

Politicians urged to cut poverty

Bishop's Company expands mandate



Time to plan for pandemic

The Anglican

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Members of youth synod's leadership team hoist up Andrea Brandt during a break at synod. From left are Jenny Foote, Lisa Gordon, the Rev. Tobie Osmond, Melissa Richmond, Kelly Malcolmson and Fenella Chiu. Synod coverage begins on Page 5. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

Bishop to retire

BY STUART MANN

BISHOP Michael Bedford-Jones, the area bishop of Trent-Durham, surprised synod on May 4 by announcing that he is retiring.

In a letter read to synod by Bishop Colin Johnson, Bishop Bedford-Jones, who will be 65 in September, said: "It is increasingly clear that I no longer have the energy to be as effective as I would like to be and that I should retire from full-time ministry."

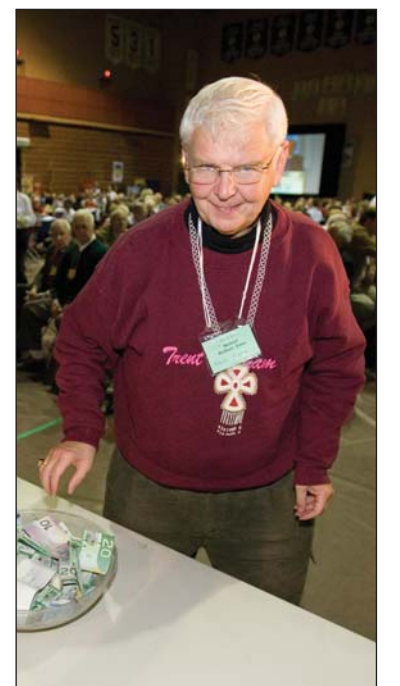
He said his retirement would take effect "at a date that would be convenient to all concerned," but he hoped that it would not be later than Feb. 29, 2008.

He received a long standing ovation and removed his glasses to wipe away a tear.

In November, he will mark his 40th anniversary of ordained ministry. He was consecrated bishop in the Diocese of Toronto in 1994 and served as the area bishop of York-Scarborough, then the area bishop of Trent-Durham since 2006.

"I was deeply honoured when the synod of this great diocese gave me its trust in electing me bishop," he wrote. "I've endeavored

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Bishop Michael Bedford-Jones donates money at synod for HIV and AIDS work. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

Continued on Page 2

Synod shows compassion

IT was one of the most moving moments of any synod. At the end of a powerful presentation on HIV and AIDS, synod members spontaneously gave \$13,000 to help those suffering from the disease in Africa. The cheques, bills and coins filled large bowls and boxes.

"Anglicans can act," said synod member Thelma Carter, who took up a collection at her table and challenged others to do the same. "Angli-can, not Angli-can't."

In his charge to synod, Bishop Colin Johnson challenged parishes to grow by two per cent a year. He also announced a major capital campaign.

Our synod coverage begins on Page 5.

Paper returns in September

AS usual, *The Anglican* will not be published in August. It will resume its normal publishing schedule in September. In the meantime, visit the diocese's website, www.toronto.anglican.ca, for the latest news and information.

Church tries to keep parishioner in Canada

BY STUART MANN

TRINITY, Port Credit, is trying to help a parishioner who has been living at the church since last October to stay in Canada.

The Rev. Steven Mackison, incumbent, said his church will continue to shelter Felicia (Ola) Abimbola Akinwalere, 43, even though Immigration Canada has ordered her to be deported back to her native Nigeria.

"I think in this case the needs of justice, which flow out of our love for Ola, supersede the demands of the law," he said.

Ms. Akinwalere has lived in Canada for 17 years and has been a member of Trinity for the past 13 years. Her daughter, Alice, who is 11, was baptized at the church. Both Alice and Ms. Akinwalere's husband are Canadian citizens.

Before she moved into the church, Ms. Akinwalere supplemented her family's income by baby-sitting. She is a Sunday School teacher at the church and helps run the nursery.

"She has always been involved in the life of the community," said Mr. Mackison, who is advocating on her behalf along with his parish-

Woman takes shelter to avoid deportation

ioners, an immigration lawyer and the Rev. Majed El Shafie of One Free World International, a human rights group.

"We've had nothing but support" from the church and the surrounding community, he added.

Ms. Akinwalere came to Canada as a visitor in 1990 after her husband disappeared during civil strife in Nigeria. She married her late husband's brother and had a child, Alice.

She applied for permanent resident status twice, but both times was rejected after Immigration Canada felt she would not be in imminent harm if she returned to Nigeria. Facing deportation, she turned to Trinity for help.

Parishioners donated funds to pay for her legal fees, wrote letters and contacted their MP, who wrote to the Minister of Immigration on Ms. Akinwalere's behalf.

Audit rules changed

Only licensed accountants can audit churches

BY STUART MANN

A change in provincial legislation means that only chartered accountants who are licensed to perform audits will be allowed to audit churches.

The change, which went into effect on Nov. 1, 2006, could affect many churches in the diocese which rely on chartered accountants or other individuals who may not be licensed to audit their books.

The government made the change in response to public reaction to a number of high profile financial reporting discrepancies at publicly owned companies such as Nortel and Enron. "The accounting profession and the government had to ensure that public confidence in accounting and audit standards remains high, so that when people see an audited financial statement, they'll have confidence in it," says Robert Saffrey,

the diocese's treasurer and director of Finance.

Churches need to have a licensed accountant audit their books this year or they will be in violation of the law, he said. Churches which continue to use unlicensed individuals will be putting themselves and the auditor at risk, he added.

"The person you use could be charged for doing an audit without a license," he said. "That's not something you want to do to him or her. You're asking the person to do something that could have serious repercussions. It's like driving a car without a license or insurance: you can do it, but I never would."

He said churches should start looking now for licensed accountants to do their audit. He suggests contacting other churches who currently use a licensed accountant or looking in the Yellow Pages for a local chartered accountant.

He is looking at the feasibility of assembling a list of auditors who perform church audits.

"For congregations or parishes which have not been accustomed to having to pay for an audit, this will mean a new cost must be budgeted," he said.

Mr. Saffrey said an audit by a licensed professional can lead to a healthier church. "An audit provides an independent professional opinion as to the fairness of the financial statements which the churchwardens present to the vestry at the annual meeting. The audit provides value both to donors and the church, enhancing accountability for the stewardship of the church's assets. It also ensures that the churchwardens are fully supported in their role of financial management and the appropriateness of their financial management is not second-guessed years later."

Woman in church

Continued from Page 1

application to grant her landed immigrant status.

It could take up to three years before they receive an answer. In the meantime, they want Immigration Canada to stay her deportation order pending the outcome of her application.

"We want Ola to be able to go home to her family and wait for her file to be processed like anyone else," he says. "We're confident that the application will be successful."

Until they receive word, they

will wait and pray. Mr. Mackison urges others to help. "It would be wonderful if others would write, email, or call those who have the power to release Ola, and we would appreciate prayers for Ola, her daughter and our community," he said.

If you would like to support Ms. Akinwalere's efforts to stay in Canada, write to The Honourable Diane Finley, Minister for Citizenship and Immigration, Citizenship and Immigration Canada, Ottawa, ON, K1A 1L1 or email minister@cic.gc.ca.

Election workshop planned

CANDIDATES will soon be seeking your vote for the Oct. 10 provincial election. Learn how to raise housing and poverty issues in the campaign at an election workshop in north Toronto on Sept. 8.

The workshop, open to all, has three goals:

- to inform Anglicans of current housing issues and positive approaches;
- to hear from political party representatives about their position on key housing issues;
- to show Anglicans how they can

get involved in local housing issues, by meeting other Anglicans from their area.

The workshop takes place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and is free of charge. It takes place at St. John, York Mills, 19 Don Ridge Dr., near the York Mills subway stop. Please pre-register by Aug. 24. To register or find out more, contact Murray MacAdam, diocesan Social Justice and Advocacy consultant, mmacadam@toronto.anglican.ca, or (416) 363-6021 ext. 240, 1-800-668-8932 ext. 240.

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Politicians urged to cut poverty

BY MURRAY MACADAM

FIFTEEN Anglicans from Peterborough, Oshawa and Toronto were among 100 people of faith who gathered at a Queen's Park forum on Apr. 19 which pushed for a province-wide plan to cut poverty in Ontario.

The forum, sponsored by the Interfaith Social Assistance Reform Coalition, attracted 15 MPPs from all three parties, including cabinet ministers Donna Cansfield and Mary Anne Chambers. It focused on child poverty and the need to ensure that poverty issues are raised in the Ontario provincial election, which takes place Oct. 10.

The forum opened with a power-

ful ethical reflection from Rabbi Lawrence Englander. After noting that nearly 500,000 Ontario children are growing up in poverty, he noted that, "Our neglect of the poor severs our own connection to God. How can it be that the citizens of one of the most affluent provinces have grown inured to what amounts to child sacrifice?"

Keynote speaker Laurel Rothman from the Campaign 2000 anti-poverty coalition noted that the provinces of Newfoundland and Quebec have adopted commitments to slash poverty rates, with specific plans. She urged Ontario to follow their example. The poor in Ontario are not just poor, but extremely poor, said Ms. Rothman. A one-parent family with one child lives \$9,500 below the poverty line, while a two-parent family scrapes by on an income \$11,000 below the poverty line.

Ontario's recent budget includes a range of measures to help the poor.

Bishop to retire

Continued from Page 1

to keep that trust over the years and hope to do so in the years ahead.

"We have much work still to do and the future is open as we seek to serve God. I want to thank you and the bishops I have served. I'm deeply, deeply grateful to you all for your support, your ideas and your friendship."

Born in Toronto, Bishop Bedford-Jones attended Trinity College and was ordained priest in May, 1968. He has served in a number of parishes throughout the diocese and was executive assistant to the Bishop of Toronto from 1988 to 1991. In 1991 he became incumbent of St. George's Cathedral in Kingston, Ont.

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Bishop's Company expands mandate

Announces endowment for bishop's office

BY HENRIETA PAUKOV

THE 46th annual Bishop's Company dinner brought together a crowd of 400 clergy, lay people, bishops, and members of the business community at the Toronto Marriott Eaton Centre Hotel on Apr. 23. Guests enjoyed dinner, music, a silent auction, and an entertaining presentation on flags by the Rt. Rev. Ralph Spence, bishop of Niagara, the leading Canadian authority on the subject. The event raised \$95,000 for funds which are used to aid clergy and their families with emergency needs and also fund initiatives that are important to the bishop but not provided for in the diocese's budget.

Several new initiatives of the Bishop's Company were announced during the evening. "This past year was a significant milestone in the life of the Bishop's Company," said George Lewis, chair of the Bishop's Company executive committee. "We expanded our mandate, making the Company the primary fundraising vehicle for the Diocese of Toronto." Mr. Lewis said that one of the first priorities under the expanded mandate was to address the funding of the office of the Bishop of Toronto. "Even though our diocese is the largest in the country, we do not have a fully funded endowment for the bishop," he said. "Many smaller dioceses than ours have significant endowments in place to fund the day-to-day operations of the bishop independent of the diocese. As long as you have a bishop, you can function as a diocese."

