Supply chain ships items north

Donated goods reach First Nations communities

BY STUART MANN

In late January, three transport trucks loaded with donated hockey equipment and other items left a Mississauga warehouse for Timmins and the remote communities of Pickle Lake and Red Lake. From there, the cargo will be put on airplanes and flown to 11 First Nations communities sprinkled across northern Ontario.

Some of the hockey equipment is bound for Kashechewan First Nation, located on the Albany River near James Bay. The community has a new arena but not enough sticks, skates, helmets and pads to go around. When the shipment arrives, there will be enough equipment for 12 teams.

One of the people behind the trip is John Andras, an Anglican from Peterborough. He helps to coordinate a grassroots supply chain that transports donated items from southern Ontario to fly-in First Nations communities. “For the northern communities, often a warm coat is the difference between a child being able to go to school or not going to school,” he says. “In a lot of ways, the delivery of those goods can be life-changing.”

Mr. Andras is a director of HIP (Honoring Indigenous People), a joint initiative of the Rotary Club and Indigenous leaders. The charity seeks to educate Canadians about Indigenous issues and assist schools in First Nations communities. “We very much work with the communities,” he says. “We listen to what the needs are and try our best to fill those needs.”

HIP’s in-kind collection and transportation program started almost by accident last year, when Mr. Andras and Cobourg resident Laurie Siblock had to figure out how to ship 1,500 articles of winter clothing to nine First Nations communities in the north. It was a daunting task but the duo managed to do it – and an idea was born.

“We realized there was a disconnect between people wanting to do something – wanting to collect and perhaps having done a collection – and them sitting with a school gym full of boxes and asking, ‘Now what?’ What we’ve managed to do is create a supply chain from the south to the north.”

Anglicans support Muslims after attack

BY STUART MANN AND MARTHA HOLMEN

Angela Forbes took part in a “ring of peace” outside a mosque in Toronto’s west end on Feb. 3 to show her support for Muslims following the deadly attack on a Quebec City mosque a few days earlier.

“This is an amazing experience,” said Ms. Forbes, a member of St. Anne, Gladstone Avenue in Toronto as she stood with about 250 Christians, Jews, Muslims and others as worshippers entered the mosque for Friday prayers. “There’s so many people and so much love being expressed.”

Ms. Forbes was one of hundreds of Anglicans across the diocese who took part in events and organized gatherings in support of Muslims in the days after the Quebec City shooting, which left six dead and 19 injured.

Continued on Page 8

Continued on Page 12
**Primate attends special service**

Sudanese congregation worships at Toronto church

**BY JANICE BIEHN**

SEVEN years ago, St. Olave, Swansea in Toronto opened its doors to the Sudanese Community Church of Toronto, offering a space to worship on Sunday afternoons. Its pastor, the Rev. Peter John Achiwok, an Anglican priest and one of the former “Lost Boys” of Sudan, was later named an honorary assistant at St. Olave’s. The Sudanese church is part of the Diocese of Toronto.

The congregations come together for a special joint service every January and have welcomed a who’s who of bishops over the years. On Jan. 15, Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, celebrated the Eucharist and preached. In his sermon, he compared the story of the Holy Innocents – baby boys killed at Herod’s decree – to the current violence around the world, particularly in South Sudan.

He said the Sudanese Community Church of Toronto is truly ecumenical, noting how it brings together Sudanese Canadians from different ethnicities, tribes and denominations. As violence and political unrest continue in South Sudan, the congregation feels the pain. Last year, it held three special prayer vigils and memorial services for family members and friends who were killed back home.

“This annual joint service helps us stay connected to the plight of our South Sudanese brothers and sisters,” says the Rev. Robert Mitchell, incumbent of St. Olave’s. “We are privileged to have the congregation share our space.”

The service included a procession for the Holy Innocents and musical selections from the Sudanese choir in both English and Juba Arabic. A delicious African lunch was enjoyed by all.

Janice Biehn is a member of St. Olave, Swansea.
TRENT-DURHAM
Bishop Riscylla Shaw receives water for baptism at her induction as the area bishop of Trent-Durham on Jan. 21 at St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough. Top left, Bishop Shaw addresses the clergy and laity. At left, the Rev. Mary Bell-Plouffe tells the Gospel through Biblical storytelling. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

YORK-SCARBOROUGH
Bishop Kevin Robertson is presented to the clergy and laity at his induction as the area bishop of York-Scarborough on Jan. 22 at St. John, York Mills. Top right, Bishop Robertson greets people after the service. At right, applause for the new bishop. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

YORK-CREDIT VALLEY
Bishop Jenny Andison is joined by the Rev. Susan Climo and parishioners of Holy Spirit of Peace, Mississauga, at her induction as the area bishop of York-Credit Valley on Jan. 22 at St. Matthew, Islington. At left, Bishop Andison and the choir (below) of the Church of South India in Mississauga. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON
Do our lives align with our values?

