Building named after archbishop

BY STUART MANN

As she cut the ribbon to officially open The Terry Finlay Seafarers Centre in Oshawa on June 29, Canon Alice Jean Finlay felt a wave of emotion.

The new station, located in Oshawa’s commercial port, was named after her late husband, Archbishop Terence Finlay, the former Bishop of Toronto and a supporter of ministry to seafarers for three decades. “Terry would have been very honoured to be recognized in this way,” she says.

The Rev. Judith Alltree, executive director of the Mission to Seafarers Southern Ontario, says it was natural that the station be named after Archbishop Finlay, who died in March. “We wanted to do something in his memory and as a way of saying thanks to him. It breaks my heart that he wasn’t there for the opening but he did know this was happening and he was so excited for us because he knew how important it was.”

Archbishop Finlay had been a long-time board member of the Mission to Seafarers Southern Ontario and was also the national church’s visiting bishop, or liaison bishop, to the 12 missions to seafarers in Canada. “He felt it was a very important outreach ministry both internationally and ecumenically,” says Canon Finlay. “Not only did he feel it was valuable for the services it provided, but it also had an important role in advocating for the human rights of seafarers.”

The Oshawa building, a former construction trailer, provides free WiFi for seafarers who want to call their families back home – usually their No. 1 priority. About 3,000 seafarers arrived at the port last year. The station is staffed by a team of 12 people, including nine volunteers from nearby churches.

“The diocese gave a $10,000 grant to the seafarers that the mission is just up the street, which is something we haven’t been able to do, is huge for them. And our volunteers are unbelievably enthusiastic and caring.”

The opening ceremony on June 29 was attended by about 30 people, including Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, Archbishop Colin Johnson, Bishop Riscylla Shaw, Bishop Michael Bedford-Jones (retired) and Donna Taylor, the harbormaster and chief executive officer of the Port of Oshawa. Parishioners from St. Peter, Oshawa, All Saints, Whitby and St. Matthew, Oshawa, also attended. Afterwards, there was a reception at the harbormaster’s office.

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Grant helps youth in Fort McMurray

Two churches team up with radio station

BY MARTHA HOLMEN

THE Diocese of Toronto has given $100,000 to the Diocese of Athabasca to help the residents of Fort McMurray rebuild their lives after a devastating wildfire swept through the community last May.

The diocese had considered giving the grant last year but was asked by the bishop of Athabasca, Fraser Lawton, to wait until an assessment was done of the needs of the community and his diocese. About one-fifth of the housing in Fort McMurray was burnt down.

With a population of 85,000, it is the largest community in the diocese, located in northern Alberta. The gift comes from the Diocese of Toronto’s Ministry Allocation Fund, 10 per cent of which is lifted to projects or ministries outside the diocesan budget. Previous title grants have included $100,000 each for the rebuilding of the cathedrals in Iqaluit and Christchurch, New Zealand, $100,000 for suicide prevention programs in northern Canada, $90,000 for refugee sponsorship matching grants, and $100,000 for a Habitat for Humanity build in Scarborough.

“The good news came right during Holy Week,” says Bishop Lawton. “There have been some thoughts in the last few months of things we’d like to do.” There are two Anglican churches in Fort McMurray, St. Thomas and All Saints. Members of both parishes have been working together for many months to decide how to use the funds they’ve received.

Through those conversations, youth and young adults have hived emerged as a group in need of particular care as they and their families rebuild their lives. “Coming back and living through the months of recovery time, those things start to weigh. You don’t have a home, you don’t have all those things you had,” says Bishop Lawton.

With the funds received from the Diocese of Toronto and others across the country, the churches have been able to set up a joint project with ‘The Bridge’, a local radio station. “The idea is that they are going to share an employee who will spend about half his time at the radio station, specifically working with youth in terms of song-writing, recording, that sort of thing,” says Bishop Lawton. “This is something that the radio station was not able to do, they didn’t have the funding for it. Because of what we’ve received, we’re able to support that.”

The hope is that this kind of program will give young people some tools to deal with the ongoing trauma of the fire. “One of the things we’ve discovered is just how absolutely draining it is, and how hard it is to just get things back to functioning in some way,” says Bishop Lawton. “This is the use of music as a way to express themselves and a chance to try to get their hand at different skills.”

