultant.

Letters

Memories of churches

Two articles in the February Anglican revived memories of two "beginning" churches: St. Gabriel's, Richmond Hill, and Christ Church Douro in Lakefield.

Shortly after my husband began working at the Falconbridge Lab on Roosevelt Drive in Richvale in 1956, we bought a house nearby and joined St. Mary's, Richmond Hill. A while later other

Anglicans in the area banded together to build a local church, and everyone made contributions of time, talent and money. One day when my husband and some of the other men were putting the final shingles on the roof of the new church, St. Gabriel's, our neighbour Gren Lunau wandered into the church, where he found a piano and started playing "Nearer My God to Thee" to encourage the roofers. The men kept hammering, but they did not waste their breath singing or even laughing. However, it made a good story.

In the autumn of 1966, the newly elected Bishop of Toronto, George Snell, came to Lakefield

for the re-opening of the pioneer Christ Church Douro, which had been lovingly restored and refurbished. The altar stands under a southwest window which is clear glass. The eucharist was celebrated in the evening and, as the sunlight faded behind Bishop Snell, the windows were filled with gorgeous silhouettes of the trees in the churchyard. It was a very moving and memorable service.

I am glad to have these memories in my life, and that *The Anglican* has revived them.

*Kathleen Bowley
Peterborough*

Bishop's Diary and Bishop's Opinion will return next month.

New space lifts off the lid

St. Paul's completes \$20-million expansion

BY STUART MANN

In 1860, a farmer took out a mortgage on his land – \$2,100, a large sum in those days – to help pay for the construction of St. Paul's, Bloor Street, in Toronto.

One hundred and sixty five years later, that spirit of giving and commitment to the gospel is alive and well at St. Paul's.

The church is just finishing a massive, \$20-million renovation and expansion which has seen its space almost double to 110,000 square feet, making it one of the largest churches of any denomination in Toronto.

And yet, it's not the size of the place that strikes a first-time visitor – it's the energy that the space creates.

The energy begins right at the front door, which opens onto a large, glass-enclosed foyer. A plasma screen, located on one side of the ceiling, directs people to services and programs. It gives times and locations and advertises upcoming activities. A welcome desk also provides helpful information and literature.

To the left is the church's main sanctuary, dating back to 1913. This huge worship space, capable of seating up to 2,000 people, has been the setting for some of the largest services in the diocese, including the annual Black Heritage Service. Although it has been upgraded, it remains mostly unchanged from previous years.

To the right of the foyer, however, is a totally transformed space. The old church and parish hall, built in 1860 and 1928 respectively, have been completely renovated into modern, state-of-the-art meeting spaces. There are three large rooms and a refurbished chapel on the main floor, all connected, plus more than a dozen rooms upstairs and downstairs. A large elevator connects all three floors.

One of the most striking things about the new complex is the blend between old and new. Wherever possible, the architect has kept the original stone, brick,



Parishioners watch children perform the Christmas pageant in the parish hall, Cody Hall. The stage, main floor, balcony and skylight, built in 1928, have been renovated.

stained glass and wood. These elements, when placed beside new walls, windows, floors and lights, have an energizing effect on a visitor.

"It's a spectacular blend of the old and new," says Denise Mifflin, rector's warden. "It preserves the best of our traditional heritage, but the glass gives you a feeling of openness and light. The architecture serves us well because one of our main things at St. Paul's is to be as inviting as we can."

The best example of the contrast between old and new is "the gap," a narrow space between the old church and the former parish hall. The architect has kept the original outer walls of the old church and the parish hall, and enclosed them under a glass roof. It looks like an outdoor walkway, except it's inside.

At the end of the walkway is a beautiful stained glass window belonging to the Queen's Own Rifles, of which St. Paul's is the regimental church. The window depicts a pelican, the third oldest Christian symbol after the cross and the fish. The bird is feeding its young by pecking her breast and drawing out her own blood, symbolic of Christ feeding his children. It is one of several fascinating artworks in the new space.

Renovating the old church, which is now called the Great Hall, was a journey of discovery. For years it had served as Sun-

day School rooms and office space. It had a drop ceiling, and the stained glass window in the chapel was covered up.

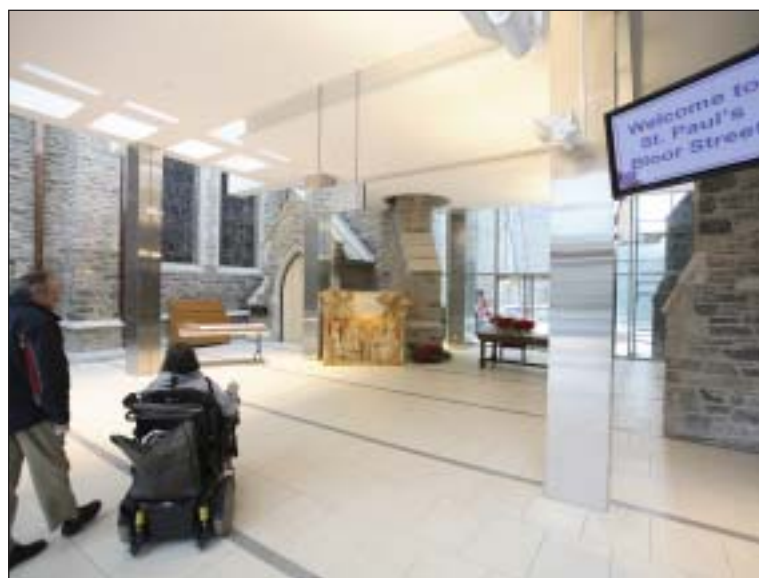
As workmen dismantled the drop ceiling, they discovered the original wooden ceiling underneath, which hadn't been seen for decades. They restored it, and refurbished the stained glass window and made other repairs.

"To see how it opened up just blew us away," says the Rev. Canon Dr. Barry Parker. "I was stunned."

As beautiful as the new space is, however, it first had to be functional. In fact, the church's leadership came up with a "filter" through which every design decision was made. They called it SAFF, short for secure, accessible, flexible and functional. Every decision had to meet those criteria.

The new facility excels in all four areas. It is as safe as a large downtown church can be, and accessible to anyone. Before the renovations, there were 11 different levels spread over the three buildings; now there are just three. If you wanted to go from one building to another, you had to go outside; now it's all under one roof.

"It's wonderful seeing all the mothers with their strollers and children being able to get onto the elevator easily, and for the old and young to move around," says Ms. Mifflin. "It's really tak-



A plasma screen in the foyer welcomes people to St. Paul's and directs them to services and programs. The single entranceway allows people to get to all sections of the building.

en this place to a whole new level."

