

Priest helps homeless in tents

Event thanks internees' supporters



Refugees head upstairs to church

The Anglican

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New dean installed in joyful service

Former parishioners make trip downtown

BY STUART MANN

LONG after the service had ended and most of the congregation had headed next door to the reception, the Very Rev. Stephen Vail remained in the entranceway of St. James Cathedral, happily greeting friends and strangers alike.

It was a fitting place for Dean Vail to officially start his new duties as rector of St. James Cathedral and Dean of Toronto – rooted in the historic downtown church but just steps away from the hustle and bustle of Canada's largest city.

"In the service it says that we welcome all who come through the doors – I also want to welcome those who don't, and to reach out the arms of the cathedral to embrace the community," he said.

Dean Vail's service of installation on Sept. 8 was a joyful occasion, attended by family, friends, three

former deans, bishops, clergy and members of the cathedral and St. Bartholomew, Regent Park, where he is also the priest-in-charge.

Reflecting the love and admiration that many had for him, members of three of Dean Vail's former parishes – All Saints, Whitby, St. John the Evangelist, Port Hope and St. Bride, Clarkson – made the long trip downtown for the event, hugging him afterwards and having their pictures taken with him.

"I was really touched by that," he said. "All I've prayed for is to be a faithful parish priest and to try to touch people with God's love in some way, and that makes me feel like I guess I did my job."

The service began with the processional hymn "Tell Out, My Soul," sung with conviction by the roughly 600 clergy and laity in attendance. It was followed by a land acknowledgement and an



Indigenous welcome song, performed by the Rev. Leigh Kern, the diocese's Coordinator of Indigenous Ministries and Reconciliation Animator. Accompanied by a drum, Ms. Kern's voice carried through the cathedral, providing a stirring start to the nearly two-hour service.

The first reading, Isaiah 61:9-11, was read by Sarah McDonald, ODT, a member of the cathedral's parish selection committee, and the second reading, Titus 3:4-7, was read in Mandarin by Qiulei Lin, a young member of the cathedral's Mandarin Ministry. The gospel reading was Luke 1: 26-33.

The Rev. Geoffrey Sangwine, the incumbent of St. Peter and St. Simon the Apostle on Bloor Street in Toronto and a friend of Dean Vail's for 30 years, gave the homily. He described his friend as a faithful priest who "delights

Clockwise from top left: Dean Stephen Vail speaks to the congregation after his installation; clergy head to the cathedral before the service; applause for the new dean; greeting friends afterwards; bus brings members from All Saints, Whitby; the Rev. Geoffrey Sangwine gives the homily. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

in people of every walk of life." He praised Dean Vail's ability to "listen and to discern, to affirm and to question and to advise – all in a spirit of love and charity. We know his passion for the gospel and his efforts to seek God's presence in every situation. We know, too, his charm and his quick, wonderful and sometimes over-the-top sense of humour. Stephen, you are a person of many gifts, and what a blessing that is to your family, your friends and to the Church."

After the homily, Bishop Andrew

Asbil, the diocesan bishop, instituted and inducted Dean Vail as the rector of the cathedral, receiving a pledge from the members of the cathedral, representatives of St. Bartholomew's and all others present that they would share with Dean Vail in his ministry.

Bishop Asbil then installed Dean Vail as Dean of Toronto, asking all present, "People of the Diocese of Toronto, will you support Dean Stephen in this new ministry and

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Priest helps homeless in tents

Despite anger, experience 'life-giving'

BY STUART MANN

FOR the Rev. Canon Brad Smith, helping some homeless people in Peterborough this past summer has been a bruising experience, but it has also deepened his faith and his calling as a priest.

"I've been ordained almost a decade and a half now, and I've never felt more intensely connected to my vocation as I have this summer," he says. "The experience of going out and meeting the people and listening to their stories and connecting them with the supports they need has been life-giving for me."

When the weather turned warm last spring, some homeless people started sleeping in tents in the park across from St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough, where Canon Smith is the incumbent. The city asked them to leave, so he invited those who wanted to stay to camp on the church's front lawn.

A few people took him up on his offer and set up their tents on the church's property. The number of tents remained small until the



Tents on the lawn this summer at St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough. At right, the Rev. Canon Brad Smith. PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST, PETERBOROUGH

end of June, when an overnight shelter operated by the church, The Warming Room, had to close.

The Warming Room was the only "low-barrier" shelter in Peterborough, often used by people who could not function in the city-run shelters, explains Canon Smith. "We would take anybody. As long as you were reasonable, you would have a bed to stay in that night."

The shelter was located in another church in Peterborough and had to move because the building needed major upgrades. St. John's, which runs a drop-in in its own building, couldn't find another location in time, and the city eventually withdrew its permission for

the church to operate the shelter.

Not wanting to spend the night in the city-run shelters, many of The Warming Room's guests and others started sleeping in tents in local parks and on St. John's front lawn. At one point, there were 18 tents on the church's property; as of Sept. 4, the number had gone down to 11 (eight occupied and three used for storage).

Canon Smith says some residents in the neighbourhood are angry at the presence of the tents at the church. He has worked with the police to address noise and trespassing concerns and has created a Code of Conduct that the campers must adhere to.

"I've been out there every day for at least an hour talking to all the people and building relationships and explaining the basic ground rules for staying on the church property," he says. "They're all welcome here as long as we all act neighbourly towards each other."

In addition to using a patch of the church's lawn, the campers have access to the church's washrooms



emails, and there have been angry comments on the parish's Facebook page. We get calls all the time from people complaining about smells and needles and garbage, but when I go out there, I don't smell or see them. I think these things get made up because people simply don't want tents on the church's lawn."

He says some parishioners are upset by the tents, but the church has been supportive. "Helping vulnerable people in Peterborough has been part of the culture of St. John's for a long time, long before I got here," he says. "Those involved in the parish's community ministries understand that simply being nice to those in need isn't enough. They continue to work towards a more just society, which includes advocacy for housing as a human right and developing local shelter solutions for the most vulnerable of their neighbours."

He admits that he is "sticking his neck out" by allowing the tents on the property but says his faith compels him to act. "So much of the world now thinks of people as economic units, so if you're not a taxpayer and you're not contributing, you are worthless in our society and seen as an animal. Whereas, our baptismal vows call us to seek and serve Christ in all people and respect the dignity of all people."

He will continue to work with the campers to find jobs and housing. "Some may have to go back into the shelter system, but I'm hoping that by the time it gets really cold, I will have been able to connect them to the people they need to get appropriate accommodation and whatever other supports they need."

He says homeless people sleeping outside is the result of years of government cutbacks to services for vulnerable people. "This is the inevitable outcome of a society that doesn't support people when they need it. Nobody should be surprised that we have a tent city in Peterborough this summer."

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Clockwise from above: staff and some guests in the drop-in space at All Saints; the church's garden provides beauty and peace amidst the opioid crisis; the Rev. Dr. Alison Falby helps prepare the new welcome desk in the drop-in. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

Church improves building, programs for city's poorest

BY STUART MANN

WHEN the Rev. Dr. Alison Falby arrived at All Saints, Sherbourne Street nine months ago, the church was going through one of its hardest winters. The building's boiler was on its last legs, the number of homeless visitors was growing and the neighbourhood was in the midst of an opioid overdose epidemic.

"I felt like I was trying to put out fires while being pelted with snowballs," recalls Ms. Falby, the church's new priest-in-charge.

Located at the corner of Dundas and Sherbourne streets in downtown Toronto, All Saints runs a large drop-in that serves up to 300 people a day. The church also has a small but growing congregation that worships each Sunday.

If Ms. Falby carries any scars from that trial by fire last winter, she doesn't show it. On a warm day in late August, she cheerfully goes about her job, meeting with homeless people, staff, volunteers, building contractors and visitors. Between conversations, she oversees countless tasks to get the church ready for another year.

"My office is in total chaos, but I'm enjoying it," she quips.

Signs of new life and hope are everywhere at All Saints. Over the summer, the church repaired the floor of the nave, where the drop-in is held. It installed a new welcome desk and office space where staff can meet one-on-one with the shelter's guests. Smaller repairs and improvements have been made inside and outside the building as well.

"We're just trying to make things nicer," explains Ms. Falby. "Beauty is very important, especially if you don't have a lot of it in your life."

