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the Messenger

A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL SERVING THE DIOCESES OF ATHABASCA AND EDMONTON

APRIL 2009



“May I present three newly minted priests in the church of God.” Edmonton Bishop Jane Alexander introduced (l-r) Rev. Alexandra Meek Sharman, Rev. Thomas Dean and Rev. Donna Willer to a full house at All Saints’ Anglican Cathedral in downtown Edmonton. The ordinations took place March 22, 2009. An amazing \$780 was collected during the service bringing the “Give Hope...Give a Net” campaign for Burundi to a total of \$2,693.18, or 180 insecticide-treated nets.

PrayerWorks Hall sees new name, mission

By MARGARET MARSCHALL



Buoyed by the foundation of its new ministry centre, an Anglican parish in Edmonton’s inner city continues to reach out to its surrounding community – working to alleviate physical and spiritual hunger, one meal at a time.

St. Faith’s and the Diocese of Edmonton opened the doors to their million-dollar outreach centre in 2006. Although the building was christened PrayerWorks Hall, it has recently been re-named the St. Faith’s Ministry Centre.

“We are really focused on the important ministry work that happens within the building, rather than on the building itself,” says Edmonton Bishop Jane Alexander, explaining the new moniker. “We want the centre to be known for what it truly is - a hub for ministry.”

Over the past three years, St. Faith’s rector Rev. Wendy Ainsworth has established a team of caring and committed volunteers, comprised of parishioners and other community members, to provide support and life skills to those in need.

Ainsworth and her team have developed outreach programs aimed at promoting independence and personal integrity, with the intent of creating a strong sense of community in the Alberta Avenue area.

“Our goal is to raise up leaders within the community,” says Ainsworth, “to teach people life skills, while affirming their self worth.”

The Ministry Centre’s Collective Kitchen program, for example, provides individuals and families with an

opportunity to prepare simple and nutritious meals.

“It’s a way to stretch food dollars, plus so much more,” says Ainsworth. The program brings together people who aren’t likely to cross paths in their everyday lives.

For just \$3, each person who registers for the Collective Kitchen program can help prepare and take home four nutritious meals. The modern kitchen in the Ministry Centre is stocked with staple goods, while the cost of additional ingredients is subsidized by St. Faith’s. A Collective Kitchen leader, usually someone from within the community, is in charge of meal planning and grocery shopping. Every member of the Collective Kitchen has a role in preparing the meals.

In addition to the Collective Kitchen, the Ministry Centre offers a popular Junior Chef program for youth in grades 7-9. The young cooks leading Junior Chef are a brother and sister who grew up in the community, and currently attend NAIT. Junior Chef teens are taught all the basic cooking skills that don’t involve operating a microwave. In the Junior Chef kitchen, mac and cheese from a box is a forbidden food. Instead, the emerging culinary artists prepare healthy alternatives, such as rice pilafs, stuffed peppers and chicken tacos. While their creations simmer, the teens take a break from cooking and play organized games in the parish hall. >> SEE MINISTRY CENTRE PAGE 3

Bishop's corner

Finding our own place

Dear Friends,

It has been a busy time in the diocese this past couple of months and there seem to be many new things and signs of new birth happening. I would like to start by saying how grateful I am for the prayerful response to our Burundi campaign. I look forward to you having the chance to meet Bishop Sixbert and his wife Clotilde in May. We will let you know details of the events planned around the Edmonton diocese as soon as possible.

In March I attended the Provincial House of Bishops for the Bishops of Rupertsland. We met for a retreat and then a business meeting at St. Peter's Abbey in Muenster. St. Peter's Abbey is the oldest Benedictine monastery in Canada. It was founded in 1903.

One afternoon a couple of us were taken by the guest-master, Brother Demetrius, to see St. Peter's Cathedral. It was an afternoon of incredible surprises. As we approached the wooden white building, you can see here in the photo, it was a wonderful prairie scene with snow on the ground and frosting on the trees. With this fairly plain exterior I think I was anticipating a plain interior, but as we opened the door what a sight met our eyes.



Bishop Jane Alexander

The interior of the cathedral is painted, now you may not feel a sense of surprise yet, but painted with close to one hundred life sized figures painted by the celebrated German artist Berthold Imhoff. Particularly amazing was the scene in the sanctuary of crowds of people from all ages gathered around Christ risen and ascended.

It took my breath away and caused me to think about how this season of resurrection is one of tremendous surprises. That Jesus, the Son of God, conquered death and in that act the promises of God are there for all to see. For me, this is the constancy of God, that through Jesus Christ we are



Snow blankets the quiet landscape surrounding St. Peter's Cathedral in Muenster (top). The unassuming building houses a stunning interior of over 100 hand-painted figures by German artist Berthold Imhoff (right).



renewed. It is as though God sees into our very most being and reveals to us the beautiful child of God that we are called to be. I remember a few years ago looking at those advertisements for film – hard to believe in this day of digital cameras – but the ads had a long line of babies, perhaps you remember them. Whenever I looked at those babies

I realized that every single one was beautiful, and that there is no such thing as an ugly baby. Each of us is beautiful to God and He longs for us to believe that, and to be reconciled to Him in Christ. I hope that this season of Easter we each enter into the unrestrained joy of the resurrection and find our own place in the multitudes around God's throne.

