Facebook ads invite people to church for Christmas

BY HENRIETTA PAUKOV

IF you were on Facebook during the week leading up to Christmas, you may have come across the diocese’s Christmas ad. “Celebrate with us,” said the ad. “This Christmas, find peace, beauty and joy at your local Anglican church.” Along with this simple message, aimed at seekers, the ad featured a photo of a crèche by photographer Michael Hudson.

When Facebook users clicked on the ad, they were taken to the Find a Church page on the diocese’s website so they could find a church close to them. The ad ran from Dec. 17 until Dec. 26 and was seen by 334,548 people and clicked on 907 times. It cost $500.

“Facebook advertising is proving to be much more cost-effective than the print advertising we used to do in newspapers like the Toronto Star and Metro around Christmas and Easter,” says Canon Stuart Mann, director of Communications. The Christmas ad was the second time the diocese advertised on Facebook.

Storm makes Christmas one to remember

BY CAROLYN PURDEN

THANKS to the massive ice storm that hit the Greater Toronto Area at the end of December, the Rev. Jenny Andison’s first Christmas as the incumbent of St. Clement, Eglinton, was truly one to remember.

When the storm hit Toronto on the evening of Saturday, Dec. 21, the church lost its electricity. However, the church was still fairly warm on Sunday and the decision was made to hold the three services by candlelight.

“We were relieved that we had been able to pull off those services,” says Ms. Andison. “Then suddenly it dawned on us that we probably wouldn’t have power for Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, our biggest services of the year. We realized that the church would be extremely cold.” It was decided that the Christmas services would go ahead if possible, and when it became obvious that Toronto stores had run out of generators, one was bought from a parishioner and the neighbourhood know that the church would be open on Dec. 24 and 25. The parish’s e-mail server and phone

Order honours lay people for good works

Archbishop awards medals on New Year’s Day

BY BOB BETTS

ARCHBISHOP Colin Johnson presented medals to the first members of the newly created Order of the Diocese of Toronto. Forty-eight people were named to the order. (See pages 6-7.)

The award had a special meaning, said Jenny Salisbury, who was recognized for her work in youth ministry at both the parish and diocesan levels. “I’m entirely surprised.”

“Their works glorify.”

The medals depict the dove and the diocese’s coat of arms. They are inscribed with the words, ‘Their works glorify.’

Jenny Salisbury shakes hands with Archbishop Colin Johnson after receiving the Order of the Diocese of Toronto medal. Forty-eight lay people were honoured at the inaugural ceremony at St. James Cathedral. For more coverage, see pages 6-7. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

Facebook ads invite people to church for Christmas

The diocese’s Facebook ad was seen by 334,548 people over Christmas.

Storm makes Christmas one to remember

The diocese’s Facebook ad was seen by 334,548 people over Christmas.
Free tuition helps students reduce debt

Dean takes action after watching video

BY CAROLYN PURDEN

The faculty of divinity at Trinity College in Toronto is offering free tuition to students who need bursaries to study at the college.

The new policy was sparked by a video produced by the diocese, Is God calling you to be an Anglican priest? The video, which has been viewed more than 4,000 times on the diocese’s YouTube channel, features young priests talking about their ministry. When the Rev. Canon Dr. David Neelands, dean of divinity at Trinity College, saw the video a year ago, he knew that it could change the way young people are recruited to the priesthood. He also reflected on the financial hardships facing young divinity students.

“The church is dependable but not well-paying,” he says. “So a young priest with student debt has a big problem.”

He talked to the faculty of divinity’s bursary committee, and a few months later the faculty announced a new tuition policy: bursary students entering divinity could get free tuition. The policy was enacted for this academic year and about 15 students are benefiting from it.

The bursary fund has been established by an Anglican benefactor, and a video produced by the diocese, Is God calling you to be an Anglican priest? The video, which has been viewed more than 4,000 times on the diocese’s YouTube channel, features young priests talking about their ministry.

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Anyone who applies for a bursary normally goes through a means test, and young people have no trouble meeting such a test, he says. “We thought this would enable us to say the best thing we could say to young people preparing to study.”

Not only is the faculty offering free tuition, it is also thinking about the possibility of forgiving debt at graduation. Although this is still in the discussion stage, Canon Neelands says it would be a double bonus for students. “We’d take care of their tuition costs while they were studying and we’d try and give them a leg up when they graduate.”

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T O  B E  G E N E R O U S  I N  E V E R Y  W A Y,
(2 COR 1:11)
Speakers to discuss climate change

Christians urged to respond

BY CAROLYN PURDEN

ST. James’ Cathedral will host a full-day symposium on the environmental crisis and a Christian response to it. The symposium on March 8 will focus on the fact that humanity is contributing to climate change, that it is going to have a drastic effect on future generations, and that we need to prepare ourselves for an entirely different way of living.

Entitled “The Earth is the Lord’s: A Christian Response to the Environmental Crisis,” the workshop is sponsored by the cathedral with assistance from the Snell Foundation.

The idea for the symposium came from David Bazett-Jones, a medical scientist at SickKids and a parishioner at the cathedral. He has been concerned about climate change for some 20 years. “It’s a problem that faces all humanity and is the single most important issue confronting us,” he says.

The full-day workshop will be led by five speakers who have a special interest in environmental issues. They are journalist Alanna Majka, author of a book on the state of the oceans; theologian Dennis O’Hara, director of the Elkhorn Center for Theology and Ecology; former MP Lynn McCallion Allen Institute for Theology and the University of Toronto; and Stephen Scharper, professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Toronto; and at the Toronto School of Theology.

There will be presentations by the speakers, group discussions and a concluding panel session.

Donald, co-founder of JustEarth: A Coalition for Environmental Justice; environmental researcher Stephen Scharper, professor in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Toronto; and New Testament scholar and theologian Sylvia Keessmaat, adjunct professor at the Institute for Christian Studies and at the Toronto School of Theology.

