



ANGLICAN MONTREAL



Take a Peak
under the
Scaffolding
an update on the spire p 3

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Reflections on the Heartbeat of the Church

LEE-ANN MATTHEWS

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

Our Primate, the Most Rev'd Fred Hiltz, will retire this year, which is a big milestone in anyone's life; but this milestone will affect Anglicans all across Canada as we bid farewell to our beloved leader. Yet, Fred (as he likes to be called) does not want a fancy retirement party, expensive gifts or other lavish indulgence. If you must spend money on anyone, he says, give it to the poor.

Instead, he has one request of the faithful; and that is to take part in the *Heartbeat of the Church*. He simply wants us to talk to one another about our faith.

According to the Primate, the *Heartbeat of the Church*... is grounded in the conversation Jesus had with the disciples in the Upper Room and his prayer to the Father on the eve of his Passion, Death and Resurrection, as told in the Gospel of

John. I hope our conversations can be focused on the very things of which he spoke – the disciples' life in Him, their work in his name, and their trust in the coming of the Holy Spirit to strengthen, lead and guide them. This time of sharing in conversation circles will lead us to consider our "heart-felt" prayers for the Church, and to share our prayers with our sisters and brothers across the country.



Our conversations will take place until May 7, 2019, the Feast of St John, Apostle and Evangelist, in anticipation of the meeting of the General Synod in Vancouver in July 2019. The Heartbeat of the Church website page will provide

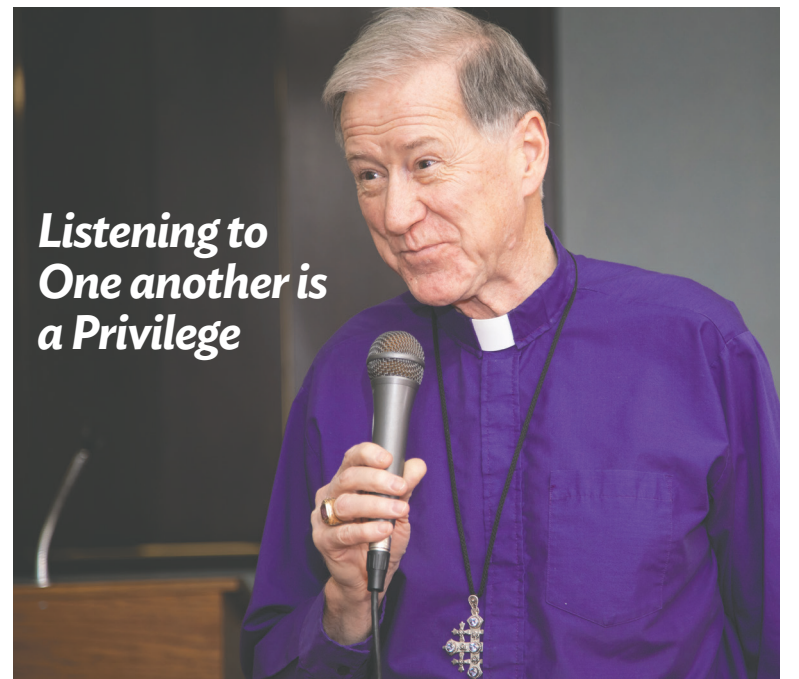
everything you need to set up a conversation circle and to share your prayers for the Church."

I've had the privilege of taking part in the *Heartbeat of the Church*, otherwise known as a Conversation Circle, several times. I would like to share a few of my insights, learnings and personal reflections.

The first time I hosted a Conversation Circle was with a group of about 14 children and youth aged 3-19 years. Knowing that there would be an extended period of sitting and discussion, I prepared a table of activities for those who may feel restless and/or need something else to do.

When we had finished I realized that the activity table remained untouched; a testament to the level of engagement and participation of the group!

I learned very quickly that the *Heartbeat of the Church* is very user friendly. There is a downloadable guide to follow that has specific steps and all one needs to do is read the prayers, passages and questions as outlined. This allows every-



Listening to
One another is
a Privilege

Fred Hiltz led a Conversation Circle at our Diocese last December. For more pictures of the event, see page 6. Photo by Janet Best.

one in the circle to contribute to the discussion if they wish.

The children responded amazingly well to the format! Each took a turn with their responses when they felt they had something to say. They had the option to pass on questions as needed. Most opted to contribute their own heart-

felt reflections, experiences and perspectives. As always, listening to them is a privilege as they are so passionate about social justice, the environment and our church community. We grew so close to one another as we listened and shared and empathized. Sometimes tears

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The Circus comes to 'Centre St Jax'



Photo by Caroline Thibault

GRAHAM SINGH

The Rev'd Graham Singh is Incumbent of St Jax Anglican Church and Executive Director of Trinity Centres Foundaton

Montreal is home to some 10,000 workers in the circus industry, yet very few of these artists are able to perform in local venues. Many of us know Cirque du Soleil and have attended shows in the 'Big Top'

but as this particular cultural milieu matures, it is not surprising to see smaller groups of artists wanting to go out on their own. What do they need most? High ceilings! Those we have, in abundance, in our churches!

As part of the St Jax experiment, much thought has been given to the ways in which we can offer certain times and spaces in our buildings to be truly secular spaces. Since long

before the new church plant began, St James the Apostle has been home to the City of Montreal's downtown concert series, Culture Peter-McGill. Now, this offering has been extended to create a home for Montreal's newest circus company, ironically named "Le Monastère".

Founded in 2016 by Rosalie Beauchamp and Guillaume Blais, Le Monastère is a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote both the circus arts and the city of Montreal on the international stage. Its founders, both artists who have extensively travelled the world performing with Cirque du Soleil and major German performance troupes, believe that it is of the utmost importance to present new ways for culturally savvy audiences to appreciate this art form.

The cabaret formula which is favoured by Le Monastère promotes the discovery (and rediscovery) of talented artists in a warm, casual atmosphere. Taking its cues from European cabarets, Le Monastère's artistic vision has made it a priority to foster home-grown talent. Its intimate soirées are now

elevated by its new settings, in the exceptional performance space offered at St Jax. This never-before-seen formula will render high-end performances more accessible to all.

From a spiritual standpoint, it might be said that all art expresses the spirituality of its surrounding culture. Ballet and dance have long been considered "noble" forms and this experiment now invites a total rethinking of the circus performance, to move it into that more serious category. We in the church spend so much time asking about how we can connect with culture-shifters--why not invite them to work their craft inside our communities?

Le Monastère is part of a new way of thinking about secular shared space at St Jax, under the banner of the Trinity Centres Foundation. A team of some 50 professionals from the fields of property finance, architecture, urban planning, social innovation and the voluntary sector have helped form this new entity, which is aimed at transforming some 100 church buildings into community hubs. St Jax has been a key part of this

new venture and the Foundation's offices are now hosted in the church office area, along with Action Réfugée Montréal and several other "resident" non-profits. This new methodology stems from my doctoral research, and takes into account several decades of attempts to crack the huge question of "what do we do with all of these buildings?"

Canada currently has approximately 28,000 church buildings and the Trinity Centres Foundation, along with its collaborators, including the National Trust for Canada and the United Church of Canada, estimate that some 10,000 of those buildings will close in the next 10 years. Our own Diocese of Montréal bears witness to these proportions, as we wrestle with the great pain of these figures in our own midst.

What has not yet been added to these figures is the social benefit that is lost when a church building sells. Dr Mike Wood Daly, leader of "The Halo Project", has gone some way to making this case, arguing that

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Bishop's Message



Another set of Annual Vestry Meetings has been completed in most places. I want to thank all who contribute to the leadership and smooth running of our congregations—Wardens, Treasurers, Lay Readers, Sunday School teachers, Altar Guild, Envelope Secretaries, Readers... It is all an important part of our ministry.