Notes from the Bishop

The **Rev. Christian Gordon** was appointed an Honorary Deacon Assistant at St. Matthias, Edmonton effective April 1, 2009.

The **Rev. Colleen Sanderson** was appointed Interim Priest-in-Charge at St. Matthew's, St. Albert effective April 1, 2009.



Rev. Colleen Sanderson

Nets for Burundi Update Thank-you to everyone who has contributed to The "Building Hope" nets for Burundi project. Many parishes have donated the proceeds from their pancake

suppers, and personal donations continue to grow. Please send cheque donations to the Diocese of Edmonton, memo-marked Burundi Nets. More information on the "Building Hope" project, including colourful posters in PDF-format, is available on our website: www.edmonton.anglican.org. "Give hope...Give a net."

Poverty Justice Camp Registration is now open for the Anglican Church of Canada's fourth justice camp: "Poverty Justice Camp: Finding Abundance" (Aug 9-15) in the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Justice campers will tackle topics such as homelessness and the urban-rural divide. The event is intentionally diverse: 50 per cent of participants are under 30, and 50 per cent are from outside of the host diocese. Travel costs are included in the registration fees: participants from Nova Scotia and P.E.I. pay \$350; New Brunswick residents, \$650; and those from other provinces pay \$950. The deadline for registration is June 12, 2009. Interested in learning more? Visit the website, www.justicecamp.ca, or email the organizers at justicecamp@gmail.com.

Interim Ministry Workshop A 3-day workshop for clergy who wish to learn more about transitional ministry, and equip themselves with the skills to be trained Intentional Interim Priests, will be held (Sep 15-17) at St. Benedict's

Retreat Centre, 225 Masters Avenue, West St. Paul, Manitoba. The registration brochure is available online at www.rupertsland.ca. For more information call (204) 992-4200, or email general@rupertsland.ca.

Christian Food Justice Conference The Social Justice Institute 2009 will hold a workshop, "Hungry for Justice: The World Food Crisis and You" at King's University College, 9125 – 50th Street, Edmonton (May 7-9). Guest speakers will include the Rev. Cathy Campbell, rector of St. Matthew's Anglican Parish in inner-city Winnipeg, and author of *Stations at the Banquet: Faith Foundations for Food Justice*. Fair Trade, The 100 Mile Diet, Inner City Food Security, Urban Farming and Food and Worship, are just a few of the many workshop topics. A special program for teachers and students (Grade 9-12), will be offered on Friday, May 8. For more information, contact sji2009@live.ca, or visit www.albertasynod.ca/social_ministry/sji_2009.

New ministry Holy Trinity Riverbend Neighborhood Church, 1428-156 Street, Edmonton, held its first publicly-advertised service in March. Rector Michael Sung and the church planting team would appreciate your prayers as we begin this ministry in Terwilligar Towne.

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Synod & beyond



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>> MINISTRY CENTRE CONTINUED FROM COVER PAGE

For city residents seeking kindness and a hot meal, the Ministry Centre hosts community breakfasts and suppers each month. Every second and fourth Saturday, volunteers graciously serve fluffy pancakes, warm coffee, and other dishes that happen to be on the menu that morning. Every third Friday, visitors to the Ministry Centre can enjoy a home-cooked supper with all the trimmings. The food is supplied by the Edmonton Food Bank, St. Faith's and individual donors.

While youth and family-oriented activities are an integral part of the regularly scheduled events at the Ministry Centre, a special supper just for women is held every second Thursday of the month. From September until June, the Women's Supper is an opportunity for ladies to gather for fellowship, food and fun. In 2008/09, guest speakers at

the suppers have explored the theme, "Women of Faith." Bishop Jane Alexander will give the Women's Supper address in May. Women's Supper attendees are also invited to a Women's Retreat weekend, held at Lake Nakamun, an hour north of Edmonton. Sponsorship is available for those who can not afford the fee. In June, the Women's Supper season concludes with a picnic and prayer walk in one of the city parks.

As a church leader and a community supporter, Ainsworth is committed to the success of the Ministry Centre, though she admits that the amount of work involved with delivering outreach programs is almost overwhelming. Especially for a parish that averages just 30 regular Sunday service attendees.

"Our resources [human and financial] are maxed," she says. Still, she remains optimistic that the community will continue to support outreach initiatives, and eventually

take over the responsibility of administering programs. She is pleased to note that a food basket program initiated at the Ministry Centre continues to thrive, and is now run by other community organizations.

Volunteer support and food donations are always welcome at the Ministry Centre. Ainsworth says the experience for those who do lend a hand is often "eye-opening."