The day will have five components. First, participants will look at the science around the human contribution to climate change, and then at justice issues, such as the plight of those who are being affected and at justice issues, such as the plight of those who are being affected by climate change.

From there, the symposium will address a theology of interconnectedness. People, particularly in the West, believe the biblical tenet that they have domination over nature, says Dr. Bazett-Jones. But humans are at the point where they have to realize that they are a part of nature and are dependent on it. A new theology of creation is needed, he says.

The fourth part of the day will focus on living well with less. To avoid cataclysmic climate instability, scientists say that 70 to 80 per cent of known fossil fuel reserves must be left in the ground forever. People in the developed world must learn to reduce consumption and live bountifully and thankfully with much less, if civilization is to survive into the next century.

The final theme of the day, “God with Us,” looks at the future. “We’re on the precipice of catastrophic change,” says Dr. Bazett-Jones. “That can lead to depression and inaction. I’m fearful that in the West, it will lead to nihilism—‘It’s so bad, so what’s the point?’”

Despite anger, unrest and fear for the next generation are likely reactions, he says. The symposium will ask how faith can help us find new ways to live that will be more fulfilling. “This is what I would like to see explored with courage, because it is a really difficult thing to think about,” he says. “Most of us try not to consider the implicsations of the climate crisis because many of the coming changes seem so painful.”

Those interested in attending the symposium may register online at the cathedral’s website, www.stjamescathedral.on.ca, or by mail to Lenten Symposium, St. James Cathedral, 65 Church St., Toronto, ON, M5C 2E9.

Christmas services go ahead

Christmas Eve services went ahead

Continued from Page 1

lines were down, but parishioners used their email and Facebook pages to tell others that the church was open, warning them to bring long johns and flashlight.

The church’s outdoor sign was encased in ice, so sandwich boards and red and green party balloons served to advertise that the church would be open. Tea lights were placed in little bags of sand and put around the entrances of the church, to guide the churchers to the church bell before the early Christmas Eve services, and this also alerted the neighbours that the church was open.

On Christmas Eve, the church held three services, at 4 p.m., 7 p.m. and midnight, and while few people came than normal, it was still a celebration of the incarnation.

Ms. Andison described the almost medieval atmosphere as the midnight service took place. “It was done in almost complete darkness, with a few little lights providing just enough so that people could see the words. It was freezing cold—everyone could see their breath.”

St. Clement’s has a tradition of letting children ring the church bell before the early Christmas Eve services, and this also alerted the neighbours that the church was open.

David Bazett-Jones, standing beside Lake Ontario in Toronto, says humanity is on the precipice of cataclysmic change. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

Facebook advertising catching on

Continued from Page 1

around a major holiday. An Easts ad in 2013, which ran for four days, was seen by more than 100,000 people and was clicked on about 140 times.

Facebook advertising is also catching on in some parishes. The Church of the Messiah in Toronto ran an ad at Christmas, says the Rev. Tay Moss, the incumbent. He reports that “the number of visitors to our Facebook page increased this year,” though he points out it is difficult to ascertain how much of the increase was due to the ad campaign.

The diocese’s ad generated a positive response from its own Facebook community as well, with people clicking on and sharing the post about the ad. “Great use of social media for a great cause!” commented the Rev. Ryan Sim of Redeemer, Ajax.
S

ometimes institutions, as well as individuals, need to be bold but inn

ovative. Over the past two or three years, that has happened in the Diocese of Moosonee. Its website describes Moosonee as “straddling both northern Ontario and northwest

er Canada, with records dating back to 1780. It is an area set in “an almost un relieved landscape of forests, lakes, rivers, and mountains and muskog and desolate tundra.”

It stretches from the city of Timmins, 700 kilometres north of Toronto to Cundin, on the Quebec coast and then across to Kashechewan on the Ontario side of James Bay. It is almost as big as the state of Texas, or about the same size as France, yet has only 23 parishes and a dozen clergy.

The Rt. Rev. Tom Corston was elected bishop almost four years ago. His consecration was in difficulty. His job would not be to res
dent clergy. Diocesan trust funds are now

in how we, as part of the wider church fami

ly, can support one another in fulfilling Christ’s mission in new ways for new times.

What does this mean for me? As of Jan. 1, I am now the bishop of both Toronto and Moosonee, as long as I remain bishop of the Cropa

litian of Ontario. Unlike ordination as bishop, which is life-long with an active ministry that continues until retirement, in Moosonee, the metropolitan, styled as “Archbishop,” is elected by Prov

in Canada: a global community of 70

miliar, and in some ways the Dio

ceses the words of the good Bishop Talbot and

be appointed, with a very small honorarium,

church, with about 80,000 people

n February, young athletes from around the world will

The Anglican

The Anglican is not necessarily those of the editor or publisher.

Stuart Mann: Editor

The Anglican

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A synod in November, I presented a workshop called "Children's photo release forms for Social Media. Can you guess what issue came up at both the Diocesan Board of Management and the evening session as soon as I asked whether anyone had any questions? People wanted to know what policies they should have in place around posting photos of children on church social media and online communica-

My advice is err on the side of caution. This approach will not protect the children in your congregation, but will also foster an atmosphere of courtesy and trust in your church community. At the very least, ask the parents or guardians for permission before you post photos of their child. Even better, ask them to sign a Photo Release Form. You can find one on the Diocese's website, then click Forms, and look under Commu-

So, how can we pray more in keeping with Jesus' intentions? If you have permission from the parents, it's important to make sure you don't include any identifying factors with the photo, says Tanya Baketa, communications coordinator at St. Paul, Bloor West, who was one of the panelists at the workshop. She explains that to pre-

Ultimately, everything belongs to God, specifically because we first forgive the sins of those who have acted against us, is probably the most difficult part of any church disciplinary process. We are universally want to react, “But they don’t deserve to be forgiven! God, look what they did to me!”