It is also vitally important that our ministry and witness as Christians go beyond our walls and internal activities. How do we live out the mission of Christ with limited energies and resources? An article I read

recently by Thom Rainer made some interesting suggestions. Perhaps you will find one or two to try:

- Take a non-Christian or unchurched person to lunch.
- Write handwritten notes to people who do not have a church home and have visited your church.
- Invite someone to your parish who is looking for a church home.
- Take two hours to walk and pray for homes in your community.
- Pray for opportunities to share the gospel every day.
- Find a person in need in your community. Help them. Let them know you are doing it as an ambassador for Christ.
- Start a Bible class that meets every week for eight weeks. Advertise on Facebook that the class will give you a basic overview of the entire Bible. Meet no more than one hour a week.

I am excited to see the work that is being planned in the near future and these are only a few examples of what is being undertaken throughout the Diocese. You can read more about them in this edition of the Montreal Anglican.

- The Diocesan Council is meeting for a one day retreat and Visioning Day, and praying for insight into God's will for the future of our Diocese.
- St. Matthias Church is holding a forum to raise awareness of Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery in Canada (and in Montreal!). p. 4.
- The Lenten Mission Outreach Day is on Sunday, April 7th. This is a day for youth to be actively involved in community ministry. p. 3.
- Our Diocesan PWRDF unit has an exciting new initiative for Mother, Newborn and Child Health. They are partnering with the Royal Victoria Hospital Birthing Centre in a special joint event to be held this May. p. 5.

Please pray for our mission and calling as a Diocese and for courage for us to step out in faith.

+ Mary

From the Editor

Dear Friends

I am asking you to please make every effort to renew your subscription to the Anglican Journal and Anglican Montreal as soon as possible. As the note from Michael Thompson, General Secretary of the Anglican Church of Canada, states below, we need to update our mailing lists to reduce waste and unnecessary costs to both the diocese and the National Church.

The Anglican Church of Canada's Communications and Information Resources Department is requiring anyone who wishes to continue receiving the Anglican Journal and their diocesan newspaper to renew their subscription by confirming their address with the national office in Toronto. Failure to do so will mean that the subscription to the national and diocesan paper will be terminated at the end of June, 2019.

They have tried to make it as easy as possible for you to update or verify your address by giving you four options to do so:

- by completing and returning the coupon below to the national office, or
- emailing your information to yes@national.anglican.ca, or
- calling 1-866-333-0959 or,
- going online and completing the form at anglicanjournal.com/yes

Please do all that you can to support the Anglican Journal and the Anglican Montreal. Every subscriber will count!

Yours sincerely,

Nicki Hronjak, Editor



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In a recent survey of a large number of subscribers, 10 per cent of the surveys mailed were returned as "unknown at this address."

That is, at least 10 per cent of newspapers (*Anglican Journal* and diocesan papers) are being mailed to people who don't live at that address.

This means a waste of thousands of dollars each month. So we are verifying the subscription list to avoid this waste.

If you wish to continue to receive the *Anglican Journal* (and any diocesan paper mailed with it), please complete the confirmation and return it. If we do not hear from you, your subscription will come to an end with the June 2019 issue.

With every blessing,

Michael Thompson
General Secretary,
Anglican Church of Canada

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The LMO - A Day for Youth to Consider their Missional Christian Identity

LEE-ANN MATTHEWS

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

Since I have been appointed MTL Youth Project Coordinator, I have had the privilege of hosting several memorable events.

At the Children and youth Ministry Symposium we selected leaders from across the Diocese to come and present their experiences in ministry; both their successes and their struggles. This allowed us to listen and learn from one another and to reflect on different approaches to ministry as well as to be heard, validated and valued. That afternoon, we held several workshops to provide training and hands-on learning opportunities.

The following year, we organized the Children and Youth Ministry (CYM) Challenge where we encouraged leaders to dedicate an entire service to children and youth, to allow them to lead, plan and participate in the liturgy. Afterward, leaders shared the outcomes together in the form of visual and spoken presentations.

The CYM Challenge was effective because it spread the message that the church is also a space for children. Instead of being relegated to a basement or other space not occupied on Sunday morning, children and youth were invited to take a leading role and be the focal point of the service with the hopes that this would become a regular practice. (Ros Macgregor/St CHL was awarded with a plaque and pizza party

as the winner of the challenge)

Last year we hosted The Bishop's Confirmation Day when more than 100 members of the Anglican Diocese of Montreal gathered to acclaim their faith at an intergenerational celebration of Confirmation. Some of the highlights of the day included workshops such as art and percussion, a tour of the Cathedral, lively contemporary worship, prayer partners, community building and more! It was wonderful to see people of all ages celebrating their Confirmation with our Bishop. There was so much joy, energy and promise in the room. You could feel it!

This year, we are pleased to be hosting something new... the Lenten Mission and Outreach Day (LMO).

Why the LMO?

The MTL Youth committee gathered this summer to brainstorm and evaluate previous events while considering some new options. We decided that it was important for the MTL Youth Committee to host an event that was dedicated to and for youth. It also became clear that we wanted to focus our efforts on mission, outreach, community engagement and service.

We heard powerful personal testimonies from the committee about how mission days such as this were formative to their own Christian identity in their youth and was actually the gateway to their ongoing participation and contribution to the life of the church. There was an overwhelming consensus that our focus be

on community-building but with the intention of building bridges and making headway outside the walls of the church building. We also want to provide experiences that will inspire young people towards a Christian life that is outreach-focused.

So, we decided to partner with organizations and people whose ethos reflected our intentions. As God is already at work in our communities we are hoping to simply direct our attention there.

Some of the ministry projects options are:

- Homelessness and poverty
- Seniors/Shut ins
- Urban Agriculture & environmental awareness
- Community Engagement

To further clarify our objectives;

- to encourage youth to value outreach as a part of their Christian identity,
- to ignite a fire that is fueled by a passion for mission to, for and with the wider community,
- to support and nurture friendships among youth (build community) with the common goal of loving service and outreach.

For the sake of this event, we have opted to provide the following definition for the widely used term mission that has many different meanings and applications in the church.

"For the LMO, when we say mission we are encouraging each other to respond to what God is already doing in our world, mindful of the fact that we are called as disciples and sent out as apostles."



LMO

LENTEN MISSION and OUTREACH DAY

- Outreach
- Community Service
- Prayer, Listening and Presence

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2019



WWW.MONTREAL.ANGLICAN.CA / YOUTH/

We thank you for your prayers, support and encouragement. We cannot stress enough the importance of supporting and nurturing meaningful youth ministry opportunities such as this.

The LMO takes place on Sunday, April 7th. For information about the event, to register or to find out about volunteer opportunities email mtlyouth@montreal.anglican.ca.

Save the Date!
Synod 2019
Saturday
June 15

Un Update on the Restoration of Christ Church Cathedral

BERTRAND OLIVIER

The Very Reverend Bertrand Olivier is Dean of Christ Church Cathedral.

Just over a year ago, I arrived in Montreal to take up the post of Rector of Christ Church Cathedral and Dean of Montreal. I knew that that was going to involve a lot of rolling up of sleeves, and in that I was neither surprised nor disappointed.

On my first morning, I was greeted by the now very familiar green Capital Campaign banners above our St Catherine Street entrance, and scaffolding slowly being erected around our tower.

Many construction and campaign cabinet meetings later, here we are early 2019 with scaffolding still present, and the tower wrapped in a gigantic scarf like white tarpaulin. Yet, there is currently not a great deal of activity on the site. So, what is happening at Christ Church Cathedral, your cathedral and the mother church of the Diocese of Montreal?

The good news is that we

completed Phase 1 of our plan. Before even beginning to touch the spire - the main reason for starting the restoration project in the first place - much preparation work was required in particular with regards to the tower masonry. Inevitably, in a building over 150 years old, the best initial plans had to evolve as unforeseen additional work was uncovered.

Thankfully, a grant from Parcs Canada allowed us to do all that was necessary without derailing the original budget. We have also secured funding from the Conseil du Patrimoine Religieux du Québec, along with donations from major philanthropic institutions and, of course, members of our congregations and friends and supporters around the Diocese and beyond.