Each room is flexible, making it possible to have several different kinds of meetings and gatherings in one space each day. For example, the room where coffee hour is held can be quickly changed into a lecture hall or can handle overflow seating in the event of a large service in the main church. Even the chapel in the old church is used for meetings as well as worship.

This is significant. All of the rooms in the new complex, from the smallest to the largest, are

first and foremost "containers for ministry," says Canon Parker.

"At first, people were worried that we were just building a monument to space, but we've been really focused on the fact that when we look at this space, it's a container for ministry. That's been our mantra over and over again."

That commitment to ministry is evident. On a regular Sunday morning, when worship services are going on in the main church, the rooms in the new complex

Continued on Page 7

Photos by
Michael
Hudson



The chapel has updated lighting and refurbished stained glass and flooring. It is an open space that is used for worship and meetings.



Kirk Vandezande plays piano for diners in the Great Hall, formerly the old church.



Kitchen manager Omari Alonzo serves up delicious food in the Great Hall's main kitchen. There are also kitchenettes on the upper and lower floors.



Entrance to Cody Hall, far left, and the Library. At right is 'the gap,' which connects Cody Hall and the Library to the Great Hall.

Continued from Page 6
are busy with activity. The Rev. Jenny Andison, associate priest at St. Paul's, is leading a course for adults called Christianity 101 in the parish hall, called Cody Hall. A worship service for youth is going on next door.

"It's like the lid has come off," says the Rev. Tim Haughton, describing how the new space has had an impact on youth ministry. Mr. Haughton is the minister for youth and young adults at the church.

For the past three years, the

youth met in the basement of the main church. Now they have their own junior and senior youth rooms, the latter of which has the latest in audio and visual technology to incorporate movies and music into their activities and discussions.

Mr. Haughton says their move into the new space has been like a breath of fresh air. "You can see the lid coming off not only physically but spiritually as well. Kids are really opening up to what God is doing in their lives.

"I think the space for them is a

symbol that God is limitless in the possibilities of what he can do in their lives" he says. "During the time that we've been in this space, our youth leadership group has come up with more and more ideas of how we can use the space to do the things that God has called us to do."

In fact, the amount of activity created by youth and adults because of the new space has created its own challenge. "Our biggest issue now is that our ministries are growing at such a rate that we have to resource

them with rooms and staff – the operational side of it," says Canon Parker. "We have this very talented ministry team that is generating wonderful ideas, blessing people all over, but we're trying to manage that growth carefully."

With all the new space and a large staff, it's tempting for the church to try to be all things to all people. But it has chosen to proceed slowly and find its place in a part of the city that is already crowded with churches.

"We're going slow and trying

to understand what, where and who are our constituencies," says Canon Parker. "Who is God calling us to serve? What is it that makes us distinct, besides being big? What needs in the community aren't being met? That's likely where we're meant to be."

Whatever they do, it will be grounded in faith. "Everything starts from a faith perspective," he says. "It doesn't start with activity. If we don't connect with Jesus in some way, it's just busy-ness."

WHAT'S WORKING IN YOUR PARISH?

Pager system connects parents

St. Paul's, Newmarket, has a great pager system for our nursery. Parents receive a pager, giving them the confidence that if their child needs them, they will be paged and can come. There are 12 pagers that only vibrate and they are linked to a base station in the nursery.

One pager always goes to a sidesperson in case the nursery needs a hand.

The pager system also provides an extra level of safety: the nursery worker knows that the person with, for example, pager four, is the person to pick up that particular baby, even if the worker does not know all the parents personally.

Parents appreciate the added care and safety for their children, and the nursery, which continues all through the year, is growing well.

– The Rev. Ruth Roguszka

Outreach leads to evangelism

Outreach may be an unsung form of evangelism, but at St. Peter's, Cobourg, a recent initiative to link with the African church has drawn many sleep-walking Anglicans into energetic ministry.

In 2000, St. Peter's decided to "twin" with St. Mark's, Mzuzu, in the Diocese of Northern Malawi. In 2002, we funded a community parish hall there. Then, in 2005, a feeding program for AIDS orphans was established. St. Peter's currently funds the weekly feeding of 250 orphans and the daily feeding of those who are HIV-positive. One hundred Cobourg residents each give \$250 a year to help pay for the program. On top of that, new initiatives in

health-care and education are underway for more vulnerable girls and boys.

The passion and dynamism unleashed through this international outreach has been remarkable, both at St. Peter's and in the wider Cobourg community. The church is – and is seen to be – relevant by directly responding to human need. To date, six parishioners have traveled to Mzuzu independently to inspect the program first-hand. This April, Canon Peter Walker will preach at the 50th anniversary celebration of St. Mark's, Mzuzu, and tour the diocese as a guest of the bishop. Already it feels like a marriage: both parties realize that though we started as strangers, we are now linked "for better or for worse...in sickness and in health."

To love and cherish our neighbour as ourselves is at the core of the gospel. This particular outreach project has brought clarity to a basic gospel imperative, and for many brought their faith to life. Outreach can indeed be an effective instrument of evangelism.

– Colin Turnpenney

Stewardship shapes vision

We came to stewardship out of necessity. In our limited understanding of stewardship, we knew we could not afford to be the church as we were. We knew we needed the money!

We invited the diocese's director of Stewardship Development, Peter Misiaszek, to come to St. John's, West Toronto, and make a presentation so we would know what was involved. He presented the resource, "A Plan for Stewardship Education and Development Through the Year," by David W. Gordon. We held a vi-

sioning day which really energized us. It included this blue-sky question: "If resources were unlimited, what would you like to see St. John's doing in three years?" We grouped our ideas into 10 priorities and presented a five-year plan. We trained visitors and held our first Every Member Visit and our first Commitment Sunday at the end of November, 2005. Over the following year we made "Building Meaningful Relationships in Our Community" our first priority, with a wide range of events and activities.

We are at the conclusion of our second Every Member Visit and Commitment Sunday, and the results are amazing. Our offerings increased by 38 per cent in one year; the number of people who gave by direct deposit increased by 68 per cent; and we've had a significant increase in the size of our congregation.

We've come to understand that stewardship isn't money; it's just one of the outcomes. Stew-

ardship is about the vision for our parish, and the journey towards being in mission. That is what has really excited us. Stewardship is the best thing we've done to know what it means to be the church.