Diocesan Council has endorsed the goal of raising \$10 million to endow the office of the Bishop of Toronto. The income from the endowment will provide for the expenses of the diocesan bishop, not just the bishop's remuneration, similar to the endowment of a Chair at a university or hospital. To ensure that this is a sufficient legacy, a portion of the income will be reinvested each year in order to offset the effects of inflation. Diocesan Council is setting milestones for raising the \$10 million and is looking to Bishop's Company to lead the fundraising.

There was enthusiastic applause from the crowd when Mr. Lewis announced that the Bishop's Company was making an inaugural contribution of \$500,000 to the endowment fund. "The Executive Committee met and voted unanimously to transfer \$500,000 from the Bishop's Company capital account to the endowment fund," he said as he presented Bishop Johnson with a ceremonial cheque.

Over the past years, donations



George Lewis presents a cheque for \$500,000 to Bishop Colin Johnson to fund an endowment for the office of the Bishop of Toronto. Photos by Michael Hudson



Rod Barr and Alison Knight share a smile with Bishop Johnson as they are welcomed as new life members of the Bishop's Company.

from life members and larger donations to the Bishop's Company have been contributed to the capital account of the Company. As a result, the Capital Account had stood at just over \$500,000 at the end of last year.

Part of the enhanced mandate of the Bishop's Company includes broadening its profile across the diocese, said Mr. Lewis. To that end, for the first time in the Bishop's Company's history, a second dinner will be held later this year in the Trent-Durham episcopal area. The event is scheduled for Oct. 11 at the Evinrude Centre in Peterborough, with area bishop Michael Bedford-Jones as keynote speaker.

Guests at this year's dinner included the Most Rev. Thomas Collins, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Toronto; the Rt. Rev. Bob

Townsend, retired suffragan bishop of the Diocese of Huron; the Rt. Rev. Arthur Brown; the Most Rev. Terence Finlay; and the Rt. Rev. Ann Tottenham.

The Bishop thanked and welcomed new life members to the Company. Life members are those who contribute more than \$25,000 on a cumulative basis to the Bishop's Company. There are now 16 life members, with Alison Knight, CAO and Secretary of Synod for the diocese, and her husband Rod Barr, senior partner of Deloitte LLP and immediate past Chair of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario, being the newest members.

The Bishop's Company's bursaries were presented during the evening. The William R. Kay Memorial Bursary, which helps with the costs of pursuing a theo-



Bishop Ralph Spence entertains the crowd with a presentation on flags.

logical education, went to Christopher Kelly and Ruthanne Ward Galbraith. The George and Eileen Carey Bursary, given to Anglicans pursuing post-graduate theological studies, went to Naomi Kabugi and David Tiessen. The Terence & Alice Jean Finlay Bursary was awarded to Jisuk Yeom and Agnes Choi. This bursary is given to two students, one each from Trinity and Wycliffe Colleges, who are engaged in studies that celebrate and enhance our understanding of the diversity of our church.

The silent auction raised just over \$10,000, with two dinners for six to be prepared by Bishop Colin Johnson bringing in \$1,200 each. "I want to thank you for the work that you have enabled me and the other bishops to do," said Bishop Johnson. "Because of your generosity, I've been able to provide

grants for clergy needing counseling, sabbatical leaves, emergency travel because of family deaths, and assistance for elderly retired clergy who are in financial difficulty. As well, the Bishop's Company has partially funded and supported an aboriginal priest who is working with one of the largest aboriginal communities in all the country, and that is the community in downtown Toronto.

"I especially want to thank you for the work you have enabled me to do to reach out across the divides of our communion to have face-to-face contact with bishops from different parts of the world, so that we can break down the stereotypes that we have of them and they have of us, so that together we can be the people of God, not just strangers."

Why we give



In my travels around York-Simcoe and the rest of the diocese, I continue to be amazed at the many talented folk who enrich the life of our churches. Take music, for example. I often hear remarks made jokingly about organists at small churches and their choirs whose repertoire is limited to 18 hymns and two anthems. My experience is that in both small and large churches, the exact opposite is true. Whether on the organ bench, in the choir or in the band, very talented women and men give the gift of music that lifts my soul. In fact, I have just sent off letters to two women who have each served in their church choir for well over half a century.

Such talent and dedication are not limited to music. Most of our congregations wouldn't exist if it weren't for the time, treasure, and talent offered by parishioners. The world around us is changing rapidly. The face of most communities has been enriched by our increasingly diverse society. The church has seemingly lost much of its former status, and yet there they are, women and men, sisters and brothers in Christ, giving of themselves unselfishly to the service of God and their neighbour.

BISHOP'S OPINION

BY BISHOP GEORGE ELLIOTT

The reality is that faith communities are one of the few places left in society that challenge their members to give. It would not be stretching the truth to say that there is a volunteer crisis in society. Fewer and fewer people are willing to give of their time, talent, and treasure to any organization, religious or secular. I have watched with interest as the government of Ontario has tried to invoke a spirit of volunteerism by requiring that all secondary school students do a mere 40 hours of volunteer work in order to graduate. Although I certainly commend this effort, I doubt it will have the desired outcome because it is not grounded in any values. It is simply a requirement, something that needs to be done, just like an essay or a term project.

We Christians – and the same would be true for most other faith communities – are challenged to give as a response to being a people to whom much has been given. We are a people who have responded to a God who has reached out to all of humankind in love with an invitation to share in God's kingdom. As God's presence has filled my

life, and as I have had the privilege of being called to serve, first as a priest and now as a bishop, I often find myself overflowing with thanks for the blessings God has poured out upon me. That thanks is then made tangible in my offering of my time, talent, and treasure. It is not a command to give. It is an outpouring of my response to what God has done in my life and is doing in the world.

Our giving not only enriches the church but the communities in which we live. Don't forget that it is only in the last 200 years that education, health care, and social services have been provided by government agencies. Up until then it was the church, synagogue, mosque, or temple that operated and maintained schools, hospitals, and shelters, and cared for the poor and needy. I think it is true to say that today the bulk of the volunteers working in hospitals, nursing homes, seniors' residences, and in the many charitable, non-profit and philanthropic organizations in our communities are women and men of faith.

Thank you, my friends, for being people who give. Thank you for enriching our church and for all you do in ushering into this world God's kingdom of love and peace. You are making a difference!

Finding moments of peace and quiet

Most of us who are involved in any type of ministry are busy. We are busy planning, organizing, running, establishing, phoning, practising, writing, talking, creating... the list goes on and on. Looking busy is not a problem. The problem occurs when we can't stop being busy, when we forget to find some time for peace and quiet with God.

We need to enjoy the exciting, wonderful moments when the children of our church are laughing, doing crafts, singing praises, running around and simply being children. On the other hand, to be effective church leaders, we also have to be able to help our children find moments of peace and quiet. Children's ministry does not have to be a minute-by-minute event. Kids do not have to be busy each second they are at church. We can teach them how to be quiet with God. We can teach them how to enjoy peaceful moments in the midst of busy days. This peace can be found in soft hymns, easy-to-learn chants or simple prayer. None of it is overly complicated, and all of it is beneficial.

Prayer is central to giving a child the ability to find peace. To teach a child how to pray is

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

BY LAURA WALTON-CLOUSTON

to give them the wonderful gift of being able to talk to God anytime, anywhere, and to understand they can find a safe place with unconditional love.

Integrating prayer at every level of children's ministry is so important. Praying in the nursery surrounds the little ones with wonderful words and an ability to learn the sound of prayer. Quiet Christian music creates moments of peace. We can use simple opening prayers with those a little older just to say Hi to God and thank Him for the day.

A one-line prayer is simple yet creates a connection. My then four-year-old simply used to say "Hi God, thank you for the sun. Amen." It was straightforward and to the point, but a prayer nonetheless.

Perhaps the children's group at your church can learn the Lord's Prayer a line or two per week, and the leaders can use easy-to-understand explanations to highlight each line's

meaning.

Teaching children simple prayers in Sunday School, opening and closing with prayer during group activities or sending home a copy of easy prayers for families to say together, is a great way to work at this learning process. Grace before a meal, a good night prayer, or a thank-you for the day all create a prayer life and a special time for the child to just be quiet with God.

If you explain to a child that they are able to talk to God anytime and anywhere about anything, they are freed up to explore conversations with God on all levels. Explain to them that prayer can be formal and learned or perhaps just a conversation like they have with Mom or Dad. There is no correct way to pray – God hears it no matter how they say it. God just wants to hear what they think. He wants to be part of their lives when they are busy at play or just enjoying the peace and quiet in His presence.

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

LETTERS

Response to Virginia Tech

As a Christian, I would like to offer a perspective on the "why" of the Virginia Tech killings. My perspective is shaped by the Bible, my manual for life, and I hope that it will be helpful as we seek healing from this horrible tragedy.

God creates each human being with three dimensions – body, mind and spirit. We are very fervent in nourishing the body and mind, but sadly, we often neglect the spirit, which is not a separate unit but part of the whole, and is profoundly affected by what en-

ters our being through our senses. There is good and bad in our culture and society. If a person has not been introduced to Jesus as a saviour and friend, the spirit will remain undeveloped and vulnerable to attacks from the world, the flesh and devil. He or she will lack the spiritual maturity to withstand the attacks and will finally erupt like a volcano.

Each faith has its own way of nourishing the spirit, but we must realize that all through this earthly journey of ours, a war is going on between the flesh and the spirit. Whether we win or lose depends on the choices we make, and the choices depend on following a "road map" which, for a Christian, is the Ten Commandments.

Ida Tonks
Barrie

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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.

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The Rt. Rev. Philip Poole

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The Rt. Rev. Michael Bedford-Jones

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Opening of synod highlights vibrant parish ministry

BY HENRIETA PAUKOV

THE Diocese of Toronto's 152nd regular session of synod opened on May 3 with a eucharist that included a large number of young people and focused on synod's theme of Building Communities of Hope and Compassion Through Vibrant Parish Ministries.

The energy of the diocese's parishes was in evidence in the colourful parish banners carried down the aisle during the opening procession, in the music provided by parish groups before and during the eucharist – some of which had synod members on their feet and clapping to the beat – and in the photographs of parish life projected onto large screens around the room.

"Ministry is the responsibility of the whole church, not selected so-called 'ministers' within it,"

said the homilist, the Most Rev. Caleb J. Lawrence, Archbishop of Moosonee and Metropolitan of Ontario. "Each baptized person has an important place and obligation to know Christ and make him known."

The synod was held May 3-5 at Durham College in Oshawa. It was a gathering of more than 600 bishops, clergy and laity for worship, education and decision-making. Youth synod took place concurrently with synod, with more than 120 young people in attendance.

