Cleaner’s dream comes true

Churches join forces to bring family over

BY STUART MANN

WHEN Linda Hemerez was hired to clean the building of All Saints, King City, she had no idea the turn her life was about to take.

One day while cleaning, she had a conversation with the Rev. Canon Nicola Skinner, who was the incumbent at the time. (Canon Skinner is now the incumbent of Grace Church, Markham and the Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Ann Green is the incumbent of All Saints.)

During the conversation, Ms. Hemerez said she was from Syria and that her parents, brother, his wife and their child were refugees living in Lebanon after facing the civil war in her homeland. Canon Skinner asked if she wanted help in sponsoring them to come to Canada.


Ms. Hemerez was ecstatic. “I was so happy that I called my whole family – everyone – to say we have help. It was my dream to have my parents here in Canada.”

The cost of sponsoring the family was going to be $45,000, more than All Saints could bear alone, so Canon Skinner reached out to five other churches – Holy Trinity, Thornhill, All Saints, Collingwood, Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church, King City, King City United Church and York Pines United Church in Kettleby. They formed the Church Refugee Resettlement Committee and pledged $48,000.

Canon Skinner left for Grace Church, Markham soon afterwards and Bishop George Elliott, the former area bishop of York-Simcoe, took over as chair of the committee. The group worked with AURA (Anglican-Unitend Refugee Alliance) on the paperwork and raised the necessary funds. The family arrived in Canada last October and is now living in a townhouse near Ms. Hemerez in Woodbridge.

“It has made me realize there are still good people in the world,” she says. “After what happened in Syria and Iraq, I started to wonder what it’s all for. But after this, I realize there are so many good people. I really appreciate what they’ve done. Whatever I do for them, it will be nothing compared to what they did for me.”

Ms. Hemerez and her family expressed their thanks by hosting a dinner at All Saints on Feb. 25 for those who took part in the work.

Continued on Page 9
Sign draws attention on social media

Church sees increase in visitors to website

BY STUART MANN

A sign outside St. Luke, Peterborough has attracted the attention of not only local pedestrians and motorists but thousands of people on social media as well. Parishioners George and Kathy Axel, who have been tending the sign for many years, put up the message in late February at the suggestion of the Rev. Glenn Empey, the priest-in-charge. It read, “Tweet others as you wish to be tweeted,” a play on Jesus’ teaching to do onto others as you would have them do unto you.

The message was accompanied by the church’s Twitter handle and, on the back, the address of its new website. Local singer-songwriter Carling Stephen liked the sign so much that she took a photo of it and shared it on Twitter, the media company that specializes in social news and entertainment. About 300,000 people in Canada and the United States have retweeted the message, or shared it on Twitter, nearly 900 times and “liked” about 2,000 times. Thousands in Canada and the United States viewed it on Twitter and Facebook, and many commented.

As the posting took off, Mrs. Stephen sent a Twitter message to the church: “Braavo to you! Thousands of people have been amused and tickled by your work.” Mr. Empey replied with a word of thanks and a posted a video of one of her songs on the church’s website, www.stluke-anglican.ca.

He says he was surprised by the reaction to the sign, located on the church’s property beside Armour Road. “St. Luke’s has had the sign there since it moved to Arm our Road. “St. Luke’s has had the sign there since it moved to the site in the early 1960s and there have been messages on it for many years, but I don’t think anything has had the impact that this one has.”

He says the message wasn’t trying to make a comment on President Donald Trump’s use of Twitter. “It had nothing to do with that. The idea was to have a catchy slogan that has a theologial, connection, and it connects with people on social media.”

He saw the message online a few years ago and used it on a sign outside St. Matthew and St. Aidan, Buckhorn, where he is also the parish priest. He suggested it to George and Kathy Axel to attract people to St. Luke’s new website and social media channels.

The strategy worked. In addition to being recognized by Twitter and Facebook users, the church has seen an uptick in the church’s Googles. That’s their window on the world. If I was looking for a church, that’s what I’d do.”

He says a good website is critical to any strategy. “If I went to a website and it didn’t look good, that would tell me a lot about the church. But if it’s a good, topical, inviting website, then I’m liable to spend a bit of time there. A good website might bring in some people to get involved – whether it’s for a project or coming to church.”

Correction

In the February issue, Marilyn Young was reported to be a member of St. George on Yonge, Toronto. In fact, she is a churchwarden at St. Christopher, Richmond Hill. The Anglican regrets the error.
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Michael will share his journey to the Anglican Church and what it means for him to be Anglican.