– The Rev. Gary van der Meer

Christmas card draws newcomers

At St. Bride's, Clarkson, our evangelism committee came up with a simple and effective way to invite our community to church. They designed an attractive Christmas card with an invi-

tation and a list of service times printed inside. Then, in November, we asked parishioners to take a few each and invite their friends or neighbours to our services. As a result, at least a dozen or so families came out, and parishioners had a chance to talk to friends about church in a non-threatening way.

– The Rev. Stephen Peake

What's Working In Your Parish? lets clergy and laity share their good ideas with others. If something is working well in your parish, tell us about it in 200 words or less and email it to editor@toronto.anglican.ca.

Anglicans support motion, petition aimed at poverty

"PROMISES are not enough. We expect the Ontario government to act promptly, turning promises into action, providing housing and hope."

Helen Perry, a member of St. James', Orillia, spoke these words to her local MPP, Garfield Dunlop, and other politicians at a public consultation as the Ontario government prepares its spring budget.

Many like Ms. Perry are hopeful that the budget will contain measures to improve life for the poor and provide urgently needed affordable and supportive housing.

Other Anglicans have added their voices to Ms. Perry's. More than 140 parishes have passed motions at vestry meetings urging the provincial government to make affordable and supportive housing a priority in its budget.

Meanwhile, more than 2,000 Anglicans have signed a petition with the same goal, noting the hardships faced by poorly housed

individuals and families.

Both the housing motion and petition will be submitted to politicians of all parties. Through their support of the vestry motion and the petition, more than 5,700 Anglicans have expressed their concern about those suffering from poor housing, and have appealed to the government to act.

"This is no longer just a 'big city' problem," says the Rev. Michael Calderwood, incumbent at St. Paul's, Brighton. "Affordable housing is becoming more of an issue in our community of Brighton." The housing motion at his vestry meeting was passed unanimously by the 56 people in attendance.

For more information on the motion or petition, visit the diocese's website, www.toronto.anglican.ca/sjab or contact Murray MacAdam, the diocese's Social Justice and Advocacy consultant, (416) 363-6021 or 1-800-668-8932, ext. 240.



BRIEFLY

All welcome to blessing of oils

Everyone is welcome at this service on Mar. 29, where sacred oils

for anointing are blessed and distributed, and clergy of the diocese renew their ordination vows. Bishop Colin Johnson will also honour clergy marking their silver or golden jubilee of ordination. The service will be held at 10:30 a.m. at St. James' Cathedral, King and Church streets, Toronto. The Ministry of Reconciliation

will be made available prior to the service, with the Rev. Canon Christian Swayne, OHC, hearing confessions from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in the St George's Chapel (at the rear of the nave).

Photos needed for synod

The Communications department is creating photo slideshows for synod that depict Anglican parishes building communities of hope and compassion. Please put your photos and captions on a CD and send them to Henrieta Paukov, Anglican Diocese of Toronto, 135 Adelaide St. E., Toronto, ON, M5C 1L8. High-resolution JPEGs only. If you have questions, email hpaukov@toronto.anglican.ca.

Show your colours at synod

Parishes are invited to bring their banners to the residential synod, May 3 to 5.

Active Seniors Day Program

St. Hilda's Retirement Residence is pleased to announce its 2007 Community Day Program for Active Seniors.

Join us for fun and friendship including:

- Fitness programs
- Music and concerts
- Discussion groups
- Games
- Computer classes
- A Boxed Lunch
- Special events
- So much more

For more information call: (416) 781-6621

This no fee program is co-sponsored by St. Hilda's Retirement Residence and Social Development Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program.



Registration begins
MARCH 26, 2007
Call 416-781-6621 x245
and leave a message.

St. Hilda's
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Parishioners dance in the aisles of St. Philip's, Etobicoke, above, as Walter Ostanek and his band play Polka Vespers, right.



MP Bill Graham to speak at Scott dinner

On Apr. 29, St. Simon-the-Apostle, Toronto, will present the second annual tribute dinner for Archbishop Edward (Ted) Scott. The late Primate was an honorary assistant at the parish for many years, and the tribute dinners feature speakers whose lives and work connect with his concerns and contributions to Canada and the world.

The evening will begin with evensong at 5 p.m., followed by a reception and dinner. The church choir will be joined by pianist John Sheard, music director of CBC's Vinyl Café.

The guest speaker at this year's dinner will be the Hon. Bill Graham, M.P. for Toronto Centre, whose career in politics and international affairs has involved him in many of the areas of social and global justice and human rights that were of deep concern to Archbishop Scott. "I came to know Ted Scott after he had completed his role as Primate and had joined St. Simon's as an auxiliary priest," says Mr. Graham, who is also a parishioner of St. Simon's. "I came to appreciate his extensive knowledge of our country,

which he came to know so well because of his duties as Primate. I also appreciated his knowledge of foreign affairs, acquired through his leadership at the World Council of Churches. ... He always had an interest in my work and was often the source of wise counsel, always offered in a supportive way."

The talk will offer reflections on the larger implications of the experiences which the two men shared and discussed, says Mr. Graham. "Ted brought to his role as an international statesman not only his own very special humanity but also a characteristically Canadian approach to resolving disputes and furthering international understanding. In my talk, I will draw some parallels between Ted's international experience and my own and point out how that experience can inform so many other facets of one's life."

Free-will donations to the Stephen Lewis Foundation and/or the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund will be gratefully accepted and receipted as charitable donations. Tickets for the reception and dinner are \$50. For more information or reservations, call the parish office at (416) 923-8714 or e-mail stsimon@on.aibn.com.

Monk's Cell cooks up great steak

Many years ago, members of St. Theodore of Canterbury, Toronto, came up with the idea of hosting a Saturday night steakhouse dinner with a "Monk's Cell" theme. (St. Theodore was a monk.) Now celebrating its 40th anniversary, the dinner has become a central event in the life of the parish.

"The Monk's Cell requires a great deal of hard work but the result is fun for its 500 guests and 100 volunteers," says Kirk Merrett, the "abbot" of the Monk's Cell and warden at St. Theodore's. "The food is great — where else can you get a New York Strip steak or chicken dinner (cooked over an open hearth by professional chefs), salad, roll, potato, cheeses, dessert, wine and coffee for \$30 a person? — and the hospitality is top grade."

This year's event takes place Apr. 20 – Apr. 21. St. Theodore's is located at 111 Cactus Ave., in the Yonge St. and Steeles Ave. area. To make a reservation, call Joyce Tillotson at (416) 223-3166.

