

Music director receives bursary

Conference looks at making disciples



Advocates seek transformation

The Anglican

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CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

By Bishop Kevin Robertson

Let us make room

Make some room!" That's the cry of our six-year-old twins when they crawl into our bed at 6 o'clock in the morning. Those of you who have children will understand the irony that, after crawling into bed, those same little ones then proceed to sleep horizontally, making absolutely no room for anyone else!

The Christmas story is about making room. In the familiar account from Luke's gospel, Mary and Joseph were on their way from Nazareth to Bethlehem. And when they arrived, it was time for Mary to give birth. They went looking for a place to stay, but there was no room for them. And so, Mary and Joseph found rest in a cold and smelly stable – probably with cows and sheep, and horses and pigs. And in this unlikely place, the Saviour of the world was born. Because no one could make room, or perhaps no one would make room.

That's a sad proposition, but it wasn't new. For generations, the God of Israel had desired to have room in the hearts of the people. God had reached out to them in a covenant with Abraham and Sarah, and delivered them from the hands of their enemies in Egypt, and then Babylon. God sent messengers and prophets to teach them. Yet time and again, God's people would not make room.

How often have we refused to make room for God in our lives? How often do we become entrenched, refuse to forgive, hold on to a grudge, ignore someone in need? How often have wars and other conflicts been perpetrated because people can't make room for those who are different? Our world is littered with missed opportunities to allow



FIRST LIGHT

Paul Seto and Mary Ho help children at St. Elizabeth, Mississauga practice lighting the Advent wreath. A candle will be lit each week during Advent, followed by the lighting of the middle candle on Christmas Eve. Advent starts on Dec. 2. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

the love of God to be revealed.

And yet, in spite of this, God came. In a backwater town, half a world from anywhere, God came. The conditions were hardly ideal. The people were oppressed under Roman rule and, even within Israel, the religious leaders were known to place oppressive weights on the backs of the people and not lift a finger to ease them (Luke 11:46). Life was hard. And yet, God came.

And so God comes to us. In the brokenness of our world, and in the imperfection of our own lives, even when we feel unready or unworthy, God still comes with the power to transform, renew and recreate.

Through the centuries, many writers have reminded us of this truth, and especially the gospel writers themselves. Luke tells it brilliantly in the familiar story, acted out in pageants around the world on Christmas Eve (Luke 2:1-20). John the Evangelist tells it poetically in the prologue to his gospel: "In the beginning

was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God" (John 1).

And alongside these ancient truth-tellers comes perhaps an unlikely source of wisdom – that is, the Grinch. When his evil plot to try to steal Christmas had absolutely no effect on the residents of Whoville, the Grinch began to ponder what Christmas was really all about.

"And the Grinch with his Grinch feet ice cold in the snow, stood puzzling and puzzling, how could it be so?

It came without ribbons, it came without tags, it came without packages, boxes or bags.

And he puzzled and puzzled, 'til his puzzler was sore.

Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before.

What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store?

What if Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more.

Continued on Page 7

THE BISHOP'S LEVEE 2019

at the Cathedral Church of St. James



Please join Bishop Andrew Asbil and the College of Bishops to offer best wishes and prayers for the New Year.

January 1, 2019

Said Eucharist at 12:30 p.m.

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2019



Music director Robert Graham (second from left) is joined by John Campbell, Elizabeth Cowling and the Rev. Stephen Kirkegaard after the bursary presentation. At right, Mr. Graham leads the church's musicians. PHOTOS BY THOMAS EVERS



Music director receives first Cowling bursary

IT was a special service on Oct. 21 at Holy Trinity, Guildwood, as the inaugural Douglas C. Cowling Bursary in Liturgical Music was awarded to the church's music director, Robert Graham.

Presenting the bursary was Mr. Cowling's widow, Elizabeth, who highlighted her husband's legacy

as an influential parish musician, teacher and artist.

The \$5,000 award is given annually to a part-time musician working in a parish in the diocese, to encourage creative musical and liturgical experimentation with the aim of fostering full liturgical participation by all age groups.

Under Mr. Graham's leadership, Holy Trinity has presented several concerts featuring some of Toronto's most prominent vocalists and musicians, including a recent fundraising concert featuring Mr. Graham's eclectic pop/rock band, The Fairest and Best.

Several future artistic collabo-

rations are planned with Holy Trinity's neighbour, Sir Wilfrid Laurier Collegiate Institute, further highlighting Mr. Cowling's legacy of musical outreach and inclusion.

Mr. Graham has been Holy Trinity's music director for just over three years. He is a professional musician with a varied career, encompassing all styles of music both in and out of the Church setting. He has worked as a professional pianist, vocalist, songwriter, music director for theatre and choral singing, vocal coach and accompanist. An award-winning songwriter, he has also written several pieces of liturgical music currently in use at Holy Trinity, as well as songs dealing with issues of social justice.

"The presentation marked a beautiful combination: remembering the wonderful life of Douglas

Cowling, and recognizing Robert Graham and the parish of Holy Trinity, who are on a journey to maintain and strengthen Mr. Cowling's legacy of congregational singing, musical outreach, creativity and inclusiveness," said the Rev. Stephen Kirkegaard, incumbent.


A special guest on hand for the service was composer and long-serving music director at the Church of the Redeemer, Bloor St., John Campbell. A friend and colleague of Mr. Cowling, Mr. Campbell helped launch the first "Inspiring Music in Worship" seminar, a five-week series exploring the role of music in the worship life of Holy Trinity. Based on the book by British author Helen Bent, the series helps congregations engage in an inclusive and supportive discussion around the role of music in their worship lives.

Your friends at
The Anglican
wish you a blessed
Advent & Christmas.


Correction notice

AN advertisement in last month's issue about LOFT's 28th annual Christmas concert at St. James Cathedral gave the wrong date. In fact, the concert will be held on Monday, Dec. 10. See the revised advertisement on Page 3 of this month's issue for more information.