To keep up with the growing number of homeless and poor people in the neighbourhood, the drop-in now provides two meals a day – breakfast and lunch. It has more than 30 mats for those who need to sleep during the day. It also provides nursing care, counselling, games, two women's groups and a men's cooking club.

The church is in the centre of the opioid crisis in downtown Toronto and hands out harm reduction kits for safe drug use. An overdose prevention site is located across the street, and many of the users come to the church's drop-in.

"It's about saving people's lives, but it's also about helping people feel less alone," says Ms. Falby. "There have been a lot of deaths and people are constantly grieving. That's been the other role of the church here: providing a place for people to mourn their losses."

She would like to create a memorial board to opioid overdose victims, similar to the homeless memorial at Holy Trinity, Trinity Square, and have a monthly memorial service as well. The church held an "opioid walk" on Good Friday to bear witness to those who had died nearby.

She says the church's building, which has been described as an architectural gem and contains some of the most beautiful stained-glass windows in the city, plays an important role in giving comfort to those who live on the margins of society. "All Saints is very beautiful and peaceful. There are people who live in shelters who say this is the only place where they can find that. When you're homeless, life can be ugly a lot of the time. Beauty is a way to connect with God, and it can speak to us when words fail us."

The drop-in desperately needs volunteers, she says, especially for its two women's groups. No particular skills are required. "The greatest gift that you can give here is the gift of attention. To sit down and be with someone who is usually ignored is worth more than anything."

The drop-in isn't the only thing at All Saints that is growing; the Sunday congregation is too, up from 10 to about 25 on a Sunday, making it one of the fastest growing Anglican congregations in the city. One of the reasons for the growth is simple, she explains: people can now use the front door of the church; previously, they went through a side door that leads on to the parking lot. With the front door open, more people are inclined to come in off the street.

The congregation is made up of homeless people and those who have homes. The service is held in the chancel, starting at 11 a.m., and a lunch is held afterwards. In addition to worshipping, the congregation looks after a little garden on the property.

Ms. Falby says the inclusion of homeless people in the congregation is an important aspect of All Saints, one that she does not want to lose as the congregation grows. "I think it's probably the only Anglican congregation in Toronto where poor people genuinely feel at home. They have a lot to teach us. The joy of being here is that it tells us what matters. It's a real grounding centre, praying with members of the community."

For more information about All Saints and its programs, contact the Rev. Dr. Alison Falby at alison@allsaintstoronto.com.

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Autumn invites us to reflect



With the arrival of autumn comes the departure of the heat and humidity of summer. Short sleeves are changed out for sweaters. The days become shorter and the nights longer. Leaves turn to colour before letting go and falling to the ground. By its very nature, autumn invites us to fall too, into a time of reflection, remembering and looking back. It's a time of pulling things in, tugging things back, like drawing the harvest into the barn before the snow comes.

I always feel a little more sentimental in the fall; more hopeful and grateful, too, for the simplest of gifts and the myriad of blessings that I have received in the year. With the advent of fall comes the need to put summer away – storing the garden furniture, turning the garden, raking the leaves and putting things to rest.

For the Anglican Church of Canada, this was quite a summer. *A Tale of Two Cities*, written by Charles Dickens, opens with the familiar phrase: "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to

BISHOP'S DIARY

BY BISHOP ANDREW ASBIL

Heaven, we were all going direct the other way."

Dickens could very well have been describing General Synod 2019. There were moments of light and darkness, of having everything and not much at all. There were times when it seemed we were all going directly to heaven and when it appeared we were all going directly the other way. The headlines in the newspapers and the coverage in the media captured some of what happened. However, it seems to me it will take time to sift through the leaves of GS2019 a little longer to know what really took place there for those seven days in the summer of 2019.

There were times of great light and wisdom. We bade farewell and thank you to Archbishop Fred Hiltz, who served so faithfully. We welcomed Archbishop Linda Nicholls as our new Primate. We made great strides in supporting the self-determining Indigenous Church.

It was also a time for apology, by our Primate: "Tonight, I offer this apology for our cultural and spiritual arrogance toward all Indigenous Peoples – First Nations, Inuit and Métis – and the harm we inflicted on you."

It was a time for the elders who were

present to receive the apology: "This is an historic week in the life and future of our Church. We did it together! We are partners in change. It was our finest moment as a Church. As a fully recognized self-determining people within the Anglican Church of Canada, the Apology is timely in reinforcing that the Church is walking side-by-side with us as we continue our spiritual journey for healing."

It was a time of incredulity and despair for many on the floor of Synod following the vote on second reading of the marriage canon. It was a time of upset no matter which way you cast your vote. I must say, though, even in that most difficult moment there was grace. After the vote, when the evening session closed and as the room emptied, the Diocese of Toronto's delegates huddled together off to the side, in a collective group hug, to talk, weep and pray... and then I bought the first round! We were all hurting and yet we found solace together.

It was a time for apology again, this time by the House of Bishops following the vote on the second reading of the marriage canon: "We, members of the House of Bishops of the Anglican Church of Canada, see the pain and anguish inflicted on LGBTQ2S+ people, on members of the General Synod, across the Church, and in the world, as a result of the work and the vote on the matter of Canon 21, concerning marriage. We see your tears, we hear your cries, and we weep

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Primate:

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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 a large population of aboriginal peoples.

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A summer of joy and challenge



On their first day of school in September, our children were asked to share with the class how they had spent the summer. At the risk of doing that myself, I'd like to

share two highlights of the summer of 2019.

Firstly, I attended General Synod in July. Some parts of that Synod were filled with great joy. We elected a new Primate – the first woman to hold this office – and we are delighted that Archbishop Linda Nicholls, who served our diocese for most of her ordained ministry, will now be returning to Toronto, at least for part of the time. Please pray for Archbishop Linda as she takes on this ministry. She is a great gift to our Church.

We also had the joy of affirming various resolutions that will allow the emerging Indigenous Church to be more autonomous and self-governing. Among the changes, the National Indigenous Anglican Bishop assumes the title of Archbishop, and new efforts will be made by our Church to strengthen our commitment to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. After Synod adopted the various changes, the room erupted in "How Great Thou Art." It was a moment of joyful celebration, not only for our Indigenous siblings, but for our whole Church.

Of course, General Synod also brought moments of deep pain. The second reading on the proposed changes to Canon XXI (the marriage canon) narrowly failed to receive the required two-thirds support in the House of Bishops, though it passed easily in the other two houses. This was heartbreaking for many people on the floor of Synod and across the country, particularly for those of us in the LGBTQ2S+ community. Many are questioning whether

BISHOP'S OPINION

BY BISHOP KEVIN ROBERTSON



From left, Mohan Sharma, Archbishop Justin Welby and Bishop Kevin Robertson after their meeting at Lambeth Palace in July.

there is still room for us in the Anglican Church of Canada in light of the decision to leave the marriage canon unchanged. Our Church needs to acknowledge that many LGBTQ2S+ Anglicans are deeply hurt.

At the same time, I am proud of our own diocese. Bishop Asbil has said that same-sex marriages will continue to be celebrated according to the 2016 pastoral guidelines, and I'm aware that a number of parishes are in the process of requesting approval. Elsewhere in the Canadian Church, several dioceses have made the decision to move forward with same-sex marriage in accordance with the "local option" that was affirmed by General Synod. While some Anglicans have asked how a handful of bishops

could have thwarted the will of the vast majority of General Synod members, even here we may see some positive change, as these governance questions will be taken up by the Council of General Synod in the coming triennium. So, I pray that much good will come out of a difficult General Synod.

Secondly, within days of the conclusion of General Synod, my spouse and I accepted the Archbishop of Canterbury's invitation to be his guests at Lambeth Palace in London. While we were there, Mohan and I had a good and frank conversation with Archbishop Justin Welby about his decision to exclude same-sex spouses from next year's Lambeth Conference. We look forward to continuing that conversation with him between now and next summer.

One of the things that emerged from the decision to exclude same-sex spouses was an invitation for me to join an international consultation of "Anglican Bishops in Dialogue." The consultation brings together approximately 30 bishops from across the Communion. We met in Liverpool in June, and will meet again in Tanzania in February. I have deeply valued building new relationships with African bishops in particular, and I believe our work together is already bearing fruit for the unity of our Church.