Guest speaker
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Author, radio personality, columnist and speaker

Date: Thursday, May 18th, 2017
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Time: 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

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Fear motivates us to do many things. We often fall into the fight-flight paradigm and turn around and put up strong resistance, sometimes more than we are capable of. At other times, we run away not simply in cowardice but as an act of self-protection. And sometimes fear just freezes us in our tracks.

We have all experienced fear, and I suspect we have all experienced the fight-flight-freeze syndrome. In the Gospels, we see that pattern many times. The disciples run away when Jesus is betrayed. One of them picks up a sword and cuts off the ear of a servant before running. Earlier, unable to face the prospect of what is about to take place, they fell asleep – turn away from Jesus. Peter, protecting himself, denies he knows Jesus, and the rooster crows, “Betrayer! Betrayer!” The soldiers guarding Jesus’ tomb are paralysed with fear when the great rock is rolled away. Why wouldn’t they be? They were about to face a judgement. 

...By his death he has opened to us the joy and hope of Easter. For me, the big difference between Peter’s betrayal and the betrayal of Judas Iscariot is the early-rising one. Quickly, he contacts the disciples and forms a new community. Raised from the dead, Jesus comforts Mary Magdalene in the garden, forgives and re-commmissions Peter, strengthens and empowers that heightened discipleship, gives Peter the keys to his kingdom, and then tells him he must pasture the sheep, that he must make others sheep.

We turn again you call us to return. Through the prayers and sages you reveal your rightness. In the following time of you sent your Son, born of a woman, to be our Saviour. By his death he has opened to us the joy and hope of Easter.

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We can counter acts of hate

BY THE REV. GREG FIEENES-CLINTON

As a parish priest, I value the richness of our Anglican tradition. One of the rich traditions that is ex- pressed is through the rhythm of our liturgical year. A few weeks ago we celebrated two extremes, both all heard, time and again, that the church is in crisis, that attendance is down across the board and that the Anglican “brand” is as good as done. This has been proclaimed in the media and supported by our own experience of hollowed out Sunday schools, lots of grey hair at church and parishes passing deficit budgets at vestry time.

The contrarian in me sees a slightly different picture in our parishes. I observed congregations investing in expanded ministry in Fenelon Falls and Minden; a wealth of volunteer talent being mobilized through the annual Order of the Diocese of Toronto; generous giving in some of the most challenged economic contexts; and most excitingly, 35 per cent of our parishioners are actually growing in their financial stewardship and in the numbers attending Sunday worship.

The growth cuts across a variety of categories – rural and urban communities, wealthy and not-so-wealthy neighborhoods, and conservative and liberal congregations. We have a church in Markham where the average weekend gift on the collection plate is nearly $4,000. That’s right, from each giver. We have a church along the lakeshore where 50 per cent of the givers are actually growing in their giving, not 35 per cent.

The growth is not just across a variety of categories, but it is also a growth in giving. Some of the reasons for this growth in giving are the following: various giving challenges, a sense of renewal that the church is alive and well, a sense of encouragement from other churches, and a deep desire to support the church.

The STEWARDS

There is a common denominator that separates the growing churches from those that are just getting by: discipleship. In his book Your Church Can Thrive, Canon Harold Percy identifies the central motif of our God-given mission: “that we are seeking to help people connect with God and become followers of Jesus.” That’s it; Christ must be the centre of our actions and engagement in church. When we provide a church that is merely comfortable, where showing up on Sunday is a sufficient reflection of our Christian lives, the experience of health and growing churches suggests that something much deeper is required. Canon Percy nails it: “As disciples of Jesus, we are called to the lifelong adventure of learning to follow him closely and faithfully.” That’s where the healthy churches experience an increase in giving is merely a by-product of living Christianity well.

Canon Percy identifies 10 powerful transitions parishes need to make to fully disciple their congregations. Some of the transitions are obvious: teach the Gospel, make room for the Apostles’ teaching, prays, forgive, attend worship on a weekly basis, and hear witness to one’s faith in daily living. Among the 10 is a transition related to financial stewardship. But he approaches the question of giving not in terms of, “how much do we need to give?” but rather, “how much do I need to give in order to be set free from the lies I have learned from outside our faith about God and money?”

Covenent, “seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbours as yourself.”

So here’s a challenge to Anglicans everywhere: Start with one per cent. If you are not in a pattern of regular giving, start today by giving one per cent of your gross family income to your parish and another one per cent to charity. Make it real, reliable and realistic by doing it through PAR. If you are a regular giver, up your annual gift by one per cent. If your gross family income is the diocesan average – $92,000 from all sources – do an extra $920 this year. Give from your net income if you think that is more practical. Even if your family income is less than $50,000, or you are on your own, I encourage you to give one per cent more. Can you do it? Aspire to shift your giving to the standard set in Deuteronomy.