Anyone involved in construction in Montreal at this present time knows that the sector is extremely active. There is not enough people-power and construction costs are going up.

Nevertheless, we are currently finalising plans for

Phase 2 which will see the most visible and striking moment of this project. The spire will be lifted down to ground level after being split in two parts, to allow for the restoration of the aluminium tiles and the metallic structure which corroded over the years.

As we set out to embark on this external Phase 2, we will also be starting to move on some of the internal upgrades that have formed part of our overall plan, so in the coming years, regular visitors to the Cathedral will start to see internal improvements too.

Fundraising is continuing apace, and we are grateful for the ongoing support of CPRQ for this important heritage project for downtown Montreal, at the time of the revitalisation of St Catherine Street and Phillips Square.

Meanwhile, we continue to need financial support, in order to complete this important project for the Diocese. You can give online through our Canada Helps link, or simply send a donation to the Cathedral office. For further infor-

mation, call 514-843-6577 x 241 or email: cathedral.administrator@montrealcathedral.ca.

Your prayers are also key for the success of our project. Please join us in regularly praying for this project, that it may bring glory to God here in downtown Montreal for many generations to come.

Eternal and generous God

You have given us Christ Church Cathedral as a powerful symbol of your presence in Montreal a gathering place for Anglicans in our diocese, and a place of ministry and mission in the heart of the city.

Continue to bless our restoration project, our architects, consultants and all charged with the intricate and arduous labour involved. We pray for the fundraising team and all those who have supported us so far. Renew our vision, creative energy, and generosity, that we may together bring this project to completion, and glorify your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom our cathedral is dedicated.

Amen

The Scared the Scarred & our Sacred Duty

Human Trafficking & Modern Slavery in Canada and Beyond

FREE Forum on Human Trafficking Wednesday, March 13, 2019

Victoria Hall, Westmount: doors open 6:15pm, programme 7 - 9:30pm. With refreshments.

Keynote speaker Anthony Housefather MP, Chairman of the House of Common's Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights

For information and to register: stmatthias.forum@gmail.com

Sponsored by St Matthias Church, Anglican Diocese of Montreal.

An assault on the dignity and beauty of people

PENNY RANKIN

Mrs Penny Rankin is Chair of the Standing Committee on Mission

In April 2018, I, along with Elaine Bilodeau of St. Matthias' in Westmount, represented the Diocese of Montreal at a conference in Newfoundland organized by Global Relations of the Anglican Church of Canada. The conference, "Engage Freedom! Anglicans Against Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery" was the

second of four such gatherings that have since been held across the country. These conferences are part of the church's commitment to pray, advocate and challenge what Archbishop and Primate Hiltz has called "an assault on the dignity and beauty of people and the image in which God has created them."

The Scared, the Scarred and Our Sacred Duty - an information forum on human trafficking, is our response to

that nationally organized event and reflects our commitment to walk what is a rough and complex road through myth, misunderstanding and in some cases even our complicity.

Hosted by St Matthias, this free information session will take place on the evening of March 13th, at Victoria Hall in Westmount - the first of what we hope will be other initiatives that confront this crime as it manifests itself both in

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Companions of Jerusalem

Just a quick reminder that Jerusalem Sunday (Sunday after Ascension Thursday) happens this year on June 2nd. At the 2013 Joint Assembly, General Synod passed a resolution to "observe the Seventh Sunday of Easter, commonly known as the Sunday after Ascension Day, as Jerusalem Sunday."

As stated on the Anglican Web site at www.anglican.ca/gr/provinces/jerusalem/sunday/why/ Jerusalem Sunday "is an annual church observance to celebrate companionship in God's mission with the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem in Jerusalem, Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. The Diocese is a historic and active member of the Christian, ecumenical and interfaith community of the Middle East. It is home to several thousand Arab Anglicans in thirty parishes and situated in one of the world's holiest destinations for Christian, Jewish and Muslim pilgrims."

Resources to use for this Sunday will be posted on the Anglican Church's website nearer to the event itself but folk might want to begin to plan for the day. Invite a guest speaker from the Advisory Council itself www.anglican.ca/gr/provinces/jerusalem/companions/ Or perhaps ask for some help in terms of activities to host after the service.

In the meantime, the Canadian Companions have a Facebook page which you might want to look at and can be accessed via Canadian Companions of the Diocese of Jerusalem.

As ever,

Patricia G. Kirkpatrick

The Rev Professor Patricia Kirkpatrick, Chair, Advisory Council of the Canadian Companions of Jerusalem

Liturgical Lexicon



STEVEN MACKISON

The Rev Canon Steven Mackison is the Liturgical Officer for the Diocese and Incumbent of St Georges Place du Canada.

With the exception of the altar, the font is the most ancient and revered liturgical furnishing extant. The term itself derives from the Latin fons meaning "spring of water" and refers to the basin from which the faithful are baptized.

Like altars, fonts are fashioned of some earthy substance such as stone or (rarely) metal, and are often octagonal in shape. This symbolically refers to the "eighth day" - i.e., the perfection of God's creation of us in Christ.

However, it is important to note that fonts were not featured at all in the earliest baptisms. Rather, as Scripture attests, when our faith was in its infancy, the newly baptized were not sprinkled with a handful of still water from a diminutive, albeit elegant, font - like the ones that grace many of our church buildings. Instead, the faithful were brought to "living waters" such as the River Jordan, and fully immersed. The symbolism, of course, was meant to be indicative of the passage through the waters of sin and death and into the new life of Christ that awaited the newly baptized.

Even though, these days, we don't dunk and (figuratively) drown with as much gusto as our forbearers, this dual character, of dying and cleansing, is still part and parcel of the baptismal liturgies we celebrate today. However, while the symbolism has remained the same, the symbol itself has undergone significant revision and transformation.

As the faithful moved from wilderness-worship to becoming more building-bound, the need arose for baptisms to take place in the church, where the

community gathered. After all, you can't always be traipsing down to the river every time you win another convert to Christ, especially if, as in the early church, they were coming through the doors in droves!

It was this movement toward having more permanence in the community's place



Byzantine era, 6th century . © Ad Meskens / Wikimedia Commons

of worship, that heralded the genesis of the font becoming a regular fixture within the church. So living waters gave way to still waters and the font became the normative place where people were christened. However, as alluded to above, the earliest baptismal fonts were not the dainty basins that we are familiar with; in fact, early examples were, in size

and dimension, the virtual "hot tubs" of the first three centuries. These large pools, where the faithful would receive the sacrament of initiation, were of central importance to the community, often occupying a privileged place in the centre of the narthex or nave.

It should be noted, at this

point, that in the first three centuries the majority of baptisms were of adults. The church felt it was crucial that would-be believers not only understand but be able to profess the faith they were receiving. It was not until the late fourth century that this view began to be seriously challenged.

St. Augustine of Hippo, perhaps the earliest theological

heavyweight to advocate infant baptism, suggested that infant baptism was permissible because the faith that was needed to enter into the baptismal covenant was supplied by the community.

This notion of the fides aliena (literally, "the faith belonging to another") made it possible for infants to be baptized since the community who would nurture the child in their Christian life was professing the faith for the child and through the child.

Whether one opts for infant or adult baptism, it should be noted that faith is only one side of the baptismal coin. In other words, the sacrament of baptism is as much a movement of grace as it is a profession of faith. For in baptism we experience the grace of God, a gift undeserved, yet freely given by the One who desires nothing but abundant life for us. So whether we come to the font as adults, professing our faith, or as infants, with our faith in the hearts of others, it is God's grace that seals the deal - allowing us to rise from the waters of baptism to be marked as Christ's own forever.

Montreal PWRDF



PWRDF announces Joint Project with RVH Birthing Centre!

ANN CUMYN

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

Have you ever had a brilliant idea that actually grew wings and flew? Do you think that fundraising can be fun? Members of the Montreal Unit of PWRDF have answered both questions with a resounding "yes!" so be prepared for an amazing happening in May!