"For those who come to help out, it [the Ministry Centre] is an opportunity to live out their faith, and put the Gospel into action," she says.

St. Faith's, located at 11725-93rd Street, **will hold a fundraising roast beef dinner and silent auction on Saturday, April 18.** The public is encouraged to attend and tickets are available for \$25. For more information about the fundraising dinner and programs offered through the Ministry Centre, please call the church office at (780) 477-5931.

2009 Sacred Circle to consider new province

By ALI SYMONS

No one ever really knows what ideas will arise from Sacred Circle. It's a unique time and space when Canadian Aboriginal Anglicans can meet, pray, worship, and dream about the future. This year Sacred Circle will meet in Port Elgin, Ont. from August 9 to 15, with the theme "The Mighty Wind of the Spirit: the New Beginnings."

The meeting was originally scheduled for 2008, but members of the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples (ACIP) recognized several hold-ups, including problems with the proposed University of British Columbia site. The Port Elgin site was used for the 2000 Sacred Circle and was a popular choice for 2009.

Since 1988, Sacred Circles have been held every three years or so, with several landmark moments. At the 1993 circle, then-Primate Archbishop Michael Peers apologized for the church's involvement in residential schools. Twelve years later, at the 2005 circle, delegates submitted a proposal for a National Indigenous Anglican Bishop. This dream became reality in January 2007 with the

selection of Bishop Mark MacDonald.

Sacred Circle's daily schedule includes lots of open talking time for ideas to develop. Each afternoon the expected 150 participants will break out into 12 sharing circles. Elders, clergy, and young people from across Canada will attend, as well as partners, including the Council of the North bishops, the Primate, and the secretary general of the Anglican Indigenous Network, Malcolm Naea Chun.

"Sacred Circle is the only time Indigenous people have to come together and talk among themselves without feeling they're studied or watched or compared," explained Donna Bomberry, coordinator for Indigenous Ministries. "We do it in small talking circles, because sometimes they need to tell their own story, so sometimes sensitivity has to be there."

This summer, participants will mull over the idea of a new ecclesiastical province, proposed by the church's governance working group. Indigenous Ministries staff have spent much of the past two years supporting consultations with communities in northern Manitoba

and Ontario that are exploring new ways to redefine themselves into Aboriginal-led bodies. Similar conversations are also beginning in parts of northern Saskatchewan and northern Quebec.

"It's hoped that one day Sacred Circle might be the synod that gathers us in a business meeting," said Ms. Bomberry. "But it will always be a spiritual meeting where we come together, unifying us in Indigenous ministry."

Part of this unity happens through music. After long days of discussion and listening, every night ends with a gospel music jamboree, and possibly an accordion solo by the bishop of the Arctic, Andrew Atagotaaluk.

Interested in supporting Sacred Circle? To meet their \$300,000 fundraising target, Indigenous Ministries is selling editions of the First Peoples Theology Journal for \$12 each. This collection of academic and artistic Aboriginal writings covers topics such as "Remembering God" and "Creation and Other Stories." Contact Donna Bomberry by email (dbomberry@national.anglican.ca) or call (416) 924-9199 ext. 626 for information on how to order and donate.

Canada news

DOCUMENTARY FOCUSES ON JAMES SETTEE

A new television documentary has been produced about the life, teaching, and impact of Rev. James Settee, who at 86 became the oldest man ever to be ordained priest in the Anglican Communion, and who is best known for having translated John Newton's Amazing Grace in Cree.

"Jim Settee: The Way Home," written, produced and directed by Metis filmmaker Jeanne Corrigan, was to premiere at the Broadway Theatre in Saskatoon March 15, and air on March 25 and later on the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network (APTN).

"The Way Home is a retrospective of a remarkable life, and also a story of transformation for me and many others who came home through Jim's teaching," said Ms. Corrigan.

Born on the Montreal Lake Reserve, Settee was the great-grandson of an earlier James Settee, who brought the Gospel to the La Ronge and Stanley Mission area in the 1800s.

The former bishop of the diocese of Saskatchewan, Anthony Burton, once described Mr. Settee as the diocese's "living memory bank," citing that he had "attended his first diocesan synod as a child in 1912; he remembers his father's stories of having visited in Prince Albert the camp of Sitting Bull following Custer's Last Stand."

A respected elder and community builder, Mr. Settee had an active ministry: he led the renovation of the church at Little Red, Sask., and gave Cree lessons to the young.

"Settee was well-respected for his integrity, generosity, humour and kindness. He was also a good story-teller, who collected the memories of others as an enthusiastic historian," wrote the diocesan newspaper, The Saskatchewan Anglican. He was "very much a seeker of lost souls in his ministry, and of lost bodies with search and rescue teams in the Saskatchewan bush."

ORCHESTRA PERFORMS ORIGINAL WORK

The Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra recently performed *And There Was a Great Calm*, a 10-minute work by an emerging Rupert's Land composer whose music was based on her experience of camping trips and thunderstorms in the Canadian Shield country of Northwestern Ontario.