However, is there anything in our own lives that we wish we hadn’t done? Don’t we so wish we could just take it back?

Don’t we now truly repent and desire that God would forgive us? This is precisely what Jesus wants us to understand about the value of forgiveness, and why we must extend it to others—whether we believe they are worthy of it or not—for we do not know how God may, even now, be working in the lives and hearts of others.

Much as I love the beauty of the ca-

When we pray that God’s name be hal-

Our prayer for God’s kingdom to be re-

To have our sins forgiven by God,

We instinctively know from the parables, illustrations the need for his prayer to be found in the Book of Alternative Services is probably more accurate, particularly in saying, “Save us from the time of trial,” rather than, “And lead us not into temptation,” or, demonstrably, God does not “lead” us but leads us to the point of making a choice for good and evil. Thus we know that he is with us in the crucifixion, he says, going to church on a regular basis might be part of a slip, or an attention seeking behavior, but in the context of a larger and more comprehensive devotional life, it is at least something that we can use.

Significantly, Jesus asks that we begin prayer by approaching God as a communi-

The last word in Lk 13.34 show how God relates to us as a mother figure. It is no doubt these scriptures, among others, that led the 14th century English mystic, Julian of Norwich, to refer to our mother, Jesus, in her Revelations of Divine Love.

When we pray that God’s name be hal-

When Jesus’ disciples asked him to teach them how to pray after they were appointed as apostles, he has been used as a prayer formula by Chris-

Indeed, in this regard, it is telling that when one of St. Teresa of Avilla’s nuns was asked to sign a Photo Release Form. You can find one on the Diocese’s website, then click Forms, and look under Commu-

Hunting down permissions and release forms for kids’ photos may be a bit of a hassle. I think it’s worth it. Carefully and responsibly, photos of the kids from your church will enliven your webs-

As many scriptures tell us, there will be unexpected places. Like those wise men, we are encouraged to seek out what God is doing in our neigh-

Where do you look for God?

I was walking to the office when a young woman fell in step beside me, holding out a ragged paper cup. She kept up a constant stream of chatter, passing along an idea that two of them had the first opportunity to break away. She needed to have worried. It was a difficult day and I needed distraction. I could have listened to her for hours.

When she finally paused to catch her breath, I said, “How are you?” She stared at me in beleaguered confusion, then started again. At the corner I put some money in her cup, said goodbye and turned the cor-

Teresa responded, “Say it aloud.” This line affected me. I felt a warm glow inside. Someone had blessed me—or had asked God to. Who was I to scoff at that?

I thought of some other times I had dis-

I didn’t mention this at the workshop, but of course, you want to respond to posi-

As for comments that are less serious in nature, you can try the three Rs: remove, re-

As a social media manager, I realize that the line affected me. I felt a warm glow inside. Someone had blessed me—or had asked God to. Who was I to scoff at that?

I thought of some other times I had dis-

I waved it off. I had heard that line from dozens of street people seeking money. It was designed to end the conversation on a high note, in case we run into each other again.

As I walked on, though, I had to admit that the line affected me. I felt a warm glow inside. Someone had blessed me—or had asked God to. Who was I to scoff at that?

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They are honoured because someone saw them in the gifts of God,” says archbishop

The following were named to the Order of the Diocese of Toronto on Jan. 1 at St. James Cathedral. The order recognizes members of the laity who have given outstanding service over a significant period of time in their volunteer ministry.

Chris Ambidge, ODT
Church of the Redeemer, Bloor Street
A long-time member of diocesan Synod, Mr. Ambidge is currently the Honorary Lay Secretary of Synod and a member of General Synod. He has been a principal and principled advocate for the full inclusion of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people in the life of the church, providing leadership in official dialogue processes for more than 20 years. In this work he has modelled for Anglicans how people can hold differing views and remain within the same church.

Norman Baker, ODT
Church of the Advent, Toronto
Mr. Baker has contributed more than 80 years of service to his parish in nearly every aspect of parish life, including advisory board chair, Sunday school superintendent and altar guild and prayer group member, lay reader and churchwarden. He is “the living eyewitness to almost all of the Advent’s history.”

William (Bill) Barnett, ODT, and Karen Barnett, ODT
St. John, York Mills
Mr. and Mrs. Barnett have had long-standing leadership roles in their parish in every capacity. They have helped meet the needs of the sick, the poor and the marginalized through their leadership of FaithWorks, the Downtown Churchworkers Association, SickKids hospital, Our Faith Our Hope: Re-imagine Church, and LOFT Community Services (formerly Anglican Houses).

Bill Benson, ODT
St. Cuthbert, Leaside
Mr. Benson has provided leadership in the parishes he has belonged to, and in the diocese as a volunteer consultant. He is a long-time member of the diocese’s Postulancy Committee. He has coached a number of parishes that are using Natural Church Development and has supported parish selection processes for incumbents. He is able to negotiate difficult situations with skill and aplomb.

Barbara Broadhen, ODT
St. Timothy, Agincourt
Ms. Broadhen was instrumental in starting St. Timothy’s hot lunch program, a ministry that provides food for the homeless and poor of central Scarborough. She has led St. Timothy’s into a much deeper ministry that provides food for the home- and poor of central Scarborough. She has been the chair of York-Credit Valley’s Area Council and has served on numerous boards and committees in the church and the wider community, particularly in health care and education.

Blake Goldring, ODT
St. Clement, Eglinton
Mr. Goldring was recognized for his leadership in revitalizing the Bishop’s Company, for his mentoring and promotion of young business leaders, and for his philanthropic support of parish, diocesan, national and civic organizations that improve society. His exemplary support and innovative ideas that build bridges between business leaders and Canadian Forces personnel and their families, both regular and reserve, and especially his support of the military chaplaincy, led to Mr. Goldring being named the Honorary Colonel of the Canadian Army.

