



# the messenger

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Edmonton Bishop Jane Alexander and Archbishop David Ashdown. "I am delighted with the [election] result," said Bishop Jane. "He is great, passionate and dedicated to the church. I think he will really enhance our relationships as a province and for multi-diocesan initiatives, not to mention his Council of the North work and First Nations ministry."

## New Rupert's Land metropolitan focuses on mission and ministry

*Ashdown: "Ministry is most effective at the local level"*

BY KELLY FOWLER

Bishop David Ashdown of the diocese of Keewatin was elected as the archbishop of Keewatin and the metropolitan of the Province of Rupert's Land at the provincial synod in Calgary, June 2009. He replaces John Clarke, who retired from the position as archbishop this past April.

Elected on the third ballot, Archbishop Ashdown agreed only to accept the position on the condition that "Andrew share the load with me." Ashdown and Bishop Andrew Atagotaaluk, the senior bishop in the diocese of the Arctic, had split the vote on the third ballot with only four votes.

The two bishops were together at the same residential school, with Ashdown as a supervisor and Atagotaaluk, a student. Atagotaaluk was first to become a bishop. Ashdown now sees the two moving ahead and working together collegially.

"I am very grateful that he's going to be beside me," said Ashdown of his northern colleague. "I really believe that we are called to be a Christ-centred community in an alienated world; we are sent to transform that world. I think Bishop Andrew is certainly a very Christ-centred person and I am really looking forward to having a ministry together with him, probably in ways that are new that the province hasn't seen before."

Ashdown's first steps in his new role focus on

mission and ministry development. "We have a responsibility to provide pastoral ministry – a ministry of presence in difficult situations and help the church be very present to people but at the same time, if necessary, to act in an advocacy role," he said. Ashdown says making Christ known at the "local level" is a crucial step in ministry.

Ashdown segues easily between grass roots concepts and big picture thinking. He is eager to see Rupert's Land step up and play a leadership role in the Anglican Church of Canada.

"I believe that the province has a central role to play in the proclamation of the gospel and so I want to see the province strengthened, renewed, transformed in its structures in some ways," said Ashdown. "I know that we come from very different places. And I know that people disagree on any number of things within this body but being drawn together in our Lord Jesus Christ to do his work supersedes any differences that we have. And I think that is just great. That which holds us together is clearly much greater than that which pushes us apart."

Ashdown is both humbled and pleased to take on this new challenge, but claims it isn't just about him. "I think it is an exciting time for the province and the church."



## Good Shepherd RAMMS sponsor 10K walk

In support of the Good Shepherd 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee, the parish's RAMMS group (Real Anglican Men Meeting Socially) sponsored a 10 kilometre walk-a-thon route passing churches and other buildings that the congregation has worshiped in over the past hundred years. All monies collected went to the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations with a portion going to St. Faith's meal program. Many thanks to all who participated.

**Interested in joining a men's group?** The next meeting for the RAMMS is on September 12, 2009, at the ABC Restaurant 140 Avenue & 127 Street from 8:00 - 8:30 a.m. Please come and join us for meeting of fellowship and planning for other 2009 activities.

## ACW Edmonton meetings

The Life Members' Corporate Communion will be held on Saturday, September 12 at 11:00 a.m. at All Saints' Cathedral in Edmonton. The regular meeting of the Diocesan Board will be held at the Cathedral after lunch on the same day. The Regional Meeting for the Yellowhead/Edmonton West Region will be held at Good Shepherd on September 26.