If we all gave one per cent more tomorrow, much would change. Everyday work, personal and shared, would change. Almost all of us would have more than they could ever ask for or imagine. Imagine what we could experience our own version of Freedom 55 and so much would be different, so much would be possible. For most parishes, this would essentially lead to a doubling of their budgets. All this is possible by leaning on our networks of generosity.

Peter Misiensk is the diocese’s director of Stewardship Development.
I felt like no one saw the real me

Beck Schaefer is a member of St. Stephen in-the-Fields, Toronto, where he is the treasurer and a reader. He co-facilitates workshops in the diocese on transgenders issues and experiences.

My transition began two and a half years ago, shortly after I moved to Toronto to pursue a master’s degree. I met a number of trans people. At school, I was encouraged to develop a professional image and network. In practical terms, this meant wearing shirts and being much more sociable. I also went back to church after about 15 years away. This brought me closer to God and helped me to listen to Him. A few months after starting school, I became depressed. I found myself jealous of the trans people I knew and constantly ill at ease in social situations. I felt like I was pretending to be someone else and doing a really bad job of it. I also felt like no one saw the real me. It became increasingly hard to get dressed in the feminine clothes I was wearing to look “professional.” One day it hit me that I needed to acknowledge my masculinity, and my mood improved immensely for a couple of days. Almost immediately, I started wearing men’s clothes and let my hair cut short. This happened just before Holy Week. The Holy Week services gave me a lot of opportunity to pray. By Easter, it was clear to me that God was calling me to be a good man in the world. In the following months, I changed my name and pronouns, asking people to refer to me as he or him instead of she or her. In early 2016, I legally changed my name and gender. I have also started the process of medically transitioning. Being able to live an authentic life has made me much more confident.

When I was growing up, my family was active in the church. When I left home for university, I drifted away from the church. During this time, I was sometimes interested in spirituality and read widely on the subject. A few years ago, I found myself more and more drawn back to Christianity. As a result, I started attending St. Stephen in-the-Fields. At U of T, I participated in the Ecumenical Chaplaincy’s Queerlyng Religion program and joined the Student Christian Movement. In these spaces, I became familiar with a queer-and-trans-affirming Christianity that prioritized social justice as a Christian vocation. At St. Stephen’s, I learned about a Christianity that acknowledges that the world and humanity are deeply troubled and urges us to find God in that struggle. I was called to love ourselves and others from a place of vulnerability. Having a regular religious practice allowed me to hear and listen to God again and be open to what He was saying to me. Since my experience of being trans is an important part of my faith journey, I wanted to mark my legal name and gender change in the church. The Rev. Maggie Helwig suggested a re-affirmation of my baptismal vows, including a blessing of my new name and gender. This gave me a chance to publicly express my new understanding of my relationship with God and to commit to living it out.

I’ve started co-facilitating workshops with the Rev. Margaret Rodrigues. The workshops are designed to introduce people to trans issues and experiences. We also provide some suggestions for ways that parishioners can be trans-friendly. Other than the workshops, I try to be open about being trans and raise awareness of trans issues and experiences in a more informal way.

The first step (that the church or parishes can take to be more accepting of the trans people) is to learn about trans issues, preferably from trans people. If you don’t know any trans people, look for books, websites and movies created by trans people. Once a parish feels comfortable to take part in supporting of trans people, there are a number of concrete things that can be done. In washrooms, you may want to consider designating a multi-user washroom as gender-neutral or making a gender-neutral washroom part of a renovation project. In church prayerbooks for both the diffi- cuties and joys that trans people experience because we are trans. Try to use our use of gendered terms. For example, say “children” instead of “boys and girls” or “couples in Christ” instead of “brothers and sisters in Christ.” If you have a state- ment in your leaflet welcoming different groups to the church, include trans people in that statement.

What I find most welcoming is being treated as a human rather than having my gender identity be the only part of me that is seen. Regardless of how welcoming the parish is as a whole, people in church leadership (priests, youth leaders, parish nurses, etc.) should become familiar with trans issues and be able to refer trans people and their families to appropriate services.

Trans folks are a diverse group of people who bring a breadth of experiences to the church. Speaking personally, my experi- ence being trans and transitioning has led me to experience ex- clusion and fear in ways that I never had before. I hope I can use these experiences to work towards inclusion and to still some of the fears that divide us from each other.