“The rest of the employee’s time will be spent directly in the two Anglican churches, continuing to help youth and young adults. The churches already share a youth group of junior high and high school students. “The anticipation is that the person will be able to spend some time with them and help us in getting this well established in a longer term,” says Bishop Lawton.

“We know from experience and we’re seeing that it’s something that takes a lot of time, and so we’re looking at this as a long-term sort of project.”

The agreement with The Bridge will be set up for two years initially, with the possibility of an ongoing ministry in the churches beyond that time. Bishop Lawton says he and the Anglicans in Fort McMurray are grateful for the support to make that happen. “It’s overwhelming and very encouraging,” he says. “The gift opens all kinds of doors for us. Instead of saying, ‘If only we could’, we’re saying, ‘Now we can, so what will we do?’”

Wildfire sweeps through Fort McMurray last year, destroying about one-fifth of the city’s housing. PHOTO BY ADRILOP, VIA WIKIMEDIA COMMONS
Son collects father’s columns into book

Priest explained Bible to paper’s readers

Chaplaincy department to be restructured
Discovering Jesus in our midst

By Archibishop Colin Johnson

By Archbishop Riscylla Shaw

Serving in the name of Jesus

By Bishop Riscylla Shaw

ARCHIBISHOP’S DIARY

The Anglican Church

In the Anglican Communion

A global community of 70 million people in 165 countries congregations in 164 countries.

Archbishop of Canterbury: The Most Rev. and Rt. Hon. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, providing space for overnight shelters and community drop in centres. On this particular day, I joined Christian as he headed to “A Hole In The Fence” for lunch. This is not a fancy cafe but indeed a hole in the fence, down by the railway tracks, where Christian and other volunteers provide space for overnight shelters and community drop in centres.

In another city, I joined Christian as he headed to “A Hole In The Fence” for lunch. This is not a fancy cafe but indeed a hole in the fence, down by the railway tracks, where Christian and other volunteers provide space for overnight shelters and community drop in centres.

The Archbishop of Toronto:

The Most Rev. Colin Johnson

The Diocese of Toronto:

A county of 254 parishes covering 5,000 square kilometres. The number of people who live within the diocesan boundaries, 500,000 are claimed to be affiliated with the Anglican Church, and about 50,000 people have identified the parish on its roll. The diocese is home to many ethnic and language-based communities, including African, Caribbean, Chinese, Filipino, French, Hispanic, Japanese, and Tamil. The City of Toronto has the largest population of non-aboriginal peoples in the country.

The Archdiocese of Toronto:

The Most Rev. Fred Hiltz, Chair, Bishop, 80 Hayden St., Toronto, ON M5T 3C2

The Diocese of British Columbia and the Yukon:

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G

id you know that a giraffe’s tongue is about a foot-and-a-half long, is prehensile, able to curl around and pick up a tiny morsel? What an odd sensa- tion it is to have a giraffe take one small pellet of food from your hand! That happened to us twice within the past year (write this) when I was in Nairobi, Kenya. It sounds exotic. But my trip to Kenya was not about visit- ing wild animals.

Ellen I and I were in Nairobi for the eighth Anglican Bishops in Dialogue consultation, which brought together 37 bishops, priests, laypeople, and chaplains, a small worship team and some dedicated staff from North America, England and Africa. With a Ugandan-born priest, Canon Ransford Kukula, as a former member of our diocesan staff and now is with the General Synod staff, I found this group to be a rich source of information and ideas that had begun at the Lambeth Conference in 2008. As you likely know, the Lambeth Conference brings together bishops from across the world at the invitation of the Archbishop of Canterbury for prayer, discussion and deci- sions once every 10 years.

Our informal, unofficial consultation began with 12 bishops from Canada and Africa meeting in London, England to listen to one another respectfully and prayerfully, and to learn how each other was engaged in the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ. We knew about how we were different. We knew that we disagreed on significant matters. We knew that we were prepared to listen, and were prepared to lead to division. We knew that a number of bishops and churches had broken off relationships with one another. But we also knew that we had some things in common, that we shared a common vocation and mission, that we were all Anglicans. We thought we should find out something about each other, face to face, and hear directly about the other’s experience of the faith, their priorities and how they lived out their daily ministry. Boy, were we surprised!