I often hear that these ongoing conversations about sexuality and marriage are a distraction for us, and that the Church needs to just get on with the real business of mission and ministry. While I take the point, I believe that the inclusion and welcome of all God's people is the work of mission and ministry. It's at the core of our calling in Jesus Christ. Through times of joy and challenge, may we grow more deeply into our baptismal calling to be those who strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.



OFF TO SCHOOL

The Rev. Canon Kim Beard on Aug. 25 stands with recipients of St. Paul on-the-Hill, Pickering's annual scholarships for local Grade 12 students pursuing post-secondary education. From left are Stephanie Masson, Justin Travis, Brianna Tedesco and Sapphire Mendonca. Over the past 12 years, the church has given scholarships and bursaries to 40 local students and 13 students in Africa and Asia. PHOTO BY BILL BRADLEY

Giving of our first fruits should be our top priority

One statistic stands out for me more than any other when assessing the health of stewardship in a parish: the total number of donors who use a "first fruits" method to give to the mission and ministry of the parish. By first fruits, I mean pre-authorized giving, post-dated cheques or some form of regularized electronic giving through a third party like CanadaHelps or a local bank.

I believe that giving of one's first fruits is not only financially prudent but theologically sound. First Fruits Giving (FFG) is often presented to members of a congregation solely as a financial benefit to the church: it guarantees a stream of reliable revenue, supports ministry in our absence, helps the stewardship team plan for future expenses and provides peace of mind to the churchwardens and clergy. Rarely do our conversations about FFG focus on the theology of giving, but they should. Giving a planned and prayed-for gift is good theology.

In ancient Israel, the practice of consecrating first fruits to the Lord sprang up naturally among agricultural people from the belief that the first and hence best of the harvest should be offered to God in thanksgiving for all the gifts received during the growing season. Today, the fruit of our labour most often comes in the form of money (though it can come in terms of time and talent as well) that we use to purchase those things that nurture and sustain us.

The concept of giving our first fruits illustrates giving to God from a grateful heart, and it sets a pattern of giving back to

THE STEWARD

BY PETER MISIASZEK

God the first – and best – of what God has given us. FFG inclines us to think about the needs of the church and its ministry before other priorities begin to compete for our time and resources. This might seem like a radical departure from the act of making a weekly offering on the collection plate, but it helps us realize that if we are to be truly intentional about giving, it must become a priority in our life. FFG ensures consistency, reliability and commitment.

In our diocese, there is a striking contrast between parishes where FFG is a priority and those where it is only marginally encouraged or avoided altogether. With few exceptions, parishes that boast an FFG rate of more than 40 per cent of participants experience a higher level of average annual giving per donor, enjoy above-average overall giving, avoid falling into deficit-budget scenarios and benefit from a degree of fiscal certainty. Of the 54 parishes that are growing in our diocese, more than 80 per cent have exceptional levels of participation in FFG.

Without doubt, FFG is the fastest and most effective way for any parish to increase its level of giving and overall financial health. The arithmetic is simple. Let's assume that your typical adherent attends church three times a month and each time donates \$20 via an offertory



envelope. This results in an annual gift of \$720. Employing the same assumptions, that same donor would give \$1,040 if they use an FFG method - giving \$20, 52 times a year. The result is a nearly 45 per cent increase in giving without any heavy-handed message about proportionate giving or the need to give more.

More and more, I am inclined to encourage clergy and parish leaders to look at their level of FFG as an indicator of parish health. First Fruits Giving isn't just about money; it's about commitment to the ministry of the parish. It tells me that congregants "get it," that they understand that discipleship means walking with and supporting the ministry of the church day in and day out – even when they are not present at worship.

I believe it is within our grasp to secure exceptional FFG participation across our diocese and beyond. Currently, only a handful of parishes (12, to be exact) have FFG greater than 60 per cent. All parishes should strive for this level of participation. Though it is a vehicle for giving that has been around for at least 20 years, FFG has only been promoted sporadically, such that even today less than 30 per cent of the total givers in our diocese use it.

Let us imagine how the benefits of FFG might impact our parishes and make a commitment to invite members to enter a giving relationship that strengthens our churches and helps us build up our important mission and ministry.

Peter Misiaszek is the diocese's director of Stewardship Development.

We have work to do

Continued from Page 4

with you. We have caused deep hurt. We are profoundly sorry."

What do I take with me from General Synod 2019? I take with me a deep sense of hope for a way forward on a great many issues, in particular on the issue of same-sex marriage. *The Word to the Church*, which General Synod overwhelmingly approved on July 12, holds before us affirmations of who we strive to be, Indigenous spiritual self-determination, diverse understandings of the existing canon, diverse understandings and teachings on marriage, our commitment to presume good faith and our commitment to stand together.

I take great hope in the statement from the House of Bishops: "We are walking together in a way which leaves room for individual dioceses and jurisdictions of our Church to proceed with same-sex marriage according to their contexts and convictions, sometimes described as 'local option.'"

Since 2016, our diocese has lived by pastoral guidelines allowing for the marriage of same-sex couples. These guidelines will continue to be in place. As I stated in my video

following General Synod, "If your parish feels called to offer marriage to same-sex couples, please follow, for now, the current guidelines, write to me, ask for permission, and I will grant it."

In the weeks to come, I will be consulting with colleagues in the House of Bishops, clergy and lay leaders in our diocese and working closely with the College of Bishops to develop a more clearly defined understanding of what we mean by "local option."

In the meantime, we have work to do reconciling with our Indigenous siblings. We have work to do in reconciling with our LGBTQ2S+ community and family members, who through the legislative process of General Synod experienced pain beyond words in such a personal and public way. We have work to do to ensure that those of us who hold to the traditional teaching of marriage have a cherished place in the Church.

Hope comes in autumn. It's time to reflect, remember and look back. It's time to pull things in, to tug things back, like drawing the harvest into the barn before the snow comes.

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7:00PM **Public Lecture: "OUR HOPE IS IN CHRIST: RESPONDING TO DISASTERS, LOCAL & BEYOND"**
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God was with me then and is with me now

Ryan Ramsden is a churchwarden at Grace Church in Scarborough and a member of the diocese's Synod and General Synod. He is a member of the York-Scarborough Area Council and is a ministry leader at Church on Tap at Christ Church, Deer Park.

Last year, Grace Church wanted to try something new that engaged the south Scarborough community, so instead of our annual fall bazaar that took place in our church hall, I decided to plan an outdoor fall fair. Unfortunately, it was cold and rainy, and most things had to move indoors. Nevertheless, it was still a success. This year we are trying it again a month earlier, on Sept. 28. It will feature a barbecue, carnival food, live music, a bouncy castle, games, raffle, a wine and beer garden, and the blessing of animals. This event really interests and excites me because it has the potential to draw people in and gives us a great opportunity to engage with our community in a lively, fun way, and there is something for everyone.

At Church on Tap, we are about to celebrate our fifth anniversary of worshipping together at Christ Church, Deer Park. We offer a contemporary Anglican worship experience on the fourth Friday of each month, which brings together people from all walks of life and church backgrounds. Many unchurched, dechurched and those from other ecumenical backgrounds have found a home at Church on Tap. We are a diverse, loving, affirming, accepting community, about 70 per cent of which is LGBTQ. As a ministry leader, you can usually find me serving the beer and cider after the service; however, I also take part in monthly planning meetings, and as a prayer leader and communion minister. Being involved and attending Church on Tap has been one of the most spiritually and emotionally rewarding experiences for me.

I was born and raised in Scarborough and went to Centennial College and Ryerson University, graduating with a Bachelor of Commerce in Marketing Management with a minor in e-Business. While in college and university, I worked part-time at the Centennial College bookstore. When I graduated from Ryerson, I was hired full-time as



Ryan Ramsden

a textbook buyer for the bookstore, and after a year was promoted to store manager. After working in that position for a few years, I was offered a job at the Seneca College bookstore as its general merchandise buyer for their four bookstores. I have been working at Seneca now going on eight years. When I am not busy with work and church, I love travelling, cooking, gardening, sampling craft beers and wines and singing karaoke.

