



Photo by Janet Best

The Tiny Sapling How Charlie Brown and Linus saved Christmas



A Christmas Reflection from the Mission Standing Committee

PENNY RANKIN

Mrs Penny Rankin is Chair of the Standing Committee on Mission

There is a certain amount of irony in the fact that, for many of us, when reflecting on the Christmas Story, it is in the “still small voice” of Linus van Pelt – the “Peanuts” character created by Charles Schultz, that we best “hear” the message.

Since the Christmas of 1965, this gentle character has stood centre stage clutching his security blanket. With a quiet calm, Linus comforts the frustrated and despairing Charlie Brown by clearly reciting the King James Version of Luke’s account of Jesus’ birth, ending with “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men”. Turning to Charlie Brown, Linus says: “That’s what Christmas is all about.”

I suppose like many lessons - we all need to review, reflect,

respond- and repeat the process if we are to resist the urge to succumb to the glitz and glitter of what has become a commercialized season. Fifty three years of Charlie Brown and Christmas church attendance has not stemmed the assault on the Yuletide message to follow the Gospel and love and care for each other. How has this happened? How is it possible for such a miraculous narrative to be either lost or stolen? Who should we attribute blame to? The Grinch?

This past year I discovered something known as the Advent Conspiracy. It is a movement that seeks to “find and restore” Christmas...to have us think “outside the boxes of presents” and to consider being present to ourselves and others. The basic principles behind the conspiracy are just that- basic: We are to Worship Fully, Spend Less, Give More and Love All... Simple steps we can all take

that lead us not into the tangle of a Xmas frenzy, but rather to the stable... to discovering God’s presence within us- in other words what is and always has been the most generous of gifts: the stable gift of love...

The tiny sapling in the Charlie Brown story does not suddenly shoot up and become a Douglas Fir -it remains apparently fragile and bedraggled... and yet there is a transformation: because now we look upon it with love-recognizing its’ humble greatness in carrying the message.

Thank you to all who so loyally give of their time and talents to the numerous projects and initiatives that are an integral part of our ministry together. Keep it up!

www.adventconspiracy.org

A Ministry of Hope The new congregational development

NEIL MANCOR

The Rev Dr Neil Mancor is Coordinator of Congregational Development for the Diocese

As the Apostle Paul said in 2 Corinthians 5: we walk by faith, not by sight. How things look is not always indicative of how things are. Many empires have risen and fallen, massive corporations that once seemed enduring have gone. Politicians have their moment and then they go.

But the Church is different, for Christ is the head of the Church and has plans and purposes for the Church that have not changed, gone away or become redundant. And Jesus is not sitting up in heaven directing the angelic chorus or doing crossword puzzles. Jesus is completely focussed on reaching God’s world with good news and it is through the Church that he works.

I believe that the local church is the hope of the world. That is why I am so pleased to have been asked by Bishop Mary and Executive Archdeacon Robert Camara to do the work of congregational development in the Diocese of Montreal. It is a work I undertake filled with hope for our communities of faith.

The desire is to offer support to parishes to be the best expressions of the body of Christ they can be, each one in their own way.

Sometimes we might look at our parishes and feel hopeless: as fewer people seem interested in what we have to say, as finances seem to dwindle and that ephemeral quality of vision seems in short supply: what do we do now?

Our parishes have purpose, but sometimes we need a little help figuring out what that purpose is, what it means for us to live out the mission of God in our location in this time. And that is where congregational development work can help. My primary focus is the parish church. The desire is to offer support to parishes to be the best expressions of the body of

Christ they can be, each one in their own way. Vital, healthy, alive.

Our churches can be beacons of hope in our towns and cities, the place that people find acceptance and meaning for their lives. So many of our churches can share amazing stories of people who have been radically transformed by encountering a church that cared and showed them the love and power of Christ. The response to the indifference we face in our culture today is not to hide away but to shine more brightly. “You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden... let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:14-16

The response to the indifference we face in our culture today is not to hide away but to shine more brightly.

Congregational development is intended to be a resource to churches of all sizes, locations and conditions. We want to see parishes that grow into more healthy and effective communities of faith that are vital, focussed on their unique calling, responsive to the challenges and opportunities before them, sustainable or working towards sustainability in organisation, finance and ministry, missional and pursuing the mission of God. Above all: alive!

Congregational development is a ministry filled with hope. It is grounded on the truth that Christ is the head of Church and has plans and purposes for your church, your faith community, for all of us as a people. As we say every Sunday: Glory to God whose power working within us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, forever. Amen!

Bishop's Message - Advent 2018



Photo by Janet Best

What kind of welcome?

It is so dark at this time of the year and I am grateful for the decorative lights that brighten things up – especially outdoors. In a few weeks however, the days will start to be longer – just around the time that we celebrate Christmas – and the coming of the Jesus, The Light of the World.

But first, the Advent season tells the story of our expectation and hope for Christ's return. Christmas is the actual celebration of Jesus' birth but it is also the recounting of the mixed welcome that He received. I sometimes wonder just what kind of welcome I would be prepared to give and whether I would be watching and waiting.

This past summer, we visited the Diocese of Masasi, one of our partner dioceses. We were overwhelmed by their generous welcome. A whole crowd of people had gathered at the edge of a village and were watching and waiting for us. When they spotted our vehicle, they burst into joyful singing and dancing. A brass band played in the back of a pickup truck. As we processed to the church in the center of the village, people ran to join in. At the door of the church, there was more singing and dancing and waving of palm branches. This kind of welcome was repeated many times in many places over our twelve days there. Together, we worshipped and shared our love of Jesus, the Church's One Foundation. I was so grateful to take your gifts to encourage the mission and ministry in Masasi.

As we move toward Christmas, how are preparing to welcome and celebrate The Light of the World? How will we share it and with whom?

+ Mary



Building the Kingdom through Social Media

LEE-ANN MATTHEWS

Lee-Ann Matthews is MTL Youth Project Coordinator and Diocesan Web & Social Media Coordinator

I know that for some people the idea of using social media may seem overwhelming, unnecessary and/or burdensome.

I appreciate the daily tasks that require our attention and the unexpected emergencies that regularly crop up. There are many things that compete for our time and attention. In the church, our buildings require urgent maintenance, our congregants are aging and have profound pastoral needs, the list of to-do's can be staggering!

Why would we add social media as another item on the list? I would like to give you 3 reasons that will compel you to get on board or to increase your online activity:

1. Social Media is the fastest, easiest, best way to reach large numbers of people in ways that we could never do before. Each of us has at our fingertips the capacity to share our story, event, program or idea with full control and no cost. It is well documented that many parishes are experi-
2. Social Media is a wonderful medium to connect with those who are existing members of our communities. With our population aging, being shut in and infirm is a reality for many members of our churches. Social Media is an exceptional way to stay connected to those who most need it, the isolated and lonely. For those who are active in parish ministry and are able to participate in weekly worship, social platforms allow us to enhance our communication and to stay connected throughout the week and keep our relationships alive outside the walls of the church.
3. Social Media is a tool that allows us to connect in ways that can be meaningful, beautiful and inspira-

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LENTEN MISSION DAY



- Outreach
- Community Service
- Prayer, Listening and Presence

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2019



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Montreal PWRDF



A free ride in an ambulance to the Village Health Works clinic helped save Delphine Nikobamy's life.