The brilliant idea is the brainchild of Tom Burpee of St George's Place du Canada. While discussing ideas for this year's project, Mother, Newborn and Child Health, he

suggested we could learn a lot by comparing what happens in parts of Africa with the care given at the Birthing Centre of the Royal Victoria Hospital (RVH), in the Glen.

When we approached the RVH in November to suggest creating a joint program, they gave us such a welcome that we were almost overcome. Since then, Ros Macgregor, Tom Burpee, Edith Duterville and Ann Cumyn have been meeting regularly with Marie-Josée Bourassa of the Birthing Center and Kim Cavener and others of the MUHC Foundation. The two teams have developed an event where Zaida Bastos of PWRDF and Marie-Josée will speak.

The support given to us by

the members of the Foundation is huge. Not only are they organising the arrangements at the RVH, they are contributing their skills in producing and distributing the publicity for the event.

The event will be held on Wednesday, May 15th, 2019, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the Drs Sylvia & Richard Cruess Amphitheatre, Research Institute of the MUHC, Glen Site-Block E, Level S1. There will be refreshments at 5:30pm and complementary parking for those who register.

Further information will be shared from mid-March through April. So "Save the Date" for this joint fundraiser (50/50) for PWRDF and the Foundation. Then stay tuned!

Heartbeat of the Church

continued from page 1

filled our eyes as we were feeling the depth and honesty in our words.

By the time we offered our prayers, the Holy Spirit was in the heart of the circle and the sense of the Lord's presence was palpable. It was a truly beautiful and powerful exercise.

I had other opportunities to take part in Conversation Circles as well. Late last year, at the Synod Office, a large group of clergy and Lay Anglicans from across the diocese participated in the company of the Primate himself. It was wonderful to listen to the diversity of experiences and responses to the questions.

And, most recently, I hosted an online conversation circle with a small group of five strangers who soon felt like friends as we bravely tackled the *Heartbeat* questions with depth and integrity.

I learned so much from each circle.

The children taught me not to underestimate their willing-

ness and capacity for lengthy sharing. They overwhelmed me with their honesty and depth.

The *Heartbeat* where the Primate was present reminded me of how differently adults approached the questions and how much more guarded, and fearful we can be compared to children. Perhaps we are conditioned to believe that there are right and wrong answers and that, worse still, being right is better than being wrong.

Finally, the online *Heartbeat* exercise taught me about the importance of creating spaces where we can ask deep questions and feel safe with one another as we are brothers and sisters in Christ.

I would urge each of you to heed our Primate's call and take part in the *Heartbeat of the Church*, to listen to one another and share our prayers believing that they will bear fruit in our lives and in God's church.

To get your conversation circle going, visit www.anglican.ca.



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First Meeting of AFC Diocesan Representatives

WENDY MCCULLOUGH

Ms. Wendy McCullough is the AFC Diocesan Representative and parishioner of Church of the Epiphany.

November 13-14, 2018, I had the privilege of attending the Anglican Foundation of Canada's Diocesan Representatives meeting in Toronto, Ontario. The Diocesan Representative role was recently initiated by AFC. My familiarity with the Foundation began in 2011 when I wrote an application on behalf of Church of the Epiphany for a \$15,000 grant for a "stair platform lift" for our parish.

Up until last November, my contact with other AFC reps had been via email and conference calls, so I was delighted

that 17 of a total of 25 reps were able to attend the meeting and exchange ideas and share work strategies.

Our agenda included an overview of the purpose and administrative structure of AFC, the grant process, the role of the AFC Diocesan Rep, overview of the AFC financial statements, and review of promotional material and videos. Several members felt there were many Anglicans who knew little about the Foundation. Our mission as reps is to increase knowledge of and support for the Foundation. The second day of our meeting we were welcomed by our Primate Fred Hiltz and joined the Board of Directors for the morning part of their meeting.

The Foundation was estab-

lished just over 60 years ago as a motion at General Synod for Canadian Anglicans so that individuals, parishes, and dioceses could make regular donations to support ministry in Canada. The Foundation makes funds available for innovative ministry, diverse infrastructure projects, and bursaries for theological education; approximately \$800,000 is given out each year by the Foundation across the country.

The Diocese of Montreal has received over \$300,000 in grants and over \$200,000 in loans in the last 20 years, and the Montreal Diocesan Theological College received bursaries totalling over \$20,000 in the last 5 years. We have a total of 84 parishes in our

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Around the Diocese



The Primate, Fred Hiltz, addresses those who gathered for *Heartbeat of the Church*, December 11, 2018. Photo by Janet Best.



The Rev'd Lettie James and Assistant Archivist Sandra Koukou share a laugh at the *Heartbeat of the Church* brown bag lunch on December 11, 2018. Photo by Janet Best.



The Rev'd Graham Singh led the Lay Readers' annual Study Day at the Church of St John the Baptist, November 2018.



Sandra Savery-Richard and Jessica Million at the *Heartbeat of the Church*. Photo by Janet Best.



Despite a winter storm, over 50 people gathered at Église St. André in Sutton on Sunday, January 20th, for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. With much singing, praying and laughing and then eating, we all enjoyed our time together. Pictured here are John and Cynthia Dinsmore, and Bev O'Donoghue with Linda Bresee. Photos by Tim Smart.



During the Bishop's Christmas Eucharist at Fulford Residence, Melanie Salhany, Fulford Board member responsible for Spiritual Life, administers the chalice to resident, Mary Ramsay. Photo by Janet Best.



Bishops celebrate the seating of Andrew Asbil as Bishop of Toronto. Clockwise, from lower right: Bishops Mary, Susan Bell, Mark Macdonald, Archdeacon Paul Feheley (with cross) and Chris Harper.



Gathering before the Bishop's Christmas Eucharist at Fulford Residence. Left to Right: Melanie Salhany, Ann Cumyn, Sue Winn, Flo Tracy, Mariette Gagnon (Assistant Manager), Marie-France Lacoste (Manager), Moleka Londala (Head Nurse), Christiane Delhaes (Administrative Assistant), Ann Gregory. Photo by Janet Best.



At Mile End Mission we nourish our members with love & support during the Christmas season and throughout the year.



The Rev'ds Annie Ittoshat and Brian Perron with Bishop Mary at Church of the Epiphany, Verdun where the Bishop shared her slides from her pilgrimage to Masasi.



St Stephen's Lachine Epiphany Sunday January 6, 2019. The "3 Kings" were carried to and placed in the creche by Ginny, Patti and Jan.

Now is a Great Time for Stewardship Education

NEIL MANCOR

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

It's that wonderful time of year again: you have had your vestry meetings, appointed leaders and passed budgets. I hope that you have also been able to celebrate good news stories in your communities and cast a vision for mission and ministry for the year ahead. Now is a great time to invite your congregation to support that vision with their time, talent and financial generosity.

Budgets are a tool to help us organize and operate our communities of faith. But they also reflect our ministry and mission priorities. Do we maintain our buildings to preserve something for ourselves, or to provide places where ministry and mission can happen?

We need to be realistic about our financial positions but we don't need to be gloomy if we

are willing to develop a vision for ministry and mission which we can invite our communities to support.

One of the key tools of congregational development is stewardship education. This is about so much more than making budgets and repairing the roof. It is about releasing financial resources to do the ministry you want to do. That includes human resources as well as finances.

There are some GREAT NEWS stories around the Diocese from parishes that are engaging with stewardship education.

- St Michael and all Angels in Pierrefonds did a six-week campaign and included a stewardship relay that engaged many people in the work of the campaign. They stretched their goal for financial pledging and did very well. Archdeacon Michelle Eason personally wrote all the thank you cards afterwards. Great

work! There was some negative push back – talking about financial generosity can make us uncomfortable. But even negative responses help us understand our community better and make us think about how we can communicate the vision of our ministry. It's all good!