What we do actually matters – to us, to our world, to God’s mission. It also matters how we do it. Both way and act are important. As part of a communion of saints, we are called to love and serve the particular subjects of our compassion, collaboration, accountability, boldness.

Many think that Lent is a time to focus on our sins and shortcomings. The great spiritual guides direct us to focus less on the vast sins that we see sinning locally, and more to the virtues we aspire to. How do our lives and actions align with our values?

How do we nourish our faith in God who is revealed to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit? How do I grow in knowing God in my intellect, in my affections, in my activity?

How do I respond to God’s love for me in personal and communal worship?

Loving compassion is the primary stance of God toward creation, revealed in Jesus Christ. Our love of God needs to overflow into our love for our neighbour; also God’s blessed News that transforms God for us. How do we express our compassion in attitude and action in our daily dealings with family, friends, colleagues, strangers, or even ourselves?

Linked to these other values, however, boldness can mobilize our creative imagination and productive energy, joining us to God’s mission to reconcile the world to himself.

This Lent, these values and see how they shape your life, as well as the life of your parish and your diocese. Pray about what we can do and how we can more clearly live by the values we affirm.

What do we actually mean – to us, to our world, to God’s mission. It also matters how we do it. Both way and act are important.

A couple of years later, he reused the line as the only novel, when I was a teenager. It names five: faith, humanity. A year ago, the people of St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough raised funds for a local mosque after arson destroyed their building.

As we begin the season of Lent once again this year, we are reminded of the walls in our own lives, and are asked to consider how we might allow God to enter them. This year, what might we give up or take on that would help us remove those walls we have constructed between ourselves and God, and ourselves and each other? How might we recommit ourselves to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ in a world that seems overcome by fear and division?

How might we pattern our lives in accordance with the one who was humanity.” A year ago, the people of St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough raised funds for a local mosque after arson destroyed their building.

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Can you imagine what your community or church would be like without Anglican outreach? Imagine no parish food bank or mission trip to Africa. No 30-hour famine organized by the parish youth group. No Christmas food hamper for a needy family. No toy drive, blood donor clinic or carpool to the cancer treatment centre. No parish bazaar in support of an emergency relief effort. No volunteering at the AIDS hospice or marching with others on Good Friday on behalf of the homeless.

Outreach is an integral part of our Anglican community; it is our faith in action. When we reach out our hands to support others, we share Christ’s love with people who need it most. As parish communities, we help to improve the lives of people who live in our neighbourhoods. As a diocesan community, we bring hope where there is despair and compassion where there is a broken spirit.

FaithWorks is our shared ministry of feeding, sheltering, befriending and nurturing the most vulnerable people in the diocese. Because of the faith-filled support of individuals, parishes, foundations and corporations, we are able to touch the lives of 10,000 people every year. According to Archbishop Colin Johnson, “FaithWorks is a ministry of encounter and compassion in which we walk with people who are marginalized and vulnerable.” For 20 years, we have been actively committed to and engaged with this ministry. Together, we have raised more than $25 million.

In 2016, FaithWorks raised nearly $1.5 million. Thank you to everyone who donated to the campaign! Although we almost reached our target, it was the first time in its history that FaithWorks received more money from sources other than parish campaigns. Parish participation is critically important to the ability of FaithWorks to support our Ministry Partners who are Christ’s hands and feet in the diocese.

It was an extraordinary year. We know that it took hard work and tremendous sacrifice for parishes to balance their commitments to FaithWorks with the call to support the settlement of Syrian refugees. Parish participation is critically important to the ability of FaithWorks to support our Ministry Partners who are Christ’s hands and feet in the diocese.

So as we begin the 2017 FaithWorks campaign, imagine what outreach could look like in your community and your parish this year. Imagine homework clubs for at-risk youth, safe housing for women fleeing abuse, supporting reconciliation with Indigenous peoples, and helping newcomers and refugees call Canada home.

Through FaithWorks, all of this and more is possible. This Lent, you can be love in the world by making a donation to FaithWorks. We have included in this issue of The Anglican an envelope that contains a brochure sharing FaithWorks outreach work and an invitation for you to make a donation. You can respond by mail or online at www.faithworks.ca. Please give! Imagine the impact that being love can make!

Across our diocese – in parishes, community ministries, homes and workplaces of faithful men, women and young people – Christ’s work goes on in support of our mission and moves us forward in building communities of hope and compassion. What we do in reaching out to those in need has a bigger impact on Canada than you imagine.

Peter Misaszek is the diocese’s director of Stewardship Development.

I will always be grateful that someone showed an interest in me. I never had someone in my life caring enough and really interested in helping me like you did.