When I was six, my family moved from an apartment to a house in Scarborough. We were welcomed to the neighborhood by the Rev. Canon Dennis Dolloff, who was the incumbent of St. Giles, Scarborough, located just down the street. He invited our family to worship at St. Giles and invited me and my brother to Sunday School. Our grandmother was living with us at the time, and she encouraged us to attend. It was Dennis's warm welcome, his joyful and caring nature, crazy sense of humour, and the strong faith he upheld in the face of his disability, that kept me

going back every Sunday. St. Giles was also full of amazing people like him who helped form and shape me, especially my Sunday School teacher Grace Mills, head server Bill Waddell, Vacation Bible School teachers Lois Reid and Doug Whittemore, organist Silvia Slemestad, and the Rev. Helen Bradley, who came after Dennis. These people made me feel part of a loving, welcoming Christian community, and made me want to be more involved. As the years went on and I grew out of Sunday School and youth group, I became a reader, server, chalice bearer, head of the fundraising committee, representative to diocesan Synod, advisory board member, and a churchwarden at the young age of 25.

Our church and other churches in south Scarborough were seeing a decline in money, membership and buildings. With the guidance of Canon Dave Robinson and Bishop Patrick Yu, I took part in a visioning process as to what our future could look like in south Scar-

borough. This visioning group eventually became the South-Scarborough Amalgamation Committee. It was this process of amalgamating and working with members of my parish and the other three parishes that allowed me to really see the Holy Spirit at work. We sacrificed our comfort and traditions and church buildings to work together on the building up of the Kingdom and Church of the future in south Scarborough. This required a lot of faith and hope and allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us and take the wheel. The Rev. David Howells was instrumental in shepherding us through the amalgamation, and our current incumbent, the Rev. Graham McCaffrey, has been a blessing to work with in leading this parish and ministries in the direction God is calling us. I have been very blessed with the clergy leadership I have had over the years.

Five years from now I hope to have found someone to travel the world and enjoy life with. I also look forward to further opportunities for faith formation, spiritual growth, networking, experiencing new forms of worship, and involvement in new church ministries.

Different passages of scripture speak to me at different times in my life. Since General Synod this past July, the passage that has been speaking to me is Isaiah 43:1-3, which is what Synod's theme was based on: "I have called you by name." Overall, General Synod was a good Synod; however, when the motion to amend the marriage canon failed to pass in the House of Bishops, emotions flared up like high waves and flames. Many felt overwhelmed and consumed with pain and sorrow. In the days following the vote, I looked at this passage and it challenged me. But since returning from Vancouver, I have found that this passage brings me hope. It was challenging because in that moment on the floor of Synod I felt that the waters had overwhelmed me and the flames had consumed me. I had thought, "but He promised they wouldn't!" Later, I reflected: did they, though? The water has calmed and the fire has diminished. I am still here and I am still standing. God was with me then and is with me now. He has called me by name, and I am His. He sees me, He knows me, and He loves me. And that is what will get me through the waves and flames each and every day.



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Joy Kogawa at Holy Trinity, Trinity Square in Toronto. The first public meeting on redress for Japanese Canadians interned during the Second World War was held at the church, which will be the site of the Oct. 5 event. At left, Japanese Canadians march in Ottawa in 1988. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON AND JCCC ARCHIVES

a major voice on human rights issues. With considerable effect, throughout his life he encouraged the Co-operative Commonwealth Federation, the NDP and the Anglican Church to speak out in defence of the rights of Japanese Canadians. His involvement was the highlight of his legal career and contributed to his leadership in the work of securing for Canada the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms in 1982.

His main contribution (to the redress for Japanese Canadians) was in the 1940s, in the courts and in raising public awareness of the grave injustice of the wartime treatment of Japanese Canadians. He fought to get compensation for their losses. Redress was a big issue for him. Our family was very aware of the warm relations he had with Japanese Canadian leaders and the community generally. Many came to our home and sat around our living room and dinner table discussing strategy. Many older Japanese Canadians attended his memorial service in Toronto in 1983. I was later a campaign worker for my father, and a candidate in my own right in provincial and federal elections. Especially the older Japanese Canadians were excited to meet me because of my father's role and for his support of the cause from the outset. He joined in with a gladsome heart, angry at what was occurring, honoured to be able to help and glad of the friends he made.



Andrew Brewin

Church of Canada, including later representing the Church at the World Council of Churches General Assemblies at Evanston (1954) and New Delhi (1961). He became an NDP Member of Parliament from Toronto (1962 to 1979) and was

Event to thank those who stood with internees

Some Anglicans helped Japanese Canadians seek redress after the war

BY STUART MANN

AUTHOR and social justice activist Joy Kogawa is organizing an event at Holy Trinity, Trinity Square on Oct. 5 to express gratitude to the men and women who helped Japanese Canadians during their “times of trial” during and after the Second World War.

Ms. Kogawa, who was one of about 21,000 Japanese Canadians who were sent to internment camps during the war and forced to disperse across the country afterwards, says it is important to remember the people who supported them and fought for redress.

“I think it’s incumbent on people who have experienced victimization to remember that there are things for which to be grateful,” she says. “There is always somebody who will stand with you in the midst of whatever your community is going through. This celebration is to acknowledge that there were good people.”

Several of those people were Anglican, says Ms. Kogawa, including missionaries Grace Tucker and the Rev. Dr. Cyril Powles and MP Andrew Brewin, who spoke out in defence of Japanese Canadians during and after the war and fought to get compensation for their losses.

Holy Trinity, Trinity Square played an important role in helping Japanese Canadians seek redress in the post-war years, says Ms. Kogawa, who is a member of the church. A committee that included Dr. Powles, the Rev. Dan Heap, Alice Heap and the Rev. Michael Creal worked tirelessly for the cause, and the first public meeting on redress was held there.

The work of those at Holy Trinity and others across the country came to fruition in 1988 when Prime Minister Brian Mulroney apologized on behalf of the Cana-

dian government for the wrongs it committed against Japanese Canadians during wartime. The apology came with symbolic redress payments to individuals and to community funds.

Ms. Kogawa says she isn’t bitter about what happened to her and other Japanese Canadians during and after the war. “We got dispossessed and dispersed and our community was destroyed, but out of that there is still gratitude for a good country that was able to acknowledge what it had done wrong. I’m so proud of this country for that.”

She says the event on Oct. 5 could be a model for other groups that have been and continue to be victimized. “If their hearts can look and see where there is a cause for thanksgiving, I think they can gain strength from gratitude.”

The event on Oct. 5 is called “Remembering Redress by Those Who Were There.” Former NDP leader Ed Broadbent will be the keynote speaker. Shin Imai, a human rights lawyer and the son of an Anglican cleric who served Japanese Canadian Anglicans worshipping at Holy Trinity in the 1950s, will be the master of ceremonies. Former MP John Brewin, son of the late Andrew Brewin, will speak, as will Justice Maryka Omatsu, co-chair of the B.C. Redress Steering Committee, and Ms. Kogawa.

The event will include a potluck supper, live music and a selection of books by Japanese Canadian authors for sale. The event is from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. (doors open at 5 p.m.). All are invited. The church is located at 19 Trinity Square, Toronto, near the Eaton Centre.

To register for the Oct. 5 event, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/remembering-redress-by-those-who-were-there-tickets-68420977987>.

One who helped

Former MP John Brewin of Toronto writes about his father, Andrew Brewin:

MY father, Andrew Brewin, was counsel to the Cooperative Committee on Japanese Canadians. His involvement began shortly after the official removals started to take place in 1942 and through the immediate post-war years. He was lead counsel in the committee’s case before the Privy Council, at that point the final appeal court for judicial decisions in Canada. He was also one of the main spokespersons for the committee in negotiations with the federal government that had initiated the forced removals from the homes and property of Japanese Canadians on the West Coast, their incarceration in camps in the B.C. interior and the threatened deportations after the war.

Mr. Brewin was a leading Anglican at the time, active in the national councils of the Anglican

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Neighbours pitch in when shelves go bare

Supplies, pledges pour in for church's food bank

BY JENNI FEHELEY

IT was Sunday afternoon and the Beeton Cupboard at St. Michael and All Angels, Toronto, was bare. The cupboard, named after Elizabeth Beeton, who died of liver cancer many years ago, has been serving the hungry for 40 years. But now there was a problem: the demand for food was increasing and there were not enough donors to provide more supplies. The food bank, which had been maintained and stocked by St. Michael's parishioners through the years, was at a crossroads.

So we did the obvious thing: we asked our neighbours to help us feed our neighbours.