Karen Sunabacka's entry in this year's Canadian Music Centre Prairie Region Emerging Competition also earned her a \$1,000 cash prize. Her husband, Rev. Preston Parsons, rector of St. Mary Magdalene, diocese of Rupert's Land, suggested the title of her composition, drawing attention to the incident when Jesus calms the storm in the Sea of Galilee.

Anglican community

Rural Alberta reaches out to Kenya

The parishioners of St. John's, Onoway, support Kenyan children, many of whom are orphaned by AIDS. **Susan Daniel** shares her journey of fundraising, the search for clean water and St. John's work with *Hope for Life Kenya* in the valley of Kiungururia.



Susan Daniel (shown above, centre) travelled with her husband, David, to Kenya to meet with the Hope For Life director, Josephine Kiarii, and the children of the Hope For Life centre.

In 2008, more than we could ask or imagine was accomplished for Hope For Life Kenya through St. John's Outreach Program.

St. John's Anglican Church has been partners with Hope For Life Kenya for the past three years. Hope For Life is an organization in Kenya that helps care for children of whom many are orphaned by AIDS. These children are cared for in homes of relatives and community members in the valley of Kiungururia. The area is poor, and many of these families struggle to support these additions to their households. The director of Hope For Life, Josephine Kiarii, works to ensure that these children (about 110) receive a meal a day and that as many as possible attend school. Hope For Life provides hope in situations that might otherwise seem hopeless. Josephine's actions are a response to God's call, and she loves these children and cares for them both physically and spiritually.

The year 2008 began with the funds in place from 2007 activities which raised enough money for the drilling of a well at Hope For Life Kenya. This money came from individual donations, and the gathering of many musicians across the diocese for a benefit concert, where we raised \$17,000! This included donations from Spruce Grove Knights of Columbus of \$2,000 and the Spruce Grove Rotary Club of \$1,500. The Rotary Club added an additional \$1,000 at a later date as well.

David and I had agreed that when the money for drilling the well was in place, that we would make a trip to Kenya. We had anticipated about three years to achieve this, but God had other plans and the goal was accomplished in one year. We quickly began to prepare for this trip with extreme excitement and anticipation.

Though the political climate in the country was one of crisis, David and I continued with our plans and felt God's protecting hand throughout the trip, just

as God's hand had been on each step in this entire project. We were in Kenya at the Hope For Life centre as the well project began.

After three weeks of drilling, they still had not hit water. We left for home a bit disappointed that we hadn't seen the excitement of the water being hit. After four weeks of drilling water was struck at 170 meters. This is a very deep well, but the amount of water and the quality of water made it all worth while.

"Enough water was struck to provide for the entire valley. This well has the potential to supply the 4,000 people in the valley."

Water in this part of Kenya is typically high in fluoride, sometimes as high as 8 mg/litre. The World Health Organization sets 1.5mg/litre as the safe level. Again, we were blessed to have this well produce water with a fluoride level of 2.29mg/litre. This would be rectified by mixing the well water with rainwater to bring the fluoride level to a safe level. This was the completion of Phase One of the well project.

Before going to Kenya, we applied to the Wild Rose Foundation for a matching grant. Phase 1 (the drilling) was complete before we knew if we would have the money for the completion of the project. Phase 2 and 3 included bringing electricity

in, putting up a tower to gravity feed the water and adding a pump to the rainwater tank to mix rainwater with the well water in the large tower tank. Without the matching grant from the Wild Rose Foundation, we would have had a well drilled that would not be in use until much more fundraising was done. The donation of \$21,262 from the Alberta Wild Rose Foundation allowed this project to be completed.

Josephine reports that there are people in the valley who are buying water at the gate. This is helping with funds for paying the electrical bill. The well has made a big difference in the health of the children. There are no longer water borne illnesses affecting the children. Growing more food is also helping in the tough times presently experienced in Kenya. There are plans for trees to be planted and more animals to be raised.

The well was a big project in 2008, but not the only work done for Hope For Life. Upon returning from Kenya in February, we asked for assistance with tuition for another four students. We had previously sponsored three students and now there were four more bringing the total to seven. David and I spoke to many groups that also donated toward food and education, and funds were sent through St. John's church. The Spruce Grove Rotary Club stepped up with another donation of \$500 at a time of crisis.

In November, we had another benefit concert. This time it took place in Onoway and involved not only St. John's musicians, but also the United Church from Onoway and from Darwell, the Baptist church from Onoway, as well as the Alliance church from Barrhead.

St. John's currently supports eight secondary students. \$850 per student covers their tuition, uniform and books, in addition to room and board for the year.



Anglican community

Update: St. Paul's Annual Advent Project



In February 2009, Mark and Terri Polet had the privilege of visiting the newly purchased lot for the "Homes for the Helpless 4-Plex Project" in Xerém, Brazil.

The next phase will be preparing the lot and foundation for the construction of the units by a volunteer Canadian/Brazilian building team.