New service for Cobourg church

A new, informal weekly Sunday worship service at St. Peter's, Cobourg, has been added to the regular services. Called "Come as You Are," it is held at 9:30 a.m., between two more traditional services. It lasts about 45 minutes and takes place in St. Peter's new chapel. It is currently led by Matt Kydd, a Wycliffe College theological student.

The services are designed to appeal to people who, according to Mr. Kydd, "are interested in church and want to learn more about Jesus but don't really connect with traditional worship styles." Members of the congregation can pour themselves a cup of coffee or juice during the service and sip it as they sing a few songs and talk about the Bible in a discussion led by Mr. Kydd.

"I've found the 'Come As You Are' services to be refreshingly informal," says one member of the congregation. "We have all got to know each other much better, and it's usually a mix of fami-



Four happy diners feast at last year's Monk's Cell dinner at St. Theodore of Canterbury.

lies and individuals. As the format is not difficult to follow, it's been a good place for me to invite friends who are looking to explore Christianity a little bit more closely but aren't yet comfortable in the regular service. To date, three of my friends who fall into this category have come to the service and have liked it enough to return the following week."

For more information, contact St. Peter's at (905) 372-3442 or email info@stpeterscobourg.org.

Polka music cheers worship

Happy feet were dancing in the aisles at St. Philip's, Etobicoke, when Walter Ostanek came to play Polka Vespers on Jan. 28. The three-time Grammy-award-winning "Polka King" delighted a packed church of people from many denominations and parts of the city. "Folks just love the music that Walter plays," says the Rev. Allan Budzin, incumbent. "They come to this service to sing, dance, and feel happy. Are there any better emotions to experience in church than that?" The polka vespers service is similar to jazz vespers offered at other churches throughout the diocese. Mr. Budzin says it's a musical change of pace that chases away the winter blues. "Everyone leaves the church with smiles on their faces

and a bounce to their step."

Youth show they care

The young people of Holy Trinity, Thornhill, will take the lead in a fundraising event for Camp Kirk, an overnight summer camp for children with learning disabilities. They are preparing a talent show and silent auction to take place May 12 at Holy Trinity, with musician and Camp Kirk founder and director Henri Audet in attendance.

"We have a group of 45 youth, ranging in age from kindergarten to grade 12," says Sandra MacPherson, Holy Trinity's church school coordinator. "I am expecting most of them will be participating in the talent show, singing with Henri. Some will also want to share individual talents, such as singing, playing instruments, and acting. As well, our younger members will be making original art cards and other artwork for the silent art auction. Our Junior Choir, consisting of nine members aged 11–17, will be singing in the concert with Henri and on their own."

The parish invites anyone who wishes to participate in the talent show or help out behind the scenes, to join in the fun. For more information and for tickets, call (905) 889-5931.



MANY HANDS, LIGHT WORK

Volunteers at the Lakeshore Out of the Cold at St. Margaret's, New Toronto, do the dishes. From left to right Uzo Oladunjoye, Margaret Rodriguez, Alan Oliver, Joyce Sparks, and the Rev. Renate Koke. The program is in its seventh season and is sponsored and hosted by the congregation at St. Margaret's, with the help of other churches and community businesses and organizations. The church accommodates up to 22 men, but provides meals for up to 100 men, women and, increasingly, children, each Monday night during the Out of the Cold season.

LOOKING AHEAD

Items for Looking Ahead should be emailed to hpaukov@toronto.anglican.ca. The deadline for the June 2007 issue is May 1.

Services

APR. 1 – Jazz Vespers with the Don Thompson Quartet at Christ Church, Deer Park, 1570 Yonge St., Toronto, at 4:30 p.m. Other dates: Apr. 22 - Russ Little Quartet; May 13, May 27, June 10, June 24. For more information, call (416) 920-5211.

APR. 15 – Jazz Vespers featuring Roselyn Brown and Maracatu Nuncia Antes (saxophone and Brazilian drums) at St. Philip's, Etobicoke, 25 St. Phillips Rd., at 4 p.m. For information, call (416) 247-5181.

APR. 22 – Jazz Eucharist with the Tim Elliott Jazz Trio at 10:30 a.m. at the Church of the Holy Spirit, 1170 Tynegrove Rd., Mississauga. For more information, call (905) 625-6650.

APR. 29 – Bishop Patrick Yu joins the Rev. Anthony Bassett and the congregation of St. Margaret, North Toronto, at the 11 a.m. service, as the parish celebrates its 75th anniversary. A reception follows the service. The parish warmly welcomes all former parishioners to attend. For information, call (416) 783-7680.

APR. 29 – Taizé service at Church of the Ascension, 33 Overland Dr., Don Mills, 7:30 p.m. Includes prayers, readings, meditation, and silence. Last Sunday of the month: May 27; June 24. Call (416) 444-8881.

MAY 23 – St. Paul's, Bloor Street, welcomes The Most Rev. Josiah Idowu-Fearon, Archbishop of the Kaduna Archdiocese, Nigeria. All are invited to join the Archbishop at 7 p.m. in an evensong with an Afro-Caribbean flavour, followed by a reception. The Archbishop will bring an update on the progress of the Jacaranda Farm and the status of Christian-Muslim relations in the region. The event takes place at St. Paul's, 227 Bloor St. E., Toronto. For more information, call (416) 961-8116 or emo@stpaulsbloor.org.

Social/Fundraising

APR. 20-21 – St. Theodore of Canterbury, 111 Cactus Ave., Toronto, celebrates the 40th year of the Monk's Cell. Come and have dinner in this unique setting. For tickets, call Joyce Tillotson at (416) 223-3166 or email theodorechurch@bellnet.ca.

APR. 22 – St. George's Tea at St. Olave's, Swansea, at 4:30 p.m., featuring St. Olave's Arts Guild with words and music to celebrate England's love of animals in the wild, on the farm and as pets. Preceded by choral evensong at 4 p.m. St. Olave's is located at 360 Windermere Ave., Toronto. Contributions appreciated. For details, call (416) 769-5686.

APR. 29 – The second annual tribute dinner in memory of the Most Rev. Edward (Ted) Scott, O.C., will be held at St. Simon-the-Apostle, 525 Bloor St. E., Toronto. Evensong

will be at 5 p.m., followed by reception and dinner, with guest speaker the Hon. Bill Graham. Free-will offering to support the Stephen Lewis Foundation and PWRDF; charitable receipts will be issued. For more information or to reserve, call (416) 923-8714 or email stsimon@on.aibn.com.