Five years from now, I would like to continue to be educat- ing people about trans issues and doing more activism in support of trans people. I would like to continue to be educat- ing people about trans issues, preferably from trans folks, particularly the most vulnerable. Since we experience higher rates of homophobia, unemployment and depression than the general population.

This year, care for God’s creation in a fresh way


BY ELIN GOULDEN

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505829

Elin Goulden is the parish outreach facilitator for York Credit Valley and chair of the diocese’s Creation Matters committee.
Children and youth carry Canadian flags at the diocese’s 22nd annual Black History Month service of celebration at St. Paul, Bloor Street on Feb. 26. The theme was ‘From the Heart of Africa to the Soul of the Caribbean: Celebrating a Mosaic of Peoples.’ The service included worship, music, dance and spoken word. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

Constance Kendall of the Black Anglicans Coordinating Committee thanks the Rev. Canon Stephen Fields, the incumbent of Holy Trinity, Thornhill. Canon Fields was one of the founders of the annual service.

Jamelia Williams leads the Procession of the Flags, representing the countries of origin of those in attendance.

Aliya Whyte gives a reflection, “Child of the Diaspora – I am Canadian.”

Soloist Joseanne Job sings with the Combined Diocesan Choir.

Members of the Combined Diocesan Choir sing.

Bishop Peter Fenty, the area bishop of York-Simcoe, addresses the congregation.

Constance Kendall with Bishop Riscylla Shaw, the area bishop of Trent-Durham.

Dancers from the Caribbean Dance Theatre perform during the service.
Service celebrates diversity of God’s kingdom

Black History Sunday is key part of parish life

BY ROBERT KNETSCH

It is an especially poignant time for the church to celebrate the presence of African-Canadians, diversity of God’s kingdom that is societal suspicions and poor treatment in the past, in addition to the remembrance of where we ment by the police in the present, in South Africa. There were quotes such as, “Reconciliation is central to that vision that moved millions of men and women to risk all, including their lives.” The readings showed how his Christian values informed his deep desire to see reconciliation between the black and white people of that country. It was a reminder that the fight for equality can be done in non-violent ways that respect the humanity of people on each side of the conflict.

“The world has come to St. Paul’s,” says Canon Mercer. “In Christ, we are all stronger and richer as a result.”

Robert Knetsch is a member of St. Paul, L’Amoreaux, Toronto.

Savage, OHC, of St. Peter, Scarborough. In his homily, he touched on systemic racism that often persecutes the community and the wider church, even in multicultural Toronto. He urged the Anglican Church to accept its role in systemic racism and to begin the process of repentance that will lead to reconciliation. In so doing, the Anglican Church can find reconciliation between all the races.

“Black History Sunday is an important part of St. Paul’s,” says the Rev. Canon Dean Mercer, incumbent. “It is now one of the four or five largest services of the year.” He notes that the West Indian community comprises the largest community in the parish.

Singer Delicia Raventhraranjan performed an original solo piece. “One Word” was commissioned by the “Me to We” program, and she was sent to perform it at the opening of a new high school in Kenya this past December. It contained the powerful lyrics, “There are obstacles that seem impossible. But with strength in numbers we are unstoppable. Who’s to judge what we can and cannot do.”

After the celebration of the Eucharist, a moving and dramatic reading of quotes from the letters and speeches of Nelson Mandela, arranged by Ian Stuart, was read, reminding everyone of the struggle that he went through for decades during apartheid rule in South Africa. There were quotes such as, “Reconciliation is central to that vision that moved millions of men and women to risk all, including their lives.” The readings showed how his Christian values informed his deep desire to see reconciliation between the black and white people of that country. It was a reminder that the fight for equality can be done in non-violent ways that respect the humanity of people on each side of the conflict.

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EASTER AT ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL

HOLY WEEK HIGHLIGHTS
A COMPLETE LISTING OF HOLY WEEK LITURGIES IS AVAILABLE ONLINE

APRIL 13 | MAUNDY THURSDAY
7:00pm Institution of the Lord’s Supper and Stripping of the Altar; which at the Altar of Repose until 10:00pm

APRIL 14 | GOOD FRIDAY
The Three Hour Devotion 12:00noon Choral Mattins 1:00pm Ante-Communion & Reading of the St. John Passion 2:00pm Choral Evensong & Veneration of the Cross

APRIL 15 | IN THE HOLY NIGHT
9:00pm The Great Vigil of Easter

APRIL 16 | EASTER DAY
8:00am Said Eucharist 9:00am Sung Eucharist 11:00am Procession & Choral Eucharist 4:30pm Choral Evensong