The 4-Plex will be home for four families who are in desperate need of housing. Having a fixed address will give each family the stability to organize work and school. Having a well constructed cement block home will also bring relief from rats, robbers and rains! Having a home gives each family a hope and a future.

If you are interested in donating to this project please make your contributions to:

St. Paul's Anglican Church
10127-145th Street
Edmonton, AB T5N 2X6

Be sure to mark your cheque **4-Plex Brazil Project**. Alternatively, contribute directly online www.givemeaning.com/project/hfth

Over the course of the year, there was \$21,120 donated. I have no doubt that this is miraculous. God has touched and moved many to participate in this project. At this time of economic distress we see God at work. He surely does not seem to notice a shortage. Our God is one of abundance who has promised He will always provide. As we ask, He has provided.

We are currently supporting eight secondary students in school. The \$850 per student includes their tuition, uniform, and books as well as room and board for the year. Though this does provide education for these children, it provides so much more. These children are orphans. They are on their own in the world other than what Josephine is able help them with both financially and spiritually. If they were not in school, it would be difficult for them to have hope of anything better. The likelihood of living on street would be very high. What God accomplishes through our partnership with Josephine, saves lives. Here is a note of gratitude from Josephine:

Surely, God has done things. Only He can do such things. Mine is only to lift my eyes to Him in adoration for who can do such things apart from our God.

I have no words to say. I AM ON MY KNEES AND HUMBLE before this MIGHTY GOD WHO CARES THIS MUCH. To know that fees for 8 children are paid for the whole year is so peace giving in my heart. Only God can pay what you struggle to do for us.

Thanks. I am happy because the children will be happy.

HAPPY NEW YEAR

David and I will continue to talk to anyone who will listen about Hope For Life Kenya. We have a fifteen minute slide presentation that we are happy to share with any group that is interested.

Please feel free to call us at (780) 967-2828 if you would like us to come and share our trip to Hope For Life Kenya with your congregation. We are looking for partners in this very life giving project, with hopes to increase the number of students that can be supported in secondary school, and to continue raising money for food. The cost of food has more than doubled in Kenya over the last year. Thankfully they are able to grow some of their food, but this is not enough. To feed 100 children a meal a day has cost about \$900 Canadian per month in the past and now this has increased. We continue to raise money towards food that will be sent every three months. The school year begins in January. By next December we hope that we will be able to continue sponsoring the eight students that we have this year, as well as a few more.

St. John's thanks all those who have supported this project over the past year. On our own this project is overwhelming, but working together as partners with Josephine and God – more



than we can ask or imagine has been accomplished.

Please keep this project in your prayers remembering how blessed we are to be born into family and prosperity. These are truly gifts from God. Donations to support this project can be made at any time to:

St. John's Anglican Church
Box 933
Onoway, Alberta
T0E 1V0

If you write "Kenya" on the memo line and provide a return address, a tax receipt will be issued.

Thank you,
 Susan Daniel
 St. John's Outreach Committee



Your words



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The Rev. Canon Maureen Crerar recalls her political awakening as a teenager in the Republic of South Africa following the 'Sharpeville Massacre' in 1960.

Remembering Sharpeville

"It was the day that Lena, a Zulu woman who worked for our family, came to me and said that we could no longer be friends." The Rev. Canon Maureen Crerar was a student at Windermere High School for girls when 69 black demonstrators were gunned down during a peaceful protest against apartheid in Sharpeville, South Africa, on March 21, 1960.

Following word of the events – that included the death of 8 women and 10 children – the students were all brought into the school hall where they sang hymns for several hours. Teachers feared retribution, and as most of the girls did not live locally they would need to travel back to their homes through various Zulu townships. Eventually, the girls were dismissed and they went their separate ways home. Rev. Crerar's destination was Pinetown, a town not far from Durban. Her journey was through unusually quiet streets.

"It was my teenage awakening to the reality and politics of apartheid in South Africa," said Rev. Crerar. "My father was politically astute, and when he came home that night he spent time with my brother, sister and me sharing what he knew of the day's events. It was a spark, a new awareness of the terribleness of apartheid and the power of the police at that time."

The United Nations has since declared March 21 the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination to mark the tragic events in Sharpeville. It is a day observed around the world to focus attention on the problems of racism and the need to promote racial harmony.

Rev. Crerar and her family immigrated to Canada in the mid-1960s.

A mission field - in your own backyard

By Rev. Joseph Walker

I'm excited about planting seeds, and so I'm watching the local weather forecast these days. And for good reason: It's all tied to my latest long term mission project. Fortunately I don't have to raise too many funds for travel with this project; just walk about 15 feet past our garage. You see, there's a mission field right in your own backyard. Or at least there is in mine. Let me explain.

We have a modest house on a reasonably sized lot. Every winter for the past number of years we've continued one of those great Canadian traditions: the backyard rink. In an era when fewer and fewer neighbours get to know each other, the backyard rink is a magnet for kids (and their dads) to get together. Nothing beats a game of dads against kids on a backyard rink. It comes complete with the requisite hot chocolate and "running up the score" on some fathers who just can't quite seem to stop the puck from going in the net.