## Fall Scouting registration

The 25<sup>th</sup> Christ Church Scout Group welcomes new Beavers (ages 5-7), Cubs (ages 8-10), Scouts (ages 11-13) and Venturers (ages 14-17) to an open house and registration night at the church hall, 12116-102 Avenue, on September 9, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Exciting programs for both boys and girls run throughout the year. **Call Scouter John for more information at (780) 920-5845.**



## bishop's corner

### Notes from the Bishop

**Community Feast for Council of the North:** Shortly, if not already, parishes will receive a package of materials from the Anglican Appeal to raise funds to support the mission and ministry of the Council of the North. Please consider how your parish can support those who work to provide pastoral and sacramental care to those living in isolated communities in Canada's north. Remember that this is a ministry of the whole church by the whole church. There are many ways that your parish can become involved in this appeal. One of the most exciting ways will be to hold a Community

Feast of Bannock and Stew at the end of September that will focus on the work of the Council of the North. If you have any questions or want more information please do not hesitate to contact Fiona Brownlee, Communications Officer of the Council of the North, at [brownlee@national.anglican.ca](mailto:brownlee@national.anglican.ca); or by phone at (807) 547-3353, ext. 5; and she will do her best to assist you.

#### Homelessness Symposium:

A symposium, "Action for Homelessness - From Dialogue to Faith Community Action," will take place at All Saints' Cathedral, Edmonton, 10035-103rd Street, on October 16 (6:00-9:00 p.m.) and October 17 (8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.), 2009. Keynote speaker will

be Murray McAdam, a Social Justice Consultant to the Diocese of Toronto and a representative on the Interfaith Social Assistance Reform Coalition. Faith and youth leaders, parishioners of all faiths, representatives from community agencies and community service organizations, and anyone interested in learning more about homelessness and action against it, are invited to attend. Registration forms are available on the Diocese of Edmonton website: [www.edmonton.anglican.org/ComingEvents.htm](http://www.edmonton.anglican.org/ComingEvents.htm). Please mail the registration form and fee of \$50 (includes breakfast and lunch) to the Diocese of Edmonton, 10035-103 St., Edmonton AB, T5J 0X5. Cheques can be made payable to Diocese of Edmonton.

### As I See It

BY REV. MARTIN HATTERSLEY

A plea came to me over the Internet a while back from a Ph.D student in Switzerland, who needed help in preparing his thesis, by providing a translation from the Latin of a commentary by one Father Concina of an encyclical of Pope Benedict XIV on the subject of Usury entitled "*Vix Pervenit*."

Having had an education in Latin and Greek, degrees and diplomas in Economics, Law and Theology, as well as a lifetime interest in monetary subjects, I felt called to offer my services, and in the light of today's economic difficulties have found the experience, still far from complete, difficult but extremely rewarding.

Usury, as defined by Benedict and Aquinas and many other ancient writers, is not just the charging of excessive interest on a loan. It is the gaining of any reward at all for a loan of money (or other item that is not to be returned in its original form), other than return of an article of amount and value equal to the original advance. This definition is supported by Scripture (for loans within the Jewish community, though not to Gentiles: Deuteronomy 24.19,20) as well as Aristotle, but it was challenged by Calvin. Calvin and his followers maintained that there was no difference between asking payment for a rented house, for instance, and renting the money needed to buy the house, so long as the interest charge was not excessive – a view that is the accepted basis for banking and capitalism in the Western world today.

So what is wrong with Calvin's approach? Three things at least

– and there are more:

**First:** Charging interest on money lent is asking for reward without risk, so doubling the burden on the borrower. The farmer operating on borrowed money, for instance, is still expected to pay interest on his loan even if his crops fail or the market collapses. Countries saddled with National Debts (including Canada, but especially Third World countries) have to tax their citizens heavily, and beyond the amount of any international aid they receive, to pay interest on debts currently beyond their means to repay, causing starvation and distress as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank insist on their pounds of flesh.

**Secondly:** Making profits using bank created money, for example by buying on margin on the stock market, does nothing to make the world richer in terms of real wealth. Money, contrasted with productive assets, is of itself sterile, but can be highly profitable to the speculators who expect the taxpayer to provide a bail out for them when the bubble bursts.