Bishop Johnson welcomed the diocese's partners in attendance, including the Rev. Karen Hamilton of the Canadian Council of Churches; the Rev. Guenter Dahle of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada; the Most Rev. Caleb Lawrence, Archbishop of the Diocese of Moosonee and

Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario; and Fiona Brownlee of the Council of the North.

Archbishop Lawrence's homily about the struggles faced by the Council of the North ended on a hopeful note that could apply as easily to the Diocese of Toronto's parishes participating in this synod as to their northern counterparts: "Yet as we move forward with knees knocking and a stammering voice, under the gaze of critical eyes and various kinds of opposition, the church nevertheless in many communities has never seemed stronger. People are valued and faith in action is making a difference. It is Christ in us, the hope of glory."

For Archbishop Lawrence's full homily, see the diocese's website, www.toronto.anglican.ca.



Youth carry the Sesquicentennial Cross into the opening service of synod. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

HIV/AIDS presentation sparks gift

\$13,000 fills bowls, boxes

BY HENRIETA PAUKOV

THE second night of synod saw an outpouring of emotion and compassion as synod members learned about the issue of HIV/AIDS and acted immediately on their feelings of concern and helplessness.

After synod had watched a video presentation on the devastation of HIV/AIDS narrated by Stephen Lewis, UN Secretary General's special envoy for HIV/AIDS in Africa, synod member Thelma Carter came to the podium and announced:

"We at my table could not help but challenge everyone this evening. After hearing the presentation, our decision came to action. And so we just took what was in our pockets and put it on the table. We would like to challenge every table tonight to pool your pockets, whatever it is, and that will be our start. Sometimes actions speak louder than words, and I think if we do something like this and it is seen what we did tonight at synod, we not only talk, but we act. Anglicans can act. Anglican, not Angli-can't."

Synod members responded enthusiastically, filling several boxes with bills and coins totaling \$13,000 for the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund's HIV/AIDS work in Africa.

Primate Andrew Hutchison told synod about the National Church's response to the issue through PWRDF's Partnership for Life, for a Generation Without AIDS program. Throughout synod, members had had the opportunity to walk through PWRDF's interactive multimedia exhibit, Facing AIDS, Facing Reality, which takes a look at the AIDS epidemic. The project has been on display from coast to coast and was shown at General Synod.

"AIDS is not a stand-alone issue, but is profoundly involved with women's issues worldwide and is profoundly involved with pover-



Thelma Carter holds money collected from her table for AIDS work. She challenged synod members to donate. Angli-can, not Angli-can't, she said. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

FaithWorks funds AIDS work

Synod learned that the FaithWorks Allocation Committee has approved a grant of \$25,000 to the Diocese of Toronto's companion diocese of Grahamstown, to be used for HIV/AIDS programs. In addition, the committee is evaluating ways to fund local HIV/AIDS programs. Synod members were also invited to join the Social Justice and Advocacy Board's new working group on HIV/AIDS, which will work to develop new programs and ministries. For more information on joining, visit the diocese's website, www.toronto.anglican.ca/sjab.

ty," said Archbishop Hutchison. "So when we respond to AIDS, it amounts at best to man-made work, if we do not at the same time address issues of the inequality of women and the vulnerability of women worldwide, and the tremendous issue of poverty. That's my pitch for the strong support of the Millennium Development Goals."

The Rev. Canon Douglas Graydon, who has worked in the area of HIV/AIDS for 14 years, spoke about the diocese's initiatives in the area. "We have entered into a partnership with the Ontario AIDS Network in the development of a research initiative exploring the needs of people living with HIV/AIDS as regards their spiritual

and religious care," he said. "This is a truly innovative research initiative in this province."

Canon Graydon related a personal story that revealed the profound impact that the church's efforts at understanding and welcome can have on individual lives. He recalled that during the 2006 International AIDS conference, Bishop Colin Johnson had welcomed the participants at the St. James Cathedral's multi-faith service with the following words:

"Whatever your faith commitment, your nationality, your HIV/AIDS status, your ethnic identification, you are welcome here as sisters and brothers who seek through prayer and meditation,

contemplation of sacred texts, and art and music, to bring before the Holy One our cares and concerns, failures and triumphs, hopes and longings."

Canon Graydon continued: "Colin, there was a man sitting in that cathedral that night who over 20 years ago left his Anglican roots when he learned of his HIV status because he felt not welcome. He came to that service and he listened to your words and he wept. He shared with me the feeling of being away so long until he heard something so clear and distinct and bold as your words. This is the vision of welcoming I believe our church wants to make happen."

New canons installed

DURING synod, Bishop Colin Johnson named five new honorary canons of St. James Cathedral:

- The Rev. Canon Matthias Der, incumbent of St. Christopher on the Heights, Toronto.
- The Rev. Canon Bradley Lennon, incumbent of St. Matthew the Apostle, Oriole, Toronto.
- The Rev. Canon Kate Merriman, incumbent of St. Mark and Calvary, Toronto.
- The Rev. Canon Elizabeth Hardy, senior administrative officer and Planning and Development coordinator for the Diocese of Toronto.
- The Rev. Canon Jeannie Loughrey, incumbent of All Saints, Sherbourne Street, Toronto.

The new canons were installed at St. James Cathedral on June 10.



HEARTY MEAL

Christian Harvey and Melissa Clark enjoy the food at the barbecue on opening day. Synod members could also visit the campus pub in the evenings. Photo by Michael Hudson

Spending reductions on way

Time to prune, says bishop

BY STUART MANN

SYNOD received a report from Diocesan Council which sets out a framework for preparing the diocese's budgets for 2008 and 2009. The report includes recommendations on how to reduce spending by \$700,000.

"We need to make some changes, we need to do some pruning," said Bishop George Elliott, who presented the report. "We need to prune for health and growth, but there's not a lot of fat. This will have significant effects on how we carry out our ministry."

Synod directed Diocesan Council to oversee the preparation of the 2008 and 2009 budgets in accordance with the recommendations in the report.

Synod members will vote on the budgets at the conclusion of synod, which takes place on Nov. 17 at St. James' Cathedral. Pre-synod meetings will be held in October and November to allow members to learn about and discuss the financial plans.

The report, which is called the Proposed Budget Framework for 2008/2009, makes the following recommendations:

- Develop a new source of funding by establishing an endowment to fund the Office of the Bishop of Toronto. This will provide a legacy and ensure the viability of the role of the diocesan bishop. A minimum of \$100,000 of annual expenses will be funded through the new endowment by 2011. This means

raising funds of \$2 million. Over time, the goal should be to raise \$10 million in endowment funds.

- Develop a plan that will see staffing costs reduced over the next four years. These savings will be realized through attrition and work realignment. Jobs that are currently vacant will not be automatically filled. Use vacancies to realign work and reduce the overall salary level. Make full use of technology which has been introduced in the last five years, thereby reducing expenses. Where it is necessary to terminate staff, allow a generous notice period so that individual staff members will not experience lay-off, but will move to their next job from their current one. In addition,

set a goal of pruning \$25,000 from annual operating expenses. Implementing savings in productivity, reorganizing staff and cutting various operating expenses should reduce annual expenses by \$450,000.

- Funding to General Synod and Provincial Synod should be reduced proportionally. As a result, contributions to General Synod and Provincial Synods will decrease by \$150,000 per annum.
- Establish the principle of tithing the net proceeds deposited to the Ministry Allocation Fund. Share this with General Synod and Provincial Synod to help offset the reduction that will result from the diocese's operating budget reductions. The income to General Synod and Provincial Synod would likely be increased to their current levels or more.
- Prepare the 2008 and 2009 budgets to reflect the above recommendations. Prepare a 2010 and 2011 high-level budget to demonstrate the longer-term effect of this pruning.
- Set a challenge to prune an additional \$300,000 in expenses with the goal of implementing these further reductions no later than 2011. Report to the diocese's financial synod in 2008 on progress towards this goal.

In 2006, a working group established by Diocesan Council said that the diocesan budget's expenditures were not sustainable and recommended that steps be taken to reduce spending beginning in 2007 and 2008.

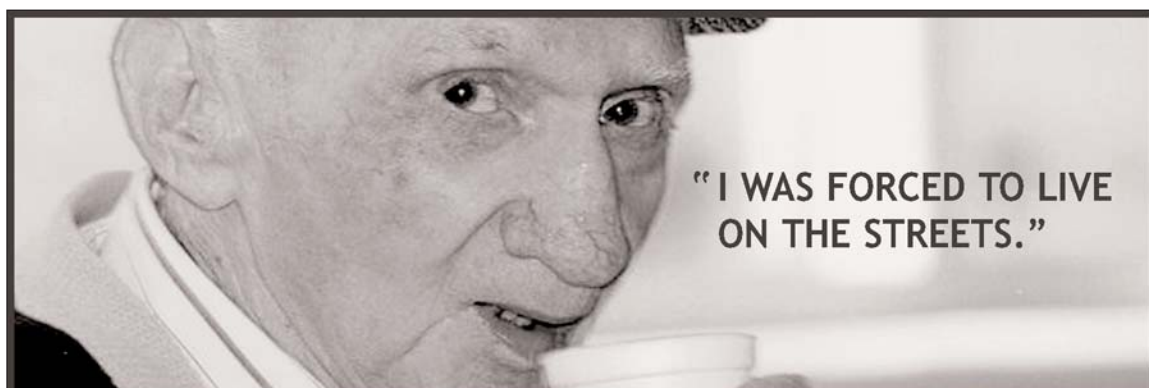
As a result, council established another working group to test whether \$750,000 to \$1.5 million could be cut from the diocesan budget by 2011, and how that could be done. The working group,

chaired by Bishop George Elliott, recommended that \$700,000 could be cut from the budget. Council approved the group's report.

"As we approached this daunting task, we sought to frame our work around a theology of abundance and hope," wrote Bishop Elliott in the report. "We experience daily the richness of God's grace in the resources of our church and our society today, and we believe that God will provide the resources needed for our church to carry out the work that supports our share of God's mission in the world."

"We also believe that the present situation is one in which our church is being called to prune for growth, not just because we need to cut the budget, but because in order to sustain health within the diocese we need to look seriously at how best we can use the resources we have to carry out ministry that supports the mission of our church. The pruning which we are presently called to do must be done in a way that reflects our understanding of our baptismal covenant – that every person is called to ministry and the role of the church is to enable and support ministry in all persons."

"The pruning that is being proposed, and our support for future pruning, underscore the reality that there will also need to be a significant shift in the way we do ministry both at the diocesan and parish level. In as transparent a way as is possible, knowing that these shifts will have profound effects on our diocesan staff, we have tried to seek a path forward that will allow us as a diocese to continue to support our vision and goals as these changes are implemented over the next four years."



Jack — who's now 78 years old — was a former probation officer and clergyman. He was homeless for five years. He was forced to live on the streets because of health reasons and not enough income to maintain housing. Living at LOFT Community Services' St. Anne's Place has been the turning point of Jack's life during his senior years. He now has a place to call home and staff care that enables him to live a life with dignity and hope.