LITURGIES

MUSIC

LECTURES

Truth & Reconciliation
THE REV’D LEIGH KERN
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26
“Civilizing the Wild: Entitlement, Colonialism, and Race at the Red River”
6:00pm Service of Light in the Cathedral 6:30pm Light Supper (Cathedral Centre) 7:00pm Lecture, Q&A (Cathedral Centre)

GUSTAV MAHLER’S SYMPHONY II: THE RESURRECTION
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19 | 7:30 PM
Transcribed for Organ and Performed by David Briggs with the Cathedral Choir of St. James and soloists Julia Morson (soprano) and Christina Stemacovich (mezzo-soprano). Further details online. Tickets: 416-364-7865x245; ciomr.org

THE LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS
FRIDAY, MAY 26 | 7:30PM
The Cathedral Choir of St James The Band of The Royal Regiment of Canada

65 CHURCH STREET, TORONTO 416.364.7865 WWW.STJAMESCATHEDRAL.CA
Group hopes to sponsor more refugees

Continued from Page 1

sponsored. The dinner wasn’t the only occasion at which the family expressed its gratitude. At a Lessons and Carols service at the church last December, Ms. Altree says the support continues to receive from so many parishioners and individuals – from small churches to the parishes of the Diocese of Toronto. Ms. Altree says many people have brought them food and pizza are on the menu. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

Oshawa station needs helpers

Continued from Page 1

drive away. If a ride wasn’t available, they’d have an expensive taxi ride ahead of them. These on-shore visits are crucial, she says, because the men are desperate to talk to their families after weeks at sea. “The first thing they want is Wi-Fi. They’ve been on a journey across the Atlantic or up the coast and they want to get in touch with their families. They need to hear their wives’ or their girlfriends’ or their mothers’ voices.” The station will be the only place in the port where the seafarers are provided with free Wi-Fi. The chaplaincy tried to provide free mobile Wi-Fi in the port but it was too expensive. As the number of seafarers arriving in Oshawa increased over the years – more than 3,000 arrived last year – it became clear that a more permanent solution was needed. The situation took a turn for the better last year when the mission received a $10,000 grant from Seafarers UK, an organization that supports missions to seafarers in Commonwealth countries. The chaplaincy used the money to buy a used Miller construction trailer, which it transported from Burlington to the Port of Oshawa.

The Rev. Judith Altree on a freighter in Toronto harbour in 2014. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

Oshawa station needs helpers

Continued from Page 1

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Continued from Page 1

Bishop George Elliot spends time with a youngster at a dinner at All Saints, King City, to thank sponsors for bringing over the family of Linda Hemerez, who provides cleaning services for the church. At right, Syrian food and pizza are on the menu. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

Group hopes to sponsor more refugees

Continued from Page 1

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APRIL 9-16  

APRIL 9  

APRIL 9  
Performance of Handel’s Messiah (Parts II & III) by Canadian Organix Recital Series, 12:30 p.m. to 1:15 p.m., Martin’s Fine Arts Center, 30 Charles St. E., Toronto. Call 416-519-0528.

APRIL 9  
The Anglican Church Women will be accepting donations to its annual spring fair featuring art gallery, baked goods, books, crafts, jewelry, a barbeque on the green, a snack kiosk, free activities for the children and fellowship and fine food, grand prize raffle, 9 a.m. to noon. Last day for sales is April 14. For more info, visit www.sijym.ca. Call 416-485-0329.

APRIL 10  
The Metropolis Sutton Band, a 30-member band founded in 1911, presents an exciting evening of music. Its repertoire includes classics, marches, great musicals, religious music, popular selections and contemporary works written and arranged for brass band. At St. Andrew, Scarborough, 7 p.m. The church is located at 2233 Victoria Park Ave. Tickets are $20 for adults, $10 for students, and $5 for children. Complimentary refreshments after the concert. Call 416-477-1484.

APRIL 12  
Join the handbells, chimes, band, and organ at 3 p.m. in celebrating MusicFest 2017: Around the World in 80 Minutes, at St. John, York Mills, 19 Don Road Dr., Toronto. Proceeds aid Sleeping Children Around the World and the church. Tickets are $15 for adults and $5 for children. Visit www.organixconcerts.ca.

APRIL 12  
Healey Willan Singers presents Spring Romance, an evening of music of love to celebrate the choir’s 10th anniversary, 8 p.m., St. Martin’s in the Fields, 31 Glenlake Ave., Toronto. Tickets available at the door: $20 for adults, $15 for students and seniors. Call 416-519-0234.