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GOOD TIMES
Archbishop Colin Johnson and his wife Ellen were the guests of honour at the 32nd annual Bishops Basil Tonks and Arthur Brown Fundraising Dinner at St. Andrew, Scarborough on Nov. 3. Clockwise from above: Ellen Johnson (left) receives a gift of shawl scarves from Sonia Perrin; serving up delicious food; Angela Allman-Fenty (left) and thanks Elsa Jones, chair of the Canadian Friends to West Indian Christians; enjoying the evening; pannist Vince Cato and Bishop Peter Fenty; Archbishop Colin Johnson gives the keynote address. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON



BRIEFLY

All invited to Archbishop's farewell
Readers are reminded of a special retirement celebration

for Archbishop Colin Johnson on Dec. 15 from 1-4 p.m. at St. James Cathedral, Church and King streets, Toronto. All are invited. The celebration will include refreshments, a receiving line, speeches and presentations. It will conclude with a Choral Evensong at which Archbishop

Johnson will preach. Archbishop Johnson is retiring on Dec. 31 after more than 40 years of ordained ministry. He has been the Bishop of Toronto, or diocesan bishop, since 2004. He will be succeeded by Bishop Andrew Asbil, currently the coadjutor bishop, on Jan. 1, 2019.



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Archbishop Johnson honoured

Friends, colleagues pay tribute at dinner

BY STUART MANN

TWO well-known leaders in the Anglican Communion made surprise appearances at the 57th annual Bishop's Company Dinner in Toronto on Oct. 19.

Bishop Michael Curry, the presiding bishop of The Episcopal Church (United States) and Archbishop Thabo Makgoba, primate of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa, appeared in short videos to thank Archbishop Colin Johnson for his ministry and to wish him well as he prepares to retire at the end of the year.

Bishop Curry, who shared the gospel with millions of people on TV when he preached at the wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle last May, said it has been a privilege to work with Archbishop Johnson over the years and to learn from him.

"You've been an inspiration," he said. "You've been a voice for those who often do not have a voice. You've been a voice of reconciliation, bringing together people of different persuasions and perspectives, bringing us together as a people of God. You have been, and you are, a follower of Jesus of Nazareth, and it is a privilege and a blessing to bring you these congratulations and to assure you of these prayers of thanksgiving from your brother just south of the border in The Episcopal Church."

Archbishop Makgoba, who is the archbishop of Cape Town, said Archbishop Johnson has served the Diocese of Toronto and the wider Church with distinction, "bringing your administrative vocation and your pastoral heart together. God bless you, and I thank God for our friendship."

Their comments drew cheers and applause from the 535 people at the sold-out event, held each year to raise funds to help clergy and their families in need and to provide scholarships for theological students.

Billed as a farewell gala for Archbishop Johnson, the evening included storytelling and speeches from some of Archbishop Johnson's oldest friends and colleagues. Bishop Philip Poole, a retired suffragan bishop of the diocese and a long-time friend of the archbishop, was the Master of Ceremonies and provided many humorous anecdotes. Archbishop Johnson and his wife Ellen were joined by their family and friends, including many active and retired bishops.

The centrepiece of the evening was a conversation between Archbishop Johnson and Judy Maddren, the former host of World Report on CBC Radio News who now records personal audio memoirs for Sound-



Clockwise from top: Archbishop Colin Johnson at the photo booth with his son Timothy, daughter-in-law Kit Darling and granddaughter Keira MacLean; with Blake Goldring, ODT, of AGF, the evening's presenting sponsor; Bishop Michael Curry; with Judy Maddren; with Ellen. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

portraits. In a wide-ranging discussion, Archbishop Johnson talked about his upbringing in Mount Forrest, Ont., his involvement in the local United Church as a youth, his journey from the United Church to the Anglican Church, his call to ordained ministry, Ellen's influence on his life, his love of cooking and music, his mentors, being a grandparent, and his ministry as Bishop of Toronto.

When asked to name one thing he was looking forward to upon his retirement, Archbishop Johnson named two: sleeping in and taking ballroom dancing lessons with Ellen, whom he described as "the love of my life." The couple have been married for 42 years and have three grown children and two grandchildren.

In his remarks, Bishop Poole

described Archbishop Johnson as a skilled liturgist who loves to worship God, a teacher of the faith, a mentor to both clergy and laity, and a workshop leader in the areas of prayer, conflict management and evangelism. "In all of this, Colin has sought to teach the faith in an intelligent, articulate way following the Anglican tradition that people are not called to hang up their brain with their hat when they come to church," he said.

He described Archbishop Johnson as a reconciler and spoke about his work in starting the Consultation of Anglican Bishops in Dialogue, which brings together North American and African bishops for conversation. "Without a doubt, those discussions have helped increase the understanding of the similarities and differences that the bishops face,"

he said. "It has helped to improve the level of trust in the Anglican Communion."

He said Archbishop Johnson is a "lover of God's people" and has been a strong advocate in the areas of affordable and accessible housing, child poverty and HIV/AIDS. "Colin cares for the poor and the disenfranchised and is not shy about speaking truth to power. He cares for the weak, the lost and the lonely, and recognizes and respects the dignity of each life. He has lived out our Lord's command to us in Matthew 25."

The evening included a land acknowledgement by Bishop Riscylla Shaw and a talk by Michael Casabon on The John Strachan Trust, which funds the office of the bishop. Bishop Poole thanked the evening's

Continued on Page 10



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In the Diocese of Toronto:

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

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The Rev. Dr. Joan DeVries, the keynote speaker, encourages listeners to reflect on what God is calling the Church to do and be. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON



The Rev. Vinaya Dumpala of St. Joseph of Nazareth, Bramalea, speaks about making disciples through community life.