Terry Grier, ODT
St. Margaret, New Toronto
Mr. Grier has provided strategic leadership in his parish’s outreach, food and Out of the Cold programs, its fundraising and stewardship initiatives, and its major building project. In addition, he provides a key leadership role in the successful capital development campaigns for Trinity College, Toronto.

Vivien Harris, ODT
Holy Trinity, Guildwood
Mrs. Harris established her church’s parish nurse ministry and has served as the volunteer parish nurse since 2006. She has made a profound impact in Guildwood and Scarborough by her personal care of the sick, the aged, the isolated and the bereaved, as well as her outreach work with new immigrants and refugees.

Eva Hordatt, ODT
St. Stephen, Downsview
Ms. Hordatt has served her parish as reader, advisory board member, lay Eucharistic minister, Synod and deanery representa- tive, altar guild and prayer group member, and Bible study leader.

Bill Humphries, ODT
St. Matthias, Etobicoke
Mr. Humphries has been a churchwarden and property manager, managing the church building and negotiating with contractors. “Bill is always there to help,” said a member of St. Matthias.

Stuart Hutcheson, ODT
St. Peter, Etobicoke
Mr. Hutcheson was recognized for his ongoing work as a diocesan administrator in a number of parishes. He has served on many diocesan boards and committees. He was the diocese’s acting Director of Finance and Treasurer during two interims.

John Lawer, ODT
Church of the Transfiguration, Toronto
Mr. Lawer was honored for his long service to the parish, holding numerous offices. He was a lay member of diocesan Synod and was a distinguished member of the diocese’s Trust Committee.

Delores Lawrence, ODT
St. Matthew the Apostle, Oriole
Ms. Lawrence has served her parish in every capacity, including 13 years as a churchwarden. In her work for the diocese, she was a lay member of Synod, a member of the Diocesan Council and Diocesan Executive Board, a member of the Bishop’s Company and co-chair of the diocese’s Our Faith Our Hope: Re-imagine Church campaign. Born in Jamaica and raised in Ontario, she has served in a number of leadership roles in education, health and politics. As a nurse, she recognized a gap in home care services and organized a company that now employs 1,000 people and is a leader in providing nursing care in Canada.

Members of the Order of the Diocese of Toronto have their pictures taken by family members and friends.
The Diocese of Toronto

**Laity receive Order of the Diocese of Toronto**

Members of the Order of the Diocese of Toronto have their pictures taken by family members and friends at St. James Cathedral on Jan. 1. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

**Suzanne Lawson, ODT**

*St. Peter, Cobourg*

Ms. Lawson was recognized for her promotion of lay ministry in the diocese and the national church. She was a pioneer proponent of the principles of volunteer management as an extension of our baptismal vows, and has served in many paid and unpaid capacities in the church and the voluntary sector. Her work has increased the capacity of people to enter into dialogue with those who differ.

**Wilson Loo, ODT**

*St. Elizabeth, Mississauga*

Dr. Loo has provided leadership in his parish’s building program, both in growing the congregation and in the physical building. He has served the diocese through his membership on the Our Faith-Our Hope: Re-imagine Church steering committee, and now on the campaign’s Allocations Committee.

**Elizabeth Loweth, ODT**

*St. Clement, Eglinton*

Mrs. Loweth has provided leadership in outreach, social justice, interfaith and multicultural ministry, and women’s issues in the church at local, diocesan, national and international levels. She is a past president of the Diocesan Anglican Church Women and has served on the Multicultural Ministries Committee, the Canadian Council of Churches’ Human Rights Commission, the International Council of Christian and Jews Executive, the International Anglican Women’s Network and the Canadian Anglican NGO to the United Nations.

**Nancy Mallett, ODT**

*St. James’ Cathedral, Toronto*

Ms. Mallett has served the cathedral as an educator, historian and events’ organizer. A teacher by vocation, she has presided over children’s Lenten programs and has introduced thousands of school children to the history of the church and the development of the province. She has overseen the creation of exhibitions of artifacts, nativity scenes and church fabrics that have attracted international acclaim and attracted thousands of local and international visitors.

**Kennedy Marshall, ODT**

*Epiphany and St. Mark, Parkdale*

Mr. Marshall has provided exceptional service to his parish and the diocese over many years. At the diocesan level, he has been a member of the Treasury Board, Diocesan Council, the Diocesan Executive Board, the Parkdale Commission and numerous other boards and committees that have enhanced the capacity of the church to respond to its mission. He has also been a member of General Synod.

**The Hon. Margaret McCain, ODT**

*St. Paul, Bloor Street*

The Hon. Margaret McCain was honoured for her outstanding contribution to the life of the church and society, born out of her Christian witness. She was the organist of her small parish church until she was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of New Brunswick. She co-authored a major report on early childhood education that resulted in the establishment of the Beatrice House and the revamping in Ontario of junior Kindergarten. Her philanthropic generosity has had a significant impact in many communities in the arts, education, health care, and to her parish and the diocese, especially in support of Faith-Works, the Bishop’s Company and Our Faith-Our Hope: Re-imagine Church.

**Heather McGregor, ODT**

*St. Mary Magdalen, Toronto*

Ms. McGregor has provided leadership in the Parkdale Deanery renewal, and in her parish in choral music, as a churchwarden and as a strategist. She is a member of the diocesan volunteer network. As the chief executive officer of YWCA Toronto, she has a passionate commitment to the full and equal contribution of women in society, and for housing and programs for those who are marginalized.

**Ward McCance, ODT**

*St. Peter, Cobourg*

Mr. McCance, a founding leader of Faith-Works, was honoured for his ongoing concern for stewardship and well trained lay leadership in parishes, for his continued work on establishing benchmarks for mission initiatives, and for his leadership in the parishes where he has worshipped.

**Gloria McLean, ODT**

*Church of the Nativity, Mulmur*

Ms. McLean has served her parish for 20 years, most notably by coordinating the Malvern After School Intergenerational Program and the monthly Senior’s Lunch. “She epitomizes the hospitality for which the Church of the Nativity has become known,” said a member of Nativity.