APRIL 12 
Choral evensong for St. George, 4 p.m., followed by St. George’s Tea, 5 p.m.; then St. Olave’s Arts Guild and their guests present poetry, prose, music and songs from Shakespeare onwards, St. Olave, Bloor Street and Winemore Avenue, Toronto. Contributions appreciated.

APRIL 12  
Rock eucharist, presented by Wine Before Breakfast, 7 p.m. Church of the Redeemer, Bloor Street and Avenue Road.

APRIL 13  
Easter carol service, 7 p.m., Church of the Redeemer, Bloor Street and Avenue Road.

APRIL 13  
The Metropolitan Sutton Band, a 30-member band founded in 1911, presents an exciting evening of music. Its repertoire includes classics, marches, great musicals, religious music, popular selections and contemporary works written and arranged for brass band. At St. Andrew, Scarborough, 7 p.m. The church is located at 2233 Victoria Park Ave. Tickets are $20 for adults, $10 for students, and $5 for children. Complimentary refreshments after the concert. Call 416-477-1484.

APRIL 14  
May 7 – Join the handbells, chimes, band, and organ at 3 p.m. in celebrating MusicFest 2017: Around the World in 80 Minutes, at St. John, York Mills, 19 Don Road Dr., Toronto. Proceeds aid Sleeping Children Around the World and the church. Tickets are $15 for adults and $5 for children. Visit www.organixconcerts.ca.

APRIL 14  
Annual spring fair featuring art gallery, baked goods, books, crafts, jewelry, a barbeque on the green, a snack kiosk, free activities for the children and fellowship and fine food, grand prize raffle, 9 a.m. to noon, Holy Trinity, 140 Brooke St., Thornhill. A large selection of clothes, household items, linens, books, games, toys, jewellery and more will be available at great prices. The church will be accepting donations to its sale the week of April 24-28. Call 905-888-5931.

APRIL 19  
Annual 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 at 416-283-1844. Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m. to noon. Last day for sales is April 18. There will be crafts for sale.

APRIL 22  
Spring rummage sale, 8:30 a.m. to noon, Grace Church, 19 Parkway Ave., Markham. Bargains on clothing, linens, household goods and other items. Call 905-284-3184.

APRIL 22  
Daffodil Tea, 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., St. John the Baptist, Norway, 470 Woodbine Ave., Toronto. Includes white elephant sale, prizes, books and bake sale. Tickets are $3, available at the door. Call 416-691-4560.

APRIL 29  
Spring rummage sale, 9 a.m. to noon, Holy Trinity, 140 Brooke St., Thornhill. A large selection of clothes, household items, linens, books, games, toys, jewellery and more will be available at great prices. The church will be accepting donations to its sale the week of April 24-28. Call 905-888-5931.

APRIL 29  
Annual spring fair featuring art gallery, baked goods, books, crafts, jewelry, a barbeque on the green, a snack kiosk, free activities for the children and fellowship and fine food, grand prize raffle, 9 a.m. to noon, St. Cuthbert, Leaside, 1389 Bayview Ave. Free admission. Call 416-485-0234.
6 The Rev. Terry Noble, Hon.
PRAYER CYCLE
1. St. Giles, Barrie
2. Diocesan Regional Deans
3. Good Shepherd, Stayner
4. AURA (Anglican-United Refugee Alliance)
5. St. John, Craighurst
7. St. Margaret, Barrie
8. St. Paul, Innisfil
9. Sunday of the Passion
10. Monday in Holy Week
11. Tuesday in Holy Week
12. Wednesday in Holy Week
13. Maundy Thursday
14. Good Friday
15. Holy Saturday
16. Easter Sunday
17. St. George, (Clarke) Newcastle
18. St. George, Gravenhurst
19. St. John the Evangelist, Port Hope
20. St. John, Kawartha Lakes
21. St. John, Harwood
22. St. Paul, Penetanguishene
23. Durham & Northumberland D AY
25. St. Mark, Port Hope
26. St. Peter, Cobourg
27. St. Savior, Orillia
28. Church of the Martyrs, Belleville
29. Church of the Good Shepherd, Peterborough
30. North Peel D AY