- The Parish of Rawdon was facing a budget deficit this year. They did some stewardship communication and the parish responded generously. The result is that they made their budget! Fantastic news: a little bit of effort and an excellent response.

Congratulations to both of these parishes! Their efforts created positive momentum upon which they can build. That is what we want: positive momentum. These are only two stories - I know there are others out there. At its best, stewardship education and campaigning engages your congregation

with the ministry your parish is doing or wants to do and the resources you need to carry it out. It is grounded on the core practises of **Inspire, Ask and Thank**.

- Everything you do should inspire generosity. Think about the good things your parish is doing, the ministry, the mission and outreach, the things you do that make your community authentically church. Find those inspiring stories, big or small, of God working amongst you. Those form the core of your communication in written materials, online and in person. Try a narrative budget that tells the story of your faith community in a way people can understand. If you can't come up with an inspiring reason for people to support your church – then call me!
- Your ask comes out of your inspiration. You are asking your congregation

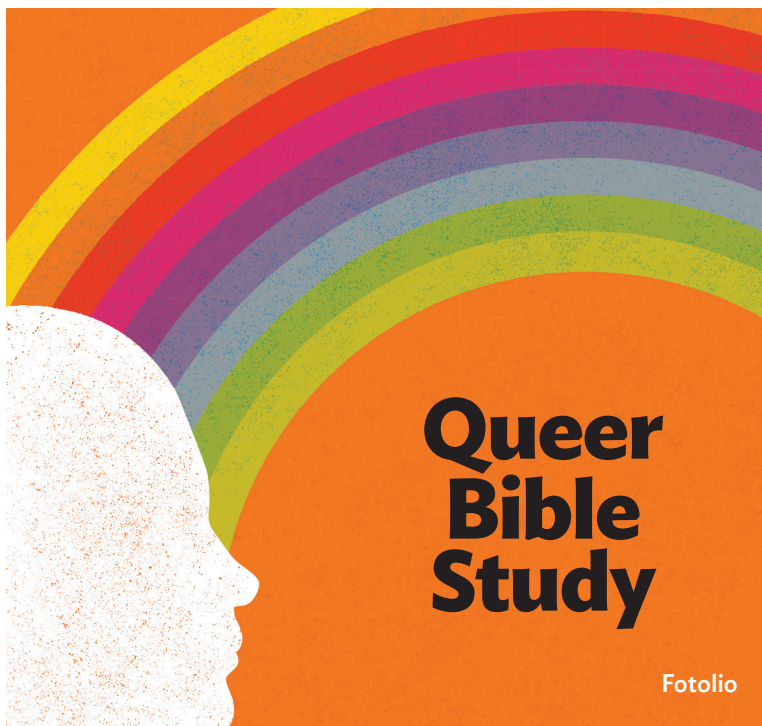
to invest in the ministry of your church. Among the best practises is to encourage proportionate giving with some kind of automated direct debit system. Statistically, it is still the case that if everyone in a given congregation gave a tithe of 2.5% of net income most churches would have the resources they need.

- Finally always take the time to thank your donors. They have invested in you, so invest a little time in them by writing thank you notes that are timely and personal.

Any church or faith community can do the work of stewardship education. If your church is small, start by just thanking all of your donors. Budget time is coming up, so now is a great time to have meetings to talk about your dreams and visions for your ministry.

The benefits are many. You will gain in financial stability.

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NINA HERMES

Queer Bible Study(ish) is a monthly Bible study for the LGBTQIA+ community. Its purpose is to create a Christian-ish space for queers to have fellowship, study the Bible, and support one another in community in a non-judgemental, non-denominational, trans-positive, inclusive, anti-oppressive space.

The group originated, interestingly enough, from a post in a queer exchange Facebook group. Seth, one of the co-coordinators, asked, via a post, if anyone would be interested in starting an informal, peer-led, queer Bible study. Myself, Juno, and JJ all reached out to Seth expressing our interest, and the planning for the group began.

When the four of us met for the first time, I was struck by how different our backgrounds were (in church affiliation, worship styles, current church participation, etc.) but how similar our goals were. All of us had had experiences in both queer and Christian spaces where we felt that we could not

be both fully queer and Christian, and wanted a space where we could be in community and study the Bible as fully ourselves, bringing the best parts of those communities together.

After a number of planning meetings, we had our space, our structure, and our poster ready to go. Cafe Velours in Villeray, where we had been having our planning meetings, graciously allowed us to use their basement space for the Bible study. We decided to have a member volunteer to facilitate each month, leading a discussion on whatever Bible passage or topic they wanted, followed by prayer and fellowship. Now all there was left to do was spread the word.

In the weeks leading up to the Bible study, none of us knew how many people to expect. We were hoping for maybe ten participants tops. We got twenty.

The folks who attended our first Queer Bible Study(ish) were from a wide variety of backgrounds, including (but not at all limited to) current church-goers, those raised in

the church who'd since left, and non-Christians who found scripture important to their spiritual practice. I facilitated a discussion around Acts 4:32-35 and 1 John 4:11-16, two passages that look at very different aspects of early Christian communities.

The discussion was heartfelt, vibrant, and captivating, as people shared how they related to the passages, their own experiences of community, and how they could relate this to their lives. It was both intellectually stimulating and heartwarming, while all-over soul-nourishing.

The overwhelmingly positive response we've received after the first Bible study is proof of how important affirming spaces like these are for the queer community and for the church. The church, in its historical as well as modern iterations, has perpetuated and still continues to perpetuate trauma against queer and trans folks by remaining non-affirming, upholding harmful standards of sexuality and gender, and participating in practices like conversion therapy.

As a result of this trauma, many queer and trans folks who leave the church may never be able to return. But spaces like this Bible study, where queer and trans folks can explore the intersections of their queer and Christian identities in a safe and neutral space, hopefully help to right some of those wrongs.

I think all four of us organizers walked away from our first meeting that night with a renewed sense of excitement and hope for the future as we continue to gather in community to meet one another exactly where each person is at.

For information on the Queer Bible Study please email queerbiblestudy@gmail.com.

520 — 75th Avenue, LaSalle, Qué. H8R 2P5

50

*St. Lawrence Anglican Church
will be celebrating a*

Luncheon

With Entertainment

Sponsored by The Boomers

Saturday, March 2nd, 2019
Starting at 1:00PM

Donations

Adults: \$20.00
Children 7-12 yrs.: \$10.00

For more information, please call:
Joseph: (514) 402-4439
Orpha: (514) 0570

Come celebrate with us 50 years of ministry

Notable

Lenten Lunches 2019 at Christ Church Beaurepaire
455 Church rue, Beaconsfield

Every Wednesday from March 13 to April 17, 2019
11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Each week there will be a different soup prepared and hosted by a different church congregation, all coming together under one roof.

The lunch includes a hot bowl of soup, bun, cheese, dessert, tea or coffee and fellowship for \$8.00

There will be a Lenten Service at 10:30 am each Wednesday before the lunch.

All Lenten Lunches take place at Christ Church Beaurepaire

The Masai Arrow

RASHID

Rashid currently resides at the Federal Prison in Cowansville. He is a member of the Yamaska Literacy Group and recently won an award for his writing. He is originally from Tanzania.

My neighbour Aza enjoys archery and has a target set up in his back yard. Sometimes I would watch him shooting arrows at melons or balloons or even pumpkins. He's a very good archer, but sometimes even Aza missed the target and an arrow would end up sticking in the side of his garage.