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Members focus on ministry

Scripture, workshops lead to fresh ideas

BY HENRIETA PAUKOV

SYNOD members participated in a Bible study and workshops intended to equip and empower them to help their parishes carry out healthy, vibrant ministries.

The process began with readings about the early Christian church from the second chapter of the Book of Acts. Bishop Colin Johnson then asked synod members to brainstorm in groups and analyze what they had just heard, picking out key words and phrases, images brought to mind, and important characters. He then asked them to retell the story in their own words, and then to think about the activities of the early church.

"The idea is, we are talking about the early church and what they did to make them a healthy, vital, growing community," explained Dave Robinson, the diocese's lead consultant for congregational development. "Then we are going to shift gears and say: This is the way they did it, how do we do it? Let's hear some stories of excellence from one another about real ministry in our parishes."

After the Bible study, each synod member chose to attend one of five workshops that delved deeper into one of the activities that the early church had carried out and that parishes continue to carry out today. The workshop topics were: forming of community; worship and the life of prayer; teaching and learning; pastoral care; and social justice and evangelism.

In the workshop on the forming of community, leaders from several parishes shared stories of how their parishes are striving to create community. The Rev. David Harrison, the incumbent of St. Thomas, Brooklin, spoke about the challenge of creating commu-



Synod members share ideas at a workshop on proclamation, evangelism and social justice. They were asked to discuss the activities of the early church that are still carried out in churches today. At right, members are led to their workshops after a Bible study.

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

nity in a neighbourhood where busy young adults are juggling family, jobs, and other obligations. "What we strive to do is create different kinds of activities, groups, focuses, ministries, in a variety of different ways which will maximize the opportunity to create a connection," he said.

Participants then divided into smaller groups to continue the discussion about community. One group spoke of the challenges of engaging the surrounding community in an age when many people fill their Sundays with sports activities or work. Many of the ideas proposed by the participants emphasized the importance of having a fun, playful dimension to church if parishes are to make a connection with their neighbours.

Stewart White of St. Barnabas, Peterborough, said that his parish has a lot of small groups that engage in recreational activities like bridge, euchre, curling, hockey, and golf. "We engage them through the social activities first," he said. "And once you get really

close, then you start saying, 'Well, how about giving us a hand with painting for the local women's shelter?'"

Sharing a meal is another way to connect the church with the surrounding community, according to Gertie Williams, of Christ Church, Tottenham. "We just started a soup and sandwich lunch at our church, but it's not just for our church, it's a community outreach," she said. "We started off a month ago, and the first week we had 16 people and the next week we had 28 and the next week we had 38 and then we had 55.

"We are having so much fun and people have come and said to

us: 'This is so great.' We almost have to kick them out because we have choir practice at 2 p.m."

Leanne Jowett, 15, of the Parish of Beeton and Tottenham, recalled that when she was younger, she enjoyed outdoor services in the Tottenham Conservation Area, followed by games for the kids. "We went to the service as a family and then afterwards when the adults were talking and discussing things, the kids were out having fun," she said. "It brought fun to church. But we only did it once a year. You go to the park and you play - that would be something to get the community more involved."



Sharing faith need not be scary: speaker

BY NANCY DEVINE

EVANGELISM and proclaiming the faith makes the average Anglican pretty uncomfortable, but it doesn't have to be so, says the Rev. Judy Paulsen, incumbent of Christ Memorial Church, Oshawa.

Ms. Paulsen was speaking at a breakout session at synod about proclamation and evangelism.

"Evangelism is not a program. It is really about overflow," she said. "When someone's life is changed by what God has done in their lives, evangelism flows from that experience. You can't plan for it."

Congregations and church leaders can be God's facilitators, she said. In offering programs like Alpha, Bible studies, or a sermon that is relevant to everyday life, churches become more accessible and comprehensible to both newcomers and those who have been members for years.

"Our Lord is such a magnetic personality, people are drawn to his word," she said. "Preaching is important, not just on Sunday morning, but also on Monday morning."

At her church, people were invited to sign up for a program called 12 Steps. Based on the famous 12-step recovery programs, the gatherings were designed to help people recover from past experiences that were keeping them from living a more fulfilling life.

"We didn't want to put a sign-up sheet out at coffee hour," she said. "We thought it might be a sensitive thing. But people kept asking where the sign-up sheet was. We thought we might have 12 people at most. That first one had 28 people in it. Some of them have brought people to church with them."

At St. Mark's, Midland, the Rev. Ruth Knapp convinced the congregation to open its doors to the large numbers of homeless and lonely people through an Out of the Cold program.

"It doesn't really matter what we say in church, it matters what we do," she said.

Despite some initial resistance to the program, the volunteer roster for Out of the Cold at her church grew to more than 50 volunteers.

"The mindset has changed. They have discovered that our guests are human. They like to play chess or cards and have fun. There are still people who are not comfortable being with the guests, but they are willing to make food or they donate money or toiletries."

Bible study on DVD

THE Bible study process that synod engaged in will be put on video so that Anglicans can play it in small-group settings, for parish councils or advisory boards, or for youth or prayer groups. "We are putting it on a DVD so that you might talk about it and about how God is working in your own church and in your own parish," said Bishop Colin Johnson. The Bible study was based on readings about the early Christian church from the second chapter of Acts. Information will be published when the DVD is available.

Bishop challenges churches to grow

‘Let’s not be afraid to make mistakes’

The following is Bishop Colin Johnson’s charge to synod.

What a marvelous three days this synod has been! We have had presentations about HIV/AIDS. We have learned about the Council of the North. We have discussed governance and leadership issues. We have met with youth. We have struggled with fiscal frameworks and other issues in the life of our church. We have learned of the impending retirement of a bishop, and we have welcomed other bishops into our presence.

It’s been a wonderful time. I wanted to say how much I have felt privileged to be your bishop in this church today. Somebody said to me the other day that he wouldn’t have my job for anything in the world. Let me say how much joy I have doing what I’m doing, because I’m working with such wonderful people, you people. You are the leaders of the church and I say to you, all of you, how important you are and how privileged I feel to be part of this.

For the past couple of years, we have been talking about cuts, amalgamation and consolidation. It seems very negative and contracting. But I want to reframe that by putting it in a different context. Jesus, in John’s gospel, talks about pruning. Pruning is “cutting with a purpose.” The purpose of pruning is growth. It is a deliberate act not done in desperation but with hope and expectation. The purpose of pruning is not just unrestricted growth; it is growth for fruitfulness. God calls us to be fruitful, to produce good results. It is the Spirit of God, who is present in our midst, who provides the fruitfulness.

So when we do talk about cuts, I want you to reframe it in terms of pruning for growth, because I want to bring us back to the central theme of this synod. We are “building communities of hope and compassion through building healthy, sustainable, vibrant parishes.” Healthy, sustainable, vibrant. That’s about growth. It’s



Bishop Colin Johnson delivers his charge on the final day of synod.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

about fruitfulness; it’s about effectiveness.

Our diocesan policy about what constitutes healthy, vibrant and effective parishes lists a number of criteria. The parish needs leadership – both clergy and lay – who are able and willing to look after the resources they have been given in their own parish settings, and to be able to provide leadership in that community.

Secondly, you have to have energy and resources within the parish to look after the needs not only at the local parish level, but to minister to a wider community beyond your doors.

Thirdly, you need to support yourself primarily by freewill offerings, freely given, and not deplete your capital in order to do your work. And finally, you need to be oriented to the future. You need to have a vision that God is working in the world and in your local community and that you, as a parish, have a part in engaging that work.

Yesterday afternoon we participated in a Bible study on the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 2:41-47), which sets out an ideal model of what the church should be. In that discussion, we identified five activities different from, although complementary to, the earlier policy statements about what makes a vibrant parish. Using this lens, I then asked you to identify how your own parish was living this out and

how it planned to develop it in the future.

A vibrant church, according to the Acts of the Apostles, is one which builds up community, which brings people who are disparate together into one common unity.

It’s a place where worship and prayer take place, where we encounter the living God and are transformed in the midst of that encounter.

It is a community where teaching and learning occur – teaching about our faith, so that we can learn how to proclaim it effectively.

It becomes a place of pastoral care, where compassion is exercised in the flesh.

It is a place of proclamation, because the good news is not for us alone, but for all the world. Proclamation is both by evangelism and social justice to build not just the church, but the Kingdom of God.

Building. Growth. It is based on an understanding that the living God is the author and sustainer of life, and calls forth life. This living God is present in our midst. We have been given the energy, the enthusiasm, the passion for God and the passion for people so that we can proclaim the good news to the world in whose midst we are set.

We live in very anxious times. The church is in a very anxious time. In anxious times, wherever fear abounds, we witness a clos-

ing down and tightening of the circles, a paralysis and immobilization. And yet, that’s not what God calls us to. Into the midst of a frightened group of disciples gathered in an upper room on Easter day, Jesus comes and says: “Do not be afraid.”

The Pentecost outpouring of Spirit gave courage and encouragement to the disciples so that they could go out and proclaim the good news without fear. The Spirit of the living God comes to us so that we have the power we need and have no need to fear. We are called to build communities of hope and compassion, empowered by the living God.

Fear distracts us. We lose our way. We lose our sense of direction. Jesus speaks about pruning for growth, so I’d like to call you back, clearly, to the theme of our synod and the theme that should govern our next couple of years. We are growing, building the church. We are “building communities of hope and compassion through building healthy, sustainable, vibrant parishes.”

I want to challenge you in three ways, so that we have a clear sense of direction, because we can so easily be distracted and lose our way.

First of all, I want to challenge you to grow your own parish by two per cent a

Continued on Page 9

Highlights of Bishop’s Charge

A vibrant church

Avibrant church, according to the Acts of the Apostles, is one which builds up **community**, which brings people who are disparate together into one common unity. It’s a place where **worship** and **prayer** take place, where we encounter the living God and are transformed in the midst of that encounter. It is a community where **teaching** and **learning** occur – teaching about our faith, so that we can learn how to proclaim it effectively. It

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Grow by 2 per cent

“I want to challenge you to **grow your own parish by two per cent a year**. That

is modest, and it’s achievable, sustainable and measurable. For congregations of 50 worshipping people, that’s one new person. Could you do that? Could you invite somebody to “come and see?”

Five new churches

“I’d like to see **five new churches** built in this diocese in the next 10 years. Not just five new buildings – five new churches, parishes, gatherings, communities of people.

Capital campaign

“Five new churches in 10 years. If we want to do that, and I believe we must, then we need to undertake a **major capital campaign**. We need to begin the process to discern the feasibility and the potential case we should present to our people. I think we have enough work to present a case for \$75 to \$80 million to be raised.”



COLOUR AND ENERGY

The opening service of synod was filled with colour, music and energy. Clockwise from top left: a mother and child take part in the service; Megan Roberts and other youth members move through the gymnasium with coloured flags; Nadia Goode, director of the Downsview Youth Covenant, sings during communion. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

Continued from Page 8

year. Two per cent! That is modest, and it's achievable, sustainable and measurable. Two per cent this year, two per cent next year, and two per cent the year after. Two per cent!