St. Michael and All Angels, located in the bustling community of St. Clair Avenue West and Wychwood Avenue, is seated in the heart of a neighbourhood that celebrates a rich and diverse group of ethnicities, religions, ages and financial situations. This is where the magic came into play. Within 48 hours of a post to the community social media page, the Beeton Cupboard's barren shelves were heaving with food. More than that, we had more than \$1,000 in pledges and a freezer on the way.

"We had no idea there was a food bank at the church!" "How can we help?" "Where can we send financial donations?" "Can you meet me at the church this evening for a donation drop?" These were some of more than 100 comments on the page within hours of its posting. Julian Back, the page's host, made sure it was the first thing people saw when they checked to find out what was happening in the neighbourhood.

Media outlets called as well, including CBC Radio, which did a segment on its Fresh Air program.

The Jewish congregation that meets every second Saturday at St. Michael's got in contact. Mitzvah, the art of giving, is a Jewish practice. Suddenly, our ministry became their ministry: we are doing ministry together, thanks be to God.

Sometimes it is easy to think about the many ways we can serve our community; that week, St. Michael and All Angels learned how ministry can be so much better when we admit our limitations and ask the community for help.

Jenni Feheley is the Lay Pastor Associate at St. Michael and All Angels, Toronto.



Bishop Riscylla Shaw and the Rev. Canon Dr. David Neelands (centre) stand with some of those who have served as chaplains at Sibbald Point Provincial Park over the years. PHOTO SUBMITTED BY THE PARISH OF GEORGINA

Service marks 40 years of chaplaincy to park

BY THE REV. NANCY GLOVER

THE Parish of Georgina welcomed Bishop Riscylla Shaw to a service of Evening Prayer on July 7 to celebrate 40 years of outreach ministry in Sibbald Point Provincial Park and the surrounding area. As a former chaplain to the park, Bishop Shaw was a natural choice to be the preacher and special guest. The Rev. Canon Dr. David Neelands and the Rev. Robin Peasgood presided at the service. Former park chaplains read the scripture and Susan Greco, a former parishioner, chaplain, and advocate of the outreach ministry, was the intercessor. The musicians were organist Larry Baguley and trumpeter Andrew Colman.

Following the service, the parish

welcomed former park chaplains, former incumbents, guests and parishioners to a barbecue on the waterfront in the provincial park, just a short walk from St. George's. The church is built on property adjacent to the park, which is located on the south shore of Lake Simcoe.

In 1957, Sibbald Point Provincial Park opened to the public, bringing crowds of visitors to St. George's every weekend. To accommodate the growing summer congregation, the church instituted a 9:30 a.m. Sunday service the following summer; in August 1959, they became "Campers' Services." Young parishioners distributed flyers in the park, announcing the services and indicating that comfortable clothing was welcomed, and ladies were not required to wear hats. The average attendance was 80 persons, the largest service attracting 185 people. The last official "Campers' Service" occurred in July 1979. A Sunday Morning Prayer service in summer continued until 1990.

In 1978, the Rev. Charles Edwards and Dr. Betty Graham inaugurated the church's summer chaplaincy program to the park and surrounding area. Since then, 38 people have served as chaplains. They have been lodged in trailers (at campsites in the park and now in the church's parking lot), the park's lodge and parishioners' homes. In the early days, the chaplain's responsibilities were focused on programming within the park and at the church, as well as assisting with

Sunday services. Programming included family softball games and other sports, campfire sing-alongs, nature walks and crafts. The 10-week contract expanded to include ministry within the Town of Sutton, including Vacation Bible School, worship services at River Glen Haven Nursing Home, and home visits to shut-ins.

Today's chaplaincy is a ministry of presence focused primarily at St. George's, where thousands of visitors drop by to view the church and cemetery. People come from all walks of life and from throughout the world. It is not unusual for St. George's to have more than 6,000 visitors during the summer months. The chaplain is available to answer questions, listen to people and pray with them if desired. The chaplain may conduct weekday morning prayer and mid week compline services, which are open to both the public and parishioners.

Recent chaplains were involved in weekly Bible studies, Tuesday evening ecumenical community dinners, monthly nursing home services, and two services each Sunday. Many of our chaplains have continued to develop their ministry, leading to ordination.

The Parish of Georgina has been assisted considerably by grants from the Diocese of Toronto, without which this ministry could not continue. We are truly grateful.

The Rev. Nancy Glover is a deacon in the Parish of Georgina.



NEW LOOK

To celebrate its commitment to inclusivity, Church of the Ascension, Port Perry, recently painted a bench on its property in the colours of the LGBTQ pride flag. Above are before and after pictures of the bench, which sits on the church's front lawn. A few keen parishioners bought the paint and the Rev. Philip Gearing, assistant curate, did the sanding and painting. The church took the initiative after the municipality installed a rainbow-coloured bench in a local park. 'It is exciting for the church to find ways to connect with the local community, especially when those ways reflect our gospel values of love, acceptance and welcoming,' said the Rev. Ruthanne Ward, incumbent. PHOTOS BY CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, PORT PERRY

Church hosts Creation events

THIS year, Redeemer, Bloor St.'s Season of Creation begins on Oct. 6 at 7 p.m. with a service of music, sacred and secular readings and prayer. Bishop Andrew Asbil will be the guest preacher. On Oct. 16 at 7 p.m., parishioner Paul Pynkoski will lead a discussion on "Woods, Landscape, and City: The Prophetic Spirituality of Thomas Merton." On Oct. 20 at 10:45 a.m., the Church School and

youth will host an event for all ages to experience birds of prey. On Oct. 23 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m., the church will screen the award-winning documentary *Riverblue*, which portrays the global fashion industry's impact on the planet. Parishioner Lynda Young will lead a discussion on the implications of fashion consumerism. For more information, visit www.theredeemer.ca.

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Journey to church goes through shelter

Refugees go 'upstairs' for worship, fellowship

BY LARRY KROTZ

OLATUBOSUN (Ola) Olanipekun and Lewis Ngwamba Kabonde each arrived at St. Peter and St. Simon the Apostle, Toronto, via the side door. That is, their introduction to our congregation was through being residents of the 65-bed homeless shelter that occupies a portion of the church's basement. They each emerged on a Sunday morning to join in worship and then remained for the fellowship of coffee hour.

As much as 40 per cent of the homeless shelters in Toronto are occupied by refugees, and Ola and Lewis fit that profile. Ola, who grew up in Nigeria, arrived on a chilly night in October 2017. At the pro-



Olatubosun Olanipekun (left) and Lewis Ngwamba Kabonde

cessing station, he was offered a place to sleep at a shelter, but one look at it made him apprehensive and he said he would rather stay on the street. After a couple of phone calls, he was directed to St. Simon's shelter, where he lived for the next two and a half months. He eventually found employment at a food company, preparing meals to be sent across the city.

Lewis was born in Kinshasa, the capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo. An artist and sportsman, he studied design and played football.



After joining one of his brothers in the U.S. and coaching soccer at a school in North Carolina, he decided that Canada was where his future lay. In August 2018, he arrived at Pearson airport and applied for refugee status. The Red Cross processed him and sent him to an Ontario Service Centre, where officials picked up the phone and located a bed – at St. Simon's shelter.

The crowded confines and mix of residents at the shelter were "a shock," Lewis confesses, but he had few options. Come Sunday, when

his fellow residents saw him put on a clean shirt and shine his shoes, they asked him where he was going. "Upstairs," he answered, "to where you can hear organ music." Three other young men – all refugees from Nigeria, Uganda and Mexico – joined him.

Lewis attended Roman Catholic schools in the Congo but claims to be non-denominational and just "happy in any church where Jesus is king." It is a similar story for Ola, who attended an Anglican school in Nigeria. Once in Toronto and settled in the shelter, he says, "I was looking for a church, and then realized there was one right above my head."

That, of course, was not the end of it. Less than a year later, Ola – now with his own apartment in the west end – continues to come back to St. Peter and St. Simon every Sunday, where he helps with the Sunday School. "The kids help me Canadianize my accent," he says with a smile. His real reason for pitching in: "This is family. I want to give back. I'm happy I found this place."