~Sam
Faithworks client

HUNGRY HOMELESS ABUSED SCARED
There is tremendous suffering in the world.
FaithWorks is one way that we as Anglicans confront that suffering. FaithWorks is our shared ministry of making Christ’s love visible in the Diocese of Toronto. Each year 10,000 people are supported by our FaithWorks Ministry Partners.

Together we Feed, Shelter, Befriend and Nurture people who are in need.

THIS LENT... BE LOVE IN THE WORLD
Make a donation to FaithWorks. Your gift can change a life!

PLEASE GIVE!
www.faithworks.ca

visit FaithWorks.ca
Jenn McIntyre is the director of Romero House.

Romero House is a community of welcome and support for refugee claimants in the west end of Toronto. We commit to walking alongside refugees as they seek safety and a new life in Canada. I spend my days encountering remarkable people – newly arrived refugees who have undergone incredible journeys to get here, passionate and committed volunteers and supporters, and the aged by the Diocese of Toronto – an initiative that has brought me here. Right now I am really excited about the Community Host Program, an initiative that has allowed individuals and families to fill a community need by offering a room in their home to a newly arrived refugee family. It is a sign of real Christian hospitality. It is the voice of the church speaking God’s love very loudly in this moment in history – a moment in which fear is trying to build walls between people. Through this program, we are meeting Christians who are choosing to open their doors in trust and faith, who are choosing to break down walls rather than build them.

The best part of my job is that I don’t do it alone. I am held up and accompanied by a faithful and tremendous community. The second-best part of my job is the amazing food that is shared by my neighbours. The smells and tastes of Romero House are glorious.

There are no “worst” parts of my job, although many things are difficult. I am a witness to injustice every single day. And in that, I am given a choice to simply observe it, or to do something.

I grew up in Calgary and moved to Ontario to study at the University of Guelph. After graduating from International Development studies, I spent an incredibly formative year as an intern at Romero House. It was during that year that I started to shift my mindset from one of helping people in need to walking alongside those who suffer. I took that learning into three years of working with students in campus ministry at the University of Guelph.

When I was working in campus ministry, I really loved my job. I spent my days in deeply meaningful spiritual conversations with young people figuring out their relation to God. But I felt a deep yearning, a call of sorts, to be near to Romero House. The community and its Way of Being connected with my soul. So I left Guelph and moved back to Toronto to become a neighbour of Romero House. I started studying theology at Wycliffe while volunteering at Romero. And then the call came to move back in and step into my current role. There was a need, and I felt a total sense of being in the right place.

My spiritual journey is far from a linear one, with lots of turns, backtracks and circles. It is hard to say where it began – probably as a child in a Sunday school classroom. As long as I can remember, I have been trying to figure out who I am in relation to God. I have felt welcomed and at home in a number of different Christian traditions over the years and have come to see the presence of God in the world through ecumenical movements. My faith is what grounds my work and my life. God is my reference point. Prayer is what roots me. Our little community of interns and staff meets for prayer every morning, which is by far the most important part of my day.

I have learned that “refugee” is simply a label that is put on someone for their particular situation in life. But everyone I speak to at Romero House is really just a person. My sister or brother.

I don’t really think about the future in terms of where I would like to be or what my goals are. I believe that I am in absolutely the right place right now. And I am deeply committed to my work and community. I am not really thinking of or planning for anything else. I am open to the leading of the Spirit. And that might be that I am at Romero House for the rest of my life. Or I could be somewhere else in five years that is not even on my radar. But I am choosing to live now, in this moment, and to be faithfully committed to it.

I don’t necessarily have a favourite passage of scripture. But the one that is speaking to me right now is the Gospel reading from Matthew 5:1-12. In stark contrast to the politics of power and self-importance, the Beatitudes reveal the politics of God. They reveal the Kingdom values of humanity, mercy and peace. They give us a very clear idea of how the church is to be in the world. They give us a deep hope.
Syrian refugees guests of honour at celebration

BY MARTHA HOLMEN

A year after their arrival in Canada, an extended family of Syrian refugees were the guests of honour at a festive celebration at St. Andrew’s Presbyterian churches – St. Andrew, Humber Heights and St. Timothy, Etobicoke – and three Anglican churches, St. Philip, Etobicoke, St. Andrew’s, Toronto and St. Lawrence-Dufferin Ave. on Jan. 15.

The two families, 13 people in all, were sponsored in 2015 by two Presbyterian churches – St. Andrew’s and St. Timothy, Etobicoke – and three Anglican churches, St. Philip, Etobicoke, St. Andrew’s, Toronto and St. Lorenzo-Dufferin Ave.

During the past year, the Rev. Herman Astudillo and his congregation at St. Lorenzo had not yet had the opportunity to welcome and greet the families. “It was a chance for them to see the people that they had helped to bring to Canada,” says Margaret Henderson, a member of St. Andrew’s who sits on the sponsorship committee. “It was just a very joyful time.”