For congregations of 50 worshipping people, that's one new person. Could you do that? Could you invite somebody to "come and see?" And if you are going to invite somebody, you have to do so with the conviction that you have something worthwhile to invite them to, that there is something good that you can share with them. Well, the good news is that we have Good News to share. We are a people who, by God's grace, can make a difference in our world and in the process, by God's grace, a difference is made in us.

We have good news to share, because God calls us into a relationship with him that is not just life-enhancing, but life-giving.

If we are a community of hope and compassion, we have good news to share. This world needs hope; it needs purpose and direction, and the gospel of Jesus Christ gives us that. This world needs healing, and if we are a compassionate people, we will be a healing and reconciling people. We have good news to share, so can you invite one more person to become part of this community?

Second: We know that one of the best strategies for growth is church-planting. For some reason, we have this mental image that the Anglican Church does not plant churches. Let us remember that every single one of our parishes was planted at some time. It came from something. It came from someone. There are many ways of planting churches. As people move into a new community, pioneers if you will, there are, as there always have been, faithful people who desire to come together to build a church in their own community. They get together, raise the money, and undertake the building, often (but not always) replicating what they have been used to elsewhere. Many of our historic churches in the diocese were established that way.

Another typical model is known as a mother-daughter church plant, where a "mother" church sees a mission opportunity in a new area nearby and plants a

church, sending resources and people from the home parish to establish and support for a time a new congregation which will become independent of "mother" and eventually achieve full parish status. If you look back on the history of your parish, many of you belong to "mother" parishes. You've planted other churches. But we don't seem to have done that for a while. It's time to do it again.

As we look more closely at our recent history, we discover that we have been planting churches in both these ways. In the Diocese of Toronto, we have a whole variety of ethnically based and language-based churches that we have planted over the last few years. In addition, we have "new churches" that have been planted by adding another service into the Sunday morning or the Saturday evening mix. When you establish a 9 o'clock service in addition to an 11 o'clock service, you have a new congregation. It's not the same congregation that comes out at 11; it meets a new demographic. That's a new church attracting quite a different set of members. It comes without the major structural costs of a fully independent parish, but it requires additional ministry and committed energy, so I am thankful for your passage of the new Canon 4.

As I talk about mother and daughter churches, I am reminded of the seasons of life. If you look through the history of our diocese, there are churches that have planted and planted and planted again. They are now what you might call "grandmother" churches. Not because they are filled with grandmothers, although that's probably true, too, but because they've planted daughter churches that have themselves planted other churches.

There come seasons in life where a church, like a grandmother, is not going to bear another child. But I want you to play with that image of grandmother. What do grandmothers do? Grandmothers (and grandfathers) provide resources for their children and grandchildren. A little bit of extra money so that the kids can go off to university. They give a gift. They give attention to the child. They take the child from the mother and father from time to time and give a little bit of tender, loving care. They pass on advice. They mentor

and support. Grandmothers and grandfathers can be as important to the life of a young Christian as the parents.

You who are grandmother parishes, what are the resources, encouragement, expertise, mentoring and small gifts that you could give to a brand-new baby church to help it on its way? Think about how we can do that.

If you need permission to start inviting people to your church, if you need permission to establish another service or to plant a church, you have got the permission now.

I'd like to see five new churches built in this diocese in the next 10 years. Not just five new buildings – five new churches, parishes, gatherings, communities of people. Communities of people that meet those five criteria of a community that is built up, a community that worships and prays, a community that teaches and learns, a community that offers pastoral care and a community that is outward-looking and evangelical in proclaiming the good news.

Five new churches in 10 years. If we want to do that, and I believe we must, then we need to undertake a major capital campaign. That's the third point. In the mid-1980s, we held two extremely successful capital campaigns: Anglicans in Mission and Faith in Action. Archbishop Lawrence spoke earlier about how important Anglicans in Mission was to the development and support of the church in the north. We need to begin the process to discern the feasibility and the potential case we should present to our people. I think we have enough work to present a case for \$75 to \$80 million to be raised.

Seventy-five to 80 million dollars – that's a lot of money. You may remember that in 1982, we raised over \$4 million. In the late 1980s, in Faith in Action, we established our campaign goal of \$14 million and we raised \$18.2 million. We have the capacity, if we have the will.

Over the next few months, I will be holding consultations looking at how we might move forward in a major capital campaign in full partnership with our parishes, to see how it's feasible and what we must do about it. I invite you to pray about this and to participate.

We can be routed by timidity, anxiety and fear. We can counter this with our

passion for God and our passion for people.

The Archbishop of Canterbury visited the House of Bishops two weeks ago and led us in a retreat. He said something that struck me powerfully. He proposed that, when we proclaim Jesus, we should say that "Jesus is the one around whom I was able to make my biggest mistakes. Because knowing Jesus has taken me to new places that I never imagined I could go before. Going there, I did things that I would never have thought I'd be able to do before, and therefore it opened me up to the opportunity of making mistakes that I would never have been able to make before."

My mistakes and your mistakes cannot overcome His power. He is not defeated by our mistakes. Sometimes we get very timid and anxious and nervous and fearful, and we are afraid of making mistakes, afraid of taking risks, afraid to exercise our passion for God and our passion for people because we might get it wrong, we might offend, we might hurt, we might not have all the details worked out, we might fail.

Well, Jesus invites us to try, even if we make mistakes. The Archbishop of Canterbury mused about the apostle Peter. Even depressed and discouraged by the events of what we now call Holy Week, you cannot imagine Peter saying, "I wish I didn't know him. I wish I'd never met him." He might toss that off in a moment of exasperation, but he wouldn't have believed it for very long.

After his resurrection, Jesus goes up to him and says: "Peter, do you love me?" "Yes, Lord, you know I love you." "Peter, do you love me?" "Of course." "Peter, do you really love me?" And in spite of his mistakes, in spite of his errors, in spite of getting it wrong at least half the time, Peter said, "Yes Lord, you know I love you." "Feed my sheep."

Christ has promised that he will not abandon the church. Christ will not let us go. It's part of the resurrection fidelity. Let's not be timid. Let's not be afraid to make mistakes. Hold fast to the vision. We are called to build communities of hope and compassion by building strong, healthy, vibrant parishes. Let's keep our minds focused on that and not distracted by our fears. Thanks be to God.

Synod OK's changes to Canon 4

New assessment formula seeks to build ministry

BY STUART MANN

SYNOD approved changes to the parish assessment formula, which determines each parish's share of the diocesan budget.

A large majority of synod members voted in favour of the changes. That vote, combined with another majority decision when synod last met in 2005, means that the changes will be enacted in 2008.

Bishop Colin Johnson said the changes will make parish assessment more equitable and will lead to healthier parishes. "I think Canon 4 is a very important canon because it treats all income uniformly, and it recognizes that there needs to be an investment in ministry, rather than just buildings," he said.

One of the contentious issues that came with the proposed changes in 2005 was that parishes had to pay a minimum assessment of \$3,000. After listening to the concerns of parishes, Diocesan Council reduced the minimum assessment to zero. In 2009, synod will be asked to vote on removing the minimum assessment altogether.

"Diocesan Council listened to people's concerns and has set the minimum assessment level at ze-

ro, thereby assuring synod members that this provision will not result in any increase in assessment for any parish or congregation," said Robert Saffrey, the diocese's director of Finance.

The changes to Canon 4 are meant to support growth in parish ministry and to bring the diocese's stewardship practices into line with its vision. Under the previous assessment formula, churches could deduct the cost of expanding and renovating their buildings, but not the cost of hiring staff for ministry. The formula favoured buildings over people.

For example, there were churches in the diocese that were growing rapidly. They needed to hire staff to keep up with growth. However, the formula did not provide any deductions for the hiring of staff. If a church needed to raise \$50,000 for the provision of a new staff member, it had to raise \$65,000 to pay for both the staff member and the increased level of assessment.

Another concern about the previous formula was that it favoured income raised through renting out space over money put on the collection plate. Only 50 per cent of rental income was assessed,



NORTHERN PERSPECTIVE

Archbishop Caleb Lawrence, Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario, speaks to synod about the struggles faced by the Council of the North, which is comprised of 10 northern dioceses and the Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior. In these parts of the country, costs, particularly of travel, are high but financial resources are scarce. The dioceses are supported through grants by General Synod. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

but 100 per cent of freewill offerings was assessed.

The dependency on rental income was becoming a concern. Studies in both Canadian and American churches show that healthy, vital churches derive at least 70 per cent of their income from freewill offerings. Churches which are overly dependent on rental income also face serious financial difficulties if the main tenant pulls out of the building.

By favouring income derived from rental space and not the collection plate, the previous formula ran contrary to the diocese's vision, which synod approved in 2005. In this vision, the diocese's

stewardship practices should be aimed toward building healthy, vital, growing congregations. The previous formula, which was biased towards income from rental space, was not in alignment with that vision.

Some parishes and congregations will see sudden and large increases in their assessments under the new provisions of Canon 4. As in 2005, the diocese's Treasury Board and Diocesan Council are committed to providing support to these parishes. "We wanted to ensure that parishes had sufficient time to plan for any large increases, so we are providing a mechanism to phase them in over

three years" noted Stu Hutcheson, chair of Treasury Board. "Based on 2007 data, almost 25 per cent of parishes would be provided transition support. As well, parishes whose assessments go down (another 50 per cent) will realize the reductions immediately in 2008."

Canon 4 will continue to have a provision for parishes or congregations which want to appeal their assessment. Section 2(4) of the canon states: "Should a parish be of the opinion that the assessable base is inequitable, having regard to its financial condition, it shall have the right of appeal to the Treasury Board."

Changes on way for governance structures, processes

BY STUART MANN

SYNOD heard how the diocese's governance structures and processes will be changed over the coming months to strengthen the work of the church in the diocese.

Among the changes will be the transition of four boards of Diocesan Council to advisory committees, and the creation of an Executive Board to assist Diocesan Council.

Bishop Colin Johnson and Diocesan Council will carry out the changes, which have the support of Council and board members.

"We hope that these changes will result in a flexible entity that will be fast on its feet and responsive to the decisions you ask of us," said Kennedy Marshall, a member of Diocesan Council who explained the changes to synod. "We seek to change the locus of activity to the parish. It's about

putting the emphasis where it should be – at the local level."

Mr. Marshall and Margaret Rodrigues, another member of Diocesan Council, said the changes will strengthen the work of the church in the diocese in the following ways:

- Create a governance structure that increases its ability to be more flexible and adaptive in supporting ministry initiatives across the diocese.
- Streamline the decision-making process for parishes seeking an approval under the canons.
- Enable and empower parish clergy and laity to engage in creative and innovative initiatives with fewer rigid structures.
- Keep focused on the ministry of congregations and parishes, which is vital to building healthy and vibrant parish ministry.
- Streamline the resources used by the diocese so that it may be

a better steward of the resources which God has given to this church.

By Jan. 1, 2008, the four Diocesan Council boards – Communications, Ministry Resources, Social Justice and Advocacy, and Stewardship Development – will become advisory committees to the diocesan bishop and senior staff.