New PWRDF Unit Project: Mother, Newborn & Child Health

ANN CUMYRN

Mrs Ann Cumyrn is Co-chair of the Anglican Chapter of PWRDF and Chair of both the Human Resources Standing Committee and the Anglican Montreal Board of Management.

There was lots of enthusiasm at the October meeting of PWRDF. Planning for this year's project, PWRDF's Mother, Newborn and Child Health (MNCH), is well under way. Our approach has two parts, one before Christmas and the other for the rest of the year.

A focus of the project is on good nutrition; if a family

does not eat then pregnancy and early childhood may be compromised. The first part of the project is quite tangible; all parishes should be able to participate. In areas of the world where animal products are costly and difficult to come by, PWRDF offers an opportunity to provide people with farm animals so that they can have their own milk and eggs and meat.

PWRDF's fall edition of the 'World of Gifts' contains a whole list of farm animals that can be 'bought'. The federal government will subsidise any amount given for farm animals by a multiple of 6. i.e. a gift \$10 becomes \$70! We are hoping

that between now and Christmas our communities will be able to raise funds for farm animals.

As to how to raise these funds, we have a suggestion for you! Consider the Advent calendar. For each day in Advent there is a window or a pocket containing a treasure to take out. If you google 'Advent calendar' you will find an amazing range of products and prices. For \$245 you can buy a calendar containing 24 bottles, each a different variety of Scotch. Some preparation for the spirit of Christmas!!

Our suggestion is a reverse Advent calendar. A reverse Advent calendar is one where,

mez led a workshop to show the work they do in reducing teen pregnancy rates in their area.

I now understand how important it is to educate children about sexuality as Cesar told how his life was threatened twice as a young person who came out as a homosexual. Children's acceptance of who they are from a young age and knowledge of issues like consent and protection helps create a safer world for them. This work would be difficult if not impossible if it were not for PWRDF support.

Other presenters provided important information as well.

- We heard from Canada Helps CEO about the importance of charities changing with the times in the age of "Go Fund Me".

- We learned about the new PWRDF website and logo, and each Diocese was given a USB key with resources and beautiful banners to promote the work of PWRDF.

- We learned about the Canadian Foodgrains Bank's campaign to encourage the Canadian Government to increase its funding of world food and development projects.

- We learned about the importance of Sexual Misconduct



Archbishop Fred Hiltz, past president of the PWRDF Board of Directors, at the PWRDF 60th Anniversary Banquet Sept 28, 2018.

PWRDF Conference a relevatory experience

LYNN OSBORNE

I was very honored to be asked to attend the PWRDF conference in September with our Diocesan Representative Roslyn Macgregor.

As a parish PWRDF rep for many years, I have long supported the work of the PWRDF, even though I am unable to attend many Diocesan meetings

(I live out in the Townships.)

Seeing the work of the Primate's Fund first-hand at the conference was inspiring and makes me realize that, as Anglicans, we must support the work of peace and development in Canada and the world.

I learned much from the partners who were in attendance from El Salvador. Brenda Rene Hubbard and Cesar Ga-

instead of 'getting', one gives. The calendar still has pockets, but instead of a gift, each pocket contains a small card. Before Advent begins the amount to be given each day is written on the cards. A jar is then placed beside the calendar.

On each day the card is removed and the pledged amount put in the jar. The funds thus raised could be sent to PWRDF specifying that it is for farm animals. Your Sunday School or young people might choose the animals to be bought!

The second part of our project begins in January. We are planning two major activities. One is a session at the Royal Victoria Hospital birthing centre. There we will learn what help is available to mothers giving birth here and compare this to the situations in the counties targeted by the MNCH project, (Tanzania, Rwanda, Mozambique and Burundi). The other activity is a walkathon and picnic in Angrignon Park on Saturday, May 11th. These two activities will be open to all. We hope that they will be well attended.

If you would like to help us in the planning of any of these activities, please join us at one of our monthly PWRDF meetings, which occur the 2nd Thursday of the month at noon in Fulford Hall. For more information, email myself (acumyn@sympatico.ca) or Ros Macgregor (Roslyn.macgregor@gmail.com).

Policies from Mary Wells of the Safe Church Commission of the Anglican Communion.

We opened and closed each day with worship, centering us on the Christian values that are behind the PWRDF and it's global work. On the last evening, we closed with a 60th anniversary celebration and banquet and were entertained by Mr. Craig Douglas, juggler extraordinaire, dressed in a "Zoot" suit that would have made comedian Jim Carey jealous.

In all, what made the greatest impression on me was the staff of the PWRDF. It is obvious they are dedicated to their work to serve and that they share the values that founded the fund 60 years ago - love and support. These are also values shared by the Primate and the whole Anglican Church of Canada.

We must support this valuable resource for the world, each and every one of us, especially as church giving to the fund has decreased significantly over the years. Let us all work together to change that.

Notable

Sunday, December 16th: A Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at 4pm at the Church of St John the Baptist, 23 Sainte Claire Ave, Pointe Claire. Join us to hear the Christmas story, sing carols and listen to our marvelous organist and choir. Everyone welcome!

Notable

Sunday, February 17th: Love in the Air, Dinner and Show with Gary Carpenter at All Saints Church, 248-18th Ave, Deux Montagnes. A tribute to Elvis, Dean Martin, Frank Sinatra and more. Doors open at 6pm, dinner at 6:30pm, show at 7:30pm. \$20 per person, \$7 for children. For more information 450-473-9541 or info@allsaintsdeuxmontagnes.ca

Notable

St Barnabas Anglican Church, 12301 Colin St, Peirrefonds. Come celebrate the 2018 Christmas Season with us!

December 8th: Family breakfast in the Church Hall at 9am. Potluck breakfast followed by tree-trimming in the church. Fellowship and fun for the whole family!

December 9th: Lessons and Carols at 4pm. Featuring the St Barnabas Choir and the Bells of St Barnabas. Light refreshments following.

December 23rd: Advent service at 10:30am. Sung Eucharist and Sunday School Christmas Pageant.

Save the Date!
Synod 2019
June 17

5,000 Strong and 47,000 Rescued

PENNY RANKIN

Mrs Penny Rankin is Chair of the Standing Committee on Mission

Recently I experienced what it was like to worship, learn and be inspired in a faith community that topped 5000- and believe me-it was a wholly holy experience.

I am privileged to have been invited by International Justice Mission (IJM) to attend "Liberate: A Global Gathering to End Slavery"- a conference held in Dallas, Texas in late September - which is how I found myself one amidst a multitude. The conference was reported to have been the single largest gathering of human rights advocates ever. That's right... there were 5000 of us!