From left, the Rev. Molly Finlay, the Rev. Dr. Alison Falby, the Rev. Karen Isaacs, the Rev. Richard Webb and the Rev. Canon Beth Benson enjoy the conference.

What's really going on here?

Conference explores discipleship, evangelism

BY MARTHA HOLMEN

"IT'S time to complexify the situation, to peel back and ask what's really going on here." So began the Rev. Dr. Joan DeVries, keynote speaker at Discipulus'18, a new national gathering on discipleship and evangelism.

A pastor in the Christian Reformed Church and professor of worship arts at Trinity Western University, Dr. DeVries delivered three talks at the conference, held Oct. 18-19 at St. Paul, Bloor Street. Jointly sponsored by the Diocese of Toronto and Wycliffe College's Institute of Evangelism, it attracted more than 100 Christians from across Canada.

Dr. DeVries began by examining the challenge of evangelism in contemporary Canadian culture. She presented statistics on religious affinity in Canada over the past six decades, all of which point to a steady decline in church attendance.

"That same story is repeated in congregation after congregation, not just in my denomination but in most denominations across urban and rural settings and all across the country," she said. "The question then is, what do we do about this?"

Dr. DeVries encouraged her listeners to reflect on what God is calling the Church to do and be, and on what's happening in their own communities. "If I came as an anthropologist from another planet and visited your church, what would I see?" she asked. "What are the priorities in your church? What is your congregation living out?"

She then focused on the way forward, including the need to be deliberate about the kind of formation happening in churches. "Whatever you are doing, people are being formed," she said. "Is

it appropriate formation or is it inappropriate formation?"

Formation, she said, happens intentionally through stated teachings in sermons and mission statements, but also unintentionally. "Our spaces communicate, our surroundings can have emotive impact, but they also teach values," she said. "What does the sign look like? What kind of cars are on the parking lot? I know you can't control that, but they speak."

She also emphasized that formation will look different for new Christians than for long-time members of a congregation. "They too need to be formed. Perhaps they actually need to be reformed, and perhaps they need to unlearn some things in order to be reformed," she said. "Sometimes we need to reframe things for people in terms of God's bigger mission."

That theme emerged during two sets of workshops that focused on practical strategies and resources church leaders have used to place discipleship at the heart of their communities. In a workshop on disciple-making in church operations and structure, the Rev. Canon Beth Benson, priest-in-charge of St. Mary and St. Martha, Toronto, spoke about reframing conversations around finances to focus on God's mission.

An amalgamation of four churches that had been struggling to survive financially, the parish has recently launched Growing Healthy Stewards, a program developed in the Diocese of Toronto. "The idea that we're unpacking now is that it is God's abundance that is at work in this new amalgamation. All that we have, all that we are, is about the gifts that are freely given, particularly his Son given for us," she said. "It's a whole new conversation. You can imagine how radical it is when you've only known scarcity."



Canon Benson also said that using a narrative budget is helping her congregation to consider how its resources are contributing to God's work in the world. "It's been repositioned as stewards of God's money, for God's purposes in this part of the city of Toronto," she said. "It's not a line item – here's the furnace bill – because the furnace bill is for the purpose of mission."

Archbishop Colin Johnson was the preacher at a Eucharist held during the conference, and the Rev. Canon Dr. Judy Paulsen, chair of the planning team, thanked him for his support over the years. "We owe a tremendous amount to Colin and his support of all things to do with disciple-making and evangelism," she said. "We're very thankful for his ministry as he moves towards retirement."



Some of the 100 people who attended the conference take part in a small group discussion.

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Climate change vigil provides missional lessons



BY ELIZABETH ACHIMAH

St. Monica, Toronto has had a heart for local mission since the early 1900s. Following in the steps of the early missionaries, my task has been to get to know the neighbours, find out what their dreams and challenges are, and see how St. Monica's can bless the neighbourhood. Since we do not have a building within the parish bounds, we engage in "missional initiatives" where we try various things and see the response.

On Oct. 18, we held a prayer vigil for climate change as one of these missional initiatives. We held it in a local park as

part of our series on creation and creation care. A neighbourhood Facebook group started a conversation about current practices and efforts that impact climate change, so it seemed like a perfect time to do the vigil. There was lots of support for it – more so than for many other initiatives we've tried.

Yet, on the night of the vigil, I sat in prayer surrounded only by candles.

I decided to hold the vigil anyway. One person asked if we could do it again so that he could attend. A young boy and his father wanted to know why I had candles lit. I was able to have a lengthy conversation with them. The father had worked in the wildlife field and shared his insights, as well as the need to pray and work to halt climate change. I gave the young boy

one of our candles, a simple gesture that made him very excited.

The missional initiative of the vigil certainly did not yield the results that I was expecting. It did, however, teach me a few things:

Be prepared for God to surprise you. The vigil did not go the way I had planned, but I am convinced that God was at work in the conversations I had with the three people that night.

Do it anyway. It is tempting to give up if there is no or low attendance. If I had left when I thought about leaving, I would not have had the conversations that I had. In other missional initiatives, I have found that people tend not to come out for the first event. Instead, they wish to see what it is all about before they commit. Some-

times sharing pictures and stories make people more comfortable in coming out next time.

Be present in the neighbourhood. Missional work starts at the ground level of simply being present in the neighbourhood and meeting people outside the church doors. People want to know that you actually care about them and the neighbourhood, not that you care about them to get them to come to your program or fill the pews in church. The vigil was just one way that St. Monica's was able to say that we care about the same things that other people in the neighbourhood do.

Elizabeth Achimah is St. Monica's lay pastor and missionary.

Bishop had 'profound love' for Church

BISHOP Joachim Fricker, a suffragan bishop in the Diocese of Toronto from 1985 to 1993, died on Oct. 28 in Burlington, Ont.