SEP. 13 – St. George's, Pickering, will hold its second annual St. George's Anglican Church/Alex Mines Annual Charity Golf Tournament, at the Whispering Ridge Golf Course, just north of Whitby. Proceeds will be used to support Kids Help Phone, Durham Family Court Clinic and WindReach Farm, as well as the parish's community outreach ministry. The cost is \$125 per person and includes green fees, power cart and dinner. For more information and registration form, contact St. George's, Pickering at (905) 683-7981, or visit www.stgeorgeschurch.ca.

Conferences/Lectures

APR. 1-6 – "Exploring Easter," a Holy Week Mission at Trinity, Barrie, 24 Collier St. Retired Bishop Malcolm Harding will be the missionary. Monday to Thursday, 7 p.m. Good Friday, 12 noon. Soup and sandwich lunch Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 12 noon, for \$5. Also, hear the bishop on Sunday evening, April 1, at Espresso Praise, 6:45 p.m.

APR. 21 – The Rev. Tim Elliott conducts a free seminar "The prodigal son - coming to yourself - thoughts on vocation and calling," 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., at the Church of the Holy Spirit, Dixie North, in Mississauga. For more information, call (905) 625-6650.

APR. 27-28 – The Magnetic Church conference at St. John the Evangelist in Peterborough. Andrew Weeks will present a program he has developed to help parishes attract, welcome and retain new church members. The fee is \$55 per person, or \$45 if pre-paid and pre-registered in a group of four people or more. Deadline to register is Apr. 20. For more information, or to get registration forms, visit www.stjohnspeterborough.ca, or call the church at (705) 745-7624.

APR. 27-29 – AWARE conference at Geneva Park near Orillia. All women are welcome. Deepen your relationship with God, enjoy workshops and small groups, discover your personal gifts and learn how to use them, and experience creative corporate worship. The fee is \$285. For more information and registration, visit www.awareconference.org or call the registrar, Valerie Wilson at (905) 428-0295.

APR. 28 – The Parish of Mono presents "Vital Voices," a one-day opportunity to learn about inter-faith issues in an open forum. The forum takes place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. John, Mono, Highway 9, 2.5 km east of Highway 10. Featured speakers include Raheel Raza, an award-winning journalist and human rights activist whose mandate is to promote positive inter-faith relationships. Her Muslim perspective will be balanced

by Rabbi Jordan Cohen, director of "The Orchard," a multi-faith spirituality centre in Peterborough, and Ted Schmidt, former editor of the *New Catholic Times*, an educator and speaker on Vision TV. Only 150 tickets are available at a cost of \$10 for adults, \$5 for students. For more information, call (519) 941-1950 or email parishofmono@sympatico.ca.

MAY 4-6 – AWARE Elim Lodge offers an excellent speaker, small group discussion, and inspiring music with time for solitude, fun and fellowship. The speaker is the Rev. Judy Paulsen, incumbent of Christ Memorial, Oshawa, and the chaplain is the Rev. Ruth Knapp from St. Mark's, Midland. Music will be provided by Catherine Hawley and her group. The contact is Linda Finigan at (905) 668-4969 or blfinigan@rogers.com. Registration forms are available at www.geocities.com/awarepeterborough/.

MAY 8 – The Church of the Redeemer invites you to An Evening with Luke, a novel way to experience and understand the Gospel of Luke through stories, music and reflection, from 7 to 9 p.m. The church is located at 162 Bloor St. W. at Avenue Road. There is no charge but participants should pre-register. Call (416) 922-4948, or visit www.theredeemer.ca and select News/Information. Childcare may be arranged during registration. A community meal will be available for \$5 per person in the parish hall from 6 to 7 p.m.

MAY 27 – The Jacaranda Farm Project presents Rowland Shaba from Kaduna, Nigeria, at 12:45 p.m. at St. Paul's, 227 Bloor St. E., Toronto. Mr. Shaba is a manager at the Jacaranda Farm, a commercial farm project in rural northern Nigeria, supported by St. Paul's. Following the 11 a.m. service at St. Paul's, Mr. Shaba will share some experiences from Kaduna, as well as updates on the development of the farm, and treat the audience to photos from the region. For more information, call (416) 961-8116 or emo@stpaulsbloor.org.

Sales

APR. 14 – Grace Church, Markham, 19 Parkway Ave., will hold its famous semi-annual rummage sale from 9 a.m. until noon. Bargains galore, including clothing for all sizes, linens, household goods and small appliances, books, toys, and much more. Call (905) 294-3184.

APR. 14 – Spring Rummage Sale at St. Augustine of Canterbury, 1847 Bayview Ave., Toronto, from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Boutique and treasures. Call (416) 485-2656.

APR. 21 – St. Margaret's, North Toronto, 53 Burnaby Blvd., is holding a spring sale from 1 to 3 p.m. Enjoy a books and baking bonanza. Gently used clothing will also be sold. For further information, call (416) 783-7680.

APR. 28 – The Church of the Advent is holding its annual Rummage Sale and Flea Market from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Great bargains on clothing, household goods,

books, jewelry, "treasures" and more. The Advent is located at 40 Pritchard Ave. (east off Jane St., one block north of St. Clair). For more information, call the parish at (416) 763-2713.

APR. 28 – Spring fair at St. Cuthbert, Leaside, 1399 Bayview Ave., from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Featured are books, stamps, home baking, jewellery, treasures, kitchen items, plants, BBQ, and children's activities. For more information, call the parish at (416) 485-0329.

APR. 28 – Holy Trinity, Thornhill, 140 Brooke St. (Yonge St. & Centre St.), will hold its Spring Rummage Sale from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. A large selection of clothes, household items, linens, books, games, toys, jewelry and much more, at great prices. For more information, call (905) 889-5931.

MAY 5 – The Church of St. Bede, 79 Westbourne Ave., Scarborough, is having a spring bazaar, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Baking, jewellery, hand-made knitting and crafts, Indian/Canadian foods, books, "previously enjoyed items," and more, just in time for Mother's Day. For more information, call (416) 757-8241.

MAY 12 – Annual Attic Sale at Grace Church on-the-Hill, 300 Lonsdale Road (at Russell Hill). Toys, furniture, antiques, housewares, jewelry and more. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Call (416) 488-7884.

Drama and Poetry

MAY 19 – The St. Thomas Poetry Series launches Poetry as Liturgy: An Anthology by Canadian Poets, at St. Thomas', 383 Huron St., Toronto, at 7:30 p.m. For more information, email dkent@centennialcollege.ca, or visit www.stthomas.on.ca.