Simply hearing the number 5000 sweeps many a Christian instantly into the setting and scene of one of the most memorable stories recounted in the Bible: The Sermon on the Mount-conjuring up as it does poignant images of fish and loaves and the feeding of a multitude hungering for guidance, hope and a way forward. Jesus' teaching that day would include both the Beatitudes and the Lord's Prayer-solid pillars of our faith-which is perhaps why it is sometimes referred to as the Ethics of the Kingdom.

Clearly, this particular "gathering of the 5000" confirms our path-especially as it directs us in our service to each other and others.

IJM is a key international organization dedicated to tackling human trafficking and

modern slavery. Twenty years since their inception, there are now 17 IJM teams located on five continents.

Ultimately, their goal is to put a stop to slavery and the poverty and violence that is its breeding ground. Their focus is fixed on the 40+ MILLION men, women and children who, are victims of enforced labour, exploitation, oppression and violence in its most heinous forms-their "economic value" generating in 2017 over 150 BILLION USD.

In the course of the past 20 years, working with local and international policing organizations, as well as our own RCMP, IJM has helped to bring criminals to justice as well and continues to help heal and restore the over 47,000 survivors they have rescued. This ongoing work, along with their efforts in helping to strengthen local justice systems, frees not only people but helps rescue our societies from this scourge.

While it is understandable that the term "modern slavery" seems something of an oxymoron, it is not. Slavery may have been "abolished" but it has persisted across all of human history and today there are more enslaved people than there has ever been on the earth.

Session speakers at the conference included the founder of IJM (Gary Haugen), outreach and engagement managers and field staff members from sites based in Ghana, India, the Dominican Republic, Uganda and the Philippines.

Other speakers included Dr. Brenda Salter McNeil, Associate Professor of Reconciliation

Studies at Pacific University in Seattle, who spoke to the need for reparation as part of the process of moving towards reconciliation. There were aftercare case managers, Human Trafficking Police Force Task officers and Government representatives as well as lawyers whose mandates collectively include working with such international bodies as Interpol, The International Criminal Court and the UN.

As informative and as interesting the session speakers were, it was the testimony of survivors that was the most moving.

There was Godson, a young Ghanaese boy, who at age 7 was taken from his family on the false promise of being guaranteed an education; only to spend the next 10 years of his life being forced to work from 4am to nightfall fishing on Lake Volta, diving into its waters to unravel nets - beaten and abused if he did not comply with the demands of the man he called "master". IJM teams helped save him.

There was Abana, enslaved as a baby girl, and Maria, who, hoping to help support her younger siblings by working in a restaurant, was sexually exploited from 12 years of age until she was rescued - today she is in school and thriving. She declared "I was a victim... now I am victorious!" That there can be happy endings to these and countless other stories is a miracle in itself.

IJM is a Christian organization and prayer and worship were also a big part of the gathering. While their staff



A banner on display at the IJM conference.

are all Christian, evangelism is not their focus; their work, their commitment is directed to Justice.

Their goal is the eradication of slavery in all its forms in our lifetime that the "audience" at Liberate was young and enthused may indeed make that possible...but not in my own lifetime...perhaps not in yours either.

However, that is not to say

that we cannot dare to make a difference, to become informed and support those who walk into the dark corners of our world and help free not only the victims, but our societies as well.

For further information please consult:

IJM www.ijm.ca
Anglican Church of Canada
www.anglican.ca/issues/human-trafficking/

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News from our Partners

MICHAEL ROBSON

The Ven Michael Robson is the Archdeacon of St Andrew, the incumbent of the Parish of Rawdon, the Secretary to Episcopal Council and a member of the Partnership Committee of the Diocese.

Bishop James has informed us that his wife, Veronica Almasi, has been elected as Vice President for the Mothers Union of the whole Anglican Church of Tanzania. This is a three-year position which will involve a good deal of travelling. We congratulate her on her election and we are asked to keep her in our prayers as she takes up these new responsibilities.

During Bishop Mary's visit to Masasi this summer she participated in the laying of the foundation stone for St Catherine's School, which the Diocese of Masasi is building as part of its efforts to promote the education of girls and women. Bishop James writes that six classrooms have now been completed and they have begun to build two dormitories, which so far are just walls but no roof. The school is intended to serve girls and



Bishop Mary and Bishop James renew the partnership agreement between the Diocese of Montreal and Dioces of Masasi in July 2018.

young women who are from remote villages and would otherwise have little chance of obtaining a formal education.

In the Territory of the People, The Rev'd Isabel Healy-Morrow, who has been chair of their Partnerships Committee, has retired due to serious ill-

ness. A special service was held on Sunday, October 21st, at St George's Church, Kamloops, BC. We sent her greetings and flowers on behalf of our diocese to mark the occasion.

Explore New - or Old - Interests through Volunteering

ANN CUMYN

Mrs Ann Cumyn is Co-chair of the Anglican Chapter of PWRDF and Chair of both the Human Resources Standing Committee and the Anglican Montreal Board of Management.

It is said that necessity is the mother of invention. It is also a finder of hidden talents, often bringing to light things the ability to do things for which one would have previously said, "I can't do that"! And, it's the hidden talents that often bring out the best in us.

How do we know what talents we have? In traditional China, when little boys reached their 1st birthday they had many items placed in front of them and were free to grab whatever and however many of the objects that they wanted. The objects thus chosen were a guide to the future possibilities for that child and a guide to how the parents should encourage their child.

We westerners usually wait to see how our children develop before encouraging them in future choices. Some young people are really focussed on their future career and others have many interests. Do we have interests that we would have explored but our careers and responsibilities got in the way? Do we have skills of

which we only become aware when circumstances (or necessity!) forced us to use them? For those who are retired now may be the time to explore that interest and use it in the service of God. For those not retired perhaps there are still opportunities to satisfy one's unfulfilled capabilities.

Individual congregations and the diocese are always looking for people with latent interests to help in so many ways.

- For cooks and bakers, food is always needed, as it is often the main attraction of an event.
- For those who care about others, there are all sorts of outreach possibilities; including being part of a welcome group or a member of the Pastoral team.
- For those interested in ensuring a good working environment, the Diocesan Human Resources Committee is involved with just that.
- Churches need help to be eco-friendly with recycling, composting, and conserving energy. The Stewardship of the Environment is in great need of supporters.
- For readers and especially readers of newspapers and journals, or those who were involved in the production



of a school year book or newspaper, the Anglican Montreal Board of Management is looking for people to oversee its production.

- Number crunchers, and puzzle solvers of Sudoku, and other mathematical intrigues are in need to help with finances.
- For those who are natural salespersons parishes and the Diocese could always use help with fundraising.

Unless these persons come forward, none will know that they are willing to help in this way.

One of the joys of volunteering is to be able to do things that one might not otherwise have a chance to do. The other joy is that of being able to serve. Do we get a reward for of services? Of course! All that we do is in God's service. The personal reward of serving God is limitless. When we know that we have made a contribution, even a very small one, we know that we are in the right place.