Lewis, who also no longer lives

in the shelter, now nevertheless finds himself at the church pretty much every day. In April, just after he obtained his Canadian work permit, he was hired as St. Peter and St. Simon's verger. The verger, of course, is a traditional role within an Anglican Church, working "for the order and upkeep of a house of worship, including the care of the church buildings, its furnishings and sacred relics, preparations for liturgy, conduct of the laity, and grave-digging responsibilities."

Lewis hasn't had to dig any graves yet, but he opens the church on Sunday mornings as well as frequently through the week, oversees that everything is clean and ready for events, and attends to a hundred and one other chores.

They say God works in mysterious ways. The journeys of Ola and Lewis to find St. Peter and St. Simon – and us them – have surely been in that category of happy marvels.

Larry Krotz is a member of St. Peter and St. Simon the Apostle, Toronto.

Church celebrates 40th anniversary

FORTY years ago, in 1979, the Church of St. Michael the Archangel in Toronto began its life as the Mission of Chartwell-Milliken, under the leadership of the Rev. Rob Payton. He began with a rectory and a mandate to build an Anglican congregation north of Finch Avenue. It was clear from the outset that the recreation room of the rectory would be too small, so he arranged to use the music room at St. Marguerite Bourgeois Separate School for the inaugural service on March 4, 1979. It was attended by 14 people.

The congregation grew quickly, and soon it had to move to the larger science room, then to the stage area and, finally, to the gymnasium. This growth in numbers continued, bringing the congregation closer each year to realizing its dream of building a permanent home. A name for the new church was discussed and "St. Michael the Archangel" was agreed upon, after Coventry Cathedral, a church with a history based on hope, reconciliation and community.



Parishioners sing during karaoke night.

During the week of July 22-28 this past summer, the church celebrated its 40th anniversary by inviting past members to come home and join the congregation for several events. There was a karaoke night, filling the church hall with a large crowd consisting of young and old, singing their hearts out and applauding the efforts of the brave souls who went to the mike. Then, on the following weekend, the church had a well-attended picnic at Morningside Park. Youth enjoyed potato sack races, a tug of war and various other activities, while their elders cheered them on and swapped stories of days gone by.

Finally, parishioners and returnees filled the church to capacity for the reunion service. The Rev. Rob Payton returned to preach and reminisce about the founding of the church and the current incumbent, the Rev. Canon Richard Tanner, spoke of more recent days and the church's dreams for the future. The "junior choir" sang once again, as it did 20 years ago under the leadership of the beloved Mrs. Batson, while her son, Curtis, accompanied it on the piano. Stories were shared by representatives of the congregation. There was much laughter and a few tears as people looked back over four decades of parish life.

The church is grateful to the reunion committee members, Julene Goring, Cynthia Bovell and Eulalie Walling-Sampson, who did all the hard work, planning, organizing and drawing together so many people for a series of events that will be remembered for years to come.

Submitted by St. Michael the Archangel, Toronto.



The Rev. Canon Judy Herron-Graham, incumbent of St. George Memorial (left) blesses prayer shawls at the anniversary service with the Rev. Pamela Lucas, the Anglican chaplain at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

Prayer shawls provide comfort

BY DEBORAH ZIMMERMAN

ST. George Memorial, Oshawa celebrated the second anniversary of its prayer shawl ministry with a special service on May 26. The Rev. Canon Judy Herron-Graham, incumbent, blessed many beautiful prayer shawls, and the Rev. Pamela Lucas, the Anglican chaplain at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto, was the guest preacher.

Since its inception in 2017, the church's prayer shawl ministry has grown significantly. About 200 shawls have been created, blessed, and distributed to anyone who might benefit, including recipients as far away as the Channel Islands,

Sri Lanka, Baffin Island and British Columbia – as well as many parishioners and friends. In addition, the church has presented a shawl or blanket to each baptismal candidate and young person leaving home for further education. Recipients have told heart-warming stories of their appreciation. A cancer patient kept his shawl with him at home, used it often to keep warm, took it with him to treatments and appointments, and had it with him as his life ended; it helped him feel closer to God.

The shawls are created by skilled crafters at the church. Each shawl is unique in shape, size and colour. A parishioner gift-wraps each

shawl to make it even more special. Parishioners distribute each gift personally, accompanied by prayer and the assurance that St. George's prays for each recipient.

Responding to a need to comfort trauma patients at St. Michael's Hospital, the crafters have reached out (with the help of Knitters and Knatters of Newcastle, Ont.) with blessed prayer blankets and knitted teddy bears for Ms. Lucas to distribute. In her sermon, she testified to the immense appreciation of the hospital patients.

Deborah Zimmerman heads St. George Memorial's prayer shawl ministry.

LOOKING AHEAD

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

Music & Worship

SEPT. 29 - Bach Vespers, 7 p.m., Church of the Redeemer, Bloor Street and Avenue Road, Toronto.

OCT. 5 - As part of its 150th anniversary celebrations, St. Thomas, Brooklin is presenting a Harvest Concert at 7 p.m. featuring well-known tenor John McDermott. Tickets are available through the church office, 905-655-3883.

OCT. 6 - Season of Creation launch service, 7 p.m., Church of the Redeemer, 162 Bloor St., Toronto. Bishop Andrew Asbil will preach on the theme "How Shall We Then Live?"

OCT. 6 - Blessing of the Animals Service, 4 p.m., Holy Trinity, Guildwood, 85 Livingston Rd., Toronto. Please bring your pet on a leash or in a carrier. All are welcome.

OCT. 9 - DEC. 18 - Organix Kingsway Organ Recital Series, 12:30-1:15 p.m., All Saints, Kingsway, 2850 Bloor St. W., Etobicoke. Recitals Oct. 9 & 23, Nov. 6 & 20; Dec. 4 & 18. Admission is free but a free-will offering will be accepted.

OCT. 23 - Messy Church, 6-8 p.m., Holy Trinity, Guildwood, 85 Livingston Rd., Toronto.

OCT. 27 - Jazz Vespers, 4 p.m., St. Philip, Etobicoke, 31 St. Phillip's Rd., Toronto. An hour of music with Jorge Lopez and the Mariachi Mexico Amigo band.

Sales

OCT. 19 - Fall rummage sale featuring household items, clothing, linens, books and toys, 8:30 a.m. to noon at Grace Church, 19 Parkway Ave., Markham.

OCT. 26 - Warm clothing sale, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., Holy Trinity, 140 Brooke St., Thornhill. Large selection of warm clothing for men, women and children. Other items will include linens, shoes, boots and accessories.

NOV. 2 - Christmas Bazaar, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Matthew the Apostle, Oriole, 80 George Henry Blvd., Toronto. Tables include jewelry, baking, giftware, preserves, bottles, raffle, games and more.

NOV. 2 - St. Nicholas' Christmas Bazaar, 12-3 p.m. at 1512 Kingston Rd., Toronto. Crafts, baked goods, meat pies, candies, preserves, books, attic treasures, jewelry, lunch and more.

NOV. 2 - Poinsettia Bazaar, knitting, baking, attic treasures and more, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Matthew, 135 Wilson Rd. S., Oshawa.

NOV. 9 - Bazaar, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., featuring bake table, cafe, gift gallery, knitting, collectables, jewellery, books and more, St. Joseph of Nazareth, 290 Balmoral Dr., Brampton.

NOV. 9 - Christmas bazaar featuring antiques, baking, knitting, sewing,



GOING STRONG

Members of the Toronto Diocesan Choir School for Girls gather for a photo after singing at St. James Cathedral on Aug. 18. This year marks the 45th anniversary of the school, which is held for two weeks in August in Whitby. The school is for girls aged eight to 18 and includes choral training, recreational activities and performances in churches in the diocese, including the cathedral. With the choristers are music director Tony Browning (left) program director Katy McIntyre, chaplain the Rev. Canon Philip Hobson and administrative director Mary Ridgely. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

lunch and more, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Grace Church, 19 Parkway Ave., Markham.

NOV. 16 - Sugar Plum Christmas Bazaar, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Margaret in-the-Pines, 4130 Lawrence Ave. E., Scarborough. Baked goods, crafts, collectibles, lunch and more.

NOV. 16 - Christmas Craft Show and Coffee House, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., St. Olave, Swansea, 360 Windermere Ave., Toronto.

NOV. 23 - Festival of Christmas, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Holy Trinity, 140 Brooke St., Thornhill. Begin your Christmas shopping early. A luncheon will be followed by a raffle draw.