There will be one board of the Diocesan Council known as the Executive Board. Its mandate will be to carry out a detailed review of certain matters coming to Diocesan Council for decision. The purpose will be to comment on compliance with the diocese's policies, financial plans, canonical requirements, strategic intent and completeness of information, before the matter is taken to Council. In this way, Council's focus can be on the parish and the important issues, rather than on the details of the supporting documents. In

this way, parishes will not be asked to present to multiple boards in order to get one answer.

The Executive Board will be composed of 14 members, including the bishop, who shall be the chair. Diocesan Council will elect seven from amongst its members and the bishop will appoint six members. The election and appointments shall be carried out so as to achieve balance between clergy and laity, diversity of perspective, geographic representation, and appropriate expertise.

The Executive Board will, at least initially, have two committees: Finance and Design, which will assist in supporting parish real estate projects through the canonical approval process; and the FaithWorks Allocation Committee, which allocates FaithWorks funds to member ministries on an annual basis.

To achieve these changes by

Jan. 1, 2008, Diocesan Council asked synod to approve canonical changes which will enable this work. Synod gave its approval.

Council did not propose to write new canons at this stage. It wanted permission from synod which will allow the bishop and Council to try the new structure for several years. If, in 2009, the bishop and Council agree this has been a good move, Council will propose canonical changes at that time for synod's approval.

Council also committed itself to continue to work with members of the boards to ensure a smooth transition and that their gifts of time and talent will be honoured. When synod meets again on Nov. 17, 2007, Council will give an update on how these transitions are progressing.

Youth Synod

Youth focus on gifts they can offer the church

BY NANCY DEVINE

THE diocese's youth synod was held in conjunction with the regular session of synod. Throughout the event, youth were included in the various plenary sessions with their adult counterparts. These included presentations, worship and discussion groups.

Youth synod leaders took their groups through various team-building activities and discussions focusing on what gifts they could offer to the church, how they could offer their gifts, and what church means to them.

In a meeting with the young people, Archbishop Caleb Lawrence, metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario, said youth have an opportunity to contribute to how the church will look in the future, and to facilitate meaningful changes.

"You are going to be members of this church for a lot longer than I will be," he told them. "You bring tremendous energy to the church, and the motions you are bringing forward will help decide what the priorities will be in order to make the church better able to unfold God's plan for the world, the church and the community."

Youth synod passed a motion calling for the continuation of a strong youth presence at the diocese's regular synod by having youth synod members of each episcopal area elect 10 youth and young adult members from their

area at the annual youth synod. These elected delegates would then be youth delegates to synod, held every two years. If youth synod is unable to elect 10 members from any given area, the area bishop will be presented with a partial slate and then might recruit additional youth and young adults to be representatives to regular synod.

Youth synod also approved a motion which calls on parishes to discern the needs of their communities, and to help parishioners to discover their gifts and use them. Another motion, which called for an increased youth ministry presence in the diocese, as well as the creation of a fund to help smaller parishes support youth ministry, was narrowly defeated because a majority felt the current efforts are sufficient.

"The resources are there," said one member. "If we need support, we have to ask for it, and keep asking for it until we get what we need."

In his closing remarks to the gathering, Archbishop Lawrence said that youth leadership is a vital part of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario, where a youth delegate was recently elected as synod vice-president, and three others are now part of the Executive Council. "I hope that you understand that you are not only the future of the church, you are also here and now," he said.

Young people bring energy and passion to synod through their music, worship and presentations. The distinctive red t-shirt worn by youth leaders was the favourite shirt of synod this year.

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON AND SIMON CHAMBERS





PROUD DAY

Thirty-nine people from 11 churches in the diocese confirmed the promises made at their baptism and received the laying-on-of-hands by Bishop Colin Johnson at the diocesan confirmation at St. James' Cathedral on Apr. 15. The churches taking part were St. Andrew's, Toronto; St. Cuthbert's, Leaside; St. David's, Donlands; Holy Family, Heart Lake; St. James, Caledon East; St. James Cathedral; St. Jude's, Wexford; St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Toronto; St. Mary Magdalene, Toronto; St. Peter, Carlton Street; and St. Simon the Apostle, Toronto.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

Start planning for pandemic, panel says

People will look to churches for help, comfort in times of crisis

BY HENRIETA PAUKOV

PARISHES need to start preparing for the influenza pandemic that the World Health Organization warns is inevitable, emphasized a panel of speakers at a presentation that took place Apr. 18 at St. James Cathedral in Toronto.

"It's something that will be a

complex and rapidly evolving emergency, and it will provoke public alarm," said Dr. Barbara Yaffe, director of Communicable Disease Control and associate medical officer of health at the Toronto Public Health Department. "It will spread quickly around the globe. Even back in 1918-1919, before jet travel, it spread across the

world. If you look at what happened with SARS — people are traveling back and forth. It could be here within days."

An influenza pandemic is a rare but recurrent event. Three pandemics occurred in the previous century: in 1918, in 1957, and in 1968. The 1918 pandemic, which is considered one of the deadliest disease events in human history, killed about 40-50 million people worldwide. Subsequent pandemics were much milder, with an estimated two million deaths in 1957 and one million deaths in 1968.

Health experts have been monitoring a new and extremely severe influenza virus — the H5N1 strain — for almost eight years. H5N1 mainly affects birds, but can be passed on to humans as well. Since 2003, more than 100 human cases have been confirmed in four Asian countries, and more than half of these people have died. Most cases have occurred in previously healthy children and young adults. The virus does not transfer easily from birds to humans or spread readily among humans. However, if H5N1 evolves to a form as contagious as normal influenza, a pandemic could begin, because humans will not have immunity to this new strain.

Dr. Yaffe explained that, unlike SARS, which was primarily a hospital-acquired infection, influenza is a community-based infection. "You go to the supermarket, you go to the bank, you go on transit, you go out with friends — that's how you are going to get it," she said.

The pandemic will create many disruptions to daily life, including increased absenteeism from workplaces. "People will be off because they are ill, they will be off because they are taking care of ill dependents, or — hopefully not — some people will be afraid to come to work," she said. Supply chain disruptions might also be expected. It will be four to six months after the pandemic starts before a vaccine is available.

The Rev. Canon Douglas Graydon, the diocese's coordinator of chaplaincy services and pandemic coordinator, said that because the pandemic has the potential to overwhelm government, social and healthcare resources in communities, parishes need to think locally in planning for such an event. "Fundamentally, it will be about how we look to ourselves in our communities, to see how we can help ourselves," he said.

Canon Graydon emphasized that although the Diocese of Toron-

to will be providing information and leadership during the pandemic, it expects individual parishes to make their own practical arrangements. To make planning easier, the diocese has developed the Influenza Pandemic Response Plan, a document that provides guidelines for clergy, churchwardens and others in leadership roles. The plan contains a checklist that helps parishes develop their own pandemic response plans, touching on many aspects of parish life, including liturgy, pastoral care and outreach.

Mark Breen, senior policy program consultant at the Ministry of Health's Emergency Management Unit, said that during a pandemic, faith groups will see more people turning to them for help and comfort. They will play a large part in addressing rumours and alleviating fear and anxiety. "The trust you have is much higher than we'll ever have as government," he said. "Any assistance you can give us in eliminating misinformation will be very critical to minimizing societal disruption — one of our highly prized goals."

For more information, see the Emergency Preparedness page on the diocese's website, at www.toronto.anglican.ca.



PRAYERS FOR AFGHANISTAN

Redeat Maru Tefera reads the first lesson at an interfaith service for peace and healing in Afghanistan at St. James' Cathedral on Apr. 22. Representatives from 17 faith communities took part. Photo by Michael Hudson

Congregations hold Sugar Bush service

St. John's, Craighurst, and St. Paul's, Midhurst, celebrated their annual Sugar Bush Service together at the Craig Farm on Apr. 22. "A wonderful time was had by 107 of us," says Lise Hansen of St. John's, Craighurst. "The sun shone and a slight breeze kept us cool. How fitting that, on Earth Day, the Rev. Tobie Osmond was able to link the day's readings to the beauty of nature around us. It was a delightful day and a wonderful opportunity to share the joy with our sister congregation from St. Paul's."



Parishioners from St. John's, Craighurst, and St. Paul's, Midhurst, enjoy hotdogs and dessert at the Craig Farm after their annual Sugar Bush Service.

St. Hilda's celebrates priest's ministry

On Apr. 23, St. Hilda's Towers held a celebration in honour of the late Rev. Canon Clifford Ward, for his contributions to the development of the seniors' facility. In attendance were Canon Ward's wife Audrey and his two daughters, the board of directors, members of the congregation of St. Hilda's church, and several residents of St. Hilda's Towers. Many shared heartfelt stories honouring Canon Ward's dedication and giving nature.

"Canon Ward encouraged the congregation of St. Hilda's to pick up the challenge of Archbishop Garnsworthy to develop a niche ministry," says the Rev. Canon Derwyn Shea, chief executive officer and director of St. Hilda's Towers, who was recently appointed to the National Seniors' Council.

"The vision they chose was to develop a centre of affordable housing and care for seniors. Canon Ward inspired many to follow his lead, and through difficult waters he wrestled with every level of government to achieve success that is visible this day at the corners of Dufferin and Eglinton in Toronto. Today, the programs at St. Hilda's Towers exceed anything those early pioneers dared imagine."

Priest honoured on his retirement

The Rev. Canon Rod Barlow, incumbent of St. Paul's, Lindsay, retired after 39 years in ordained ministry. The parish held a celebratory service on June 24, followed by a "Celebration of Memories" luncheon reception in the parish hall.