Hidden talents and unfulfilled desires are no use to anyone if they remain hidden

or undiscovered! We are often told that risk takers are at the forefront of a healthy society. Risk takers are needed in the church. Three diocesan groups are looking for new members; the Human Resources Committee, The Standing Committee on Mission and the Anglican Montreal Board of Management. Consider taking a risk and send your name to Nicki Hronjak at editor@montreal.anglican.ca

Liturgical Lexicon



STEVEN MACKISON
The Rev Canon Steven Mackison is the Liturgical Officer for the Diocese, the Chair of the Standing Committee on Finance and Incumbent of St Georges Place du Canada.

Ciborium: This word is probably the least known or most confused of all our inherited liturgical terminology. Unlike words such as chalice, that are familiar fixtures of our language and have some connection to objects used in our daily lives, the term ciborium has not even a remote connection, linguistically or symbolically, to anything that graces our dinner tables.

And that is because, as its etymology suggests, the ciborium can't decide whether it's a plate or a cup.

The fact is the origin of the term "ciborium" is uncertain.

Some scholars suggest it hales from the Greek "kirorion", meaning cup. Others maintain that the word "ciborium" derives from the Latin "cibus," referring to food, particularly that which is served on a plate at meal times.

Whatever its etymology, the ciboria (pl.) are those sacred vessels which contain the consecrated bread that is distributed during the celebration of the Eucharist.

Ciboria are always cup-shaped silver vessels - lined with gold or gold-plating - and are distinguished from their look-alike, the chalice, by their silver lids, always surmounted by a cross or other Christian symbol.

Those who read the offering on the paten will remember that, in the early church, the consecrated species (the technical term for the bread we bless in the Eucharist) was a single loaf of unleavened bread, rather than the individual wafers we use today.

The remembrance begs the question: when did the ciborium supplant the paten as the normative vessel for distributing the Eucharistic bread?

The answer - as with most liturgical innovation in the church - is more practical than it is theological.

In the twelfth century the

practice of receiving regular communion began to wane.

Since sizeable loaves were no longer required, the priest, and those few who did receive communion needed only a small amount of bread.

From this need, or lack thereof, the use of individual wafers arose and the left-over wafers were placed in a chalice and set apart so that the sick and shut-in could have the sacrament brought to them.

Since you can't have bread lying around uncovered for days at a time, the chalice was fastened with a lid, and the ciborium was born.

It should be noted that the ciborium is falling into disuse in some parishes due to the renewed practice of celebrating the Eucharist with real bread, in the form of a single loaf which is then broken and shared by the whole community.

Not only does this return to the ancient church suggest that we are attempting to "practice what we preach" when we speak of "One Bread, One Body," but when cluttered with sundry silver vessels, the altar can begin to look more like a Birks display-window than God's window of opportunity through which we are invited to partake of our salvation. (Taste and see that the Lord is good. . . indeed!)

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Around the Diocese



Amy Hamilton enjoys a moment with Primate Fred Hiltz at the Clergy Conference, September 17, 2018 at Jouvence.



Ordination of Joel Amis, Tania Lesach and Jhon Steecker St Clair at Christ Church



Ryan Cook and his wife celebrate following his induction at Christ Church Beaurapaire, Sunday, October 14, 2018. Photo by Tim Smart.



John Kousie and Eldon Wilson at the celebration of the induction of Ryan Cook, October 14, 2018. Photo by Janet Best.



Bishop Mary with Linda Tessier and Louis Martin Riquier at the closing ceremony of the Church at St Felix de Valois, September 29, 2018. Photo by Janet Best.



Jhon Steecker St Clair at his ordination, September 30, 2018. Photo by Janet Best.



Peter Riordon and Claire Hobbs at Dunham's 210th Anniversary Celebration, November 3, 2018.



Gaelies Renny, the Rev Judy Ball and the Rev Andy O'Donnell at Dunham's 210th Anniversary Celebration, November 3, 2018. Photo by Tim Smart.



The folks at Mile End Mission baked pies with the apples they picked at Mont St Hilaire this September. From left to right: Bushra, Linda, Julio, Lynda and Eleni. Photo by Janet Best.



Anne Millar at the closing ceremony of the Church at St Felix de Valois, September 29, 2018. Photo by Janet Best.



Ardyth Robinson at the celebration of the induction of Ryan Cook, October 14, 2018. Photo by Janet Best.



Following her induction, the Rev'd Grace Burson (far right) is joined by Bishop Mary, the Rev Jen Bourke and Megan Stowe, pastor of St Paul's United Methodist Church in St Alban's, Vermont.

Equipping the Saints



Tevfik Karatop tells his story at the Annual General Meeting of Dio.

Students Share their Stories at Dio Meeting

ANN CUMYRN

Mrs Ann Cumyrn is Co-chair of PWRDF, Chair of both the Anglican Montreal Board of Management and the Human Resources Committee

Annual General Meetings are notoriously dull. We are commonly advised to “stay away from them”! This article is addressed to all those who shun meetings because not all meetings are created equal.

The AGM of the Corporation of Montreal Diocesan Theological College (Dio) was really interesting. Yes, there were the usual items; Principal’s report, financial statement, minutes of the previous meeting, all of which gave us a sense of the health of Dio; but, there was much more.

Our Principal, Jesse Zink, and his enthusiasm to make the theological college a ‘go to’ place for theological education, is a driving force. Dio’s health

regarding student enrollment is improving and is attracting students from outside Quebec and across Canada. Jesse has links to other dioceses and as such is able to promote Dio. The health on the financial side, however, is not as vibrant. It is hard to solicit funds from people who know little or nothing about the endeavour. If Jesse’s enthusiasm can spread to those who care about it so that they, in turn, can become ambassadors for support of the college, then the financial situation can improve.

All of the above was the formal part of the meeting. Then came the exciting part. We were given the opportunity to learn who some of the students were, where they came from and how they were being helped along on their theological journey.

The first student we met came from Vermont. Linda, an Episcopalian with a rural background, chose to trans-

form her desire for a theological education by enrolling at Dio. Now here, she feels very blessed and loves the challenge of the classes. She reminded us that student life is not just the classes but the community. She is sustained through morning and evening prayer and the fellowship and support that she gets from the other students and staff – all the good things that come from communal living. In spite of the fact that her partner remains in Vermont and she is currently living alone in Montreal.

Then we were introduced to Tevfik Karatop, who comes from Turkey with an Islamic background. He had been a seeker and not satisfied with Islam. When he started to look around, his mother told him to stay away from Christianity because Christians worship three gods! Today his parents are still not happy with his choice, but he manages to remain in a relationship with his family. Tevfik’s path to becoming a Christian came through the Gospels and Martin Luther’s explanations of salvation by grace. Luther gave him the real sense of God and being saved.