IN MOTION
Appointments
• The Rev. Canon Dr. Andrew Sheldon, Associate Priest, St. George on the Hill, Toronto, Feb. 7
• The Rev. Mary Florence Liew, Honorary Assistant, St. Peter, Scarborough, Feb. 19
• The Rev. Kenneth Rogutskza, Interim Priest-in-Charge, St. Paul, Innisfil, Feb. 27, while the Incumbent is on leave.
• The Rev. Ruth Knapp, Honorary Assistant, St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough, Feb. 28
• The Rev. Ronald Mearock, Honorary Assistant, St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough, Feb. 28
• The Rev. Terry Noble, Honorary Assistant, St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough, Feb. 28
• The Rev. David Howells, Interim Priest-in-Charge, Church of the Transfiguration, Toronto, March 1
• The Rev. Robin Peagood, Interim Priest-in-Charge, the Parish of Georgina, March 1

Vacant Incumbencies
Clergy from outside the diocese with the permission of their bishop may apply through the Diocesan Executive Assistant, Mrs. Mary Coffile.

Trent-Durham
• Bolyaguey, Dunsford & Burnt River
• St. Paul, Uxbridge
York Credit Valley
• Christ Church, Bolton
• St. Philip, Etobicoke
York – Scarborough
• Christ Church, Deer Park
• St. Clement, Eglinton
• St. John the Baptist, Norwood
• St. Timothy, Agincourt
York – Simcoe
• St. James, Orillia

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Pastoral Counsellor
Registered Psychotherapist
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LL.B., M.Div.
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Give it to a friend.

Food for Life
Paul, Innisfil, Feb. 27, while the
Scarborough, Feb. 19.
Interim Priest-in-Charge, St.
Incumbent is on leave.
S holden, Associate Priest, St.
orary Assistant, St. John the
Evangelist, Peterborough,
Evangelist, Peterborough,
Honorary Assistant, St. John
Evangelist, Peterborough,
Evangelist, Peterborough,
Honorary Assistant, St. John

BRIEFS
Mission struggles with deficit
MONTREAL - For the first time, St. Michael’s Mission, which provides warming stations for the homeless, among other services, is grappling with a deficit and hoping for donations. The Montreal-based mission is facing the shortfall partly because of a recent loss of $20,000 in government support and a drop in donations from private sponsors. For this reason, executive director George Greene says he is especially grateful the mission was chosen to be one of the beneficiaries of this year’s Bishop’s Action Appeal, an annual call for donations to the diocese.

In addition to the warming stations, the mission also offers meals, showers, crisis intervention, legal advice and other services for some of the estimated 3,000 people without a home in Montreal’s downtown core. The mission has traditionally had a close relationship with the diocese. It is located in St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church and has had considerable support from Anglican parishes and individual Anglicans over the years, Mr. Greene says.

Last year, more than half of the 15 deaths reported among Montreal’s homeless population were women, according to the first month of 2017. Anglican Montreal

Church grants in the following areas: leadership development; pioneering ministry; communicating in a wireless world; enabling parishes to become multi-staffed; and adaptive reuse of parish facilities. Spring applications are due by April 15. Visit the diocese’s website, www.toronto.anglican.ca.

Church, gallery offer religion and art
EDMONTON - An Anglican church and faith-based art gallery are teaming up to explore the intersection of religion and art through a range of projects aimed at the wider community.

St. Faith Anglican Church and Bleeding Heart Art Space, located across the street from each other in an eclectic downtown neighbourhood, have already worked on a number of projects together. The church, for example, offers a Bleeding Heart service once a month, weaving creative and sensory elements into the liturgy. This May, Bleeding Heart, together with the Diocese of Edmonton’s Indigenous ministries office and with funding from the Anglican Foundation of Canada, will curate a public art installation featuring a large tree, based on a Metis story, that will serve as a focus for stories of healing.

Dave Von Bieler, Bleeding Heart’s artistic director, says art shows can provide a way of sharing ideas about God and other topics that are sometimes challenging to discuss. “Theology, reconciliation, sexuality, gender identity…there are a lot of issues we don’t know how to have a good dialogue about,” he says. “This is an opportunity to have those conversations. That’s what Jesus did with the parables.”

The Messenger
Speak up in hospital, says chaplain
SAINT JOHN - If you want an Anglican chaplain to visit you when you’re in the hospital, you should make sure hospital staff are aware of this, a New Brunswick chaplain says.

The Rev. Canon David Barrett, who has served as chaplain at two Saint John hospitals for more than a year and a half, says both he and his predecessor have experienced “daily frustration” because hospital staff often do not ask patients he sees get few or no clergy visits. But the lists may not always be complete; he says he himself was not asked these questions when admitted to hospital last fall for kidney stones.