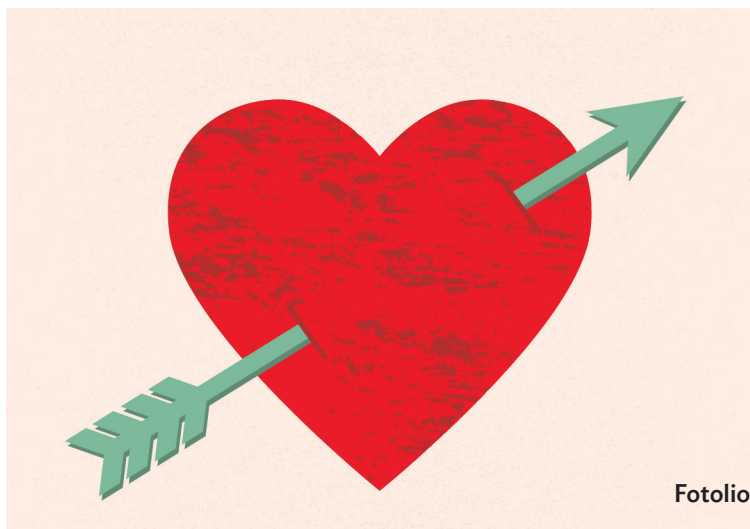
One day I was standing behind him watching him shoot at empty cans on a bench. The first arrow went straight through a can, but the second arrow glanced off the edge of the bench, flew up into the air and came down, sticking in the ground a few feet away from me. Aza was upset and tried to apologize to me.

"You almost got wounded by the second arrow," he said. I hadn't been scared at all because I'd seen the arrow

coming and knew I wasn't in danger, but Aza's words hit me like a bullet right in my heart. "Wounded by second arrow," was the perfect description of a very bad habit I had. I'd been guilty of firing the second arrow at too many people for too long.

When people hurt me, the first thing I did was tell someone about it. If a vendor in a store was rude to me, I would call my friend Edna and tell her all about it. Because she was my friend, she'd sympathize and agree with me that the vendor was an awful person. If someone criticized me and hurt my feelings, I'd tell Edna I was hurt and we would agree that people just didn't appreciate us.

I might have felt as if I'd been wounded, wrongly wounded at times by people, but when I dumped my feelings on Edna, I was shooting a second arrow into my friend. It would upset her and spoil her day. Because she cared about me if I was hurting, she would share my pain. I would relive and rerun the tapes in my head



Fotolio

over and over again. Why be hurt and upset once, if you could relive it seventy times in your head? If I was wounded, I would relive and repeat my stories of being "wounded" until I had so many arrows sticking out of my chest, I looked like a porcupine with hundreds of quills sticking out of me.

So I decided in the future, when I was hurt, I would not keep pointing at the invisible arrow sticking out of my chest and complain about it. I would not shoot an arrow into anyone else by repeating the stories of how I'd been hurt. I

couldn't believe how much I complained about trivial things every day; I got caught up in traffic, someone honked at me, or the shopkeeper at the store charged me for two packets of cigarettes when I bought only one. Were any of these things important? Did they matter? None of these things deserved one minute of my time. The stories didn't deserve to be repeated to my friends. I expected sympathy, so I could feel justified in feeling hurt or upset.

It was an amazing revelation to me that I was so self-

righteous and toxic. I asked Aza if he had any damaged or broken arrows that I could have. He gave me an arrow that had snapped in half when it had hit a baobab. I took the broken arrow and buried it in my mother's flower garden with a note I'd written to myself. It said that I was not going to wound myself or anyone else with a "second" arrow. It took a while to learn to keep my mouth shut and to learn that I didn't need to express an opinion about everything and everyone. What other people did or didn't do was none of my business; what I did or didn't do was none of their business.

Life suddenly became so much simpler. Get over it, let it go, forget it. If something happens that makes me feel like I have been shot with an arrow, I mentally pull the arrow out of my chest, break it in half, throw it away and forget it. I don't tell anyone if I have had a bad day and by not reliving it, by reletting it, my troubles fade away and quickly disappear.

The second arrow missed the target.

Do You Recognize this Historic Home on Guy Street?



SUE WINN

Whenever someone walks into Fulford Residence for the first time they say, "I have always wondered what this building was!" Montrealers who drive or walk along Guy Street, just below Ste. Catherine St., frequently miss this magnificent old home, despite its location beside the Bar-B-Barn. Plan to visit us!

The house is set back from the road, surrounded by trees and gardens in the spring and summer months. Fulford is a unique residence that can accommodate 38 senior ladies, each with a room of her own. Fulford provides a high quality of care in both English and French, with delicious meals and many activities and services in an environment that is warm and caring. Many say it feels just like home. And for

those who require temporary rehabilitation, Fulford offers respite care when a room is available.

Fulford is a not-for-profit residence administered by a volunteer Board of Directors, with managers and staff, and many dedicated volunteers. Established in 1855, Fulford is maintained through a reasonable and competitive level of fees, donations from friends and families, as well as several generous foundations.

To learn more about the Fulford Residence, visit their website, www.fulfordresidence.com or call 514-933-7975 to plan a tour of this beautiful home. If you know a senior lady who is in need of a comfortable, loving and safe place to live, let her know about Fulford, a very special place in the middle of Montreal.

Human Trafficking

continued from p.4

Canada and beyond.

Our keynote speaker is Anthony Housefather MP- chair of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights- whose committee released (in December 2018) a report on trafficking in Canada following a year of cross-country consultations.

Other speakers are Kevin Dixon, the Executive Director of IJM (International Justice Mission Canada), Connie Sorio,

Migrant Justice Coordinator from Kairos Canada and Michael-John Riopel, Human Trafficking Awareness Coordinator for the RCMP here in Montreal. A representative from the Indigenous community is also planned.

Please come, please share please register!

For information or to register contact Penny Rankin at StMatthias.forum@gmail.com

The Circus

continued from p.4

for every \$1 spent in a Canadian church, the community receives \$4 of benefit. However, even as the philosophical, historical and emotional arguments are made around these tragic closures, there seems to be little real financial resource to come to the rescue.

The Trinity Centres Foundation believes it has found a new source of funding, in the form of social impact lending. If arts, community, cultural and charitable work can actually be measured--and Canada's lead-

ing funds are truly prepared to invest financially, based on that impact--then a new circuit is created and a new funding route can be inaugurated. Only the next few months and years will tell if this is indeed the solution we have all been waiting for. In the meantime, the preparatory work for the Foundation's operating model may help to uncover even more revenue opportunities, such as renting to... the circus! See le-monastere.ca and trinitycentres.org.

Notable

ACW Lenten Day of Reflection 14 March, 2019. In Fulford Hall, Cathedral Place, 1444 Union Ave. in Montreal. Registration at 9:30. Eucharist and Lunch.

News from the Mission Committee

PENNY RANKIN

Mrs Penny Rankin is Chair of the Standing Committee on Mission

In early September the Mission Standing Committee began an exercise that we hoped would help to inspire and to encourage parishes to develop projects. We created a chart - or map - of all of the parish-based outreach and mission programs happening in our diocese. This mapping exercise, now almost complete, is truly impressive - though, when reviewed from the clinical perspective of an Excel spreadsheet, it does not properly reflect our Diocese's outpouring of caring and compassion.

Certainly, we now have a tool that can - and hopefully will - enable us to connect parishes who might have valuable expertise in setting up parallel projects. There is a wealth of

both talent and experience we can all tap into...but such a dry document is not the path forward. We concluded that what we need is a narrative that will cheer on and help facilitate communal actions rather than a chart or a barrage of emails that might not be given full attention.

So, in the coming months expect to read a series of Mission Stories, as we share vignettes of the heart-driven work of the Diocese.

Keeping in mind that the Marks of Mission will always be our core guiding principle in deciding applications, please also stay tuned for announcements regarding parameter adjustments being made to our granting procedures!

For a grant application and more information, visit us at www.montreal.anglican.ca/mission-standing-committee/.



Looking for Support in the Tech Area?

Here is a suggestion as to how your parish might afford a way to feature large-screen presentations:

While so called Smart TV'S are best they are costly. However, if you purchase a large (50 inch or more) high-definition but non-smart TV you can likely find one for well under \$500. By then also purchasing a fairly inexpensive device (usually under \$50) you can turn your older version basic HDTV into a so-

called Smart TV!

Just a suggestion for church goers whose budget might be limited-but whose community might benefit.