Tevfik is a thinking person who sees many challenges in society, especially the challenges of diversity. How can we trust God if we don’t trust one another? There are people who say they love you and yet no-one seems to care. In his experience there are just two places where he has found trust; they are Dio and St John’s Lutheran Church on Jeanne Mance.

Next came Tyson, who has recently returned from an internship at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in Paris. The American Episcopal Church is present in France and this is its cathedral. His involvement there was wide ranging although mainly was with children and youth. He found that the Sunday school children had never been to an adult worship service! Thanks to his influence, this is now happening four times a year.

Connecting with the youth was a bit of a challenge; the French education system has schools operating six days a week for six weeks and then

Montreal Diocesan Theological College Course offerings Winter 2019

Christian Theories of Justice

Online course: Wednesdays, 6.15pm to 9pm, Jan 16 to April 17

What is justice? What is mercy? How do Christians make sense of the social and political problems of the day? This course explores these questions through a survey of major theories of justice from both philosophical and theological perspectives.

Congregational Leadership

4-day intensive in Montreal: Mon, Jan 14 to Thurs, Jan 17

Leadership in congregations is one of the most pressing needs of the church. This course provides students with lenses to study their congregations, explores various models of leadership, and encourages students to think about the ways Christian leadership differs from other models in society.

Debating Mission, Marriage, and the Eucharist in the Anglican Communion

4-day intensive in Montreal: Mon, Jan 28 to Thurs, Jan 31

Drawing on Anglican and ecumenical authors from around the world, this course introduces students to the history and theology that lies behind some of the major changes in the church over the past five decades. Students will be enabled to make critical judgements about the recent evolution of Anglicanism and think in new ways about the future directions of the Anglican churches.

Transforming Church Conflict

1-day workshop: Friday, February 15, 2019

This interactive workshop invites participants to consider the building blocks that create conflict and those that assist or inhibit conflict resolution. Reflection, conversation, and exercises are used to help those involved in ministry to address conflict in healthy and productive ways. Practical tools and skill building will be part of this foundational workshop.

Admissions: These courses are open to students with an undergraduate degree (in any subject) or equivalent. They are suitable for people engaged in lay or ordained ministry, those preparing for ministry, or those looking for continuing ministerial education.

For more information, including fees, application and registration, please visit the webpage www.montrealdio.ca/courses or contact the college: 514.849.3004 x221 and info@dio-mdtc.ca.

three weeks off, and so on. There was no obvious night for youth group meetings.

In spite of this Tyson did manage to take a small group to the Camino Trail. Time constraints meant that they were only able to walk the last eighty kilometres of the trail. This mini pilgrimage was an enlightening and rewarding experience for all.

Tyson’s life has now come down to earth, literally. For example, the cathedral in Paris has two apartments in the bell tower; one, with its panoramic view over Paris, was assigned to Tyson whereas back in Montreal Tyson now lives in Verdun!

The meeting was brought to a conclusion with a reminder

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Social Media *cont from p.2*

tional. When used well, social media can be a force for good in the world. We can build the kingdom in meaningful and impactful ways through online communications.

Let’s have some fun with this and get started! This might mean adapting your priorities. Perhaps sitting down with other leaders to find a way to include social media strategy in your weekly itinerary?

I am here to help with content creation but first I need you to believe that it matters. Because it does! We meet regularly to dig into these issues and more! Contact me or check our website to learn more... lmattews@montreal.anglican.ca



“On Sunday September 30th, Holy Trinity, Lakefield held its 2018 edition of the “Musical Celebration”. The Musical Celebration is an annual joint service of the four churches in the Parish of the Lower Laurentians. Interspersed with prayers and readings, a group of local musicians, using guitars and a banjo played, a dozen-or-so gospel and bluegrass hymns. Rev. Nick Brotherhood played the bodhran, an Irish drum, and enthusiastically lead the service. An enthusiastic congregation sang lustily and listened.”

A Witness to Mission

LUCIE COLUCCINO

I would like everyone to know that I have witnessed the progress made by the volunteers and staff of the Mile End Mission with certain cases of severe depression, with drug and alcohol abuse and with others rejected from society.

For 20 years, I’ve been coming to the Mission for their bazaars and free lunchtime meals and have observed the work being done by the staff and many of the volunteers who are members of the Mission themselves. They have helped a lot of men and women come out of their desperation.

By feeding them daily and through different activities and outings, they have succeeded in strengthening them with kindness and by being non-judgemental. Some have become like a family to various homeless members. Many members have become volunteers themselves to help the weaker ones. I have seen hearts being opened and a true family spirit reigning at the Mile-End Mission.

Action Refugiés Montreal

Compassion and justice for refugees

PAUL CLARKE

Mr Paul Clarke is the Executive Director of ARM.

"Now I know I am not alone."

These were the words of a guest who attended our Refugee Rights Day event in April. We had invited people seeking refuge and other friends of Action Réfugiés Montréal to gather to celebrate the fact that Canada is a country that provides protection to people who fear persecution. As is the case every year, more than 175 guests joined us in solidarity. A few days before, the man quoted above had arrived to ask Canada for refuge. I saw him again at World Refugee Day festivities on June 20.

Action Réfugiés Montréal was founded in 1994 by the Reverend Glynis Williams, a Presbyterian Church minister. It began as and continues to be a joint ministry of the Presbyterian Church in Canada and the Anglican Diocese of Montreal. Glynis had a vision that people seeking protection in Canada could count on accompaniment by those who cared for them and cared about them. And that the ministry would in turn be supported by people of faith. Glynis was the director for over 18 years. From very humble beginnings, the one-person organization now has six employees, running four programs, including our newly established monthly Men's Group. We are proud of our website at <https://action.org/>

Uniquely, we visit people detained for immigration reasons at the Immigration Holding Centre in Laval. This former prison is operated by

the Canada Border Services Agency. Action Réfugiés Montréal has an agreement to visit inside the common rooms of the facility. We provide legal information to the refugee claimants we meet. We provide moral support to over 400 persons and give away over 1,000 long-distance phone calling cards every year. We meet mainly men, but many women and some children. In Matthew's Gospel, we are called to welcome strangers and visit people who have been imprisoned. Our detention program has been doing precisely this for 25 years.

In Matthew's Gospel, we are called to welcome strangers and visit people who have been imprisoned.

Once people are released, we stay in touch if they reach out to us. We have recently started a Men's Group in collaboration with another community organization. We gather the men once a month for an activity and a meal. I have learned that people from other countries are experts on a soccer pitch! We have discussed banking, elections, and the best ways to integrate into Canadian society. One young man we met in detention has been faithfully attending our monthly meals. He was very worried about his upcoming hearing to assess his application for protection. He came by our office on the way to his appointment and we tried to give him hope. Off he went to his meeting. He texted a few minutes later: "I am accepted!" He came back to the office a little later, because he wanted to celebrate with the people he called "his family."



Action Réfugiés staff at the Canadian Council for Refugees' Human Rights Conference in June 2018.