NOV. 23 - Nutcracker Fair with silent auction, home-baked goods and preserves, vintage costume jewelry and clothing, crafts, breakfast BBQ and lunch, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Martin in-the-Fields, 151 Glenlake Ave., Toronto.

NOV. 23 - Annual Christmas Bazaar, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. James the Apostle, 3 Cathedral Rd., Brampton, featuring a lunch of homemade soups, sandwiches and dessert, a silent auction, an art sale, handmade jewelry, vendors with many different items for Christmas, and bake table.

NOV. 23 - Holly Berry Bazaar with handcrafted items, jewelry, home baked goods and more, plus Santa Claus with his helper, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Dunstan of Canterbury Anglican, 56 Lawson Rd., Scarborough.

NOV. 23 - Christmas bazaar featuring home baking, shortbread and fudge booths, gourmet jams and jellies, Christmas decorations, booths of artwork and more, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Andrew, 2333 Victoria Park Ave., Scarborough.

NOV. 30 - Christmas Market, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., St. Peter and St. Simon,

525 Bloor St. E., Toronto. Crafts, baking, café, children's area, music.

Workshops & Gatherings

SEPT. 25 - NOV. 20 - Explore faith with Bishop Jenny Andison in the Alpha program, dinner included, on Wednesdays, 6-8:30 p.m., at St. Matthew, Islington, 3962 Bloor St. W., Etobicoke. RSVP to 416-231-4014 or email seth.enriquez@saintmatts.ca.

SEPT. 28 - Fall fair with games and fun for all ages, live music, food, drink, barbecue and a Blessing of Animals, Grace Church, 700 Kennedy Rd., Scarborough. Vendors wanted. Contact Valerie at 416-755-5316.

SEPT. 28 - Liturgy Canada presents "God Sends Us in Mission," the fifth event in its Renewing Liturgy series, at All Saints Lutheran Anglican Church in Guelph. This conference will help to restore the Sending as an essential act in the Eucharistic celebration. The cost is \$35 per person (\$25 for students), with a rate of \$125 for a team of up to five people. To learn more, visit www.liturgy.ca.

SEPT. 28 - Lay Anointers Refresher Day, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., St. James, 58 Peter St. N., Orillia. This is an opportunity for continued learning, worship and to come together with other anointers - a mix of speakers, worship, fellowship time and workshops. Registration closes Sept. 23. Cost \$30 at the door includes light breakfast and refreshments throughout the day. Bring your own lunch. For more information, contact the Rev. Jo-Anne Billinger at j.billinger@rogers.com.

SEPT. 28 - Light on the Hill's Festival of Creation, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., St.

John the Baptist, Oak Ridges. Artists of all varieties invited. Use the 175-year-old church, five-acre historical site, cemetery, community garden as a backdrop or inspiration for your work. Contact Elaine Daviou at 416-450-7460 or Tammy Friesen at 647-286-8026 for more information or to reserve a spot.

SEPT. 29 - Choral Evensong for Michaelmas at 4 p.m., with the choir of St. Peter, Erindale, followed by Peach Tea, during which the choir's director, Clement Carelse, will discuss the life of Sir David Willcocks (1919-2015), whom he knew while at King's College, Cambridge, at St. Olave, Bloor Street and Windermere Avenue, Toronto.

OCT. 5 - "Celebrating Those Who Stood with Japanese Canadians," 5-9 p.m., Holy Trinity, Trinity Square, Toronto. Ed Broadbent will be the main speaker at a potluck event where many redress rallies and actions were initiated during the 1980s as the call for redress was underway. Other speakers include former MP John Brewin, who will speak of his father Andrew Brewin. For more information, contact Joy Kogawa, jkogawa@rogers.com.

OCT. 5 - "Grace in the Moment: Reflections upon grief, faith and pastoral care." Lay pastoral visitors are invited to attend this workshop with the Rev. Max Woolaver, exploring the intersection of grief, faith and ministry. To register, contact the Rev. Joanne Davies, joanne.davies@sunnybrook.ca.

OCT. 18 - Evening Prayer at 6 p.m., followed by light supper and an illustrated talk on India by Debbie Cowling, including slides of the Taj Mahal, Delhi, Mumbai, Jaipur, a tiger safari and Goa's beaches and churches, at St. Olave, Bloor Street

and Windermere Avenue, Toronto.

OCT. 18-19 - Riverdale Art Show and Sale at St. Barnabas, 361 Danforth Ave., Toronto. More than 22 local artists with over 200 original art pieces. Opening night with reception is on Oct. 18 from 6-9 p.m. Continues Oct. 19th, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

OCT. 19 - Girls Night Out at St. Dunstan of Canterbury, 56 Lawson Rd., Scarborough. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are \$50. Dinner, live and silent auctions, and entertainment. Proceeds split 50/50 with UOIT Cardiovascular Research. Advance ticket sales only through church office, 416-283-1844. VISA accepted.

OCT. 27 - Choral Evensong for St. Simon and St. Jude at 4:30 p.m., followed by Pumpkin High Tea, during which St. James Cathedral's music director, Robert Busiakiewicz, will discuss his life in music as composer, conductor and tenor, including his early years in Vienna, Stratford, London and at King's College, Cambridge, at St. Olave, Bloor Street and Windermere Avenue, Toronto.

OCT. 27 - Swing Shift Big Band Concert - Memories of Yester' Year, 3-5 p.m., Church of the Ascension, 33 Overland Dr., Toronto. Tickets \$35, with proceeds going to the roof replacement fund. Call 416-444-8881.

DEC. 6-22 - The Christmas Story, a Toronto tradition since 1938, featuring professional musicians and a volunteer cast presenting an hour-long nativity pageant, Holy Trinity, 19 Trinity Square, Toronto (on the west side of the Eaton Centre). Dates are Dec. 6-8, 13-15, 20-22. Suggested donation: \$25 adults; \$5 children. Visit www.thechristmasstory.ca to reserve or call 416-598-4521, ext. 301.

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SHOOTING VIGIL

From left, Teresa Johnson, Jane Smith, Linda Carol, the Rev. Jeanette Lewis and Helen Taylor of St. Barnabas, Chester take part in a vigil on Danforth Avenue in Toronto in July to commemorate the one-year anniversary of a mass shooting that left two dead and 13 injured. Bells were rung at the church during the vigil and members of the choir were part of an ecumenical choir that sang at two memorials. Part of the shooting spree last July took place outside of the church. PHOTO SUBMITTED BY ST. BARNABAS, CHESTER

- PRAYER CYCLE**
- FOR OCTOBER
1. St. George, Grafton
 2. St. John the Evangelist, Port Hope
 3. St. John, Bowmanville
 4. St. John, Harwood
 5. St. Mark, Port Hope
 6. Durham & Northumberland Deanery
 7. Habitat for Humanity
 8. St. Paul, Brighton
 9. St. Paul, Perrytown
 10. St. Peter, Cobourg
 11. St. Saviour, Orono
 12. The Chapel of St. George, Gore's Landing
 13. Foodbanks and food sharing ministries
 14. Farmers and food providers
 15. New Hope Anglican Mission
 16. Lay Pastoral Visitors and Lay Aointers
 17. Health-care chaplains

18. Diocesan Parish Nurses Network
19. Chaplain at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre & St John's Rehabilitation Hospital
20. Bishop's Committee on Healing
21. St. Andrew, Scarborough
22. Christ Church, Scarborough
23. St. Dunstan of Canterbury, Scarborough
24. Grace Church in Scarborough
25. Holy Trinity, Guildwood
26. St. John the Divine, Scarborough
27. The Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada - Bishop Michael Pryse
28. The Ecumenical and Interfaith Officers of the Diocese
29. Ecumenical Dialogues of the Anglican Church of Canada
30. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada - Bishop Susan Johnson, National Bishop
31. St. Jude, Wexford

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BRIEFLY

PWRDF accepting donations for Bahamas

In response to the devastation in the Bahamas from Hurricane Dorian, PWRDF is receiving donations and sending financial support to Episcopal Relief and Development of the Episcopal Church of the United States (ERD). ERD and its partners are working on a response as the Diocese of the Bahamas and the Turks and Caicos begins to evaluate and assess the needs of local communities in the diocese. Donations can be made online at pwrdf.org/give-today, then click on Emergency Response. Or mail your donation to PWRDF, 80 Hayden Street, 3rd floor, Toronto, M4Y 3G2, or call toll-free at 1-866-308-7973 (do not leave credit card information on a voice mail). You can also give on the go by texting PWRDF to 45678. A bulletin is also available for parish bulletin boards on the PWRDF's website, www.pwrdf.org.