The families, who are Christian, helped lead the service. Christine and Carol, both teenagers, who had lived with their mother and aunt served at the altar during the Eucharist.

The sponsorship project began with Hanna Bytion, a longtime member of St. Andrew’s whose brother and sister were living in Syria with their families. She had been trying to sponsor her brother and sister-in-law, along with their six children, without much success. “In the meantime, she’d asked our church if we might bring her sister, so we approached the other churches,” says Ms. Henderson. “When the other application didn’t work out, we took that one on as well.”

With the help of the churches, the applications for both families were approved. Ms. Bytion’s sister Poline and her four children arrived first, on Dec. 10, 2015. “They came on the first plane from Syria, so that was quite exciting to be part of the first group,” says Ms. Henderson. The second family followed a few weeks later.

“When they first came, the 13 of them, they all lived with their sister, and that was a pretty crowded situation,” says Ms. Henderson. “They then found other places to live because they’re in their own places now.” Several of them have found work in family members’ businesses, and they are determined to support themselves financially.

“They are eager to keep sharing the hospitality they’ve received. ‘They’re very appreciative and when you go into their homes … you can’t leave without having something to eat,’” says Ms. Henderson.

The families, in particular the women and girls, have found a church home at St. Andrew’s. “We’ve really enjoyed having them there. The teenage girls are very lively, and they enjoy participating,” she says.

As the families continue to thrive in Canada more than a year after their arrival, Ms. Henderson says she is struck by their determination. “They didn’t bring much with them, but they’re able to survive doing their own work,” she says. “It’s been kind of amazing how they’ve done that.”

New format for sermon creates a buzz in Aurora

BY STUART MANN

THE regular sermon time at Trinity Church, Aurora may never be quite the same again.

Informing the season of Epiphany, the church has replaced the sermon with a conversation between the incumbent, the lay associate minister and the congregation. The new format has created a buzz in the parish and even attracted the attention of the local press.

The series, called Holy Shift!, was the idea of Canon Davis and Mr. Hamilton. The format includes one other important element. After each talk, parishioners were asked to write down their spiritual takeaway, they are given a stick to help them navigate the change they’ve just talked about. For example, after the “Who Stole My Church?” talk, parishioners were asked to reflect on if they’ve ever had a spiritual encounter with God. If so, they were encouraged to tell a loved one about it.

The spiritual takeaways have led to some surprising moments of grace. The week after the “Who Stole My Church?” talk, a parishioner stood up and shared his spiritual story with the rest of the congregation. “It was a holy moment,” recalls Canon Davis.

The takeaway exercise is not without some light-hearted moments – an important aspect of the format. If people complete the takeaway, they are given a sticker. “There’s some whimsy to it because part of the survival kit is holy humour,” explains Canon Davis.

People can also attend small-group discussions on Tuesday and Wednesday nights to start to build a Rule of Life for navigating today’s turbulent times. The groups have seen an upturn in attendance since the series started.

One of the interesting aspects of the series is that Canon Davis has had to navigate a changing congregation. The street-on-the-Hill, St. George on-the-Hill, and even attracted the attention of the local press. The series has been trying to sponsor her brother and sister, who were living in Syria, so that was quite exciting to be part of the first group,” says Ms. Henderson. The second family followed a few weeks later.

“When they first came, the 13 of them, they all lived with their sister, and that was a pretty crowded situation,” says Ms. Henderson. “They then found other places to live because they’re in their own places now.” Several of them have found work in family members’ businesses, and they are determined to support themselves financially.

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Syrian refugees guests of honour at celebration

Family members help lead joyful service

New format for sermon creates a buzz in Aurora
Supply chain making impact

In a remarkable act of generosity, the trucking companies and airlines that transport the goods have provided their services for free. Otherwise, each load would cost between $10,000 and $15,000. So far, the program has sent seven shipments to the north—all at no cost. For the most recent trip, transportation was provided by trucking company MGA International and airlines Wasaya Airways and ThunderAir.

“I’ve found that the trucking industry has a huge heart and they’re aware of conditions in the north,” says Mr. Andras. “They have contacts with First Nations communities along their routes on the northern highways, so they’re aware of the issues and problems, and they want to help.”

In addition to winter clothing and hockey equipment, donated items have included footwear, school supplies and blankets. “We’ve been working with the chiefs of Ontario and also with principals and health care centres to get lists of needed items,” he explains.

A number of community groups in the south have responded, including The Bridge Prison Ministry, an agency funded by PathWorks, the diocese’s annual outreach appeal. Last fall, The Bridge held a clothing drive for Syrian refugees and received so many items that it was able to give several skills worth of clothing to HIP’s program.

“It was really gratifying,” says Garry Glowacki, The Bridge’s executive director. “Some of the men who packed the clothes for shipment were ex-prisoners. “They loved being able to give back, because in the back of their minds they think nobody wants anything from them, so contributing is a big deal.”