For many years we have welcomed newcomers through our Twinning Program. We match women who have lived a refugee trajectory with Montreal area female residents. They meet regularly to help strengthen a social network for the newcomer. We hold many group activities to introduce the women to life in Montreal, and to promote friendship, solidarity and mutual understanding. We have learned this is a two-way intercultural street. As one local participant who wanted to help has told us: "Spending time together has been an excellent way for our family to practice French, but it has also created a real sense of gratitude and understanding. At dinnertime, we now go around the table and each person in our family talks about something that they are grateful for - I believe this sense of empathy that is being instilled in my children and in our family is something that I owe to my experience with Action Réfugiés' Twinning Program."

Over 1,200 people have been sponsored to arrive in Canada thanks to our refugee sponsorship program. The official sponsor is the Anglican Diocese of Montreal: the church reaches its hand across borders to provide protection to many. Over the years, people from Afghanistan, Burundi, Eritrea,

members who have also fled persecution.

In the last three years, 22 congregations of multiple denominations have been involved in refugee sponsorship; this accompaniment is a way for us to proclaim to local communities that the Church is ready to walk shoulder-to-shoulder with refugeeed people. As a long-time organization, we receive many requests to speak in university classrooms, churches, and public meetings. We accept as many as we can. We are always proud to state that we get core funding from the Anglican Diocese of Montreal; it is a badge we are proud to wear.

We are always proud to state that we get core funding from the Anglican Diocese of Montreal; it is a badge we are proud to wear.

Iraq, many other countries, and now Syria, have been given the opportunity to live in a safe land. We now have two full-time employees preparing documentation, doing rigorous follow-ups, and integration accompaniment for over 100 persons yearly. We help reunify families that have been separated. Some people we met in detention contact us years later, wanting to sponsor family

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Bishop's Awards Presented

As reported in the September issue of the *Anglican Montreal*, four lay people were awarded the Bishop's Award this year for their outstanding contributions to the life and work of

their parishes and the Diocese. The awards were presented throughout the fall at each recipient's respective church. We offer our congratulations to the honourees.



Anne Elbourne of Christ Church Cathedral with Bishop Mary.



Sandy Montgomery of St Paul's, Philipsburg with Andy O'Donnell.



Gladys Randall of Church of the Resurrection.



John Richard of Holy Trinity, Ste Agathe. Photo by Janet Best.



Doris with descendants of Chief Shingwauk, Trudy and Lana, Garden River First Nation.

A Healing Journey to Shinwauk

ROS MACGREGOR

The Rev Ros Macgregor is Diocesan PWRDF Rep, Co-chair of the Diocesan PWRDF Unit and Chaplain of Mile End Community Mission.

Doris Roberts is a volunteer and member of Mile End Community Mission. Her mother Leah and aunts Bertha and Doreen were taken as children from Oka to Shingwauk Residential School in Sault Ste. Marie. Doris's mother was so traumatized by the experience she would never speak of it.

Leah was four when she was taken in 1930 and discharged aged 16 in 1942. On October 18th to the 22nd of this year, Doris went on a healing journey to Shingwauk. Doris's best friend, Lori Olson, Nancy Greene-Grégoire and I accompanied her. The following are edited excerpts from the journal I wrote:

Day 1

Soon after arriving in Sault Ste Marie, we walked along St. Mary's River. One lonely

duck. One lonely junco. Blue skies. Heavy winds. Refreshing. Fun. Beautiful. Yet, in front of our hotel is the old station of Algoma Central Railway where the children arrived to be taken to the residential school; dark shadows bring Doris nightmares.

Day 2

At the Shingwauk Residential School Centre we were joined by Bishop Anne, Elizabeth Edgar-Webkamigad (Liz), the Director of the Centre, Krista McCracken, Researcher/Curator for the Arthur A. Wishart Library and Shingwauk Residential Schools Centre and Claudette Chevrier-Cachagee, of the Ontario Indian Residential School Support Services.

Claudette shared stories and wisdom with us, answered questions, and showed us through the new exhibit "From Teaching Wigwam to Residential School."

As we walked together, we saw a tiny door in the wall under the stairs where children were put for punishment ...

horrendous abuse - inhuman ... beyond words ... while photos of smiling children were used to raise funds. Claudette told of the invisible fence in the space where they were allowed to walk; the children walked round and round and round - longing for their parents and homes - hidden from the people in the town, not allowed to interact with their younger or older siblings - ...

Day 3

Shingwauk Cemetery - a sacred space

Liz led us to the cemetery down a path amongst maples. In the cemetery itself, the trees are oak - strong, last to lose their leaves, and the leaves that don't fall watch over the children and us during the winter ...

It's so small, yet well over 100 children are buried in unmarked graves with few records. Liz helped us smudge as we remembered the children, praying silently. We placed our gifts ... tobacco from Anne Claude in Montreal, tea leaves

from Aunt Bertha (the surviving sister who lived here) and a small stone and some pinecones from the Oka Cemetery next to the memorial to the children who were sent here from Kanesatake and Oka. Of the 150 children sent from Oka, 125 went to Shingwauk because Mohawks were connected with the English. The Anglican Church ran Shingwauk.

Back in the Centre, Elder and descendant of Chief Shingwauk, Willard Pine led a healing circle. He shared wisdom and passed the eagle feather so we could each speak. Doris asked if she could give him a hug - and he took her hands and prayed ... we take wisdom and healing insights with us ...

Gitchigumi - The sharing, learning, healing circle, cemetery experiences were intense. So, we drove to Gitchigumi, aka Lake Superior - the largest fresh water lake in the world stopping on a stretch of shoreline to experience the ocean that isn't the ocean. Wind. Waves. Grey. And then the sun shone silver across the waters. Glory!

Day 4

St. John's Church, Garden River First Nation. Bob Elkin,

the presiding priest who ministered for 4 years in Pikangikum, mixed the familiarity of BAS 185 with hymns sung in Ojibway - the tunes were familiar so we did our best with pronunciation. The lay reader was Lana Grawbergeris, who is the great-granddaughter of Chief Shingwauk, who is buried under the church.

Chief Shingwauk's vision of education was side-by-side learning. The government replaced this vision with the residential school system of killing the Indian in the child and destroying the family and culture of Indigenous people. Now Shingwauk Residential School Centre is re-claiming the vision. (To learn more about the Centre's work go to www.shingwauk.org/srsc/)

Later, at Lana's home we met her sister Trudy. Both are story-tellers.

Imagine - yet how can we? A youngster digging a grave. When a wheel-barrow of bodies was brought to be buried, he discovered that one was his brother.

There are children whose names will never be known. Sometimes children would

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Doris placing a stone from Oka Cemetery memorial sent to Shingwauk at the monument to children who died at Shingwauk.



Bishop Mary, Dawn and Wally Sparling and Father Rob Sapinhour of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Swanton, Vermont.

Honouring 50 Years of Ministry in Bedford

ANDY O'DONNELL

The Rev Andy O'Donnell is Territorial Dean of Bedford, Brome and Shefford and Incumbent of the Regional Ministry of Bedford-Stanbridge East.