I suppose some might think it unfair that one net is only four feet wide, while the other net happens to be the entire width of the Dads' end of the rink. You can almost hear the ground itself cry out: "I am CANADIAN." It's a place where you can build community, build relationships, and find a relaxed venue in which to share some things – including your faith – with your neighbours. Sometimes mission is just that simple.

Which brings me back to the weather forecast. In spring, summer and fall the big rectangle at the side of the garage serves as a vegetable garden. I think this year we will try to host a bit of a community garden. Neighbourhood corn boil anyone? Let the neighbours bring the butter, and you can be the salt of the earth.

I'm excited about planting seeds.

As I See It



By Rev. Martin Hattersley

An Internet contact from a fellow lawyer in New York had me looking again at the Enneagram, of which he is a student and devotee.

For those who have not met it, the Enneagram is a diagram in which nine equidistant points are inscribed on the circumference of a circle, and each point is connected by a line to two others, and indicates a particular character type. One interpretation is that the nine types correspond with nine features of the Divine – God the Father being Love, Law and Liberty, God the Son

offering Humility, Honesty and Healing, and God the Holy Spirit giving Purpose, Protection and Provision.

All of us have been taught by our parenting and our life experiences to grow out of the original innocence into which we were born. As William Wordsworth put it: "Trailing clouds of glory do we come From Heaven, which is our home" and "Shades of the prison house begin to close Upon the growing boy." We sense the loss of our contact with these aspects of the Divine that once were ours.

Our characters develop as we strive to provide from our own resources the aspects that have gone missing. Losing the sense of God's love, we become our own God, callous and indolent. Losing the sense of Divine protection, we become Cowardly. Losing the sense of Divine truth, we become Hypocrites. Disregard for God's laws brings Anger, losing God's humility leads

to Pride, losing God's healing touch leads to Envy. Without confidence in God's provision for our needs we turn to Avarice. Losing the idea of God's purpose for our lives means we are controlled by addictions and Gluttony. Abusing our free will makes us slaves of Lust. In this way, the Seven Deadly Sins (plus Cowardice and Hypocrisy) replace the Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Meekness, Temperance and Faithfulness that are the fruits of the Spirit.

As we read the Gospel record, perhaps one of the most wonderful things we see in the character of Jesus is how he was able, as John the Baptist recognized, to preserve into adulthood the innocence he was born with as a child, and like the boy in Hans Andersen's story, could be the one called to point out that the Emperor (in his case, the religious establishment of his time) was wearing no clothes.

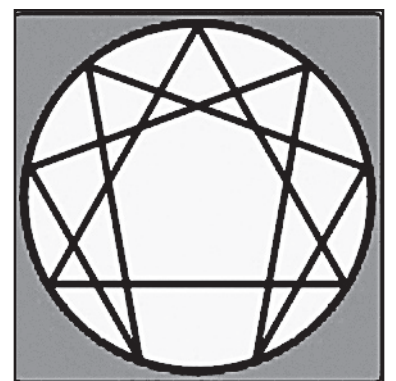
The psychologist Alice Miller made the same point when she remarked in her writings: "How fortunate was Jesus of Nazareth, to have had parents who treated him as if he were the Son of God."

"Maxima debetur pueris reverential," says the Roman poet Juvenal – "Children deserve the utmost respect." When I, now in my own second childhood, see my eighteen month old great-granddaughter fresh from her bath joyfully racing around the house with no clothes on, I am reminded of the original innocence of Adam and Eve, before they learned of sin. Perhaps the appalling perversion of child pornography today is no more than a futile attempt by abused people to regain their original connection with innocence, and Alice Miller is right when she connects the cowardly brutality of an Adolf Hitler to the terrible brutality with which he was raised by his

own father. It can be a painful and difficult journey for any of us to retrace our sinful steps, in order once again to enjoy "the glorious liberty of the children of God."

"Suffer little children to come unto me and forbid them not, for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven," said Jesus. "Except ye turn again and become as little children you shall not enter into the Kingdom of Heaven." Jesus took those children in his arms and blessed them.

An example to us all. Youth work is important!



Our parish life

Parish news & events

Athabasca diocese

ACW Conference The 2009 Diocese of Athabasca A.C.W. Conference will be held in Peace River (May 1-3). The guest speaker is Eileen Conway, Rector of Holy Trinity. For more information contact Janet McIntosh at (780) 624-3767, or mcinluch@telusplanet.net.

Edmonton diocese

St. Faith's Dinner and Silent Auction A silent auction and dinner fundraiser will be held at St. Faith's, 11725-93rd Street, Edmonton (Apr 18). Tickets are \$25 for an evening of entertainment, gourmet roast beef dinner, and ferocious bidding. Tickets are available from the church office at (780) 477-5931. In addition, St. Faith's would appreciate donations of new items, gifts or services for the auction. If you are able to help, please call the church office.