**Majlynda Montgomery, ODT**

*St. Philip, Etobicoke*

Mrs. Montgomery has served her parish as the coordinator of the grief ministry, as a lay pastoral visitor, a churchwarden and president of the Chancel Guild. She has been a Sunday school teacher, a cemetery board trustee and a member of diocesan Synod.

**Charles Parker, ODT**

*Christ Church, Stouffville*

Mr. Parker was recognized for his facilitation of parish support and initiatives, and for his role in evaluating and approving Reach Grants, which support innovative, missional, parish-based projects.

**Dorothy Peers, ODT**

*Epiphany and St. Mark, Parkdale*

Mrs. Peers was honoured for her quiet, effective and compassionate leadership in her parish, where she has helped establish a community garden that brings together “all sorts and conditions of people” from the Parkdale community. She has brought wisdom, hospitality and compassion to countless clergy and their families in her own ministry as the spouse of Archbishop Michael Peers, a former Primate.

**Keith Pickett, ODT**

*St. John the Evangelist, Port Hope*

Mr. Pickett has served his parish for more than 40 years, as a member of the choir and the advisory board, as a volunteer with the Treasure Trove clothing store and the Dime-A-Day program for South Africa, and as a member of the property, outreach and parish selection committees. He has also been the narrator for the parish’s Christmas pageant for 27 years.

**Eric Pollard, ODT**

*St. Peter, Erindale*

Mr. Pollard was honored for his service to the diocese as an administrator in a number of churches, bringing stability to difficult situations. He was also recognized for his decades of ministry and leadership in his own parishes, and for his skills in coaching, assessing and resolving complicated issues with charity, passion and compassion for the sake of the Gospel.

**Julie Poore, ODT**

*Parish of Washago-Price’s Corners*

Mrs. Poore has provided long-time service to her parish, the York-Simcoe episcopal area and the diocese. She has served not only in her own parish but on Area Council, Synod Council, Diocesan Executive Board, the Our Faith-Our Hope: Re-imagine Church Advisory Committee and now the campaign’s Allocations Committee.

**Bob Poult, ODT**

*Diocesan Archives*

Mr. Poult has served as a churchwarden, a treasurer, a pastoral care volunteer, a choir member, a lay reader, a lay minister, and a member of the property committee, the information technology group and the finance group.

**David Ptolemy, ODT**

*Diocesan Archives*

Mr. Ptolemy was recognized for his unsung service as the diocese’s secretary-treasurer during one of the most critical periods in the diocese’s history. In his retirement he has contributed significantly to the Diocesan Archives as a volunteer.

**Audrey Riley, ODT**

*St. David, Lawrence Avenue*

Ms. Riley was honored for her service as secretary of St. David’s Club, as the head of the parish’s Chancel Guild, as one of the founding members of the Daily Bread bakers, and as clerk of the vestry.

**Jenny Salisbury, ODT**

*St. Clement, Eglinton*

Ms. Salisbury has championed youth ministry at the parish, diocesan and national church levels. She has been a member of diocesan Synod, Diocesan Council and the chair of the Archbishop’s Youth Council, she worked-shopped a youth theatre group that collected, interpreted and performed stories of Anglican youth across Canada. She co-developed a strategic program to train and mentor Anglican youth leaders. She has written the case statement for the Our Faith-Our Hope: Re-imagine Church campaign.

**Libby Salter, ODT**

*Church of the Redeemer, Bloor Street*

Mr. Salter has served on Diocesan Council and numerous diocesan boards, committees, advisory groups and trusteeships, shaping the procedures and governance of the diocese. She represented the diocese at several Provincial and General Synods and was the provost of Provincial Synod.

**Ann Sim, ODT**

*St. Matthew, Islandton*

Ms. Sim has served in a variety of roles, including churchwarden, youth leader, Chancel Guild member, lay administrator, pastoral care team leader, selection committee member and senior elder.

**Sylvia Slenmestad, ODT**

*Grace Church in Scarborough*

Mrs. Slenmestad was one of the original members of St. Giles church, having served in every role, including choir leader and organist. “Sylvia is an inspiration to the whole congregation,” said a member of Grace Church, an amalgamation of four Scarborough churches, including St. Giles. “Sylvia hails, many of us, is known as Saint Sylvia.”

**David Taylor, ODT**

*Grace Church, Markham*

Mr. Taylor was recognized for his commit-
John Stephenson is the Manager of Outreach to Dan Harrison at All Saints Church-Community Centre in Toronto.

Dan Harrison is a large Toronto-based Outreach to Community Housing development on Sherbourne Street, just north of All Saints. Dan Harrison has been identified by the Toronto Police Service as the most dangerous Toronto Housing building in Toronto. In this context, we work to promote safety and build meaningful relationships with tenants.

Our outreach to that community includes a daily drop-in centre where people can come and find a safe space to meet other tenants. They can also speak with our staff and connect with a myriad of services—including health care, counseling and social work—from outside organizations. Many of the people we work with are really looking for relationship, and the church does a great job providing that.

Part of my position also includes managing our social enterprise, Take This Bread bakery. The bakery is an 11-month training program for tenants of Toronto Community Housing. Dan Harrison has been identified by a local baker to sell bread to the local community, churches and restaurants. They also learn how to bake communion wafers, which in my opinion are the best in the business! Some of these participants transition to employment while others become bakery leaders for the next year’s group.

The bakery program is a place where deep community is built with our participants and volunteers from outside the community. Many of my favourite moments was during a baking day when we had just finished baking large order of communion wafers. As we sat around, eating up some of the extra wafers, one of the participants raised a wafer to the sky and asked like he was a priest sharing the bread at communion. We all laughed, finished up the remaining wafers and started talking about how the church had played a role in many of the participants’ lives. We had affectively shared communion with each other in a kitchen.