Mr. Andras says the supply chain program has become “far bigger, far faster” than he ever dreamed possible. “It’s having a real impact in the north—not just by getting things up there that people need, but also making connections and having people realize there’s a lot of people of goodwill in the south who want to reach out and make things different.”

He says the program gives people a chance to get involved in reconciliation efforts. “I think it’s essential that the ordinary Canadians step up because if we don’t lead, the governments won’t follow. If enough people get involved and demand change, then the governments will listen and change will happen.”

Mr. Andras has been fighting for the marginalized for many years. He was one of the founders of Project Warmth in the 1990s and has been working with homeless people in Toronto for more than 20 years. He was a founding member of the Toronto Disaster Relief Committee and has served on other similar groups.

“I don’t like to say it’s a calling, but to some extent it is,” he says. “When you see a gross inequity, there’s a drive to try to do something to help resolve it. In a way, you could say it’s putting faith to work.”

He is passionate about reconciliation with Indigenous people. “This is the unfinished business of Canada,” he says. “Finally, we have an opportunity to change things—if people demand it. After the TRC and people like Gord Downey, people are more aware now than they ever were and are starting to make demands. I just hope and pray that they will continue to do so, because without those voices there will be no change.”

For more information about the program, visit www.rotaryhip.com.

Baby boomer, millennial bring different perspectives

Continued from Page 7

is a baby boomer and Mr. Hamilton is a millennial. Mr. Hamilton says they often have different perspectives on an issue, something the congregation appreciates.

“In most parishes, being a millennial in church is like being a unicorn—there aren’t too many of us around—so I think the majority of our parishioners, who are of the baby boom generation, find it really helpful to hear the two of us interact and hear in our conversations some of the conversations they’re having with their children,” he says. “The way Dawn and I approach problems and even truth is very different, and people have found that really helpful to hear two different opinions.”

The two often disagree, which is not only accepted but a welcomed part of the format. “That’s what’s been fun about it, that even in our preparation we’re trying to teach people and model for them what it is to disagree well and to have different opinions and to still be unified in purpose and mission and vision,” says Mr. Hamilton.

Canon Davis agrees. “Holy Shift is really a listening platform. We can be listening to the generation that went before us or the generation that comes after us. We can be listening to all the diversity in our parish. It’s helped us be a lot more respectful of other people’s perspectives.”

She says churches need to respond in creative ways in these changing times. “I think there is so much change going on that we have to be pretty light on our feet and make sure that our churches and our liturgies are responding to the spiritual needs that people have right now, because if they don’t we’re going to miss an incredible opportunity for Christ to speak into people’s lives.”
New chaplain installed at Sunnybrook

Diocese, Sisterhood provide innovative ministry

BY THE REV. CANON DOUGLAS GRAYDON

SISTER Hannah Grier Coome, foundress of the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine in 1884, identified ministry to those who were ill and distressed as a vital witness for her order. To that end, she founded a surgical hospital for women, which evolved over time into St. John’s Convalescent Hospital before becoming the St. John’s Rehabilitation Hospital we know today. Integral to this ministry of healing was care for the soul – pastoral care, as we know it today. Like the healing ministry of nursing care, care for the soul has evolved over time as well. This evolution was captured well in St. John’s Chapel on Jan. 17 when Bishop Kevin Robertson, the area bishop of York-Scarborough, installed the Rev. Joanne Davies as the new full-time Anglican chaplain to the Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, of which St. John’s Rehabilitation Hospital is a part.

Over the past several years, the Sisters and the Diocese of Toronto have collaborated in complementing the excellent pastoral care provided by the Sisters with the provision of a priest chaplain. St. John’s Rehab is unique in that it is one of only a few remaining health care facilities that still has its founding religious order as its principal pastoral presence.

The Sisters provide a ministry of presence to those who face the challenges of rehabilitation after illness or accident. Such a journey back to health touches upon each dimension of who a person is – their physical, emotional, psychological and spiritual parts that make up a whole person.

The diocese, through the work of its Chaplaincy Committee, supports the Rev. Joanne Davies as a priest chaplain who works with the Sisters, providing a full range of religious and spiritual care to the staff and patients at Sunnybrook and St. John’s.

As the Reverend Mother, Sister Elizabeth Rolfe-Thomas, shared with the congregation during her homily, the service of installation was the culmination of a deep and growing relationship with the diocese regarding the building up of an innovative ministry that combines the traditions, principles and dedication of the Sisters with the Rev. Joanne Davies’ enthusiasm and creativity in attuning the spiritual care provided at St. John’s to the needs of the patient.

Such evidence of this creative thinking was in full display during the reception hosted by the Sisters as the Rev. Joanne Davies paddled around the rectory in her brilliant flamingo pink slippers – an obvious sign she feels wonderfully at home in this new and evolving ministry.

The Rev. Canon Douglas Graydon is the diocese’s coordinator of Chaplaincy Services.