Bishop Fricker received his theological education at Huron College in London, Ont., and was ordained deacon and priest in the Diocese of Niagara in 1952. He served at St. Augustine of Canterbury, Hamilton (1952-59), St. David, Welland (1959-1965), St. James, Dundas (1965-1973), and as the Dean of Nia-

gara and rector of Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton (1973-1985). He also served in the Diocese of Niagara as the chair of the Hamilton Wentworth Regional Food and Shelter Assistance Committee and was a member of the Hamilton Arts Awards Committee. He is survived by his wife Shirley and their children.

After he was consecrated bishop in the Diocese of Toronto in 1985, he served as the area bishop of

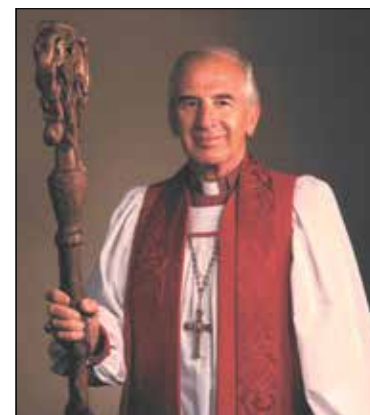
the Credit Valley Episcopal Area (now called the York-Credit Valley Episcopal Area). He worked with several other bishops in the diocese in the late 1980s and early 1990s, including Archbishop Terence Finlay, Bishop Douglas Blackwell and Bishop Taylor Pryce.

As he prepared to retire in 1993, he wrote, "My eight years in this diocese as bishop of the Credit Valley have been a rich and rewarding experience. I am deeply grateful to the clergy and lay people of the area for their cooperation and encouragement."

Bishop Fricker and his wife Shirley moved to Burlington in 1995 but he continued to serve as an associate priest at the Church of the Redeemer, Bloor St. in To-

ronto until 1999. He was an interim priest-in-charge at St. Clement, Eglinton and St. Paul, Lorne Park. He was also the interim dean at St. Paul's Cathedral in the Diocese of Western New York (1994-95 and 2004-6.) He celebrated the 50th anniversary of his ordination in 2002 at Christ's Church Cathedral in Hamilton.

Archbishop Colin Johnson said he received the news of Bishop Fricker's death with sorrow. "He was one of my mentors and I learned much from him. I asked him to preach at my consecration as bishop and was not disappointed. He had a sharp intellect, a robust sense of humour, a deeply honed faith in God the Holy Trinity, and a profound love for the



Bishop Joachim Fricker

Church. He was a major force in the development and introduction of the BAS ("Jo's green book" as it was affectionately called by the bishops). May he rest in peace and rise with Christ in glory."

His funeral was held on Nov. 5 at Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton.

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CANADA BRIEFS

Tool library embodies gospel, says Anglican

SAINT JOHN - An Anglican who runs a "tool library" says an untapped opportunity for growth in the Church could lie in social enterprise. Brent Harris, a member of the city's Church of the Resurrection, recently launched the Saint John Tool Library & DIY Centre, which allows its members to borrow tools as they need them. The centre charges money for memberships and for how-to classes that it offers the public. It is a social enterprise, Mr. Harris says, because it sees its success not in profits but in serving the public and "helping people see an embodied gospel."

If the Church were to foster the growth of such enterprises, he says, it could both attract more young people and reduce the social isolation of its elderly members, by engaging retired Anglicans to volunteer to teach young people new skills, and by increasing the presence of the Church in the community.

"Social enterprises need volunteers during their start-up phase, and for the next 10 years, we will have a huge influx of retirees who will want to con-

nect with their community in a tangible way," he says. "There is a track here for the Church to be in the business of turning strangers into neighbours, and that will cause people to say, 'What's this about?'" he says.

The New Brunswick Anglican

Wounded priest preaches reconciliation

EDMONTON - The key to reconciliation is to focus on memories that are redemptive rather than destructive, the Rev. Canon Michael Lapsley, an Anglican anti-apartheid activist who lost both his hands to a parcel bomb, told a congregation at All Saints' Cathedral on Sept. 30.

"Those who've had horrible things done to them have every reason to hate, to be bitter, to want revenge," Canon Lapsley said in a sermon for Orange Shirt Day, which commemorates survivors of the residential school system. "But in the end, those things do not destroy our enemies. They destroy us."

Healing comes from keeping the kind of memories the Bible encourages us to have, he said - memories of the good that comes from evil and of the life that comes from death.

Canon Lapsley has served as honorary canon for healing and reconciliation at the cathedral since 2017 and holds a similar title at St. George's Cathedral in Cape Town, South Africa. Born in New Zealand, he went to South Africa as a missionary

in 1973 and became active in the anti-apartheid movement. He was exiled from South Africa and went to live in Zimbabwe, where, in 1990, he opened a parcel bomb that nearly killed him, destroying both his hands and severely damaging his eyesight and hearing. In 1998, he founded the Institute for Healing of Memories, which gives workshops in South Africa on healing.

The Messenger

Church rallies after near-closure

VICTORIA - Four years after a recommendation that it be closed, a Vancouver Island church was assessed by the Diocese of British Columbia as healthy, thanks to staunch revitalization efforts by its members, say the churchwardens and rector.

Some years ago, a diocesan review team recommended that St. Michael and All Angels in Chemainus, B.C., be disestablished. The church had been suffering from dissension among its members, which had led to many leaving, and financial problems. But the parish developed a five-year plan for growth, says churchwarden Hilary Findlay, and within two years, the diocese's assessment had changed to "in transition." After two more years, it was designated "healthy."

The church, she says, took a number of steps to increase its presence in the community, including becoming a tourist

destination by opening it up for public viewing, hosting an annual parade of veterans and creating a local classical music society. Over the past three years, the church has also been pursuing the development of attainable housing on its property, says its rector, the Rev. Michael Wimmer.