One of the most difficult parts of my job, and certainly my least favourite, is seeing so many of those we work with die. There was a period of three months where we had four of our regular community members pass away, most well before 60 years. Poverty is so pervasive in these settings that the health of those we work with is at risk. Whether it is the late identification of cancer or effects from drug use, the death of our participants is incredibly sad. As a church, we have a unique opportunity to mourn for and with these people who are acknowledged so little by society.

Working in this environment is like cross-cultural learning. We really are not the experts, as participants have so much to teach us about their lives. I have learned that asking questions and listening are some of the most important things we can do working with those who are marginalized. I think the church is uniquely positioned to offer a relationship that is not scrubbed clean by professional boundaries that sometimes limit deep interaction.

In 2007 at Eastern University in Philadelphia, I received my MBA with an emphasis in international development. I had no intention of returning to banking with my MBA but really hoped to be involved in economic and community development work. After finishing my studies, I worked in the Fiji Islands, directing a study-abroad program for university students. When that finished, I returned to Canada in 2008, when the economy was really suffering and jobs were scarce. After 13 months without work, I spoke with the former priest at All Saints about a new position developing the outreach at Dan Harrison. Four years later, the program has really taken shape.

During my undergraduate degree, I followed my then girlfriend (now wife) to Ghana to volunteer with a small rural organization. After five months, we returned to Canada inspired to work in the international development field as a career. We had also seen how the church was doing incredible things in these small villages, and wanted a Christian perspective on development work. It’s amazing where God puts you, though, and I would never have imagined that I would end up doing similar things here in a marginalized community in downtown Toronto.

I was raised in Peterborough, Ont., where my father was teaching at a Pentecostal Bible College. (He’s now an Anglican priest.) The students at the college had started a kids group in our neighbourhood as outreach. At four years old, in the program with these students and other kids, I knew I wanted to follow Jesus. My parents were great teachers of who this Jesus was and what it meant to follow him. Through the years I have struggled with the brokenness I see in the world, but in my travels and work do amazing things and his presence is just undeniable for me.

My parents have been the biggest influence on my faith journey. My twin brother and I also attended Pioneer Camp (then-United Christian Fellowship) from age nine and worked there in our late 20s. The modelling we witnessed in our leaders inspired us to live lives that were both counter-cultural and God inspired.

Matthew 5:38-39 is a passage I both love and loathe at the same time. Here at All Saints, conflict can escalate between participants so quickly. What I see is this passage being about de-escalating violence. As Christians and as a church, I think we have a role in this world to de-escalate the violence that we see.

What would I like to be doing in five years? Part of my work means that I interact frequently with the larger social systems like Ontario Works (welfare) and the Ontario Disability Support Program. When you start interacting with these systems, you realize how broken they are. In five years, I would like to be involved developing policy that works with the poor, or an organization that shapes new policy directives for our province or city.

Churches can order communion wafers and other baked goods by visiting ‘Take This Bread’s’ website, takethisbread.ca.

INTERVIEW

‘It’s amazing where God puts you’

John Stephenson (second from right) bakes communion wafers with Take This Bread participants in 2012.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDDSON

Laity honoured

Continued from Page 7

For the homeless with mental health and addiction issues, LOFT can be a place to call home. When you see the word “LOFT,” don’t just think of trendy condos, think of us.

For more information, or to donate online, go to www.loftcs.org. Or call 416-977-1994 ext 222.

Denise Whalley, ODT All Saints, King City Mrs. Whalley has served her parish as churchwarden, choir member, Chancel Guild member, property committee member, office assistant and painter. "Denise lives up to the maxim of St. Francis “Preach the Gospel. If necessary, use words.”"

Cara Wigle, ODT St. Margaret, New Toronto Mrs. Wigle was honoured for her tireless work with Sunday school, the Christmas Dinner Among Friends, the Lakeshore Out of the Cold, the advisory board, the Vacation Bible School, the Robbie Burns Dinner and other parish activities.

Beverley Wood, ODT Trinity Church, Aurora Mrs. Wood was recognized for her work with Welcoming Arms, Welcome Table, the Clothes Closet, lay pastoral visitation and benevolence assistance. She is also a member of the Compass Rose Society.

Marilyn Yeung, ODT St. Christopher, Richmond Hill Ms. Yeung has given many years of service in all capacities to building up her parish. In the diocese, she is a trained volunteer facilitator, a member of diocesan Stations of the Cross and a member of diocesan boards and committees, bringing quiet wisdom and generous insight to complicated and contentious issues.
First greetings

An ice storm and power outages didn’t stop Anglicans from traveling to St. James Cathedral on Jan. 1 to greet the bishops, their spouses and senior clergy at the annual Archbishop’s Levee. The event included a Eucharist, a ringing of the bells, music and refreshments. It was followed by the presentation of the Order of the Diocese of Toronto to 48 lay people for their outstanding work.

Bishop Patrick Yu and his wife Cathy (left) and Bishop Philip Poole and his wife Karen greet people in the receiving line at the Archbishop’s Levee. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

Bishop Linda Nicholls greets Erika Gregory and Cara Robinson.

Archbishop Colin Johnson and his wife Ellen stand with their granddaughter Keira.

Bed race helps youth at risk

For the second straight year, parishioners from St. Andrew, Camrose, took part in a bed race that raised funds for youth who are at risk of being homeless. The team included people from Camrose United Church and the chaplaincy of the University of Alberta’s Augastana Campus. The team placed second, raising $1,464 for Camrose Open Door. The bed race rider was Chantal Kerr, 6, of St. Andrew’s. Her father and uncle spent countless hours welding the racing bed together.

St. Andrew’s parishioners were among the many spectators who turned out to cheer the racers on.

The Messenger

Eucharist held in once-secret bunker

About 130 young people gathered in a once-secret underground bunker near Carp, Ont., for a Eucharist in November. The bunker, nicknamed The Diefenbunker, was built more than 50 years ago to protect the Canadian government from nuclear attack. It is now a museum and a national historic site. The service was part of a seven-week course on the spirituality of The Hunger Games, a best-selling book and movie. A few days later, the youth went to see Catching Fire, the second movie in The Hunger Games trilogy.