**Thirdly:** Usury is a way by which both banker and borrower can rob the public. A loan of new bank credit, say for buying a house or an industrial project, dilutes the value of the monetary unit, making the value of everyone else's dollar that much the less. So we have a persistent erosion of the value of our money, so much so that the school principal who was "passing rich with forty pounds a year" two hundred and fifty years ago would need a salary of a

thousand times as much to maintain that standard of living today. Bankers and borrowers print (and charge for) the tickets. We, the public, are expected to put on the show.

Muslims still respect this prohibition on the charging of interest. Financing one's house through a Muslim bank involves the bank using depositors' funds to buy the house for the occupant, who pays rent, and contracts to pay additional monthly payments to build up a savings account by which the house will be paid for and transferred at the agreed price after a period of years. The risk of changes in house value is then borne by the lender, who is in the position of a landlord, and the borrower in financial difficulty has built up a cushion of savings that make it possible to renegotiate payments should he be temporarily unable to meet his obligations. The bank itself has physical assets that it owns, rather than paper promises to pay, to back up its balance sheet. So Muslim banks have been remarkably free from the monetary crisis that has struck the "Christian" world so severely.

In this connection, Pope Benedict XVI's recent encyclical "Caritas in Veritate," along with pleas from our own Anglican bishops, especially in England, calling for morality and compassion in the economic sphere, need to be listened to. Salvation is not just a personal matter – it operates at the level of the community as well.

We Christians have something to learn – or re-learn – when it comes to looking at the way we do business.

### the messenger

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**October deadline:**  
**September 7, 2009**  
Please send in your stories, ideas and photographs for the October issue by September 7, 2009.

diocese & beyond

*Planned giving*  
**Five ways a gift annuity can benefit you**

Have you considered the benefits of an Anglican Church of Canada Charitable Gift Annuity<sup>1</sup>? Here are five points to consider:

1. **Attractive Rates:** Mrs. P, age 80, was receiving a modest income from a \$50,000 GIC. When it matured, she obtained an Anglican Church gift annuity which will benefit her parish upon her death. Her rate of return on the annuity was approximately 7.5% as opposed to 2.5% had she renewed the GIC.

2. **Tax Free Payments:** Part, or all, of each payment from a gift annuity is tax free as a significant portion of the payment is considered to be a return of capital rather than interest income. Because Mrs. P was 80 when she acquired her annuity, her payments were completely tax free.

3. **Tax Credit:** Anybody acquiring a gift annuity receives a donation receipt, although, not for the entire amount. For her \$50,000, Mrs. P received a tax receipt for almost \$16,000. If she was not able to use the entire receipt in the year she made the donation, she could carry forward any unused tax credit to any of the following five years.

4. **Fixed, Regular Payments:** Annuity payments are not affected by events in the financial markets; hence, they never change. As annuity payments are backed by the full assets of a Canadian life insurance company or by the Anglican Church of Canada, you are assured that payments will continue for life.

5. **Personal Satisfaction:** The greatest benefit may be the personal fulfillment you receive by helping your church as well

as yourself. Your gift annuity enables the Church to continue providing essential ministry and programs in the parish, diocese, national church or with our partners overseas.

If you have questions or want to learn more about this, or any other, type of planned gift, please contact me, in confidence and without obligation, at the following:

**David Connell**  
 Planned Giving Officer  
 The Diocese of Edmonton  
 10035 – 103 Street  
 Edmonton, AB T5J 0X5  
 Phone: 780-439-7344  
 Fax: 780-439-6549  
 Toll Free: 1-877-494-8890  
 pgofficer@edmonton.anglican.ca

<sup>1</sup> *An annuity may be thought of as a pension providing a regular income stream for life.*

**Canada briefs**

**N.B. parish helps community clean up with buck-a-bag laundry service**

Don't raise an eyebrow when you visit Fredericton, N.B., and someone says, "I'm going to church to do my laundry."

For a buck-a-bag (big garbage bag), the neighbourhood of Saint John's now has access to affordable and decent laundry facilities at the basement of Stone (Anglican) Church; soap is provided free of charge.