Youth create Stations of Resurrection quilt

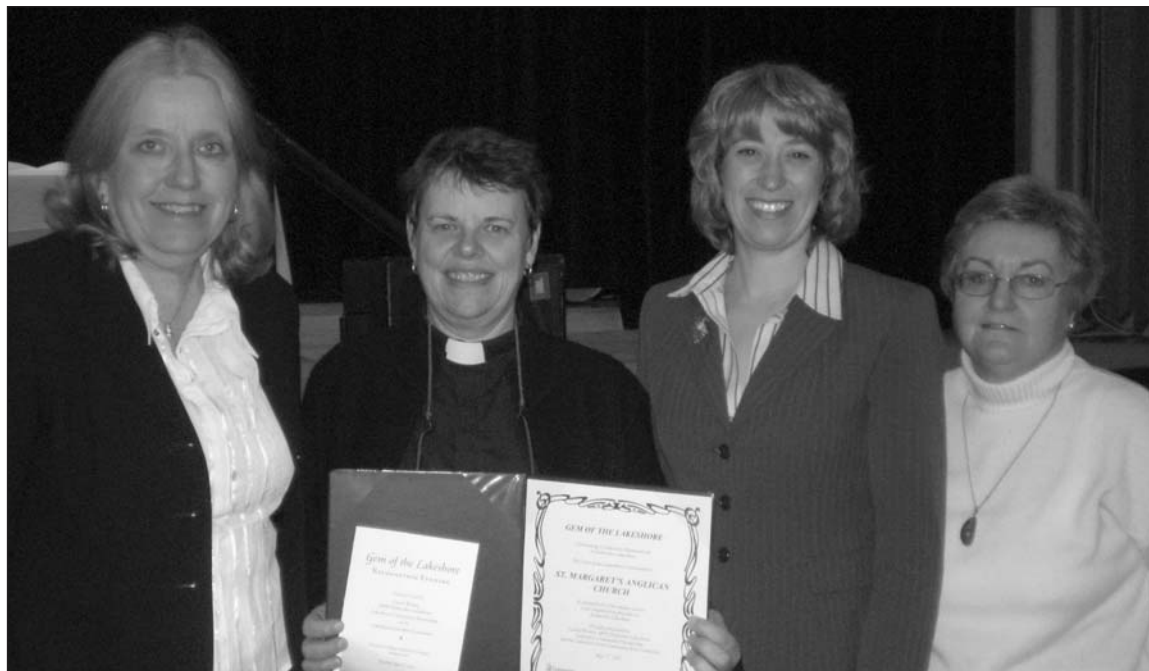
During Lent, the youth group of the Parish of Churchill and Cookstown, under the leadership of youth coordinator Pamela Gervais, created a beautiful quilt depicting the "Stations of the Resurrection." Each child was given a Bible verse to illustrate on paper. With the help of parishioner Helen Goodeve, an accomplished quilter, the youth then transferred the illustrations to textile.

On Easter morning, the Rev. Robert Mitchell blessed the quilt, which now hangs in the church. Instead of the more traditional Stations of the Cross, the Stations of the Resurrection on the quilt track events from the discovery of the empty tomb to the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

Parish recognized for community involvement

On May 1, St. Margaret, New Toronto, was one of 63 south Etobicoke businesses and organizations honoured with a "Gem of the Lakeshore" certificate from the Lakeshore Community Partnership. The parish was recognized for its outreach ministries, such as its Lakeshore Out of the Cold program, monthly community dinners, and weekly communion services in a local retirement home.

"St. Margaret's is extremely proud to have been nominated by our local community as a 'Gem of the Lakeshore,' especially since this is the first year the award has been offered," says the incumbent, the Rev. Renate Koke. "We would like to thank all the many people in our community who join with us in our vital ministry."



The Rev. Renate Koke, incumbent of St. Margaret, New Toronto, receives a "Gem of the Lakeshore" certificate from Laurel Broten, MPP Etobicoke-Lakeshore. On the far left is Cara Wigle, Out of the Cold coordinator, and on the far right is Margaret Rodrigues, a community volunteer.



The Stations of the Resurrection quilt made by the young people from the Parish of Churchill and Cookstown.



Audrey Ward, centre, wife of the late Canon Clifford Ward, accepts flowers from Julie Shea and Rod Seyffert at a celebration in honour of Canon Ward.

Hiker helps people get off the street

PAUL Mackle said hello to a man at a street drop-in centre. The man responded angrily: "Oh, why don't you psychoanalyze me?"

"He was really mad," recalls Mr. Mackle. "I said: 'Oh, I don't do that, I just hike. Want to go on a hike?' He started laughing. Then he sat down and we got talking. He showed me his pictures. He had been on a hike a while back, and I said: 'Come on another hike.'"

Mr. Mackle's approach is low-key, but the impact of his work can be profound. Through a non-

profit organization called Street-to-Trail, he takes street people on hiking, camping and canoeing trips on the Bruce Trail and in the Kawarthas and Muskoka. St. James Cathedral and The Anglican Foundation sponsor the program, as does Mountain Equipment Co-op.

When he began leading the trips six years ago, Mr. Mackle was seeking to spark motivation in the homeless people he was meeting. "I was volunteering at Sanctuary, cooking and other things, but also always going on my trips,

canoeing and hiking," he explains. "I'm a hike leader for the Bruce Trail Club. And all the people there who go on trips tell me how good they feel for days afterwards. And I thought there's something here. People in the drop-ins were telling me how lousy they feel. So I thought I'd put the two together and see what happens. Take them on the trail, make them feel good, and once they feel good, then they are motivated to do other things. A hiking trip is a goal. Once you've done something like

that, you've challenged yourself. And challenge gives you a chance to change."

He lets people know about the program through various drop-ins in the city. "I sit there and I just talk to people," he says. "I have my pictures up on the table so everyone can see them." He does two hikes a month and can take up to about 12 people on each trip. Last year, he took out 148 people and says the numbers increase each year. He refers people for professional help when appropri-

ate, "depending on what they need, from medical care all the way to a social worker to talk."

Mr. Mackle has seen a number of his hikers get motivated to get jobs and places to live. "I used to be a builder," he says. "I built houses, and now I build lives. I'd rather not have 'social worker' or anything labeled on me, because a lot of street people reject that. I'm just a hiker."

LOOKING AHEAD

The June issues of *The Anglican* and *Anglican Journal* were mailed in the last week of June due to General Synod coverage in the *Anglican Journal*. Therefore, we have only included Looking Ahead items that take place in July or later. We apologize for any inconvenience.

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

Services

JULY 8 — St. John's, Rosedale, will celebrate its 100th anniversary, with the Rt. Rev. Michael Bedford-Jones officiating at a special service at 9 a.m. A luncheon will follow. All former members and guests are welcome. For further information, contact David Lamb at (416) 766-0754.

JULY 26 — Taizé service at Ascension, Don Mills, 33 Overland Dr., Don Mills, 7:30 p.m., with music, prayer, readings, meditation, silence. Next service on Aug. 23, 7:30 p.m. Call (416) 444-8881.

JULY 28 — Praise and Worship Service at Church of Ascension, Don Mills, 33 Overland Dr., Don Mills, 6:30 p.m., with lively music, testimonies, prayer, refreshments. Call (416) 444-8881.

JULY 29 — Celebrating God's Blessings through Jazz at 10:30 a.m., St. Aidan's Church, 70 Silver Birch Ave. at Queen St. E. Come and worship with us the weekend of the Beaches Jazz Festival. Music by The Brian Barlow Quartet. Preacher is the Rev. Canon Tim Elliott. Call (416) 691-2222.

JULY 30 — Patronal festival at St. Olave, Swansea, 360 Windermere Ave., Toronto. Evensong at 6 p.m., followed by barbecue. Join us for our annual homecoming. Contributions appreciated. For details, call (416) 769-5686.

**NEW DEACONS**

Bishops stand with newly ordained transitional deacons after the Ordination to the Sacred Order of Deacons service at St. Paul's, Bloor Street, on May 6. The service drew more than 1,000 people. From left are: Bishop Patrick Yu, Bishop Michael Bedford-Jones, the Rev. Jason van Veghel-Wood, the Rev. Susan Haig, the Rev. Shelley McVea, the Rev. Andrea Budgey, Bishop Colin Johnson, the Rev. Matthew McMillan (above), the Rev. David Julien, the Rev. Greg Carpenter (above), the Rev. Andrew Federle, the Rev. Susanne McKim, the Rev. Sister Constance Joanna Gefvert, SSJD, the Rev. Daniel Graves, Bishop Philip Poole.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

Social/Fundraising

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

OCT. 2 — The Church of the Redeemer invites you to An Evening with John, a novel way to experience and understand the Gospel of John 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 by Sept. 28. 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.

Sales/Summer Fairs

SEP. 15 — St. Jude's Fair at St. Jude, Wexford, 10 Howarth Ave., Scarborough, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Great food, arts and crafts, clown and face painting, music, bargains. Call (416) 755-5872.

Art Events

MAY 27 — JULY 29 — St. Philip the Apostle, 201 Caribou Rd., Toronto, presents a photographic exhibition by Clare Samuel of people of various faiths, showing the part of ourselves that cannot be measured or defined, and the sublime or miraculous within the every-

day. Part of St. Philip's Caribou Project. For more information, call Penny Bateman at (613) 534-2202, or Robin Pacific at (416) 994-9980.

Music

JULY 4 — St. Mark's, Port Hope, presents the Chapel Choir of Christ's College, Cambridge, on tour from Britain, in concert at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$15. Call (905) 373-0867.

JULY 11, 18, 25 — St. Mark's, Port Hope, presents a Summer Chamber Music Series. Tickets are \$5. Call (905) 373-0867.

**BELOVED SISTER**

Rita Lee stands beside a picture of her sister, the Rev. Dr. Florence Li Tim-Oi, the first female priest in the Anglican Communion, ordained in China in 1944. A service at All Saints, Markham, on May 6, celebrated the 100th anniversary of her birth. She died in Toronto in 1992. Top right: Bishop Barbara Harris, retired suffragan bishop of Massachusetts, preaches while the Rev. Simon Li translates in to Chinese. Below right: Bishops Ann Tottenham and George Elliott join the congregation in the processional hymn. Bishop Victoria Matthews of the Diocese of Edmonton also took part in the service.

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON



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ANNIVERSARY

St. Barnabas Church (Chester) - 361 Danforth Ave., Toronto will be celebrating their 150th Anniversary in 2008. We would like to hear from anyone who had connections with St. Barnabas in the past, and who may have photographs, printed matter or special memories that they would like to share with us in our "Memory Book". Please contact: Rev. Deborah Koscec - 416-463-1344. Helen Taylor - 416-880-8470 or email: helen@taylorelectronicdesigns.com

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5. St. James Deanery
6. Holy Trinity, Trinity Square
7. Church of the Redeemer
8. San Lorenzo Ruiz
9. St. Andrew by-the-Lake
10. St. Bartholomew
11. St. Paul, Bloor St.
12. John Gibson House (LOFT Community Services)
13. St. Peter's, Carlton
14. St. Simon the Apostle

15. Trinity East (Little Trinity)
16. All Saints, King
17. Christ Church, Holland Landing
18. Christ Church, Kettleby
19. Holland Deanery
20. Christ Church, Roches Point
21. St. Alban's, Nobleton
22. St. George's, Sibbald Point
23. St. James, Sutton
24. St. James the Apostle, Sharon
25. St. Mary Magdalene, Schomberg
26. St. Anne's Place (LOFT Community Services)
27. St. Paul's, Jersey
28. St. Paul's, Newmarket
29. St. Stephen's, Maple
30. St. Timothy's, Newmarket
31. Trinity Church, Aurora

Stewardship conference planned for October

THE diocese's Stewardship Development Board will host the second annual Celebrating Authentic Stewardship Conference on Oct. 20 at St. George's, Pickering, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The keynote speaker will be Marilyn MacKenzie, who gave an excellent presentation on the fundamentals of volunteer recruitment and management at last year's conference.

Workshop topics include drafting and presenting an effective narrative budget, planned giving for congregations, and marketing your parish to your community. The conference is suited for those who seek to create vibrant faith communities and those who want a greater insight into stewardship as a lifestyle. Clergy, wardens and stewardship volunteers are especially welcome. Resources will be distributed at all workshops.