LEN T AT ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL

ASH WEDNESDAY

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1
Liturgies with imposition of ashes at 7:30am, 8:30am, 12:30pm, 5:15pm, and 6:30pm.

SUNDAYS IN LENT

MARCH 5 | THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
8:30am Said Eucharist
9:30am The Great Litany & Sung Eucharist
11:00am The Great Litany in Procession & Choral Eucharist
4:30pm Choral Evensong

MARCH 12, 19, 26, APRIL 2
THE SECOND - FIFTH SUNDAYS IN LENT
8:30am Said Eucharist
9:30am Sung Eucharist
11:00am Choral Eucharist
4:30pm Choral Evensong

LENTEN SERIES FOR FAITH FORMATION

FIVE WEDNESDAYS IN LENT
6:00pm Eucharist in the Cathedral
6:30pm Light Dinner | 7:00pm Lecture
MARCH 8: “Sexuality,” Dr. Asbil
MARCH 15: “Mental Health,” Dr. L. T. Young
MARCH 22: “Aging,” The Rev’d Dr. Tim Elliott
APRIL 5: “Food and Land,” Dr. S. Keesmaat

THE WORD MADE GLOBAL

The Changing Shape of Christianity & Its Implications for Urban Ministry
TUESDAY, MARCH 14 | 7:00PM
Mark Gornik, Founder & Director, City Seminary of New York City

TRUTH & RECONCILIATION

THE REV’D CHRIS HARPER, INDIGENOUS NATIVE PRIEST
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29
“The Next Step on the Bridge of Healing: My Journey as a Cree Priest”
6:00pm Eucharist in the Cathedral
6:30pm Light Dinner | 7:00pm Lecture, Q&A
LOOKING AHEAD

To submit items for Looking Ahead, email editor@toronto.anglican.ca. The deadline for the April issue is March 2. Parishes can also promote their events on the diocese’s website Calendar at www.toronto.anglican.ca.

Music & Worship

MARCH 1, 10, 29 - Kingwyso Organ Recitals at All Saints, Kingwyso, 10 a.m. to 1:15 p.m., John Laing, music director at the Church of the Ascension, Toronto, accompanied by Roger Flick (piano), will present music by J.S. Bach, Robert Schumann, Matthias and John Laing. On March 15 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m., Warren Carroll, organist and director of music at Knox Presbyterian Church, St. Thomas, Ont., accompanied by Samuel Bliss (cello), will perform. On March 29 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:25 p.m., Thomas Gomizer, organist and director of music at St. Matthew, Islington will present a program consisting of Gershwiniana by Naji Hakim, a new work by David Briggs and Pageant by Leo Sowerby.

MARCH 5 - Choral Evenings for the First Sunday in Lent, 4 p.m., with Schola Ecclesiastica, St. Olave, Blundeville and Windermere Avenue, Toronto. This will be followed by light refreshments, during which the choirmaster, Clem Cardile, will talk about the life and works of Claude Monteverdi (1567-1643), composer who linked religious and secular music.

MARCH 8 - Jazz Vespers, 4 p.m., featuring the Amanda Tasooff Words Project, St. Philip, Bloorcote, 31 St. Phillips Rd., Toronto.

MARCH 19 - Jazz Vespers, 4 p.m., featuring the Mark Riseman Trio, 7:30 p.m., St. Saviour, 2850 Bloor St. W., Toronto.

MARCH 19 - Rock Eucharist featuring music of Led Zeppelin, 7 p.m., Church of the Redeemer, Bloor Street and Avenue Road, Toronto.

MARCH 21 - John Tuttle, organist and choirmaster of Trinity College Chapel, will play a short recital in Trinity College Chapel featuring the organ music of John Sebastian Bach at 1:30 p.m. There is no admission charge. Trinity Chapel is located on the Trinity College Campus, 6 Hoskin Ave., Toronto.

MARCH 24 - Organ recital with Thomas Bell, 7:30 p.m., Calvary Baptist Church, 72 Main St., Toronto. Music by Saint-Saëns, Vierne, Messiaen, Langalis, Dupré and Marchand. Admission $10. Desserts included. Call 416-691-4271.

MARCH 25 - Voices Chamber Choir presents its annual Lenten concert featuring Mozart’s Requiem with soloists and orchestra, 8 p.m., St. Martin in-the-Fields, 151 Glenlake Ave., Toronto. Tickets available at the door: $30 adults, $25 students and seniors. Call 416-519-0528.


APRIL 9 - Performance of Handel’s Messiah (Parts II & III) by the choir of St. Peter, Erindale, with orchestra, 7 p.m., 3041 Mississauga Rd., Mississauga. Tickets $20. Call 905-628-2095.