The Diocesan Post

Diocese funds university chaplaincies

HAMILTON - The Diocese of Niagara will be providing a total of \$30,000 in financial support for the next two years to three ecu-

menical university chaplaincies, at Brock University, McMaster University and the University of Guelph, the diocese announced this September.

The chaplaincies, which involve co-operation among the Anglican, United and Presbyterian churches, provide a range of services on campus, ranging from personal support to theological reflection and worship.

Each chaplaincy also has its own unique elements. The chaplaincy at Guelph involves, among other things, a weekly worship service open to people on campus or off.

The Niagara Anglican

Jesus makes room for everyone

Continued from Page 1

And what happened then? Well, in Whoville they say that the Grinch's small heart grew three sizes that day!"

If you remember the animation, the Grinch's chest cavity actually breaks open like a broken spring, unable to contain his growing heart. The Grinch finally got it: Christmas means that there is no room for anything that constrains the power of love.

The baby boy, Jesus, for whom there was no room in the inn, would, through his teachings and example, his life and his death, his resurrection and ascension, make room for

everyone: the tax-collector and the sinner, the prostitute and the leper, the blind and the lame. No one was written off; everyone was given room.

So too for us. No matter our pasts, no matter the baggage we carry, Christmas declares that God loves us completely and unreservedly, and we ought to love others in the same way. Those who are written off and marginalized in our own time, those who are lost and forgotten - these are the ones for whom we are asked to make room. As we prepare to celebrate Christmas once again this year, rejoicing in the birth in time of the timeless Son of God, let us make room.



May the peace and blessings
of Christmas be yours
And may the coming year be
filled with happiness.

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Go beyond charity, says speaker

Anglicans urged to seek justice

BY DIANA SWIFT

PROGRESSING from personal acts of charitableness to working for systemic justice was the topic of the keynote address at “Transformed Hearts, Transforming Structure,” the diocese’s Outreach & Advocacy Conference held Oct. 27 at Havergal College in Toronto.

We have all acted charitably out of compassion for another’s need at some point, said André Lyn, a social justice activist who works with Ontario’s Antiracism Directorate and the Ontario Black Youth Action Plan. “An individual act of compassion connects us with the love of God within us by enacting that love.”

But occasions for situational acts of charity sometimes present us with a “compassionate predicament,” in which showing empathy involves a certain struggle – for example, when a needy outstretched hand is asking for money but the donor prefers to give food, believing the recipient will use the money for drugs or alcohol. “Who are we to judge if they want to use the money for drugs?” asked Mr. Lyn. “Food does not address their need or the roots of their addiction.” And what is a vice to us can be their means of connecting with their society and escaping harsh reality.

Compassionate charity is different from compassionate justice, he



Keynote speaker André Lyn says charity has its place, but seeking justice addresses the root causes of suffering – poverty, homelessness, mental health, addictions and discrimination. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

stressed. “Charity is what we do most often. It’s easier to do than justice.” It may involve volunteering at food or clothing drives, giving money to a social cause or hand-outs on the street. “It has its place. Charity is a type of compassion that meets someone’s immediate needs and temporarily eases the effects of suffering,” he said. It is necessary and important, but it is temporary and insufficient.

Compassionate justice is much more difficult and slow-moving, as it addresses the root causes of suffering – poverty, homelessness, mental health, addictions and discrimination. It seeks to correct the inequities that are endemic to our religious, educational and legal

institutions, and its progress is slow but incremental. “If charity is about transforming hearts, justice is about transforming structures, systems and institutions. It is the social and political form of compassion,” he said. It is wide-ranging, and it effects lasting change.

Apathy is the enemy of such justice, he said, quoting Nobel Prize winner Elie Wiesel’s observation that the opposite of love is not hatred but indifference. He used an engaging animal parable to show the wide-ranging ill effects of indifference. In the parable, a farm mouse meets total indifference from a chicken, a pig and a cow when he reports the introduction of a mousetrap to the farmhouse.

The trap snares a poisonous snake, which bites the farmer’s wife; eventually, the apathetic chicken and pig are sacrificed for the wife’s recuperation and the cow, ultimately, for her funeral banquet.

Mr. Lyn also cited the famous poem of German pastor Martin Niemöller, about how he failed to speak out when the Nazis came for the socialists, the trade unionists and the Jews because he was not one of any of those, until finally they came for him and there was no one left to speak for him.

Occasions to address systemic inequities are all around us, said Mr. Lyn, referring to two recent incidents in which anti-black slurs were written on the same property

of a church in the diocese. Compassionate prayers and support at a special service were offered by the area bishop and others, he said, but that did not go far enough. “We had an opportunity to address a structural and systemic injustice in society,” he said, so his group asked the area bishop if there was a diocesan policy to address hate crimes. Not surprisingly, the answer came back no.

“This sort of silence has an unintentional impact,” he said. “It has allowed such atrocities to go unchallenged and unaddressed systemically.” But now he and his colleagues have committed to working actively with the College of Bishops to address this racial issue in a structural way.

Mr. Lyn urged Anglicans not to give up personal charitableness but to move from personal compassion and transformed hearts at the individual level into collective compassion and broader solidarity at the system level, and to commit to active outreach and active advocacy.

This will require people to be audacious and bold, he said, urging the audience to harness their collective compassion and inequity, suffering, and hurt toward transforming structures by serving at any level. “There is no better time to become involved than the present,” he said. “We need to become agents of change.”

The conference also featured 10 workshops on significant outreach and advocacy topics, including housing for vulnerable seniors, grassroots initiatives against poverty, and indigenous identity and water protection.

Diana Swift is a freelance writer.