Registration is \$20 per person (or three for \$50) to a maximum of six attendees per parish. Lunch is included. For more information, contact the Stewardship Development Office at (416) 363-6021, ext. 243, or 1-800-668-8932, ext. 243. Space is limited to the first 100 registrants.

Helen Gough taught in north

HELEN Gough, 76, of Holy Trinity, Toronto, died June 1 of cancer. A graduate of the Anglican Women's Training College, she taught at Native day schools in the North for a few years. In the early 1960s, she was Indian Liaison worker for the Diocese of Toronto. Toronto. A full story will appear in a later issue.

IN MOTION

Appointments

- The Rev. Naomi Miller, Honorary Assistant, St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough, Mar. 1. This is in addition to her appointment as Associate Priest at the Parish of Lakefield.
- The Rev. Jane Watanabe, Priest-in-Charge, St. John, Harwood, Apr. 1.
- The Rev. Susan DeGruchy, Priest-in-Charge, St. Michael the Archangel, Toronto, Apr. 25.
- The Rev. Dr. Ronald Kydd, Honorary Assistant, St. Peter, Cobourg, May 1.
- The Rev. Dudley Walker, Honorary Assistant, St. Peter, Cobourg, May 1.
- The Rev. Phelan Scanlon, Interim Priest-in-Charge, Parish of Perrytown, May 1.
- The Rev. Harry Robinson (New Westminster), Interim Associate Priest, St. Clement, Eglinton, May 1.
- The Rev. Jason Prisley, Associate Priest, Christ Church, Stouffville, May 15.
- The Rev. Beth Benson, Priest-in-Charge, St. Cuthbert, Leaside, May 15.
- The Rev. David Montgomery, Associate Priest, St. Clement, Eglinton, Sept. 4.
- The Rev. Katy Waugh, Interim Priest-in-Charge, St. Timothy, North Toronto, Sept. 4.

Ordained to the transitional diaconate on May 6, the following persons have been appointed Assistant Curates:

- The Rev. Andrea Budgey, St. Simon-the-Apostle, Toronto, May 7.
- The Rev. Gregory Carpenter, Christ Church, Deer Park, Toronto, June 1.
- The Rev. Andrew Federle, Church of the Redeemer, Toronto, May 7.
- The Rev. Daniel Graves, Holy Trinity, Thornhill, Aug. 1.
- The Rev. Susan Haig, All Saints, Sherbourne Street, Toronto, July 1.
- The Rev. Susanne McKim, All Saints, Kingsway, Toronto, June 15.
- The Rev. Matthew McMillan, St. Timothy, Agincourt, May 15.
- The Rev. Shelley McVea, St. Saviour, Toronto, May 7.
- The Rev. Jason van Veghel-Wood, St. Peter, Erindale, May 7.

The Rev. Constance Joanna Gefvert and the Rev. David Julien were also ordained on May 6.

Honorary Canons

During synod, Bishop Colin Johnson announced the appointment of five new Honorary Canons of St. James Cathedral:

- The Rev. Canon Matthias Der
- The Rev. Canon Elizabeth Hardy
- The Rev. Canon Bradley Lennon

- The Rev. Canon Jeannie Loughrey
- The Rev. Canon Kate Merriman

The Service of Installation took place on June 10, during Choral Evensong at 4:30 p.m., at St. James Cathedral.

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. George, Pickering
- St. Timothy, North Toronto
- St. Andrew, Scarborough
- Holy Trinity, Trinity Square

Second Phase - Parish Selection Committee Receiving Names (via Area Bishop):

- St. Matthew, Oshawa (Trent-Durham)
- St. Paul, Lindsay (Trent-Durham)
- Christ Church, Campbellford (Trent-Durham)
- Holy Trinity, Guildwood (York-Scarborough)
- Messiah (York-Scarborough)
- St. James, Caledon East (York-Credit Valley)

Third Phase - Parish Selection Committee Interviewing (via Area Bishop):

- St. John, York Mills

Retirements

- The Rev. James Blackmore's last Sunday at St. George, Pickering, was May 6, not May 27, as previously reported.
- The Rev. Katy Waugh has resigned her appointment as Incumbent of St. Cuthbert, Leaside, as of May 13.
- The Rev. Sara Boyles has announced her retirement. Her last Sunday at Holy Trinity, Trinity Square, was June 24.

Conclusion

- The Rev. Jean-Martin Mabozi has concluded his ministry at St. Michael the Archangel, Toronto, as of Apr. 24.

Memorial Service

- A memorial service was held for the Rev. Linda Riesberry, wife of the Rev. Canon William Riesberry, on May 12 at St. Chad's, Toronto. The burial took place at St. John, Mono Cemetery.

Deaths

- The Rev. Hubert Isaacs, who served as an assistant priest at St. Jude's, Wexford, in Toronto from his retirement in 1981 until 1991, died in Port Perry on Apr. 11 at the age of 90. During his ministry he served at three churches in Quebec and at the former church of St. Simon's, Highland Creek, Scarborough.

Young Anglican follows vocation

BY HENRIETA PAUKOV

Sister Amy Hamilton is turning 30 this year and experiencing the same angst as any other twenty-something nearing that milestone. The only difference is that Sister Amy, who is a nun with the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine, an Anglican religious community with a convent in North York, has more than 30 other women to reassure her that everything will be fine.

"It's funny, because I am living with these women and 30 to them is very young," she says. "And it's kind of a milestone for me, and they are making their milestones of 50 and 60 and 70. It's good, because they are saying: 'Amy, you are still young!'"

Speaking to Sister Amy, one senses a deep contentment with the unconventional life path she has chosen, though for years she resisted the pull of her vocation. "When I was in Grade 9, I saw a movie called *Brides of Christ*," she recalls. "It was about a Catholic sisterhood that was going through Vatican II. And even though they were going through some really rough changes, there was still that underlying myth of community. I felt very attracted to that. The priest at my parish in Stirling, the Rev. Bob Wright, assured me that there were Anglican sisters. He was actually an associate of the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine. So from Grade 9, I knew that that was something in the back of my mind that I was really interested in checking out."

She went on to study culinary management at college and

Bishop's Company Dinner on move

THE Inaugural Bishop's Company Dinner in Trent-Durham will be held on Oct. 11. The evening begins with a 6 p.m. reception followed by a 7 p.m. dinner and silent auction at the Peterborough Evinrude Centre.

Tickets are \$65 each or \$585 for a table of 10. Wine is included with your meal. The evening will feature a keynote address by the Rt. Rev. Michael Bedford-Jones, area bishop of the Trent-Durham episcopal area. Bishop Bedford-Jones, who has recently announced his retirement from episcopal ministry, will reflect on his life and ministry, including his early days growing up in Cobourg, Ontario.

If you have any questions or would like to order tickets, contact Sheryl Thorpe at the Diocesan office at (416) 363-6021, ext. 243, or 1-800-668-8932, ext. 243.

OUR LIVES

BY HENRIETA PAUKOV

Our Lives features inspiring stories of the clergy and laypeople among us. This month, The Anglican talks to Sister Amy Hamilton of the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine.

stayed in the industry for several years. During that time, she visited the convent for a quiet day. "I thought I would check it out," she says. "And there was no spark. I didn't feel anything. And I thought: 'Oh, good. I'm safe.'"

She started working in technical support for a computer company, but satisfaction was eluding her. "It seemed that whenever I tried to move forward in any of the particular jobs that I had chosen, I always felt that I was trying to open doors that I couldn't open," she says. "I didn't have the right keys. I was struggling. I knew that there must be something out there for me for a fit. All the choices that I had made were fine, but they didn't fulfill that deeper longing."

She was considering whether to go back to school when the Sisterhood beckoned again. She saw an advertisement for a discernment program at the convent called "Women at a Crossroads." She decided this was another chance to check out the Sisterhood without making a commitment.

"At that time, the discernment program was a month," she says. "There were 13 of us. It was just amazing, the way the sisters' whole life was centred around the different offices and eucharist. You didn't have to struggle to make time to go to church; it was embedded in the timetable. And the community and the way they interacted with each other – I just kind of fell in love with it. And then I left, because I thought I'm too young. One of the mentors I had, Sister Brenda, gave me a little exercise where you did pros and cons for coming in and pros and cons for staying in a secular life, and for me there were too many cons for the sisterhood and too many pros for staying out."

But she found she couldn't stay away. She came back in January of 2003, and this time, she stayed for good. Since then, her daily life has followed a regular rhythm that many outsiders might find stifling, but which she says has given her immense opportunity for growth.

"I just did my first sermon," she says. "It was such a shock that my ideas were actually appreciated and were something that people wanted to hear and that I could actually pull together a reflection on a scripture. The thought of that, just five years ago, had never even entered my mind. Being able to formulate what my spirituality is or what God means to me – I don't think I would have had the words to do that. Living in community and

the opportunities I've been given have stretched me and pulled me and given me the words to be able to formulate what I'm feeling and what I'm thinking."

Every morning, the sisters wake up in time to attend to what they call their spiritual duties. "It's three types of prayer: lectio [slow contemplative praying of the scriptures or other texts], meditation and spiritual reading," says Sister Amy. "In our rule, it says we are supposed to do two hours of spiritual duties. So it's an hour of meditation, half an hour of spiritual reading, and half an hour of lectio. Most sisters try to do the two hours in the morning, because it really sets your day. That's the thing that most people don't know: we are praying right off the bat."

The rest of the day is a balance of worship, work, recreation and community time. "Last year I was working in our guest house," says Sister Amy. "I was also doing the receipting for fundraising and the layout for our newsletter. Everybody's job is different; some of us have two or three jobs." She is now at the Sisterhood's branch house in B.C. for a year, an assignment that is part of her process of formation. "I'm the cook, and I've also done preaching and quiet days," she says. "I also have a youth group that I'm helping run, and I will be working at the diocesan camp and a vacation bible school."

She has found her new community's approach to work infinitely more satisfying than her experiences in the secular world. "You move where the community needs you," she says. "It's quite different from the place where I worked before, where you are very possessive of the work that you do and if you are moved up into management, you are that



After working in the secular world, Sister Amy Hamilton found fulfilment with the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine.

position. That's not how we see each other. We're foremost the person that we are. I'm Amy – I'm not Amy in Victoria who does the cooking.

"In the workplace you are known for your skills and you are loved because of your skills and what you can do and what you can give to the company. It was amazing to be loved because of who I am, not because of what I can bring to the community. It's very affirming to me."

Sister Amy has completed her novitiate and is now in her second year of a three-year process called first profession. "After

that, the community and I decide whether it's appropriate for me to move forward to life profession," she explains. "You have to write a letter and explain what your wishes are and then the sisters vote. It's an election into life profession."

That moment is still in the future. In the meantime, Sister Amy says: "It's just such an amazing feeling to actually find the thing that fit, that something more. This was it. To be able to find that I did have a purpose and to be able to say 'Yes, I love my work and I'm happy where I am,' was just amazing."

st. james cemetery