For more information: www.pc-world.com/article/2068532/how-to-transform-any-hdtv-into-a-smart-tv.html

- The Mission Committee

AFC Meeting *cont from p. 5*

diocese and of those about 14 are active members and there are around 20 individuals donors. The minimum amount to maintain eligibility for grants is \$50 annually, but it has been suggested this be increased to \$100 annually.

The Foundation is the collective responsibility of all Anglicans and so I hope that you will check with your parish to find out if you are an annual donor. All grant recipients are invited to pay it forward with an annual donation so that another parish may receive a grant when they need it, and we hope that every parish in our diocese will make an annual donation in 2019.

Visit www.anglicanfoundation.org.

Montreal Diocesan Theological College

CONVOCATION

MAY 6

2019

7:00 PM




Please join us for the

Conferral of degrees and diplomas on our graduating students

and

The Honorary Degree of Doctor of Divinity

on

The Bishops of Quebec and Montreal

The Right Rev. Bruce Meyers OGS and the Right Rev. Mary Irwin-Gibson

St. George's Anglican Church
1001 Avenue des Canadiens-de-Montréal Montréal, QC H3B 3B3
Metro: Bonaventure

www.montrealdio.ca | info@montrealdio.ca



MONTREAL DIO
MONTREAL DIOCESAN THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE 2019

Notable

St. Lawrence Anglican Church will host a 50th Anniversary Luncheon on Saturday, March 2nd, 2019, starting at 1:00PM, at the church — located at 520 - 75th Avenue, LaSalle. Tickets are available for \$20 for adults and \$10 for children 7-12yrs. Come celebrate with us 50 years of ministry! For more information, please contact Joseph at 514-402-4439 or Orpha at 514-364-0570.

Notable

The seniors of St. Paul's Greenfield Park will hold their monthly activities on the following dates:

- March 16th at 1:30 It's Happy St. Patrick's day with The Young Irish dancers.
- April 20th at 1:30, Welcome to Spring featuring our favorite keyboard player and vocalist Greg Inness and to close up for the summer we will have our Spring luncheon at 12:30 featuring the Montreal City Voices The Ladies Barber Shop Singers.

So come and join us at some or all of the above events and enjoy lots of food, fun and fellowship. For more information, please call 450-672-0105 or 450-672-7499.

Notable

Supper, Scripture and Kids Club, Christ Church Beaufort

Every Friday from March 22 to April 12, 2019 at 6 pm.

A teaching series led by Fr. Ryan Cook on the narrative of the Old Testament up to Christ. This series will take us deeper into the story and emphasises the goodness of God to us in Christ.

The gatherings will begin at 6 pm with dinner, followed by a 45 minute teaching session for those 16 years old and over. While the adults are receiving teaching, we will have a Kids Club where the children will be covering, in an age appropriate way, the same content.

Please call 514-697-2204 to register. Christ Church Beaufort, 455 Church St. (at Fieldfare), Beaconsfield. christchurch@qc.aibn.com

Equipping the Saints

Seeing Christ in all People A week at the Mile End Mission

TYSON ROSBERG

Tyson L. Rosberg is a student at the Montreal Diocesan Theological College

As part of my student formation at the Montreal Diocesan Theological College, I spent a week volunteering at the Mile End Mission. As the Mission is located on the busy corner of Bernard and St-Urbain, I had walked past it many times, but never ventured inside.

When I pushed open the door and shook off the snow from my boots, I entered into a bustling community hub inside. A group was fervently searching the friperie for the latest fashion arrivals, while others enjoyed warm coffee on a cold day. Conversations were happening in English, French, Spanish, Greek, Portuguese, and other languages I couldn't pick out; there was laughing and lively discussion, even dancing the Twist as Chubbie Checker's soulful voice sang out over the radio. It felt more like I was entering into a popular Mile End coffee shop or club (which of course it kind-of is, as I soon came to learn).

The Mission has existed since the 1980s, when it originally operated out of the basement of the Anglican Church of the Ascension on Avenue Parc.

Today, the Mission is made up of well over 500 members living in the Mile End/Plateau/Parc-Ex neighbourhood area.

Over 15,000 hot meals and 10,000 grocery bags are distributed by the Mission each year. But, the Mission is more than that.

The Mission hosts a weekly legal clinic, helps provide twice-a-year dental services, and offers referral and accompaniment to support services, including counselling and medical care. But, the Mission is still more than that.

The Mission offers weekly yoga classes, community art programs dinners and special outings, even hot showers for members without housing. But, the Mission is more than all of its outreach and social services!

When I asked people what the Mission means to them, they said things like: "family," "community," "friends," "home," "support," "love," "a reason to get out of bed each day," "a place to go when there is nowhere else to go." The Mission is an important community hub, providing structure, purpose, and meaning for its members.

Most of my time at the Mission was spent in a prayerful ministry of presence: I helped out wherever I could, greeted members and shared stories.



Poverty workshop at the Mission with the team and special guests Tyson L. Rosberg & Rev. Dr. Jesse Zink of the Montreal Diocesan Theological College, Francis Ojo of the Dillon Ojo Lifeline Fdn. & Rev. Roslyn Macgregor, the Mission's Honorary Chaplain.

We ate together, told jokes, even played a rowdy game of Trivial Pursuit.

On my last day we did a collaborative community art project centred on the theme of poverty. Unfortunately, it was a subject that too many had personal experience with. Some shared stories from their childhood -- of not having money for electricity, of working in Montreal factories, not being able to afford new shoes, of dropping out of school to help support the family -- stories that put real, human faces to an otherwise sterile word, "pov-

erty." Others made a collage using images and words that spoke to us about the experience of poverty. The images selected were grotesque, with relatable words: "painful," "ugly," "shameful," "broken," "wretched," "not human," "hidden," "not my problem," "forgotten about," "ignored," "unseen."

In Baptism, we make the promise to "seek and serve Christ in all people, loving your neighbour as yourself." It is not an easy call, and one all too easily forgotten. How many times have I hurriedly

ignored someone on the street asking for money? How often have I failed to truly and really see the person sitting on the roadside in the cold -- to see Christ in them? I'm not alone in this.

Saying "yes" in Baptism isn't a magical formula to making the world a better place. Seeking and serving Christ in all people, loving your neighbour as yourself is hard, ongoing, day-by-day, step-by-step work. As Christians, we are committed to striving for the realization of the will of God in all realms of life.

The Mile End is a place where people -- all people, from a variety of unique backgrounds and stories -- are welcomed and nurtured. It is a community where people are really and truly seen, where Christ is seen in them.

I am thankful for the time I spent in the Mile End Mission, as it provided an environment for me to come-up against my own unfair prejudices, and to be constantly re-reminded of my Baptismal calling as a follower of Jesus.

Next time you're in the Mile End, I encourage you to visit the Mission, and experience a vibrant community where the real work of the Kingdom is lived out daily.

**VIGILE DE PAQUES
EASTER VIGIL**

ALLELUIA!

**Samedi, le 20 avril à 19h00
Saturday, April 20, 7:00pm**

**Mission Mile-End Mission
99, Bernard O.**



From left to right: Pam Davidson McLernon, Norman Jourdenais, Geraldine Jourdenais, Maggie Bromfield, Thomas Osborne-O'Donnell, Lynn Osborne and The Rev. Andy O'Donnell. Photo by Elizabeth Osborne-O'Donnell.

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 November 11, 2018 at dusk, many churches throughout Canada participated with the Royal Canadian Legion and the Government of Canada's program called "Bells of Peace". This event commemorates the 100th Anniversary of the Armi-

stice ending World War I.

A number of churches from the Deanery of Bedford Brome and Shefford rang their bells to honor our veterans. They were, St. Thomas' in Noyan and St. George's in Clarenceville, St. Paul's in Mansonville, St. Paul's in Philipburg (struggling with a broken bell), St James the Apostle in Stanbridge-East and St James in Bedford.