Prison ministry often rewarding, workshop hears

ONE of the most challenging but rewarding forms of Christian service is prison ministry, as was evident in a workshop led by the Rev. Mark Stephen and Jerome Friday of The Bridge Prison Ministry, which is supported by FaithWorks, the diocese’s annual outreach appeal. The Bridge works with offenders at the Ontario Correctional Institute in Brampton, before and after their release back into society.

“The lives of these men are broken,” said Mr. Stephen, a community outreach worker and deacon at St. Joseph of Nazareth, Bramalea. “Often they can’t go home or have no home to go to. They can’t return to the community where they committed their crimes.”

Mr. Friday outlined The Bridge’s 16-week pre-release, volunteer-run in-prison program of group discussions. These are designed to help inmates confront their personal

responsibility and rebuild their self-esteem by addressing 22 core issues, including acceptance, despair, love, respect, guilt, shame, and hope. “These discussions help them change the negative thought patterns that landed them where they are,” he said.

“These men are scarred and are often from dysfunctional homes, and have experienced childhood events that were never addressed,” he said. “They’ve been told they’re worthless, but we try to get them to see that, yes, they’ve made mistakes but they themselves are not mistakes.”

At first mistrustful and unwilling to share their stories, the men gradually open up and become friendly and mutually supportive.

But even with four months of psychological preparation, re-entering the community is difficult. They have a criminal record, inadequate ID for today’s security-obsessed so-



The Rev. Mark Stephen

ciety, and no fixed address. Getting an OHIP card, obtaining employment or renewing their medications for ADHD or depression is difficult. They are released from prison with one day’s pay and can’t even cash the government cheque they receive.

At the time of release, Mr. Stephen meets the ex-offender at the gates and The Bridge provides seasonal clothing, a backpack and transportation to shelter. “Some of the men don’t even know how they’ll survive the first day out of prison,” he said. Later, The Bridge provides a re-conditioned cellphone with a month’s service and helps

Continued on Page 10

Churches support migrant workers

EACH year, almost 40,000 migrant agricultural workers from Mexico, the Caribbean and other countries spend six to eight months in Canada planting and harvesting the crops that put an abundance of food on our tables.

Churches in the diocese are working on pastoral and practical fronts to make the newcomers’ experience in Ontario a better one. This was made clear at a workshop led by the Rev. Canon Ted McCollum, incumbent of St. Paul, Beaverton, and the Rev. Augusto Nunez, priest-in-charge of St. Saviour, Orono.

Both these parishes and others offer migrant-worker programs with special services in Spanish, liturgical and musical participation by the Spanish-speaking workers. “Our first focus is spiritual, to help them to know Christ and provide a house of worship with services in Spanish,” said the Peruvian-born Mr. Nunez.

This spiritual care provides a buffer for the workers, who are

often dealing with the mental and emotional stress of extended separation from family. Recently St. Paul’s (“San Pablo,” as the workers call it) provided pastoral support for a young father whose two-week-old son had died in Mexico before he had the chance to see him.

St. Paul’s program, which began in 2009 and collaborates with other migrant-worker groups in the region, addresses worldlier needs as well, such as car transportation to and from town. It helps with reconditioned bicycles, road and equipment safety, athletics and social life. In addition to weekly soccer games and barbecues, workers are brought together at health fairs with barbers, dentists, doctors, nurses and, very importantly, physiotherapists.

“These men work 10 hours a day on their knees and this takes a huge physical toll,” said Canon McCollum “It’s touching to see how happy some are to get the physiotherapy help they never

Continued on Page 10



SOLIDARITY

Clockwise from above: staff from AURA (Anglican United Refugee Alliance) stand in a tent to highlight the plight of the world's 60 million refugees; Sandra Kazazic speaks about non-violent intervention and restorative justice for drop-in centres; the St. Paul, Bloor Street Youth Music Team plays during the concluding worship; the Rev. Claudette Taylor (left) and Tamique Erskine talk about anger, injustice and solidarity; Marlie Whittle helps to lead a workshop on eco-spirituality. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON




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THANK YOU!

It was all smiles at the 57th annual Bishop's Company Dinner held on October 19, 2018 at The Toronto Marriott Downtown Eaton Centre Hotel. The sold out farewell gathering celebrated the ministry of Archbishop Colin Johnson who will retire at the end of the year.

Photography by Michael Hudson.



Ontario elects new metropolitan

ARCHBISHOP Anne Germond of the Diocese of Algoma is the new metropolitan – senior bishop – of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario, succeeding Archbishop Colin Johnson, who stepped down from the role in October. Archbishop Germond was elected and consecrated during a meeting of Provincial Synod, held in Ottawa Oct. 9-12.



Archbishop Anne Germond

The Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario covers most of the territory of the political province plus part of western Quebec. It includes the dioceses of Algoma, Huron, Moosonee, Niagara, Ontario, Ottawa and Toronto. As metropolitan, Archbishop Germond will serve as president of the province's Synod and its House of Bishops, chair of its provincial council and bishop of the Diocese of Moosonee, while remaining bishop of the Diocese of Algoma.

Archbishop Germond is the third woman in the Anglican Communion to have the title "archbishop,"

and the second in Canada after Archbishop Melissa Skelton, who was made metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia and Yukon last May.

She said her first priority as metropolitan would be to call the people of the ecclesiastical province to ponder their identity as children of God, and the centrality of Christ in the church. "We're not a people who gather around the archbishop, or who gather around a priest—we gather around Christ, and we gather around Christ's gospel," she said. "I really want us to think about that, and what that looks like as a province, because Christ is our unity and I think that alone will draw us closer together as a people."

She said she also wanted to foster the growth of relationships among the dioceses in the province.

"I think there tends to be in our Church generally a lot of 'silos'... so I think as an ecclesiastical province we need to – and it's already happening – start to look beyond the geographical boundaries of our own dioceses and how we might be much more in relationship with each other."