MAY 7 - Join the handbells, choimes, hand and choir and organ at 3 p.m. in celebrating MusicFest 2017: Around the World in 80 Minutes, at St. John, York Mills, 19 Don Rdge Dr, Toronto. Proceeds aid Sleeping Children Around the World and the church. Tickets are $15 for adults and $5 for children. Visit www.sjym.ca, call 416-222-6111 or email musicfest@sjym.ca.

Sales

APRIL 8 - Spring sale and lunch, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., St. Dunstan of Canterbury, 56 Lawson Rd., Scarborough. Advance tickets, only $15, are available by calling the church office at 416-283-1844, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to noon. Last day for sales is April 18. There will be crafts for sale.

APRIL 21 - Spring luncheon with fashion show, 12:30 p.m., St. Dunstan of Canterbury, 56 Lawson Rd., Scarborough. Advance tickets, only $15, are available by calling the church office at 416-283-1844, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to noon. Last day for sales is April 18. There will be crafts for sale.

WORKSHOPS & GATHERINGS

FEB. 28 - Annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., St. Barnabas, Chester, 361 Danforth Ave., Toronto. Tickets for adults $6 and for children under 13, $3. For tickets, call 416-461-1344. Pancakes, sausages and desserts will be served. Access the church via the Hampton entrance.

MARCH 4 - Engaging Questions: An Introduction to Christian Apologetics, a five-week Lent series, St. Mary Magdalene, 477 Manning Ave, Toronto. With the help of Christian apologist C.S. Lewis, John Macquarrie and D.L. Sayers, this series will explore the ways in which Christians make sense of their beliefs to others and themselves. Tuesday evenings, 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

MARCH 8 –29 - The Rev. Rob Mitchell, incumbent, will lead four weekly interactive discussion and viewing sessions of Seeking the Word, a religious programs hosted by Daily TV. This series will explore the themes of the wilderness in scripture. Wednesdays from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., St. Olave, Bloor Street and Windermere Avenue, Toronto. Preceded by Holy Communion for Lent, 6:30 p.m. and a light supper at 6:30 p.m.

MARCH 26 - Children and Spiritual Growth: an evening for parents and children, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., St. Mary Magdalene, 477 Manning Ave, Toronto. Call 416-531-7955. Admission is free.

APRIL 1 – Real Presence: Participating in the Church and the World. March 27 through April 17, via the internet. The Toronto Diocesan Liturgy conference designed for parish worship teams, for all who serve in liturgy, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., St. George the Martyr, 197 John St., Toronto. $85 per person or $170 for parish teams up to five ($25 for each person beyond the first five), $25 for students. Lunch included. To register, visit realpresenceeventbrite.ca. For more info, visit www.liturgy.ca.

APRIL 28-29 - The Monks’ Cell Steakhouse, a unique dining experience that includes salad, sauce, main course (beef, chicken or duck cooked over an open hearth by professional chefs, potato, apple pie and wine – all for $40 – at St. Theodore of Canterbury, 111 Cactus Ave., Toronto. Call 416-222-6149 or email monkscell@hotmail.com for reservations. Seating available Friday and Saturday, meet you in front of the church at 4 p.m. Priced at $40 per person or $80 for a parish team up to five ($25 for each person beyond the first five), $25 for students. Lunch included. To register, visit realpresenceeventbrite.ca. For more info, visit www.liturgy.ca.

SOLIDARITY

The Rev. Canon Mark Kinghan of St. George on Yonge, Toronto, the Rev. Joanne Davies, chaplain at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre and the Rev. Dawn Leger, pastor of First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Toronto, were among tens of thousands who attended the Toronto Women’s March on Jan. 21 at Queen’s Park. The three-hour demonstration for justice, equality and social change was one of hundreds held worldwide in support of the Women’s March on Washington following the American presidential inauguration.

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SPECIAL EXHIBIT

Lieutenant Governor Elizabeth Dowdeswell (wearing hat at right) attends the opening of Diversity at Toronto, a Black Canadian exhibition at St. George on Yonge, Toronto, on March 1. The exhibit told the history of African-Canadians through stories of individuals who lived and worked in Toronto, with a focus on those having connections to the cathedral. The exhibit was curated by cathedral archivist Nancy Mallet. Photos by Michael Hudson.
The Rev. R. James Ferry, Hon. 

The Rev. David Bryant, Region - 

LCdr the Rev. Carol Bateman, 

The Rev. Ruthanne Ward, In - 

The Rev. Julie Golding-Page, 

The Rev. Andrea Christensen, 

IN MOTION 

FOR MARCH 

1. Ash Wednesday 

3. The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer (National 

TO PLACE AN AD CALL 905.833.6200 ext. 22 OR EMAIL ANGLICAN@CHURCHADVERTISING.CA
I don’t think there’s anywhere that Christ tells us to just sit back and let things happen,” she said. “We’re called to be voices and get out there and express what we believe in through our presence. That’s why we’re Christians. I’ve always believed that if you can, you should. You make whatever effort you can.”