The Hunger Games

Crosstalk

Diet raises funds for new church

Barbara Earle of St. Michael and All Angels in St. John’s, Newfoundland, made a life-altering decision last year. She wanted to lose 50 pounds. She also wanted her diet to be a fundraiser for her church, which is constructing a new building. She called her idea “A Slimmer Barb for a Fuller Church.” Seeking pledges from family, parishioners and friends, she promised not to collect a single dollar unless she reached her goal. She dieted, exercised and fasted until she reached her goal a year later. Ms. Earle, a survivor of major cancer surgery, decided to raise funds for her church as her way of thanking God for her recovery. On the day she presented the $7,850 cheque to her parish priest, the congregation gave her three resounding cheers.

Anglican Life
LOOKING AHEAD
To submit items for Looking Ahead, email editor@toronto.anglican.ca. The deadline for the March issue is Feb. 1. Parishes can also promote their events on the diocese’s website Calendar, at www.toronto.anglican.ca.

Worship
FEB. 2 – Choral Evensong for Candlemas at 4 p.m., followed by refreshments and a presentation by Douglas Cowling, who will provide an entertaining look at late mediaeval religious art, architecture and music in England, at St. Olave, Bloor and Windermere, Toronto. Call 416-769-5686 or visit www.stolaves.ca.

MUSIC
FEB. 6, 15, 20, 27 – Lunchtime Chamber Music at 12:10 p.m. at Christ Church, Deer Park, 1570 Yonge St. David Boutin-Bourque, clarinetist, performs on Feb. 6, Shannon Graham and The Storytellers perform classical jazz on Feb. 13, Jenny Cheong performs on cello on Feb. 20 and the Rising Stars recital is held on Feb. 27.

FEB. 16 – Jazz Vespers at Church of the Incarnation, 15 Clairtrell Rd., Toronto, at 4:30 p.m. Listen to inspiring jazz music and reflect on the Word of God. Call 416-221-7516 or visit www.incarnation-toronto.ca.

MAY 7 – Concert featuring The Three Cantors at St. Thomas, 101 Winchester Rd. E., Brooklin, at 7 p.m. A reception to meet the performers will follow the concert. Proceeds will benefit The Primacy’s World Relief and Development Fund, as well as the church. Tickets are $30. Call the church office, 905-655-3883.

Dinner
MARCH 4 – Pancake and samosa supper, 5-7 p.m., Christ Church, Scarborough Village, 155 Markham Rd.

Annuiversaries
FEB. 23 – 50th anniversary reunion at St. Matthew the Apostle, Oriole, 80 George Henry Blvd., North York. This is a special 10 a.m. service to reunite all parishioners, past and present, as part of the church’s 50th anniversary celebration. Visit www.stmatthew.ca or contact Janice Sanders at 416-491-6422.

SYRIA SUPPORT
Members of Toronto’s Syrian community gather at Epiphany and St. Mark, Parkdale, on Dec. 15 for an ecumenical prayer service for Syria. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

RNING OUT
A mother and child play with a set of Pagoda Bells in Heasley Willan Park in Toronto last fall. The bells were donated to the park by St. Mary Magdalene, Toronto, in celebration of the church’s 125th anniversary. The park is located beside the church and is named after Heasley Willan, who was the church’s organist and choirmaster from 1921 to 1968. ‘The bells reflect the parish’s strong and continuing musical heritage, as well as its tradition of ministry to children,’ says the Rev. Canon David Harrison, incumbent.

TUNING UP
The Toronto Jewish Folk Choir and the Temple Sinai Ensemble Choir practice before a concert at Grace Church on-the-Hill, Toronto, during Holocaust Education Week. The concert also featured The Upper Canada Choristers.

DELICIOUS
A cake featuring the flag of Barbados is served up during a celebration of the 40th anniversary of the ordination of the Rev. Canon Anthony Jemmott, who is the incumbent of St. George Memorial, Oshawa. Canon Jemmott is from Barbados.

TASTY TREAT
Archbishop Colin Johnson serves up pancakes to Eleanor Spence and Codii-Lyn Dunkley at St. Peter, Erindale. Archbishop Johnson was at St. Peter’s to make breakfast for the Sunday school as part of the prize awarded to Shelby Collier for her painting chosen for the Faithworks Christmas card. PHOTO BY SIMON CHAMBERS

Send your PARISH NEWS to editor@toronto.anglican.ca
Four covenants in Hebrew Bible

To better understand the Tanakh (the Hebrew Bible), it is important to comprehend the role of covenant to these ancient people. A covenant is a contract or treaty established between two parties. There are probably more covenants found in archeological research than any other document found in Near Eastern studies. These covenants are usually between a suzerain (a feudal lord) and his vassals.

There are four major covenants in the Hebrew Bible. Each of these covenants has Yahweh (God) in place of the suzerain. The first covenant was between God and Noah (Genesis 9:8-11). After God had destroyed all the creatures on the earth by means of a flood—except for Noah, his family and the animals they brought on the ark—God promised to never again destroy the inhabitants of the earth by water. The sign of this covenant was the rainbow in the sky (Genesis 9:13). Each time we see a rainbow, we are reminded of God’s promise. This covenant is considered universal in its scope, as the Hebrew nation had yet to be established.

The second covenant was circumcision (Genesis 17:10-12). Each male child was to be circumcised on the eighth day. This was accomplished when God promised the Hebrews a land of milk and honey. The people were expected to put aside all other gods and worship only Yahweh. If they did so, God would protect them and their city and their faith. If not, he would destroy them.