Music

APR. 1 – A Sunday afternoon organ recital at St. John's Convent, home of the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine. Hear Elisa Mangina, of St. Martin-in-the-Fields on the new Hal Gober tracker organ. The recital begins at 4:15 p.m., followed by evensong at 5 p.m. Free-will offering. To reserve your spot for the talking supper afterwards (cost \$10), call (416) 226-2201, ext. 305.

APR. 6 – The Faure Requiem at St. Peter's, Erindale, 1745 Dundas St. W., Mississauga, at 3 p.m. The parish choir with special guests Bruno Cormier, baritone, Sheena Teague, soprano, and James Mooney-Dutton, organist. The program will also include Mendelssohn's Hear My Prayer. Tickets are \$20. No reserved seating. Call (905) 828-2095 or visit www.stpeterserindale.org.

APR. 20 – The Church of the Holy Spirit, Dixie North, in Mississauga presents "All things you are," music and stories for life's journey, at 7:30 p.m., part of a weekend with priest and pianist Tim Elliott. Refreshments will be served. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for seniors. For more information, call (905) 625-6650.

APR. 22 – VocalPoint Chamber

Choir presents "Finzi and Friends," a program featuring music by Finzi, Vaughan Williams and Britten, at 3 p.m., at Grace Church on-the-Hill, 300 Lonsdale Rd., Toronto. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for seniors and students. Purchase at the door or call (416) 484-0185.

APR. 22 – The Church of St. Andrew, Scarborough, presents a Community Spring Concert, with light classical favourites through melodious voices and talented musicians from the church and community. The concert starts at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$10 for youth. Refreshments available. The church is located at 2333 Victoria Park Ave., Toronto. For more information or tickets, call (416) 447-1481 or visit www.st-andrew-anglican.ca.

APR. 27 – The Three Cantors in Concert at St. Peter's, Erindale, 1745 Dundas St. W., Mississauga, at 7:30 p.m. Proceeds support the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (Huron Hunger Fund) and the parish choir's UK Tour. Tickets are \$30 per person. No reserved seating, no babes in arms for this performance. Call (905) 828-2095 or visit www.stpeterserindale.org.

MAY 2 – The Three Cantors come to St. Peter's, Cobourg, King Street at College, at 8 p.m., for an evening of pleasure for all lovers of music. Admission is \$20. For more information, call (905) 372-3442 during office hours.

MAY 6 – Musicfest – "Oh Canada" at St. John's, York Mills, 19 Don Ridge Dr., Toronto, at 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. A lighthearted look at the artists and music of Canada with audience participation featuring voice, instruments and handbells. Proceeds to help Sleeping Children Around the World, Faith Works' Street Outreach Services and St. John's. Call (416) 225-6611. Adults \$15; children \$5.

MAY 6 – Praise the Lord, O My Soul, a musical preview of the Grace Church on-the-Hill Choirs' 2007 Tour to England. World Premiere of Andrew Ager's "The Ransomed of the Lord," and "Magnificat & Nunc Dimittis;" Canadian Premiere of Andrew Carter's "Praise the Lord, O My Soul." Melva Treffinger Graham, Conductor. 3 p.m., at Grace Church on-the-Hill, 300 Lonsdale Road, Toronto (between Avenue Road & Spadina, north of St. Clair). Tickets \$15/\$10/\$5. Call (416) 488-7884, ext. 333.

MAY 25 – The Nathaniel Dett Chorale presents "And Still We Sing" at the Toronto Centre for the Arts. A private reception will be held in support of the Jacaranda Farm, a commercial farm project in rural Northern Nigeria with a vision of Christian-Muslim reconciliation, supported by St. Paul's, Bloor St. Archbishop Josiah Idowu-Fearon and the farm manager will address the guests at the reception. Tickets are \$40 for the concert (beginning at 8 p.m.) and \$100 for both the reception (beginning at 6 p.m.) and concert. For more information, call (416) 961-8116 or emo@stpaulsbloor.org.

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deadlines

June 2007
Deadline May 1/07

September 2007
Deadline Aug. 1/07

October 2007
Deadline Sept. 1/07

November 2007
Deadline Oct. 1/07

December 2007
Deadline Nov. 1/07

IN MOTION

Appointments

- The Rev. Naomi Miller, Associate Priest, Lakefield, Jan. 1.
- The Rev. Dr. Merv Mercer, Interim Priest-in-Charge, Church of the Messiah, Toronto, Feb. 1.
- The Rev. Erin Marriott (Niagara), Honorary Assistant, St. Clement, Eglinton, Feb. 8.
- The Rev. Lyndon Hutchison-Hounsell (Niagara), Interim Priest-in-Charge, St. James, Caledon East, Feb. 12.
- The Rev. Keith Todd (Nova Scotia & PEI), Honorary Assistant, All Saints, Sherbourne St., Feb. 12.
- The Rev. Andrew Sandilands (Montreal), Associate Priest, Trinity, Barrie, Mar. 15.

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. Matthew, Oshawa
- St. Paul, Lindsay
- St. George, Pickering
- St. James, Caledon East
- Messiah
- Holy Trinity, Guildwood
- St. Timothy, North Toronto
- St. Andrew, Scarborough

Second Phase - Parish Selection Committee Receiving Names

(via Area Bishop):

- Christ Church, Campbellford (Trent-Durham)

- St. John, York Mills (York-Scarborough)

Third Phase - Parish Selection Committee Interviewing

- (via Area Bishop):
- Parish of Ida & Omemee
- St. Andrew, Aliston

Other Vacancies

- (apply through the Human Resources Department):
- Director, Flemingdon Park Ministry

Retirements/Departures/Sabbath Leaves

- The Rev. Elizabeth Hardy has concluded her appointment as Archdeacon of York-Scarborough and as of Jan. 1 has taken on an expanded role in the Synod Office as Senior Administrative Officer. While continuing her work in Planning and Development and in support of the Trusts Committee, Ms. Hardy will lead and direct key projects and initiatives which support the bishops' and diocese's priorities.
- The Ven. Peter Fenty will be taking a Sabbath Leave from Apr. 1 to July 31. During his absence, the duties of the Executive Assistant to the Bishop of Toronto will be distributed among several people, including the Rev. Elizabeth Hardy (canonical enquiries and clergy matters), the Rev. Canon Judy Rois (Postulancy Committee and vocational discernment), and Stuart Mann (communications matters and spokesperson for the Diocese of Toronto). For appropriate redirection during Archdeacon Fenty's leave, all enquiries should be

made through the Bishop's Office, at (416) 363-6021, ext. 250.

