

## OTHER REPORTS TO SYNOD - ADDENDUM

The following Reports were received after September 18, 2015, and are printed verbatim from the following:

- Bishop's Committees
  - Committee on Healing
- Educational Institutions
  - Wycliffe College

- **Bishop's Committees**

- **Committee on Healing**

The Bishop's Committee on Healing continues the work of supporting the growth and development of healing ministry in the Diocese. While the healing ministries are many, the particular focus of the committee's work has been the training of lay anointers' for parish ministry, the on-going support of active lay anointers, and the support of the ministry in local parishes as requested.

The training of prospective lay anointers takes place annually, the last several years at the convent of the Sisters of St. John the Divine in a residential weekend program. A comprehensive practical program prepares individuals for parish ministry and licensing by respective area bishops. The committee members deliver much of the programming, and are grateful for the significant contributions of the Rt. Rev. Linda Nicholls, and the Rev. Daniel Graves. The hospitality, worship, and excellent facilities of the convent provide a retreat-like setting for the busy weekend. With the leadership of the Archbishop, three clergy from the Diocese of Moosonee attended the training this year, and are studying the feasibility of introducing the ministry of Lay anointing. The last two years have seen over fifty individuals complete the training. The next training weekend is scheduled for October 14-16, 2016.

An annual "Refresher Day" takes place on a Saturday in the spring of the year, to provide continuing education and peer support for lay anointers. The main speaker for the 2014 event was the Rt. Rev. Mark McDonald who spoke and conducted workshops on Indigenous approaches and understandings of healing. In 2015 the Rev. Canon Douglas Graydon led a marvelous morning series of reflections on 'Sacred Conversations' in relation to healing. The next "Refresher Day" takes place April 30, 2016, at Trinity Aurora, with Archbishop Colin Johnson as keynote speaker on prayer. We are grateful for the hospitality of the parish of St. Simon-the-Apostle for hosting the last two Refresher Days.

The Committee seeks to provide in parish support of lay anointing ministry by meeting with clergy and anointers, and parish healing committees. For example recently, the Committee responded to an invitation to present in a parish considering starting a healing ministry. In 2014, two Committee members presented a workshop on healing at the Trent-Durham area ministry day. The Committee continues to compile and maintain an anointers' database to facilitate communication. Further data collection is provided by the parochial returns which now track the number of active lay anointers in the Diocese.

In addition to the above, the Committee strives to support both clergy and anointers in the supervision process, that best practices be maintained, and anointers be supported in the sometimes challenging ministry of praying with those who are ill.

The Committee regularly receives feedback and evaluation on all training provided, and continually seeks to revise and improve training and support as situations arise. Please contact the chair of the Committee if we might be of assistance.

We give thanks to God for the faithful and skilled ministry of the committee members, who are: the Rev. Michael Marshall, Sr. Jocelyn SSJD, the Rev. Br. David Hoopes, OHC, Mrs. Jane Winstanley, Mrs. Beverley Kingsbury, the Rev. Jo-Anne Billinger, and the Rev. Grace Caldwell-Hill.

Submitted by,  
The Rev. Stephen Kern  
Chair

- **Educational Institutions**

- **Wycliffe College**

This autumn finds Wycliffe College in the midst of a significant transition, as its dynamic Principal, Canon George Sumner concludes his leadership of the college and moves to Texas to become Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Dallas. For 16 years George has inspired, challenged and guided the entire college in its mission of raising up visionary leaders for clergy and lay ministry across Canada and beyond.

Wycliffe remains a strong, healthy college with 300 students enrolled in a wide array of diploma and degree programmes. They represent a very diverse group with a large proportion of youth. In 2015 we graduated 19 M.Div. and 12 M.T.S. students. The budget is balanced thanks to the efforts of Rob Henderson and the Development department. We function as an integral partner of the seven member Toronto School of Theology, offering degrees conjointly with the University of Toronto. We appreciate our close links with bishops and dioceses of the Anglican Church, particularly our surrounding Diocese of Toronto, with Bishop Patrick Yu as our episcopal link. At the same time we value a range of partnerships with the wider church and community, with many of our students belonging to a variety of denominations.

For many years Wycliffe has welcomed church leaders from several corners of the Anglican Communion, including Archbishop Josiah Idowu-Fearon of Kaduna, Nigeria, and Bishop Mwita Akiri of Tarime, Tanzania, both of whom have resided at the college and offered courses on world mission to our students. In September 2013 Wycliffe hosted a celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the memorable Anglican Congress of 1963, with several Anglican leaders as our guests. Conversely several faculty have recently done teaching stints abroad, including in Egypt.

Other recent visitors have included Andrew Bennett, the Canadian Ambassador for Religious Freedom, and Governor General David Johnston who accepted our honorary Doctor of Sacred Letters, and the Rev. Canon Andrew White, the Vicar of Bagdad, who received a Doctor of Divinity.

In recent years Wycliffe has sought to develop an active partnership with the Canadian indigenous community. Key figures in this partnership include Bishop Mark MacDonald, National Indigenous Bishop and Bishop Lydia Mamakwa of Mishamikweesh. This August Wycliffe launched its new Indigenous Leadership Week. Drawing more than twenty participants, from the Arctic to British Columbia to Newfoundland, the joyful gathering focused on baptism. Recent high school graduates to great-grandparents engaged in interactive classes, visited an art gallery, and some cheered at a Blue Jays ball game. Teachers included Bishops Mark MacDonald and Lydia Mamakwa, Ray Aldred, and several Wycliffe faculty. Sending dioceses partnered by investing \$500.00 per participant, while a generous donation covered travel, food, lodging at the college and course instruction. This pilot program is being rolled out over three years, with the goal of becoming a long term venture.

Closer to home Wycliffe's professor of evangelism, Dr. Judy Paulsen and Canon Susan Bell recently co-authored a downloadable study series for parishes entitled Invited: Exploring Genuine Christian Invitation. Our thanks to the Diocese of Toronto for funding support of these six videos which form part of this resource, now being used by at least four dioceses in Canada. Wycliffe has also received a grant from the Diocese of Toronto to develop a Christian Foundations leadership resource. Next fall the first of this nine module program will be offered on Saturday mornings for parish leaders who are keen to teach the basics of the biblical story, church history, Christian practices, and mission today.

How is Wycliffe keeping pace with new patterns of education? "Jesus at the Turning of the Ages" is the title of a free, online course offered by Wycliffe College over twelve weeks from September to December 2015. The course helps people read the books of the New Testament as they would be read, in light of Jesus' resurrection, in the context of the first century, and with an eye to our own world. There are over 100 people registered for the course from Newfoundland to British Columbia, and places in-between including Toronto area. Most are Anglicans but there are also Roman Catholics and United Church adherents. People are taking the course as individuals or as church study groups. The course was developed by faculty and graduate students at Wycliffe with support from the Anglican Foundation.

Finally, Wycliffe is grateful for its place within the Diocese of Toronto, the Anglican Church of Canada, and the wider fellowship of Christian churches and communities. Your prayers for us during this time of transition are greatly valued.

Yours sincerely in Christ,  
Bishop Peter Mason  
Interim Principal