Canon Barrett says a lot of the patients he sees get few or no visitors. He once visited a patient who, he thought, I was leaving,” he says. He stayed with her for an hour, reading psalms and praying with her. After she was leaving, she said, “I needed something spiritual. You’re just what I needed today.”

The New Brunswick Anglican

Send your parish news to editor@toronto.anglican.ca
Exhibition commemorates the Reformation

BY STUART MANN

ON the 500th anniversary of the start of the Reformation, the Thomas Fisher Rare Book Library at the University of Toronto will be holding an exhibition of books, manuscripts, pamphlets and engravings from the religious revolution that took place in the Western church.

The exhibition, called “Flickering of the Flame: The Book and Reformations,” will run from Oct. 4 to Christmas. Admission is free. The library is located at 120 St. George St., Toronto.

As its name suggests, the exhibition will show how print played a key role in the emergence and development of the Reformation. In addition to some of the more famous books, such as a first edition Book of Common Prayer from 1549, there will be lesser known items such as pamphlets and caricatures created by Martin Luther, the German monk who officially launched the Reformation in 1517. Another seldom-seen artifact on display will be an indulgence, a printed piece of paper sold by the Roman Catholic Church in medieval times to absolve sins.

The exhibition will have several sections on the reformation of the church in England. There will be an original copy of Henry VIII’s “primy,” which begins to establish what form of liturgy the Church of England will use. There will be a 1559 Book of Common Prayer, used during the reign of Elizabeth I and her successors for nearly 100 years. Another part of this section will show how Roman Catholics responded to the changes taking place in the English church.

Propaganda was used extensively during the Reformation. The exhibition will show a first edition of Pore’s Book of Martyrs, one of the most important books for developing the idea of England as a Protestant country. The library has every edition of the book since 1563 – and the Catholic responses to it, urging the English not to abandon their Catholic heritage.

“The exhibition is very much about that struggle that goes on to win over hearts and minds through the official documents, like bibles and prayer books, but also through propaganda,” says Pearce Carefoote, curator of the exhibition and interim head of the Department of Rare Books and Collections at the library. “A lot of the propaganda is illustrated because that was the best way to get people’s attention, especially in a time when literacy was not quite up to snuff.”

The exhibition looks at the Reformation in Scotland and in Europe. There is also a section of how the Reformation unfolded in North America with the arrival of the Puritans and Catholic orders such as the Jesuits.

There will be about 100 items on display, giving visitors an in-depth look at the momentous changes in the church – changes that are still felt today. “These documents remind us of where we come from,” says Dr. Carefoote. “It’s very important to do that – to realize the struggle that was there to reform the church.”

For more information, visit the library’s website, www.fisher.library.utoronto.ca.

HONORED

John Andras (top left), an Anglican from Peterborough, speaks at a reception hosted by Lieutenant Governor Elizabeth Dowdeswell at Queen’s Park in Toronto on Feb. 27. The reception celebrated the work of HIP (Honouring Indigenous Peoples), a charity that educates Canadians about Indigenous issues and assists schools in First Nations communities. Mr. Andras, a director of HIP, runs the charity’s grassroots supply chain that transports items from southern Ontario to First Nations communities in northern Ontario. During the reception, Danny Beaton of the Turtle Clan, Mohawk Nation (above), speaks to HIP’s volunteers and supporters. Lieutenant Governor Elizabeth Dowdeswell (at left) stands with Garry Gloewacki, director of The Bridge Prison Ministry in Brampton, Mr. Beaton, Chief Lee Friday of Kanesatake First Nation, Mr. Andras and Gerald Lue of HIP. The Bridge Prison Ministry, funded by FaithWorks, was one of many organizations that provided items last year. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

SPECIAL DAY

The Rev. Canon Jerome Khelawian and his wife Isabelle (left) join former Mississauga mayor Hazel McCallion (centre), MPP Amrit Mangat (second from left) and current Mississauga Mayor Bonnie Crombie at the Mississauga Civic Centre on Feb. 14 to celebrate Hazel McCallion Day in Ontario. Ms. McCallion, an Anglican, was the mayor of Mississauga from 1978 to 2014. The Ontario Legislature proclaimed Feb. 14 Hazel McCallion Day in recognition of her long public service. Canon Khelawian is the incumbent of St. Hugh and St. Edmund, Mississauga. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE REV. CANON JEROME KHELAWIAN

VALENTINE VISIT

Linden Hutchinson, a member of the Sunday school in the parish of Minden, Kinmount and Maple Lake, delivers flowers to residents of a nursing home in Minden on Valentine’s Day. PHOTO COURTESY OF THE REV. JOAN CAVANAUGH CLARK