The United Churches in Bedford and Clarenceville,

along with Saint-Damien Roman Catholic Church in Bedford also participated.

The picture above is from St James, Bedford. For additional pictures from across Canada go to www.legion.ca/remembrance/promoting-remembrance/bells-of-peace/photos-and-videos



Crosstalk Ministries is busy gearing up for another exciting summer!



Day Camps is offering a fun-filled program packed with songs and stories, games and creative activities. The package cost is \$675 and includes a fully trained team, audio-visual materials, program manuals, planning guides and basic supplies. This year the stories are from the Gospel of Luke and each story is set in a house mentioned in the Gospel.

Our classic program runs from 10am – 3pm, Monday through Friday, with a special closing worship gathering (other schedule options also available). Dates for 2019: July 6th – 14th, July 14th – 21st, July 21st – 28th, July 28th – August 4th.

Looking for an opportunity to serve God this summer? Young adults ages 16+ can apply to join our Day Camp Travelling Teams from June 22nd -August 4th. Day Camps is a volunteer 6 week short-term mission project that enables youth to spread the Good News. Team Members will serve communities across Canada.

CTM Residential Camps will be taking place August 11th -17th. Junior Youth Camp, for campers ages 8-12years, is held at Cedar Lodge on Lake Memphramagog. The JYC Speaker will be Leanne Strauss, who is a parishioner at St-Peters TMR and has lots of children's camp experience.

Senior Youth Camp, for youth ages 13-18 years, is held at Camp Livingstone on Fitch Bay.

Online Registration for both Residential Camps is already open and application forms for churches wishing to host a Day Camp or for young adults wishing to apply for Travelling Team are also available from the CTM Website- www.crosstalkministries.ca

For further information about any of these ministries contact us at (514)-484-1414 www.facebook.com/Crosstalk-Ministries-Canada

Stewardship Education *continued from p. 8*

Any church or faith community can do the work of stewardship education. If your church is small, start by just thanking all of your donors. Budget time is coming up, so now is a great time to have meetings to talk about your dreams and visions for your ministry.

The benefits are many. You will gain in financial stability. By communicating to your community about the ministry and financial needs of the parish, you engage them and find out more about what they are thinking and feeling. You are calling the members of the parish to be more than names

on the roll: you are inviting them to be the People of God engaged in the Mission of God.

I am always happy to come to your parish to talk about stewardship education. One resource I highly recommend is Giving our Thanks and Praise which you can find at the Anglican Church of Canada website: <https://www.anglican.ca/gifts/gtp/>

This resource offers options that you can pick and choose for your parish. Try a full-on stewardship campaign or select elements of one that you can do. Try it out – a little bit of effort can yield very positive results.

Notable

Lay Reader Workshops and Events 2019

March 30th, Joel Amis: Theological Reflection: Theology in the Midst of Life (St. John the Baptist Church, Pointe Claire)

April 26th to 28th: Spring Retreat with Rev, Eli Evans, Heart's Delight- Islington, Newfoundland and Labrador, The Changing Church... Changing the Church at Manoir D'Youville, Chateauguay

May 22nd: Annual General Meeting at Cathedral Place, 1444 Union Ave. Montreal. Speaker: Rev. Ryan Cook, Social Justice in Ministry

June 8th: Giuseppe Gagliano, Anglican Diocese of Quebec, Managing funerals and end-of-life experiences, location to be determined

September 28th: Sally Harrington: "Listening to the Still Small Voice" (Rivercross Farm, 1110 Halle Road, Brigham, Quebec)

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



Heavenly Father, we are most grateful to you for the beauty of this world in which you have placed us. It is to our detriment and ignorance that we let evil exist all around us unchecked. We are horrified by the despicable practice of human trafficking which intentionally mars the lives of so many innocent, vulnerable and naïve people. We pray for all the victims of human trafficking who are our brothers and sisters in Christ and who have been hurt and abandoned through this illicit practice. God of healing and compassion, we call on you to be with these individuals as they rebuild their lives far from the constraints of their jailers. We pray for those still seeking freedom and liberation and beseech you Lord to be with them in their time of need.

God of courage and justice, we ask you to help us to pray for this enemy, the corrupt beings who feel empowered to commit these horrific crimes and are spurred on by greed and dominance. We pray that like John Newton who penned Amazing Grace they will have a

conversion, see the errors of their ways, and work to bring down this corrupt system. In the meantime, we pray to you God of action and infinite possibilities to help us shine a light on this inhumanity and work to stamp out this evil practice. We pray that you will give us the ability to break down the structures that allow it to flourish. Through your guidance, help us to make better and informed decisions about the products we buy, the trips we take and the charities we support. Help us gracious God to find the voice, the energy and the urgency we need to take up the challenge of eradicating human trafficking for good.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.
God bless, Valerie and Stacey

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Canada Briefs

Prepared by Joelle Kidd,
Anglican Journal staff writer

London priests launch pub-set podcast

In October 2018, a new podcast re-examining the role of faith and the place of church in society was launched in London, Ont., from an unlikely place.

The diocese of Huron's Canon Kevin George, rector of St. Aidan's, and the Rev. Rob Henderson, rector of the parish of Holy Trinity-St. Stephen's Memorial, are behind "The Vicars' Crossing." The podcast features the two priests conversing about faith over a pint and is recorded in the top floor of a local pub.

George was moved to start the podcast "as a way of reaching out to the community beyond the walls of our church," he says. He invited Henderson to join, and the two settled on the formula of casual conversation about the intersection between faith and the public square.

They approached Stephen Rogers, manager at Crossings Pub and Eatery and made a deal: Rogers would cover the cost of the recording equipment and provide a room in which to record, and in return, the pub would get recognition as a sponsor in every episode.

Each episode features a different guest, from best-selling author Michael Higgins to the diocese of Huron's PWRDF representative Canon Greg Smith.

After the tragic shooting at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh, Penn., the pod-

casters invited Rabbi Debra Dressler on the show for a conversation about ways to come to one another's aid in the midst of such crises.

To help with the technical aspects of the project, the two enlisted Iain Stevenson, a member of St. Aidan's and a student at Central Secondary School. All the technical set-up, recording, editing and even the theme music is the work of the skilled 17-year-old.

The podcast is available on YouTube and Soundcloud, and at www.facebook.com/vicarscrossing.

— Huron Church News

Youth group strengthens inter-faith ties with gingerbread

A youth group in the diocese of Ottawa used its annual fundraiser to donate to the families of victims of a synagogue shooting in Pittsburgh, Penn.

On December 2, 2018, #Limitless, the youth group at St. James Manotick, Ont., hosted its eighth annual Advent Lunch and Gingerbread Church decorating event. The all-ages event features gingerbread churches—gingerbread houses topped with an ice cream cone "steeple" and pretzel cross.

This year proceeds were donated to families of victims of the shooting at Tree of Life Synagogue in October 2018.

As an additional demonstration of solidarity and friendship, one of the gingerbread houses was given as a gift of friendship to local synagogue Ottawa Torah Centre Chabad (Barrhaven Synagogue). The gingerbread synagogue, which

was decorated with a sugar cookie Star of David, was given to mark the occasion of Hanukkah.

On the seventh day of Hanukkah, several #Limitless youth attended a service at Ottawa Torah Centre Chabad and presented the gingerbread creation.

"We often think things we do don't matter; it's the big gestures that matter. And in reality, it can be the small things we do for others, the time we take to build relationships that have the biggest impact on others," says youth group leader Donna Rourke. "We made a difference to an entire faith community by making a Star of David out of cookie dough and attaching it to a decorated gingerbread house and bringing it to them; offering to their faith community a very small gift."

Rabbi Menachem Blum, of Ottawa Torah Centre Chabad, invited local media to cover the story. In a message of thanks after the service, he wrote, "On behalf of our community I want to thank you once again for your heartwarming gift...It truly enhanced our Hanukkah celebration and we are grateful for your friendship."

— Crosstalk