The church decided to open The Stone Laundry after it realized that the neighbourhood has more than its share of low-income apartment buildings without laundry facilities. The parish decided to refit an old kitchen space and opened the laundry facility.

The Stone Laundry, which is open three times a week, gets between 60 and 70 clients each week.

A volunteer, Capt. Margo Goguen, runs the laundry program and has inspired many others to get involved. Local hotels and motels now donate their used beddings, which the Stone Laundry passes on to its clients. Anglican Church Women (ACW) members also donate personal hygiene items that are put in packs and made available to anyone who wants one.

Next on Capt. Goguen's list is a plan to offer sewing and mending classes. *The New Brunswick Anglican*

**Environment-friendly St. Hilda's gets "green parish" accreditation**

St. Hilda's Anglican Church in Sechelt, B.C., has become the first church to become accredited by the diocese of New Westminster as a "green parish."

The Green Parish Accreditation (GPA) is a new diocesan program that recognizes churches that have demonstrated "a commitment to environmental stewardship." At its 2006 synod, the diocese had urged its churches to set targets to reduce greenhouse gas emissions as part of its commitment to the environment.

"St. Hilda's has taken several steps to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. These include energy efficient light bulbs, weather stripping on outside doors, insulating hot water pipes and a commitment to replace the old fuel oil furnace with electric heaters," reported *Topic*, the diocesan newspaper. The church also practices recycling and water conservation. Other initiatives include the installation of a bike rack to encourage "emissions-free" transportation and planting of native plants.

St. Hilda's has also incorporated environmental themes into its worship and liturgy and dedicated "creation spirituality" Sundays several times a year.

 **Peace Thoughts**  
 BY DR. ADENIKE YESUFU

**Peace of God which passes all understanding**



In Psalm 3:4 David says I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around. David paints a picture of bombardment. Of course David had innumerable problems, a people to rule, wars to fight, Saul's hatred, his sons' open rebellion and so on. David did not fret instead in Psalm 4:8 he says, I will lie down in peace and sleep for you O lord make me dwell in safety. David sought solace in God. He sought help from the Man of war. In Psalm 3:5 David actually now says, I lay down and slept. I awoke for the Lord sustained me. He was assured of victory.

As Christians we are not immune from bombardment which could come from different

sources, spouses, children, friends, workplace, unsafe neighborhoods, school yard, car parks, break-ins, the violent seeking to take it by force, and worst the unseen enemy. Conflict, fear, pain, loss, guilt, illness, stress, solitude, aging, financial limitations, broken dreams, can bring about a state of disequilibrium and peacelessness.

That there is need for internal peace is a basic assumption. My favorite picture of peace in the Bible is Jesus asleep in the boat while the storm rages around, which leaves His companions fretting and wondering how He could find peace amidst the ongoing tumult. But He did. What about us? The Prince of Peace is in the boat. What do you want to hand over to Him so you can go to sleep in peace?

The second part of it is that peace is not only a journey inward towards our own personal peace, it is also an out ward journey. Without the external peace there can be no internal peace, without personal peace there can be no external peace. (Selby 1993). It is said that it is in each of us, that the peace of the world is cast

and from there it must spread to the limits of the universe. When we look around what do we see? A mother holds her child weak from hunger and wonders where peace is. A child is abandoned in the street with nowhere to turn, and wonders where is peace. A man who has been out of job for months with no hope of a job but is surrounded by the immense opulence of others wonders where peace is. A woman with several mouths to feed, abandoned by the father of the kids wonders where peace is. A youth gazes over the highly polluted toxic dark murky waters of his community and wonders where peace is.

Peace could be far away from a world where there is hunger, war, disaster, violence, racism, sexism, discrimination, marginalization and environmental degradation. We may not be able to command the raging storm of the world to cease but surely as members of the Household of Christ, we can start by paying attention to the needs around us. Let us try to help others to find peace. Mathew 5:9 says Blessed are those who work for peace they shall be called Children of God.