Anglican Journal



ARTS FOR OUTREACH

Actors Thomas Craig and Arwen Humphreys, who play Inspector Brackenreid and his wife Margaret on the television show *Murdoch Mysteries*, join Maureen Jennings, author of the books on which the show is based, at an event hosted by St. Aidan, Toronto on Sept. 20. The evening, held at the Balmy Beach Club, celebrated the local arts and included readings and music. Proceeds went to the church's outreach programs. At left, the Rev. Lucy Reid, incumbent of St. Aidan's, welcomes the audience. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON



BLESSED

The Rev. Mary Florence Liew, honorary assistant at St. Peter, Scarborough, blesses horses from the Toronto Police Service Mounted Unit at the church's Blessing of the Animals service on Oct. 6, in addition to many cats and dogs. The horses made the trip from their stables at the Exhibition grounds in Toronto. PHOTO COURTESY OF ST. PETER'S



FOOD RAISER

For Harvest Sunday on Oct. 21, the parish of St. John, East Orangeville teamed up with Trillium United Church in Mono Mills to see who could raise the most food for the Orangeville Food Bank. St. John's held a joint service with Heather Hayes, the director of the food bank, as the guest preacher. More than 600 pounds of food was raised and loaded into the food bank's truck. Pictured after the service are members Trillium United Church (left) and St. John's. 'I think Trillium raised a little more than us but Orangeville Food Bank was the ultimate winner,' says Archdeacon Elizabeth Hardy, priest-in-charge of St. John's. PHOTO COURTESY OF ST. JOHN'S

Archbishop honoured at dinner

Continued from Page 4

presenting sponsor, AGF, and its chairman, Blake Goldring, ODT.

At the end of the evening, Archbishop Johnson thanked those in attendance. "I've been entirely honoured this evening," he said. "It's been my privilege to serve in the Diocese of Toronto for all of my ministry and to serve (as the Bishop of Toronto) since 2004. We stand on the shoulders of many people. This hasn't been created recently. This body is over 2,000 years old. There is no other organization in the Western

world that has done that."

In an interview afterwards, he said he was surprised, delighted and humbled by the tributes extended to him at the dinner. "Bishop Phil was a wonderful MC and I was honoured by the remarks of a friend and colleague for over 40 years. Judy Maddren is such a warm and thoughtful interviewer that you trust yourself to be led by her. It was almost as if we were having a private conversation that 500 people eavesdropped on!"

"Retiring from ministry in a diocese that I have served for over 40 years, and almost 27 years in senior diocesan office, is made so much easier knowing that it is in faithful, competent hands," he said. "We could not be better served under the strong leadership of Bishop Andrew Asbil, a wonderful and gifted College of Bishops, and the generosity of so many talented and committed staff and laity. It is Christ's Church and I have every confidence that it is in good hands."

Churches provide services in Spanish

Continued from Page 8

had before."

The churches also work tactfully with farm owners to determine how best they can help, and they connect the workers with local communities. "We've even had local people attend our Wednesday evening Spanish services," he said.

Not least, the program increases awareness of the large contribution the workers make to local

life. "They spend \$300,000 locally on food and other purchases," he said. As their numbers swell the local population, services improve. "Thanks to them, our area met the threshold to qualify for a nurse practitioner, which benefits everyone."

The workers send 80-90 per cent of their earnings home. "They're phenomenally dedicated. Many of

their kids have been able to become doctors, lawyers and engineers." They pay all relevant Canadian taxes and deductions, even premiums for unemployment insurance, which they will never collect.

Church outreach programs need not be confined to rural areas. In the urban setting, they can also help visiting workers employed in restaurants and hotels.

Prison ministry fulfilling: speakers

Continued from Page 8

with finding stable shelter, getting essential ID and obtaining work, which is greatly facilitated by working through the buffer of employment agencies. "Within three months, 74 per cent of our

ex-offenders – some in their 60s and 70s – are employed and living in stable housing, and their addictions are under control," Mr. Stephen said.

But the first stop after release is

Tim Hortons for coffee after years of the undrinkable prison brew. "Sometimes they can't even order their own coffee, so I always order everyone a double-double," he said.

Diana Swift

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LOOKING AHEAD

To submit items for Looking Ahead, email editor@toronto.anglican.ca. The deadline for the January issue is Nov. 30. Parishes can also promote their events on the diocese's website Calendar at www.toronto.anglican.ca.

Music & Worship

DEC. 1 - Carols and lullabies at the Healey Willan Singers annual Christmas concert, 8 p.m., with accompanist John Stephenson and conductor Ron Cheung, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, 151 Glenlake Ave., Toronto. Tickets available at the door (cash only), \$20 adults, \$15 students/seniors.

DEC. 9 - Sing and ring in the Christmas season with a fun-filled family concert featuring handbell ringers, band and choir, 3-4 p.m., St. John, York Mills, 19 Don Ridge Dr., Toronto. Audience participation, freewill offering for Anglican missions.

DEC. 13 - Service of Healing and Reconciliation, a simple worship of song, readings and a reflection of God's hope, for those experiencing loneliness, sadness and loss during the Christmas season, 3:30 p.m., St. Theodore of Canterbury, 111 Cactus Ave., Toronto.

DEC. 15 - The Mystery of Christmas at the Voices Chamber Choir annual Christmas concert, featuring Healey Willan's The Mystery of Bethlehem, 8 p.m., St. Martin-in-the-Fields, 151 Glenlake Ave., Toronto. Tickets available at the door (cash only), \$20 adults, \$15 students/seniors.

DEC. 16 - The Wonder of Christmas, a celebration and showcase of music, hosted by music director Robert Graham, 4 p.m., Holy Trinity, Guildwood, 85 Livingston Rd., Toronto.

DEC. 18 - Messy Church, 6-8 p.m., Holy Trinity, Guildwood, 85 Livingston Rd., Toronto.