- The Rev. James Blackmore has announced his retirement. His last Sunday at St. George, Pickering, will be May 27.
- The Rev. Canon Betty Jordan will be concluding her ministry as Director of Flemingdon Park Ministry at the end of May in order to return to parish ministry.

Deaths

- The Rev. John Brownhill, originally a priest of the Diocese of Toronto, latterly a priest of Huron, died Feb. 15. His funeral took place in Windsor on Feb. 19.
- The Rev. Lloyd Howard, a retired priest of the Diocese of Toronto, died Feb. 23. He was ordained for the Diocese of Moosonee in 1948, and transferred his orders to Toronto in 1977. He served as incumbent of the Parish of North Essa, and then incumbent of St. Alban, Peterborough (with St. Mark, Otonabee), until his retirement in 1986. His funeral took place in Peterborough on Mar. 1.

PRAYER CYCLE

FOR MAY

1. Christ Church, Waubashene
2. Good Samaritan, Port Stanton
3. Good Shepherd, Wybridge
4. St. Athanasius, Orillia
5. St. David's, Orillia
6. Street Outreach Services (LOFT Community Services)
7. St. George's, Cooper's Falls

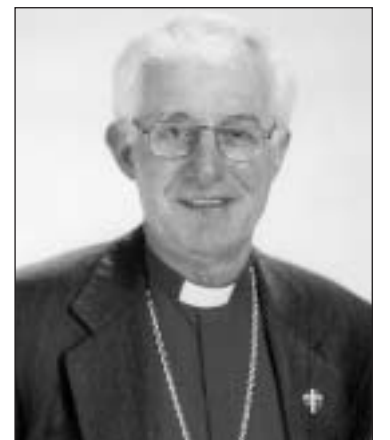
Bishop to lead mission in Barrie

BEING part of a Christian mission is a very exciting experience. It isn't necessary, however, to travel to far parts of the world to participate in such important, gratifying and life-altering work. There is a mission about to take place at Trinity, Barrie.

Bishop Malcolm Harding from Manitoba will be conducting a Holy Week mission at Trinity. Bishop Harding, who is the ambassador for Anglican Renewal Ministries, will be guiding those who attend through a journey of growth.

One definition of "mission" is "the act of sending; an assignment or task to be carried out." Bishop Harding will be sharing his thoughts based on "how we are saved to serve." The mission will begin on March 31 at the Men's Breakfast and continue through Holy Week until Good Friday, April 6. There will be special lunch-hour talks and evening addresses by Bishop Harding, all of which are outlined on the church website at www.trinitybarrie.ca

"What shall I do then with Jesus who is called Christ?" (Matthew



Bishop Malcolm Harding

27:22) will serve as the initial jumping-off spot as Bishop Harding leads the spiritual journey. "Letting go and letting God really take over" will be explored in the context of "submitting not only to Jesus but to one another in Christian love."

All are welcome to learn to be "spirit led and spirit filled" at this very special mission. For more information, call Trinity at (705) 728-2691.

8. St. George's, Fairvalley
9. St. James on-the-Lines, Penetanguishene
10. St. James, Orillia
11. St. John, Matchedash
12. St. John, Waverly
13. Crosslinks Housing and Support Services (LOFT Community Services)
14. St. Luke, Price's Corners
15. St. Mark's, Midland
16. St. Matthias, Coldwater
17. St. Paul, Washago
18. Wycliffe Church, Elmvale
19. Citizens for Public Justice

- (Partners with the diocese)
20. York Central Deanery
 21. All Saints, Markham
 22. Christ Church, Stouffville
 23. Christ Church, Woodbridge
 24. Emmanuel, Richvale
 25. Grace Church, Markham
 26. Holy Trinity, Thornhill
 27. McEwan House (LOFT Community Services)
 28. St. Gabriel's, Richmond Hill
 29. St. John's, Oak Ridges (Richmond Hill)
 30. St. Mary's, Richmond Hill
 31. St. Philip's on-the-Hill (Unionville)

LAY READER IN TRAINING

BY NANCY DEVINE

A sturdy base

It's strange, isn't it? You can live in a family for years and never know all the secrets squirrelled away in cupboards and in the back of books.

The Rev. Canon Dr. Gerald Loweth recently visited All Saints', King City, to talk about the movers and shakers of the Anglican Church. What I learned was a far cry from what I thought I knew about church history.

I'll hazard a guess that someone of my vintage has some sketchy notions about the history of Anglicanism, most of which were gleaned from history class at school. I think there may be some residual embarrassment that our roots lie in the romantic and political entanglements of 16th century England.

Nonetheless, our history is pretty interesting – and a testament to the fact that the Anglican Church has learned to weather change.

During the course of the day with Canon Loweth, I learned some new insights into the life and work of Richard Hooker, who argued that there could be some middle ground between the piety of the Puritans and the rigid doctrines of the Roman Catholic Church.

Hooker introduced the notion that the Anglican Church could be described as a three-legged stool governed by scripture, traditional practice, and reason. Anglicans are required to think, question, debate, argue and come to a reasonable resolution.

All the people we heard about faced criticism in their time. All of them stood for something greater than themselves. We have a background in social justice, promoting education and furthering the Kingdom of God in the world.

When I was a teenager, if going to church on Sunday morning was going to interfere with my plans for Saturday night, I struck a deal with my folks: I would go to mass with my friends on Saturday evening at St. Matthew's Roman Catholic Church, if I were allowed to sleep in on Sunday morning.

My parents, reasonable people in the Anglican tradition, agreed. To them, church was church. So off I went.

I did this so often that the priest eventually asked me if I had just moved into the neighbourhood. He did not recall preparing me for holy communion or confirmation. When I told him my true faith practice, he kind of shrugged, and then remarked to my friends that I knew the mass better than they did.

Now, as I continue to learn, question, reason and study, I think back on those who went before me, and those with whom I have tread the path of faith. I hope we are doing everything God expects of us, and that we will find the courage to move forward in the vital work of doing justice and loving mercy.

Chaplain connects with inmates

OUR LIVES

BY HENRIETA PAUKOV

The Rev. Robert Gorham walks into the cell area of the Newmarket Court House. "What's the time, chaplain, what's the time?" calls out an inmate. Mr. Gorham glances at his watch, tells the man the correct time, and stops to chat for a few minutes. "He has no watch," he explains. "They have no way of knowing what's going on around them in the real world."