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## the last word

# First contact

*Planting a seed and watching it grow... Across the diocese, outreach programs were in full swing throughout the summer months. Here are several great examples of Anglican parishes opening up church doors - literally and figuratively - to the community.*



## Sun Rock Kids Vacation Bible School

There were 24 children registered for the Sun Rock Kids Vacation Bible Camp recently held at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Leduc. Ten leaders volunteered their time to lead the camp. Each day began with a different verse from the Bible. All the days activities were centered around that day's verse from stories to crafts to play activities. It was a great joy to bring Jesus and his teachings to children from our community.

**Barbara Oram**

St. Paul's Anglican Church, Leduc, AB

## On the Fringe

Holy Trinity reached out to the arts community and beyond by offering up the church as a venue for the popular Edmonton Fringe Festival.

The church was home to three plays throughout the festival in August, along with offering a place to relax in Green Room Tea House, Solace and Father Tom's Lemonade Stand. More than 30 volunteers from the parish stepped up to help.

Edmonton Bishop Jane Alexander applauded the outreach effort. "Anything that is invitational and extends gospel-based hospitality is really important," said Bishop Jane. "I think as a church we perhaps underestimate the reluctance or anxiety of some people to come into the church building because churches and worship are not part of their experience." Fringe-goers dropped in to enjoy Holy Trinity hospitality throughout the festival, and for most it was their first time inside the church.

"Anglicans around the diocese can invite people to 'come and see' at events like this and those occasions can start incredible conversations and opportunities to witness to Christ," said Bishop Jane.

**Kelly Fowler**

Edmonton Editor



## Base Camp at William Switzer Provincial Park

Base Camp 2009 saw 22 youth travel to the foothills of the Rockies and set up camp at Pine Bay. "Footloose" was the theme this year, and all campers were ready for some serious fun: hiking, canoeing, kayaking, swimming and campfires.

Highlights included the cook house being converted into a Disco Hall, complete with disco ball and glowing lights; the Canyon Creek hike; Punchbowl Falls; Kelly's Bathtub; cooling off by dumping canoes and falling out of kayaks (the temperature was often 28°C or higher!); showers at the Hinton Pool (a big deal when your camp has no running water) and Miette; and soaking in the water of the hot springs. With canoeing, Darianne was able to do a T-rescue by herself, while Alison B. singlehandedly lifted a canoe!

The week ended with a huge thunder storm, so we had to raise the roof in the cook house with our last campfire. There was lots of music with Greg Rose on the fiddle, Paula Bosse on the banjo, and Laura Dzikowski and Jeremy Kerr Wilson on guitars.

After camp was broken/packed up, E-Man asked for a picture with the director by the dock, and he had lots of help unceremoniously pushing Dr Mark in. Our chaplain, Tom Dean, led us in a closing Eucharist in the quiet of the woods, and then we headed into Hinton for our last meal together...all you can eat pizza!

I hope to see you all back again next year!

**Dr. Mark Armstrong**

Camp Administrator, Edmonton Diocese



## Christ Church Scouts 7-day canoe trip in BC

This past summer the 25<sup>th</sup> Christ Church Scouts, Edmonton, went camping to Nazko Lakes Provincial Park in BC. Six Scouts and four leaders headed off for a fun-filled week-long canoe camp in the backcountry.

I loved being at Nazko Lakes. I found it beautiful and awesome. There is nothing like being in the outdoors and leaving city life behind for a week. No cell phones, no television, no electronics at all. Just you and God's creation.

The church that the 25<sup>th</sup> group is partnered with and meets at is Christ Church. The parish supports our youth activities that lets all youth of all faiths see God's creation and love for us in our own way. I love supporting healthy activities for young people of all ages. I'm involved with Scouting for the fun and adventure, meeting new people, seeing new places and trying new activities in a fun and supportive environment.

**Meredith Laidlaw**

All Saints' Cathedral, Edmonton, AB