On August 14th, The Right Reverend Mary Irwin-Gibson was at St. James Church in Bedford for a service of appreciation recognizing the Ven. Wally and Mrs. Dawn Sparling's 50 plus years of ministry. That Saturday commemorated the consecration of Charles Inglis, the first Bishop of Canada. We were joined by family, friends and colleagues from Wally and Dawn's past parishes, along with members from Holy Trinity Swanton, Vermont.

In our Bishop's sermon, she spoke about the Right Reverend Charles Inglis' ministry,

as well as the support, encouragement and hospitality she received as a new priest in the Townships from the Sparlings. Bishop Mary continued in expressing her thanks and appreciation for Wally and Dawn's faithfulness in their ministry.

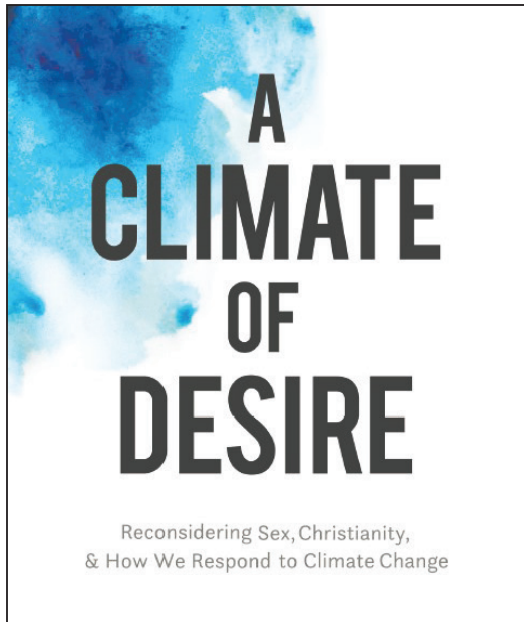
I would like to express my appreciation for the Right Reverend Bishop Mary's willingness to make time in her busy schedule to join us. Also much thanks to the Congregation of St James Bedford, with our partners in our regional Ministry for working together to host this celebration. We were fortunate to have John and Laura Kerr Barr as organist and vocalist. I was touched that so many colleagues, friends and family joined us for this event.

Thank you!

Archdeacon J. Wallace Sparling and Mrs. Dawn Sparling would like to say a big Thank You to all who took the time to attend our celebration of Fifty Plus years of ministry in the Diocese. It was a lovely day. Thanks to Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson for her presence and the Rev'd Andy O'Donnell and crew for all the preparation and work. The pot luck reception was amazing with an awesome variety of dishes.

Blessings to all.

The Ven J. Wallace Sparling and Mrs. Dawn Sparling



God has a Dream - A Book Review

EDWARD YANKIE

Eduardo Yankie is Deputy Warden of Christ Church Cathedral and member of ESJAG (CCC's environmental advocacy group)

Every decade or so a book on religion comes along that—pardon the cliché but no other phrase will do—takes my breath away. *A Climate of Desire: Reconsidering Sex, Christianity, & How We Respond to Climate*

Change is for me the book of the decade. It reminds us why we are holding on to hope. Hope for all of Creation.

A book so rare that it speaks to believers and non-believers alike; those who devote themselves wholeheartedly to religion, those who are skeptics or agnostics, those who take a broad and ecumenical view, those who view everything from the lens of anthropology, and

even those with a disdain for religion.

Even the latter can respectfully join with the former to appreciate what our ancient forebears had to say about the mind and heart above and within the universe, that entity many of us still refer to as God. And how that divine, transcendent and imminent intelligence gave our species the freedom and responsibility to be the stewards and caretakers, not the slave owners, of all life on this planet.

As Eduardo Sasso, the author, points out, there is an all-important distinction between dominion and domination. And because freedom is really freedom, it remains to be seen whether God's gamble is going to pay off. Success for our species and for life on this planet is not a given. That's the bad news.

The good news is, as Sasso quotes Martin Luther King Jr., "Almost always the creative, dedicated minority has made the world better." Such a community of Earthkeepers Sasso is working to create and inspire.

The book is short, so rather than go on about it I urge you to read it. Sasso reminds us that we cannot give to Caesar what is God's. If we do, the planet will refuse to sustain us. So as Rob Hopkins is quoted in a chapter about Caesar and God, "If we wait for governments, it'll be too little too late. If we act as individuals, it'll be too little. But if we act as communities, it might be just enough, just in time."

Is your church Blue? And Sexy?

EDUARDO SASSO

Eduardo Sasso is a business sustainability consultant and author of A Climate of Desire

You've probably heard about the "greening" of the church. It's a rather sexy fad these days—although not as sexy as it should be.

Regardless, if your faith community has somehow followed suit, it's likely that most light bulbs have been replaced, that someone installed recycling and composting bins, and that you've considered going vegan or at least vegetarian (at least for Lent).

If such is the case, keep on. Often dismissed as insufficient, these are surely concrete ways of responding to the ecological degradation our planet is experiencing. "Take no thought of the harvest," said writer T.S. Elliot, "but only of proper sowing."

Still, it's also the case that the magnitude of the ecological challenges ahead of us require far bolder responses. Consider freshwater: household consumption in Canada accounts for 20 percent of water use; industrial facilities are responsible for 68 percent. Similarly, between 1988 and 2015, only 25 fossil fuel extractors were linked to 51 percent of greenhouse gases, while 100 were responsible for 71 percent of global emissions. There are surely larger powers at play

that need addressing when it comes to sustainability. In fact, placing the burden of responsibility on individuals is actually waving the flag of 'divide and conquer' characteristic of our ever-hungry economic system.

Besides the "greening" of our light bulbs (some of which are not as green as we've come to think), the challenges ahead require a restructuring of the larger systems that are at odds with the atmosphere and waterways we share with all creatures. And the challenges beg some questions. How can faith communities respond to a global concern such as climate change in our age of declining

church attendance? In what ways can churches go beyond a local 'green' that replaces light bulbs towards a universal 'blue' that heals systems?

Having been dealing with such issues, allow me to blow my own trumpet briefly out of common concern.

About a month ago, I published *A Climate of Desire*, a book drawing on my involvement in the climate movement in Vancouver, where I lived from 2008 until 2016. Back then, a few friends and I wondered about the role of our own churches in the struggles around the expansion of the Kinder Morgan

Dio meeting *continued from page 2*

that Dio provides for more than just the M. Div students in the college. There are several courses offered to the public; both on campus and online.

There is so much to learn about Dio and there is so much to learn through Dio. The vignette provided by the Corpo-

ration's AGM was an appetite whetting event. It is hoped that the reader of this article will be encouraged to learn more. One way to do this is by visiting the website regularly, www.montrealdio.ca.

Lessons and Carols for Christmas
Chants et lectures pour Noël

Choir, Brass Ensemble & Carol singing for all!
Chorale, Ensemble de cuivres et chants de Noël pour tous!