Couples Night Out The Edmonton Anglican Marriage Encounter group will host "Couples Night Out – A Spring Event" (Apr 18) from 7:00–10:30 p.m., at Dayspring Church, 11445-40 Avenue. The evening will feature guest speaker Terry Bachynski, author of "Ordinary Guy – Extraordinary Marriage," followed by wine and cheese. Tickets are \$30 per couple. RSVP spiral leaders or Ed or Janice Rachinski at (780) 987-7334, or email janicerachinski@hotmail.com by April 9.

Habitat for Humanity Rev. Tim Chesterton will MC the 4th annual 'Voices for Habitat' variety concert (Apr 19), a benefit concert for Habitat for Humanity Edmonton, to be held at St. Timothy's Anglican Church at 8420-145 Street. Musicians for the evening include Jeremy Spurgeon, the Piatta Forma Community Choir, Martin Kerr, Jay Anthony Willis, Jodi Penner, Erin Faught and Adam Buttram. This year there will also be a silent auction! An event not to be missed.

The University Chaplaincy Annual Dinner and Silent Auction will take place at the University of Alberta's Faculty Club (May 7) at 6:00 p.m. Ticket price is \$45 per person and includes dinner. We hope you can join us! To purchase tickets please call Susan Fredette at (780) 459-0795. Or you can mail a cheque, made payable to The Educational Chaplaincy, 130 Mission Avenue, St. Albert, AB, T8N 2C6

Marriage Preparation Course An Alpha Marriage Preparation Course will be offered over five Friday evenings at St. David's (corner of 79 Avenue and 85 Street in Edmonton). The course will cover such topics as: communication, conflict resolution, shared goal setting, family of origin/expectation issues, sexuality, spirituality, and financial planning. The course runs from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. on the following dates: April 17, May 1, May 15, May 29, and June 12. The cost per couple is \$75.00, which includes all supplies. For more information, or to register, contact The Rev. Cameron Burns at (780) 469-7530, or visit www.stdavidsanglican.ca.

Vintage Choir Outfits Needed The Christ Church Choir in Edmonton would like to borrow cassocks, gowns and mortar boards, worn by choir members throughout the diocese in years gone by, for its upcoming Centennial anniversary services. Please contact the church office at (780) 488-1118, or email admin@christchurchedm.ca, if you have choir pieces to loan.

St. Mary and St. George Website St. Mary and St. George's, Jasper now has a parish website. Check it out at www.explorejasper.com/services/anglican.htm.



Edmonton Bishop Jane Alexander celebrates more than just the luck of the Irish with the new confirmands (l-r) Paige Goebel, Chiamaka Morah and Nicole Freeman at St. Patrick's in Edmonton.

A fresh look at St. Patrick's Day

BY JOAN TUCKEY

Celebrating St. Patrick's Day is traditionally done with Irish stew, green beer, shamrocks and wearing green. None of that happened at St. Patrick's Anglican Church in southeast Edmonton on March 15. Nonetheless, there was great excitement and great celebration as 200 people gathered in a church that holds 150 for confirmations, a baptism Eucharist and a lunch. Bishop Jane was wearing purple, not green, under her white chasuble. She preached, baptized four boys (Liam, Nathan, Dante and Tobechukwu), confirmed three girls (Nicole, Paige and Chiamaka) and celebrated Eucharist with a congregation bursting at the seams.

The celebration continued in the crowded hall and much of the food was not traditionally Irish, but Nigerian. Three of those baptized and confirmed were from the Igbo community which is part of the Nigerian community. The Igbo community continued the party all afternoon and into the evening, giving thanks to God for the gift of their children and for the new life in Christ experienced by their children.

What a fitting way to celebrate St. Patrick, who devoted his life to bringing people to Christ. Three babies and a 7-year-old were launched into the Christian faith, we marked the growth in faith of three young people and we celebrated the life of Christ together. And did you know that the patron saint of Nigeria is St. Patrick?

A L'Arche Prayer Night

BY REV. JOANNE WEBSTER

I can think of no greater privilege than being invited to lead a prayer night for the L'Arche community. For those who may not be familiar with L'Arche, it is a community founded by Jean Vanier which welcomes and provides homes for people with a mental handicap. In this way L'Arche seeks to respond to the distress of those who are too often rejected, and to give them a valid place in society. L'Arche Edmonton has six such homes, and the community comes together regularly for events like the prayer night. This past week I was invited to be with the community and lead them in their prayer night. As Jean Vanier puts it "to come and share their life in the spirit of the Gospel and the Beatitudes that Jesus preached." We sang together, and prayed. We read the gospel and shared about God's message of forgiveness, and what that means as we live in mutual relationship. They were grateful and thanked me for coming to share in ministry with them. But really, it is me who has been truly blessed. You see, so often people with special needs show such qualities of unconditional love and welcome, innocence and wonder, and trust and love of our Lord, that in sharing just a small piece of the life of the L'Arche community, one can experience the knowledge and love of God in a very special way.