The “ring of peace” outside of the Islamic Information and Dawah Centre on Bloor Street – one of seven held in Toronto on Feb. 3 – was organized by the Rev. Gary van der Meer, the incumbent of St. Anne’s, and Rabbi El­yse Goldstein of nearby City Shul synagogue. It was held with the support of the mosque.

“We want to be in solidarity with our Muslim brothers and sisters, to express our common humanity, and we’ve invited our neighbours to come and do that with us,” said Mr. van der Meer. “We’re here to greet Muslims as they come in with a smile or a handshake or to say hello. We’re here to say we support you and to be in solidarity with each other.”

The idea was inspired by a group of Muslims in Oslo, said Rabbi Goldstein. In 2015, as Jewish communities across Europe were reeling from anti­Semitic attacks in France and Denmark, Muslims organized to stand guard around the synagogue in Oslo while those inside offered Sabbath prayers.

“I was very moved by that and I said it’s time for us to pay it forward,” said Rabbi Goldstein. “The Jewish community has to come out and be in support of the Muslim community. I think the world thinks Muslims and Jews should not be supportive of each other and we needed to break that stereotype.”

Many in the crowd carried signs that read “We Stand with our Muslim Neighbours,” “Interfaith Support for All” and “Jews and Christians United.” The line of supporters stretched down the sidewalk and continued on the other side of the street. Cars and trucks honked their horns in support. Among those in attendance were 40 pupils from a Jewish day school.

Rabbi Goldstein said it was important that faith groups responded to the Quebec City massacre. “If we don’t love our neighbour as ourselves, who’s going to?” she asked. “It’s that simple. We’re the ones who preach this, and if we don’t practice it, then the world is in a sorry state.”

She spoke for many in the crowd when she said, “This is Canada. These are our values. We have to pray with our feet and make it happen. It’s beautiful to see everyone come out. It’s really beautiful and respectful – the way things are meant to be.”

Both Mr. van der Meer and Rabbi Goldstein were invited into the mosque to speak to worshippers before prayers began. Mr. van der Meer spoke about “the inappropriateness and impossibility of walls” and the need to take them down.

Like St. Anne’s, churches throughout the diocese responded to the attack in Quebec city with love and support for the Muslim community. As news of the tragedy spread on the morning of Jan. 30, dozens of churches took to social media to post messages of prayer for the dead, the wounded and the wider Muslim community. Information about inter­faith events and vigils happening in cities and towns across the diocese was also shared widely among Anglicans online.

Bishop Peter Fenty joined in the outpouring of grief and support, sharing a statement of solidarity on behalf of the diocese.

“We believe that ‘Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things’, and influenced in the same way.”

Some Anglicans also reached out directly to their Muslim neighbours. The Rev. Canon Eric Beresford of St. Timothy, North Toronto and the Rev. Daniel Brereton of St. John the Baptist (Dixie) in Mississauga each wrote a letter to his local mosque, offering support and prayer. After Mr. Brereton hand­delivered his letter, a Muslim man asked him to stay and join him in his prayers.

Along with messages of support, churches such as St. Mary, Schomberg and Church of the Redeemer, Bloor St. opened their doors for anyone who wished to stop in and pray. Many others in Mississauga, Uxbridge, Penet­ton Falls, Peterborough, Toronto and beyond planned prayer vigils in the following days.

One such church was St. Peter, Cobourg, whose members organized a candlelight vigil of reflection and prayer on Jan. 31. Candles were lit for each of the six victims, and their names were read aloud. The vigil was sponsored by Interfaith Northumber­land, a group that includes representatives from local Jewish, Muslim and Christian communities.

“Many came from different faiths and from many denomina­tions of Christianity,” said Suzanne Lawson, a member of St. Peter’s who helped organize the vigil. “All this happened when the word went out at noon on Monday, and the vigil was at seven, thanks to social media.”

The Rev. Canon Douglas Graydon, coordinator of chaplaincy services for the diocese and honorary assistant at St. John, West Toronto, was among those who attended a vigil near Garrard St. E. and Coxwell Ave. in Toronto on the evening of Jan. 30. “My neighbour­hood mosque is small, hidden away on a side street off the always­busy Garrard Street,” he said. “With only a few hours of notice, over 1,000 of my neigh­bours gathered in front of that mosque in a rally of solidarity and grief.”

Imam Noor Irkarak offered blessings to the crowd, who held candles or carried banners of peace, solidarity and support for immigrants and refugees. Religious leaders from many of the nearby communities of faith were present.

“These were my neighbours who came out on a cold winter’s night to show love and compas­sion for their neighbour, regard­less of land of origin or faith. But were we also standing witness to the value of being each other’s neighbour,” said Canon Graydon. “It was for me a reminder that love always triumphs over hate, and that we as a neighbourhood, or nation, value all people.”