Sunday, December 16th, 5pm
Le dimanche 16 décembre à 17h

St. Matthias' Choir and Director /
Chorale St. Matthias' et Directeur
Scott Bradford
&
with / avec
Brass Ensemble and Trumpeter /
Ensemble de cuivres et Trompétiste
Alexis Basque

Église anglicane St. Matthias' Anglican Church
131 Chemin de la Côte St-Antoine, coin Metcalfe
Westmount

514-933-4295 / office@st-matthias.ca

Mission Communautaire / Community Mission

MILE-END

Together, we can make our mission possible!

The Mile End Community Mission is calling upon your generosity to help make Christmas and the coming year a time of greater joy for the many individuals, families and children who suffer the daily effects of poverty in our neighborhood and surrounding areas.

With your help, the Mission can:

- Serve Christmas dinner to 400 individuals & families
- Fill 150 Christmas baskets
- Prepare 50 special Christmas stockings for our homeless & isolated members
- Provide a warm, safe & caring space for our growing homeless members with a new shower, personal care & laundry services
- Provide a welcoming, inter-generational space for our senior members
- Serve 15,000 free hot meals & distribute 10,000 grocery bags in the year to come

Donations can be made:
via our web-site: www.mileendmission.org
or at: 99 Bernard Ouest, Montréal, QC H2T 2J9

Please know that your kindness will go a long way in helping to Nourish our community!

A Healing Journey to Shinwauk

see a light at night going to the cemetery ... when they buried children like the young girl whose braids had been cut off, who had been covered in powder (in case they had lice with the assumption that they did), who had hung herself. Unlikely her death would have been recorded.

The cemetery is small and rocky, surrounded by a low dry stone wall. Last year at the Survivors' gathering in August a memorial service was held in the cemetery. A woman who is a seer described seeing the spirits of many children sitting on the wall, in the trees, legs dangling ...

The children are remembered. Doris can leave knowing Doreen is remembered by the community - part of the spiritual community of chil-

dren whose lives ended at this school but who live on in the minds and hearts of so many. There is hope that we will never let this happen again, and that their ancestors are people of strength, resilience, and hope.

May we continue to know truth and to work forward to reconciliation.

Later that evening Liz instructed Doris how to braid sweetgrass - soaking for two hours, drying in a towel, braiding and placing a second elastic at the end.

Day 5

In the morning we met Liz at the centre. We searched old photo books hoping to find one of Doris's Mom as a child or one of her aunts. Shortly before we left the centre, Liz lit the

sweetgrass braid and explained how and when Doris might want to light it and smudge.

She gave us gifts - bookmarks with the 7 Grandfather gifts written on them: Honesty, Love, Humility, Bravery, Wisdom, Truth, and Respect - seven teachings that would show the way to live in harmony with mother earth. Doris received a special gift - a necklace of the Crane Clan to which she (Liz) and many whom we met belong.

Later, we met at the cathedral for a sharing circle, laying on of hands and anointing. Peace-giving. A journey both experienced and begun ... intense, painful, heart-opening, inspiring, hope-giving, exhausting ... and more.

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The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer - Canada A Prayer from the Diocesan Representatives



Heavenly Father, we thank you for all your blessings. We thank you for calling inspired, knowledgeable, and dedicated people to serve your church. Here in the Diocese of Montreal, we pray that you will help guide the members of Diocesan Council to make wise decisions regarding the future fruitfulness and growth of your community. We pray for Bishop Mary on whose shoulders many responsibilities lie. Help her to continue to rely on your wisdom and guidance in all that she does. Above all, we pray that she and

her colleagues will work in unison to improve the status of this Diocese.

We pray also for all the priests and laity in the Diocese at large who strive to lift up their parishes and bring the Gospel message to shut-ins and new believers. During this Advent Season, we thank you for every member of the clergy that serves your faithful people. We thank them for their tireless dedication, especially at this busy time of year. We pray that they will prosper spiritually and be blessed with good health.

Gracious God, we ask for your forgiveness as we regret that we have not always consulted you in our deliberations and decision making. Help us to see the error of our ways and to reconnect to your divine advice, especially when important issues need to be resolved. We pray this intercession not just for the large and pressing matters that concern the Diocese, but for the small concerns that affect parish life and often lead to hurt feelings.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God Bless, Valerie and Stacey

For more information on AFP-C, contact Valerie Bennett and Stacey Neale at valstacey@bell.net

Canada Briefs

Prepared by Tali Folkins, Anglican Journal staff writer

N.B. Anglican sees larger role for church in social enterprise

An Anglican who runs a "tool library" in Saint John, N.B., says an untapped opportunity for growth in the Anglican Church of Canada could lie in social enterprise.

Brent Harris, a member of the city's Anglican 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 the memberships and for how-to classes that it offers the public, but it is a social enterprise, Harris says, because it sees its success as lying 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 connect 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

Priest wounded by parcel bomb preaches reconciliation at Edmonton cathedral

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

"Those who've had horrible things done to them have every reason to hate, to be bitter, to want revenge," 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.

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, Lapsley went to South Africa as a missionary in 1973 and became active in the anti-apartheid movement. He was exiled from South Africa and came 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, Edmonton

Compassion for refugees *cont from page 9*

a woman sponsored five years prior stood up to celebrate that she had recently graduated with a nursing degree; others come to the office to introduce us to their Canadian-born children. One woman told me that she wished it was legal to change her name to 'Canada'!

We have many challenges. Not all people we seek to sponsor are accepted. We have many more cases to submit than we can reasonably make time for. Governments can change the number of cases we are permitted to submit without consulting our office, or the people desperate to sponsor loved ones. We accompany claimants whose files are rejected by federal authorities. Many of the people we meet endure forced separation from family members for many years: when people flee their country, they often leave behind a spouse and children. Many people have difficulty finding meaningful work or employment with wages that provide a dignified life.

We live in a time when some persons question the capacity of our country to welcome people who have lived forced migration. In 2018 our slogan is Words Matter, People Matter.

Many words are being used to describe people who seek protection from persecution and violence. Some phrases are helpful, others less so. To reflect our commitment to recognize the dignity of each person, we have started to use the phrase 'refugee person', instead of simply 'refugee'. At Action Réfugiés we are committed to never losing sight of the fact that when we are discussing refugee policy we are talking about human beings not very different from you and me. We know that you feel the same.

Our funding comes many sources. In addition to core funding, we have many individual donors; we request and often receive funding from foundations and some corporations. We receive support from numerous individual congregations every year. We have been helping refugee people for almost 25 years because of the faithful, prayerful support of many people. We are so thankful for Glynis Williams' vision and are proud to continue this ministry.

Refugee people in Canada are not alone. You are with them.

ST. LAWRENCE ANGLICAN CHURCH
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR

Christmas Concert 2018
Directed by: *Rieh Cobarr*

DECEMBER 16TH, 2018
STARTING AT 6:00PM

520 — 75TH AVENUE
LASALLE, QUÉBEC

Admission: \$15.00

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH AT
TEL: (514) 366-4652
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