Any given Sunday. Archie Dean leads the recessional following the ordination service for Rev. Tom Dean, Rev. Alexandra Meek Sharman and Rev. Donna Willer at All Saints Cathedral in Edmonton.

The last word



Braving the elements for a winter retreat

By SARAH ALEXANDER

Youth from the Edmonton diocese braved the cold to go winter camping at the Elk Island Retreat Centre. Despite the dropping temperatures, spirits were high as we discovered what it means to “Love God, Love our Neighbors, and Love Ourselves.”

We discussed how in our every day lives we can do things to show we appreciate ourselves, our neighbours, and God. I know that many of the youth really appreciated the people who climbed out of their

warm beds in the middle of the night to stoke the fire and add more logs! I can assure you at 3:00 a.m. in well below freezing temperatures, that is no easy feat.

During the weekend, the youth spent their time cross country skiing, playing board games, enjoying great food, sitting around the campfire, and participating in thought provoking discussions, among other things. The weekend really brought the youth together as a community and we hope to go again next winter.

Money for Gaza hospital

BC diocese responds to needs in Gaza

The diocese of New Westminster had raised \$64,000 as of the beginning of March for the Anglican-run Al Ahli Arab Hospital in Gaza City, which has been providing crucial services following the recent conflict in Gaza.

“It’s really a very, very heartening result,” said the diocesan bishop of New Westminster, Michael Ingham, who initiated the appeal in response to what he described as a “humanitarian disaster.” Forty-eight parishes and several individuals gave donations.

Bishop Ingham asked priests in the diocese to read a pastoral appeal in January in which he said, “The situation in Gaza has become urgent and I believe we must respond.” He added, “I had the opportunity to meet the new bishop of Jerusalem, Suheil Dawani, on several occasions last year and I have also visited the Anglican hospital in Gaza. Both deserve our support at this crucial time.”

Bishop Ingham said that “the political roots of this conflict are complex, but we have an opportunity now to respond in a compassionate way to the needs of the suffering, regardless of politics.”

Bishop Suheil thanked the diocese for the support, saying, “Ours is a humanitarian hospital, where civilians receive the best possible care, regardless of faith or ability to pay.” He said that a majority of people in Gaza “must rely upon aid for the health and welfare of their families.”

*Share your story.....
really, we want to know!*



The Phoenix Multi-faith Society for Harmony is looking for local stories about goodwill and co-operation between three different faith groups: Christian, Jewish and Muslim.

If you have a story about how someone from your faith or ethnic group helped someone from another group to start a business, get a job, find a home, raise funds, or in some other way, please contact Debby Shoctor at 780-489-2809.

A modest honorarium will be offered if we use your finished story or you could merely give us your ideas and we will assign a writer. The stories will initially appear on our website and ultimately be compiled and published.

We want to share your inspirational story with others

Check out our latest stories of interfaith cooperation on our website:
<http://www.phmultifaithsociety.ca>



I DARE YOU... to Ask & Imagine

Anglican and Lutheran youth from across Canada are invited to attend “Ask & Imagine – encounters with self, life, leadership and faith” conferences to be held this spring and summer at Huron University College in London, Ontario. A pilgrimage program for young adults ages 18-26 will run May 9-18, 2009. A high school program for students currently in Grades 9-12, will be offered August 15-26, 2009. For registration forms and more information, visit www.askandimagine.org.

The mystery of Thomas Cranmer's trunk

By JOHN R. ARMSTRONG

During my first year at Wycliffe College, I took a course on Reformation History at Knox College. Dr. Farrell introduced the church leaders from 500 years ago as real characters.

Clergy celibacy had been the rule for centuries by then, but some were secretly married. (According to Bertrand Russell that rule had been introduced to counter nepotism.) Archbishop Thomas Cranmer was rumoured to have a wife. The speculation began after a fire in his home, long before his condemnation to the stake at Oxford in Mary Tudor's reign.

Servants and volunteers were urged to take particular care in bringing one trunk to safety. The archbishop himself explained that it contained priceless books. Suspicion became rife, though this may have been the whole truth. Did he treat books better than some men would treat a wife, or was he treating a wife like books?

Feeling fine

By JOHN R. ARMSTRONG

The Reverend David Busby taught Christian education at Wycliffe College, Toronto, during the 1970s. He told us of greeting the parishioners after services, and usually asking, “How are you today?” People would automatically answer, “Fine, thank you.” One Sunday, however, a woman, we will call her Mrs. X, protested: “You just want me to say ‘fine,’ but the word has more than one meaning!”

The following Sunday, he greeted her differently, asking, “Are you still feeling ‘pulverized into powder,’ Mrs. X?”



All Saints' Cathedral server Meredith Laidlaw is also involved in the Scouting movement. In March, she led the Christ Church 25th Group Scouts on an overnight winter camp where they built and slept in outdoor snow huts called *quinzes*.