Sales

DEC. 1 - Old Fashioned Christmas Bazaar with lunch room, home-made home décor and gift items, baked goods and more, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Church of the Ascension, 266 North St., Port Perry.

DEC. 1 - Christmas Kitchen, home baking, lunch, silent auction, Santa photos for kids and more, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., St. Timothy, 100 Old Orchard Grove, Toronto.

DEC. 8 - Christmas craft and bake sale and an open house art exhibit hosted by the Creative Space Resident Artist Group, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., St. Aidan, 70 Silver Birch Ave., Toronto.

PRAYER CYCLE

FOR DECEMBER

1. The Synod Office Staff of the Diocese of Toronto
2. St. James Cathedral
3. The Anglican Diocese of Toronto Foundation
4. All Saints, Markham
5. Christ Church, Stouffville
6. Christ Church, Woodbridge
7. St. Christopher, Toronto
8. Emmanuel, Richvale (Richmond Hill)
9. York Central Deanery
10. Grace Church, Markham
11. Holy Trinity, Thornhill
12. St. John the Baptist, Oak Ridges
13. St. Mary, Richmond Hill
14. St. Philip on-the-Hill, Unionville

15. Thanksgiving for the ministry of Archbishop Colin Johnson
16. North Peel Deanery
17. Christ Church, Bolton
18. Christ Church, Brampton
19. Holy Family, Heart Lake (Brampton)
20. St. James the Apostle, Brampton
21. St. James, Caledon East
22. St. Joseph of Nazareth, Bramalea
23. FaithWorks
24. St. Jude, Bramalea North
25. Christmas Day
26. All Saints, Collingwood
27. Christ Church-St. Jude, Ivy
28. St. George, Allandale
29. St. George, Utopia
30. The Members of the Order of the Diocese of Toronto
31. Archbishop Colin Johnson

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Workshops & Gatherings

DEC. 2 - Christopher Leadership Course, designed to enhance your leadership and communication skills, and your confidence, 3-6 p.m., Holy Trinity, Guildwood, 85 Livingston Rd., Toronto. Register by calling 416-410-7776 or 1-800-418-8925 or email cletorontoeast@gmail.com.

DEC. 9 - Community Carol Sing, 7:30 p.m., St. Dunstan of Canterbury, 56 Lawson Rd., Scarborough. There will be a free-will offering with all proceeds going to the Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities Food Bank. Refreshments following program. Call 416-283-1844.

DEC. 7-23 - The Christmas Story, a Toronto tradition since 1938 featuring professional musicians and a volunteer cast in this hour-long nativity pageant, Holy Trinity, Trinity Square, Toronto (behind the Eaton Centre). Suggested donation is \$25 for adults and \$5 for children. Evening and matinee performances. For times and reservations, visit www.thechristmasstory.ca or call 416-598-4521, ext. 301. American Sign Language interpretation is available at select performances.

IN MOTION

Appointments

- The Rev. Terry Bennett, Interim Priest-in-Charge, Trinity Church, Barrie, Oct. 1.
- The Rev. Douglas Woods, Pastoral Care Provider for retired clergy, spouses and widows in the Durham-Northumberland area, Oct. 1.
- The Rev. Canon James Woolley, Honorary Assistant, St. Chad, Toronto, Oct. 1.
- The Rev. Andrea Budgey, Priest-in-Charge, St. Theodore of Canterbury, Toronto, Oct. 1.
- The Rev. Chris Horne, Interim Priest-in-Charge, St. Andrew, Scarborough, Oct. 1.
- The Rev. Janet Sidey, Interim Priest-in-Charge, St. Luke, Dixie (Lakeview), Oct. 1.
- The Rev. Derek Stapleton, Interim Associate Priest, St. Andrew, Scarborough, Oct. 1.
- The Rev. Andrew MacDonald,

Associate Priest, St. James Cathedral, Oct. 29.

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

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

- St. Peter, Oshawa
- St. Andrew by-the-Lake, Toronto Islands (Half Time)
- St. James Cathedral

Second Phase - Parish Selection Committee (receiving names via Area Bishop):

- St. Thomas a Beckett, Erin Mills South
- St. John, Bowmanville

Third Phase - Parish Selection Committee Interviewing (no

longer receiving names):

- Trinity, Aurora
- St. Hugh and St. Edmund, Mississauga
- St. Andrew, Scarborough

Death

- Bishop Joachim Fricker, a suffragan bishop in the Diocese of Toronto from 1985 to 1993, died on Oct. 28 in Burlington, Ont. Bishop Fricker received his theological education at Huron College in London, Ont., and was ordained deacon and priest in the Diocese of Niagara in 1952. He served at St. Augustine of Canterbury, Hamilton (1952-59), St. David, Welland (1959-1965), St. James, Dundas (1965-1973), and as the Dean of Niagara and rector of Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton (1973-1985). His funeral was held on Nov. 5 at Christ's Church Cathedral, Hamilton



TEACHING THE FAITH

The Rev. Canon Jennifer Reid of St. Peter, Erindale plays with a youngster at the Fishing for Faith booth at the Parliament of World Religions in Toronto on Nov. 4. The booth let kids learn about Christianity using fish as a symbol. Local Anglicans staffed booths, led workshops and participated in other activities at the parliament, which was attended by thousands of people of faith from around the world. The theme of the conference was The Promise of Inclusion, the Power of Love. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON



Send your parish news and photos to editor@toronto.anglican.ca

The Anglican Diocese of
Toronto Foundation thanks

Archbishop Colin Johnson

for his grace-filled service to the
Diocese of Toronto as Priest and Bishop.

Well done, good and faithful servant
of Christ!

The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make his face shine on you
And be gracious to you;
The Lord turn his face toward you
And give you peace.

Numbers 6:23-26



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