Outreach conference explores resilience, hope

The diocese's annual Outreach & Advocacy Conference will be held on Oct. 19 at Havergal College in Toronto, with the theme "Grounded and Growing in Christ: Church as a centre of resistance and hope." Participants will explore how the Church can counter injustice with strategies of resilience and hope. The cost is \$30, or \$15 for students or the unemployed. Learn more and register at www.toronto.anglican.ca.

Dinner raises funds for West Indies

Bishop Andrew Asbil will be the guest speaker at this year's Bishops Basil Tonks and Arthur Brown Fundraising Dinner, held on Nov. 2 at St. Andrew, Scarborough, 2333 Victoria Park Ave., Toronto. The evening will begin with a Eucharist at 5 p.m. followed by the dinner at 6:30 p.m. The annual event, hosted by the Canadian Friends to West Indian Christians, raises funds for ministry in the Caribbean. For tickets, call Wilbur Anderson at 416-445-8664 or Elsa Jones at 416-654-7875.

Pre-Synod meetings in October

Each episcopal area will hold a pre-Synod meeting to prepare for the diocese's upcoming Regular Session of Synod. Pre-Synod meetings are for Synod members to engage in discussion and debate on items being brought before Synod for approval. The dates and locations are: Oct. 23,

- IN MOTION**
- Appointments**
- The Rev. Canon David Luxton, Honorary Assistant, St. Martin in-the-Fields, Toronto, July 23.
 - The Rt. Rev. Victoria Matthews, Honorary Assistant, St. Martin in-the-Fields, Toronto, July 23.
 - The Rev. Vinaya Dumpala, Community Minister, St. George Memorial, Oshawa and Priest-in-Charge of St. Peter, Oshawa, Aug. 1.
 - The Rev. Canon Kit Greaves, Incumbent, Christ Memorial, Oshawa, Aug. 1.
 - The Rev. Ruthanne Ward, Incumbent, Ascension, Port Perry, Aug. 1.
 - The Rev. Canon Jim Woolley, Bishop's Chaplain to the Retired Clergy for York-Credit Valley, Aug. 1.
 - The Rev. Simon Flint, Interim Priest-in-Charge, Trinity, Streetsville, Aug. 12.

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):

- Incarnation, Toronto
- St. Margaret in-the-Pines, Toronto
- Parish of Fenelon Falls
- Parish of Lakefield
- All Saints, Whitby
- Church of the Evangelists, New Tecumseth
- St. Paul, Newmarket
- Trinity, Streetsville

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

- Christ Church, Stouffville
- St. Christopher, Richmond Hill (Associate Priest)
- St. John, York Mills (Associate Priest)
- St. Martin, Bay Ridges

- The Rev. Jeff Stone, Incumbent, St. Jude, Bramalea North, Sept. 29 at 4 p.m.
 - The Rev. Jacqueline Daley, Priest-in-Charge, St. Margaret, New Toronto, Oct. 27 at 4 p.m.
- Conclusions**
- The Rev. Benjamin Phillips concluded his ministry at Trinity, Streetsville on Aug. 11 to take up a new ministry appointment in the Diocese of Carlisle, UK.
 - The Rev. Bill Yee-Ching Mok will conclude his ministry at St. Elizabeth, Mississauga on Dec. 25 to take up a new ministry appointment in the Diocese of New Westminster.
- Retirement**
- The Rev. Canon Beth Benson's last Sunday at St. Mary and St. Martha, Toronto will be Feb. 29, 2020.
- Death**
- The Rev. Vernon Duporte died on Aug. 20. Ordained deacon in 2015 and priest in 2016, he served as assistant curate at St. Andrew, Scarborough, and then associate priest moving to priest-in-charge at Our Saviour, Toronto. His funeral was held at St. Jude, Wexford on Aug. 31.

Area Bishop's Direct Appointment Process

- St. Hilda, Fairbank
- St. Mary and St. Martha, Toronto

Celebration of New Ministry Trent-Durham

- The Rev. Vinaya Dumpala, Priest-in-Charge, St. Peter, Oshawa, Oct. 6 at 4:30 p.m.

Vacant Incumbencies
Clergy from outside the diocese

York-Credit Valley

Visit our website at www.toronto.anglican.ca

Port Hope churches celebrate

Service marks 200 years of ministry

IN 1819, before the creation of the Diocese of Toronto, the Bishop of Quebec established the parish of St John the Evangelist in Port Hope. The first wooden church was opened in 1822 and the Rev Jonathan Shortt was appointed rector. With the rapid growth of the congregation, the members decided to build a larger brick church on the west side of the Ganaraska River, where the major population growth of Port Hope was occurring. It was completed in 1869 and continued to carry the name of St John's.

Over time, the wooden church fell into disuse. To save it from demolition, a group of parishioners from St John's asked the Bishop of Toronto if it could be reopened as a new parish. This was granted, and it was dedicated as St. Mark, Port Hope in 1873.

North of the downtown area of Port Hope is the village of Perrytown. As the community grew, the trip to Port Hope's downtown to attend services became too difficult. In 1842, a wooden church was built and opened as St Paul, Perrytown. It was replaced by a stone church in 1914.

The three churches celebrated 200 years of Anglican ministry in Port Hope on Sept. 8 at St. John the Evangelist. Bishop Andrew Asbil led the celebratory service, assisted by the clergy of the three parishes: the Rev. Jesse Parker, incumbent of St. John's, the Rev. Randy Murray, incumbent of St. Mark's, and the Rev. Margaret Tandy, priest-in-charge of St. Paul's. The choirs of the three churches led the combined congregation in song.

Joining the service were representatives of the three levels of government serving Port Hope: MP Kim Rudd, MPP David Paccini and Port Hope Mayor Bob Sanderson. Ms. Rudd read from a letter of congratulations from the Governor-General Julie Payette. In acknowledgement of the occasion, Bishop Asbil presented a certificate to the parish of St. John the Evangelist that expressed "sincere congratulations and prayers, rejoicing in your years of faithful



Clockwise from top: sharing the Peace during the service; children at play; Bishop Andrew and Mary Asbil receive anniversary sweatshirts from the Rev. Jesse Parker, incumbent; St. John the Evangelist, Port Hope. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

ministry in the worship of Almighty God and in love, witness and service in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. May God continue to richly bless you all."

Submitted by St. John the Evangelist, Port Hope.

New dean receives standing ovation

Continued from Page 1

work with him in our life together as a diocese?"

With one voice, they answered, "We will."

Bishop Asbil then escorted Dean Vail over to his stall, an ornate wooden chair in the chancel. As Dean Vail sat in it, the assembled clergy and laity gave him a standing ovation.

After communion and as the service was drawing to a close, Dean Vail stood on the chancel steps and thanked all those present, in particular the three former deans in attendance – the Very Rev. Duncan Abraham, the Very Rev. Douglas Stoute and Bishop Asbil – and the congregations of the cathedral and St. Bartholomew. He likened his new role to that of a midwife, helping the congregation "as we faithfully bear the love of Jesus out of these doors and into the world, that others might receive his grace and salvation into their own hands."

In an interview afterwards, Bishop Asbil said Dean Vail has all the gifts necessary to not only lead the cathedral but also to leave his mark as a leader in the diocese. "He has a deep ability to pay attention to the needs of not just the individual but the group as well. He has a compassionate heart and a real call in his soul to do justice."

Born in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, Dean Vail attended university in Halifax and Toronto, receiving his Master of Divinity from Wycliffe College in 1991. He served in two parishes in Nova Scotia before becoming the incumbent of St. Bride, Clarkson from 2001 to 2005, the incumbent of St. John the Evangelist, Port Hope from 2005 to 2013 and the incumbent of All Saints, Whitby from 2013 to 2019. He was the Archdeacon of Trent-Durham from 2016 to 2019. His interests include spending time with family and friends, reading, yoga, music, old buildings, antique Canadian furniture, puzzles, travel and theological conversation. He has two teenage children and his partner is Neil Walker.



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