Mr. Gorham's ministry as courthouse chaplain, a position he shares with a layperson from the Salvation Army, relieves some of that physical isolation. It also tries to relieve some of the moral and social isolation of those who have transgressed society's laws and have been incarcerated. "One man is here on murder charges," says Mr. Gorham. "I call three people for him on a regular basis, just to say 'Hello, thinking about you.' And they all appreciate it, every single one of them. They say, 'Thanks for calling. Thanks for letting us know that he is thinking about us, and let him know that we are thinking about him, too.'"

The chaplain arrives at the court house at 8:30 every weekday morning and stays until noon. At the beginning of each day, he receives a list of the people who are in custody – about 50 to 75 on any given day. The crimes they are charged with range from petty theft to selling drugs to domestic violence. "I don't know if the person committed that crime or not," says Mr. Gorham. "I can't judge that person. I try to be that one person who sees them as a human being, as the son or daughter of God, and I try to minister to their need, whatever that need is. Many of them are lonely, many of them are afraid, especially the young people." His focus is on the youth, the people in protective custody and the women, while the Salvation Army chaplain works with the rest.

With the list in hand, Mr. Gorham walks into the cell area and simply asks whether anyone

Our Lives features inspiring stories of the clergy and laypeople among us. This month, The Anglican talks to the Rev. Robert Gorham, chaplain of the Newmarket Court House

needs assistance, such as a telephone call to be made. People then come to the bars and make their requests.

"Those telephone calls are important, because they allow us to establish contact with family members, who are going through their own hell, because their loved one is in jail," he explains. "When they come to court, they will often look for us or we look for them. And then, over a period of time, they are back. Sometimes they are back many times, over months, sometimes years. So you build up a rapport with those people. Sometimes it's just 'How are you doing?' and other times they are sitting in your office in tears, pouring out their heart because of what they are going through, because of what's happening to their loved one who has been incarcerated."

He says that although he is able to provide some practical assistance, most of his work is simply a ministry of listening and showing care and compassion. "We get people saying: 'Can you spend some time, can you talk to me, can you pray with me?' We pray right there in the cells, right in front of everybody else." The two chaplains are also involved when prisoners are released. They ensure they have bus fare to get home and a supply of clothing. If they have been sentenced to community service, the chaplains can help them find an assignment.

Chaplaincy has been Mr. Gorham's focus throughout his 40 years of ordained ministry. He became interested in it when he was still a teenager serving in his home church in the Diocese



The Rev. Robert Gorham

of Niagara. "For me, it was because of a priest in my home parish who took a real interest in young people," he recalls. "One of the things he and I did on a regular basis was go to the hospital on a Saturday morning and have a service in the chapel. Then we would take communion to patients. He got me to go to a number of vocational conferences. At one, there were all kinds of ministries represented, and the ministries that attracted me were ones dealing with people in everyday situations, like prison chaplains and hospital chaplains. Those were the kinds of things I really wanted to do."

At 18, he joined the Anglican Church Army, a lay society of men and women who are commissioned as evangelists. He was sent to Newfoundland where he worked in a multi-point parish. "A hundred miles of coast, with 24 congregations, the priest and myself," is how he sums up the experience. The bishop approached him about ordination, and as a priest he stayed in Newfoundland for 14 years, the last six in hospital chaplaincy. Then he returned to Ontario and worked both in chaplaincy and

parish ministry until his recent semi-retirement.

"I've always preferred chaplaincy to parish ministry," he says. "You don't affect the masses the same way, but the people you do affect, it's on a one-to-one basis. And sometimes it's a much more in-depth and meaningful relationship you have."

He says he has been touched by the determination of some families to help their troubled members. "There was one family that had lost control of their daughter," he says. "She had run away from home and was living on the street. She was in and out of jail. They never gave up on her. They were always there for her and have continued to be there for her, even though there has been no change in her lifestyle, because she's hooked on drugs. It's touching to see some families struggle and struggle through situations like that, and to see their perseverance, their hope that somehow, some way, this child will turn around and make a change in her life. They don't give up on her. That's always encouraging."

He has seen that people can turn their lives around. "We've seen people who have gone through the system and have put their lives together and gotten jobs and they are doing fine," he says. "When I was doing hospital chaplaincy, I often heard from people after, about how much my ministry meant to them. You don't get a lot of that in the court, but it's funny, sometimes when you are out in the street, someone will stop you and say: 'Hi, chaplain. Thanks for what you did for me. You were the only person who showed any concern for me.'"

Service highlights child poverty

POVERTY and poor housing: the two are linked, as Anglicans involved in parish outreach projects and in advocacy efforts are aware.

Parishes can make use of a new service leaflet that lifts up before God children and families struggling to get by on low incomes. It urges Anglicans to respond as Jesus would have us do. The service has been developed by the diocese's Child Poverty Subcommittee, for suggested use on Mother's Day, May 13.

"If you prefer to use the child poverty service on another day, that's fine," says Peter Harris of

Holy Trinity, Guildwood, who helped develop the service. "Use as much of the service as you wish. For instance, your incumbent may prefer to preach his or her own homily, rather than the one we suggest. That's fine."

Bishop Colin Johnson will also send parishes a bulletin insert on child poverty issues for use May 13.

The service is posted on the diocese's website at www.toronto.anglican.ca/sjab. Copies can also be ordered from Murray MacAdam, Social Justice and Advocacy consultant, (416) 363-6021 or 1-800-668-8932, ext. 240.

AN INVITATION
to
ALL ANGLICAN WOMEN

from
THE TORONTO DIOCESAN
ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN

You are most cordially invited to attend a
CELEBRATION OF 40 YEARS OF MINISTRY

as
ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN

in
The DIOCESE OF TORONTO

at the
Annual General Meeting

on
Saturday May 26th, 2007

at
St. Peter's Anglican Church

240 College St. (at King)

Cobourg Ontario

from
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Afternoon speaker: Suzanne Lawson
Alternate Delegate to the Anglican Consultative Council

"She is worth more than rubies"

Women are encouraged to join with others from across the Diocese to share reminiscences, memorabilia, banners and experiences of their ministry over the past years, and to share their vision for women's ministry and witness. Tickets are available from the Diocesan ACW office (416-363-0018, acw@toronto.anglican.ca) for \$20 which includes a hot lunch. Please watch for flyers to come to each congregation and further information in the ACW Newsletter in April. Mark your calendars now. Cobourg is a beautiful and historic area of our Diocese so it might be a consideration to plan a weekend excursion around this celebration.