The third covenant was made with Moses on Mount Sinai (Exodus 19-24). In this covenant, Moses received the Ten Commandments as a code of behaviour. God promised the Hebrews a land flowing with milk and honey. They were expected to follow the Ten Commandments and the other 600 or so commands in the books of Exodus, Leviticus and Numbers, and repeated again in Deuteronomy. The people were expected to put aside all other gods and worship only Yahweh. I believe this covenant was the beginning of monotheism for the Hebrews. I also believe that they discovered this God Yahweh while in Egypt, or perhaps through Moses during his time in Midian.

The fourth covenant was with King David (2 Samuel 7:1-16). David was the descendant of David’s line, and many of them led the people into worshipping false gods. The Assyrian Empire conquered Israel in 722 BCE, and most of the inhabitants were taken into exile and disappeared from history. They would have been assimilated into this empire and lost their identity as Hebrews.

The southern kingdom of Judah struggled on until 586 BCE. Their temple was inhabited continuously by descendants of David. The Judeans felt they were the true people of God. They had constructed a beautiful temple in Jerusalem that was believed to be a replica of God’s house in heaven. It held the Ark of the Covenant, which had accompanied them throughout their 40 years in the wilderness. They believed they were invincible. In 586 BCE, the Babylonian armies captured Jerusalem, destroyed the temple and led the people into captivity.

This should have been the end of the Hebrew people, but perhaps God’s greatest miracle was about to happen. They survived this exodus and returned to Jerusalem in 537 BCE to rebuild their temple, their city and their faith. Not too long after that, they would call the prophets and the writers of the Tanakh who helped make this happen. This is an exciting story. 
Anglicans go
door to door
after storm

Church provides heat,
food, WiFi, telephone

BY CAROLYN PURDEN

WHEN last month’s ice storm plunged Scarborough into cold and darkness, St. Andrew, Scarborough, did what any good neighbour would do—offered its help.

The church lost power on the weekend before Christmas, and while a handful of people made it to the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. services on Sunday, the building was starting to get cold, says the Rev. Canon Heather McCance, the incumbent.

However, parishioner Sharon Zagrodney, who lives in the same neighbourhood as St. Andrew’s, phoned Canon McCance on Monday to say that power was re-store. Canon McCance had no power at home, so she and her 13-year-old daughter Cara Robinson went to the church.

There they found Ms. Zagrodney who, with freshly baked muffins, was ready to take action. A former town councillor in Kemptville, outside Ottawa, Ms. Zagrodney had lived through the last month’s ice storm and was busy. She spent several hours contacting senior and shut-in parishioners to make sure they were all right. One 92-year-old, who lived on the 14th floor of a condominium across from St. Andrew’s, walked all the way down the stairs to get to the church and use the phone to find a place to stay.

Canon McCance also contacted the church’s partner agencies to see if they needed anything, and she e-mailed her local councillor, Deputy Mayor Norm Kelly, to tell him the church was open if any-one was in need.

By late afternoon, the city’s of-ficial warming centres were opening and people started going there instead of The church. St. Andrew’s remained open that week but only a couple of people showed up. With several Scarborough churches without power, parishioners from at least three of them turned up for the Christ-mas Eve services.

Ms. Zagrodney and Cara Robinson went out into the neighbourhood and started knocking on doors, offering muffins and inviting people to the church for tea and coffee, to recharge their cellphones and to warm up.

Canon McCance says about two dozen people, some of them parishioners, used the church that day. They came for the hot drinks, and one man brought his laptop and used the church’s WiFi. Others used the phone to call distant family members.

Meantime, Canon McCance was busy. She spent several hours contacting senior and shut-in parishioners to make sure they were all right. One 92-year-old, who lived on the 14th floor of a condominium across from St. Andrew’s, walked all the way down the stairs to get to the church and use the phone to find a place to stay.

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Canon McCance says that it was good to be able to help church members but what was important was reaching out and inviting the community to share what St. Andrew’s had.

“It’s what we always want to do, but this gave us a particular opportunity to do it,” she says.

Redundant computers given to schools

IRELAND – When the Church of Ireland installed new computers and servers in the church’s de-partments last year, it was left with many functional computers that needed a new home. Rather than sending the computers to become e-waste, the church con-nected to Camara, an interna-tional charity that uses techno-logies to improve education and skills in communities around the world. Founded in Dublin seven years ago, Camara re-trofits com-puters and sends them to schools throughout the world, primarily in low income areas. The program enables children to upgrade their literacy skills.

Episcopalians call for end to gun violence

UNITED STATES – A year after the massacre at Sandy Hook Ele-mentary School in Newtown, Connecticut, the Episcopal Church Peace Fellowship (EFP) has renewed calls for an end to gun violence in the United States. The EFP held a memorial vigil outside the National Rifle Association headquarters in Fairfax, Virginia, on Dec. 14. “Twenty young children and six educators were slaughtered by 154 bullets, fired in just five min-utes,” said the Rev. Allison Liles at another vigil at Washington’s National Cathedral. “This ob-scenity has to stop.”

Leaders arrested during demonstration

INDIA – Police in Delhi charged into a demonstration led by church leaders who were protesting against the treatment of Dalit (or lower caste) Chris-tians. A number of nuns, priests and lay people were injured. Some church leaders defied po-lice orders and continued to march on. Among those arrested was Church of North India General Secretary Alwan Masih. The Anglican Church is a member of the Church of North India. Anglican Communion News Service.

World Briefs

World Briefs

Food for Life

The Primate’s World Relief and Development Fund

www.pwrdf.org

PARTY TIME

Redeemer Church in Ajax hosts a Christmas party in a community hall for guests from the Redeem the Com-mune online community as well as local residents. Those attending were invited to give to a toy drive and stay for stories, carols, games, snacks, hot drinks and more. Redeemer reaches out to commuters and their families through its mobile app, website and social media presence. The app has been installed on mobile phones and tablets about 1,000 times.

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Leaders arrested during demonstration

INDIA – Police in Delhi charged into a demonstration led by church leaders who were protesting against the treatment