We knew about each other – but as stereotypes. In some ways, it is so much easier talking about someone else rather than talking with them, because your own fanciful projections onto them are not confronted with complicated reality. We learned that we held so many of our assumptions in common than we had thought.

We discovered each other as passionate believers in Jesus, who both personally and together, are called to live now and going forward to bring about the kingdom of God. We discovered each other as Prophets, as Jesus’ mouthpiece, telling to live and make alive the good news of the Gospel in the specific contexts in which we were called to minister.

The conclusions, the stereotypes, the misperceptions got challenged. In the conversations, we did not convert each other to one way of thinking, but in community – with the act of Word, with the act of the Holy Spirit, the life of Jesus by the Holy Spirit.

Friends with differences and similarities, we gave a chance to have deeply and not enemies but brothers and sisters in Christ, called into a common witness and mission. We discovered that with love we could lead to understanding and not separation. We discovered that with love we could lead to understanding and not separation.

The group changes. Some leave because of other commitment, personal reflections, or death; some join. So far, 49 Primates, Archbishops and Bishops have been involved. We have no official mandate. We do not speak for the whole church, we do not repre- sent any organization. But we have discovered that we do make a difference.

What difference? In a world of either/or divisions, of extreme positions and polarities, of declarations of exclusion and hostility, we are church. We ask that the divisions go across difference, of finding truth through dialogue, finding the image of Christ shining through the face of another, even a stranger. We witness that the Church of Jesus Christ is rich, diverse, challenging and dynamic. We are one because God calls us into relationship with Himself through our baptism into Jesus’ death and resurrection. We do not choose each other; God chooses us. We discover that in no place is the church perfect. We discover that all of us have something we need to learn, and something to teach. We are learning to be proud of our church and humble about our own accom- plishments.

In Nairobi, we heard about the Swahili con- cept of Haraambe, “pulling together.” It was popularized by the first post-colonial leader of Kenya. He had to build a new national identity by bridging deep tribal divisions and hostility that the colonialists had used to control the people. He had to find ways of uniting a new nation. He had to create a new identity that the colonizers had not been able to control.

In concluding our session, one of the early morning sessions, the 30 bishops from Africa, and the other 12 from Canada, were invited to respond. I heard words, “And also with you?” This is not a fancy cafe but indeed a hole in the fence, down by the railway tracks, where Christian and other volunteers provide space for overnight shelters and community drop in centres.
Finding out what all the buzz is about

By The Rev. Canon David Harrison

I don't often get butterflies in my stomach when I head out the door for church. But this time, I did. I wasn't going to my own church or to another Anglican church; although I pretty much know what to expect and what to wear. I was going up the street to C3 Church, where its services at the local high school.

Because I live next door in the rectory, I had only heard from my parishioners on their way to church about the prominent signs (“C3 TORONTO Sundays 9:30 & 11:30 that pop up outside Central Tech every week.” C3 (which stands for Christian City Church) is part of a global Pentecostal movement that began in Australia in 1990 and created a buzz in Toronto since opening here in 2012. “Why are millennials flocking to Toronto's C3 Church?” the Toronto Star asked. “Are millennials flocking to C3 Church?” the Toronto Star asked. “Why are millennials flocking to C3 Church?” the Toronto Star asked. “Why are millennials flocking to C3 Church?” the Toronto Star asked. “Why are millennials flocking to C3 Church?” the Toronto Star asked. “Why are millennials flocking to C3 Church?” the Toronto Star asked. “Why are millennials flocking to C3 Church?” the Toronto Star asked. “Why are millennials flocking to C3 Church?” the Toronto Star asked. “Why are millennials flocking to C3 Church?” the Toronto Star asked. “Why are millennials flocking to C3 Church?” the Toronto Star asked. “Why are millennials flocking to C3 Church?” the Toronto Star asked. “Why are millennials flocking to C3 Church?” the Toronto Star asked. “Why are millennials f...
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**BRIEFLY**

All invited to celebrate with monks

The monks of Holy Cross Priory, Toronto, invite you to help them celebrate their patronal festival, Holy Cross Day, on Sept. 16, at St. John, West Toronto, with a Eucharist at 11 a.m. The homilist will be Br. Reginald-Martin Crenshaw, OHC. A light reception will follow. Please RSVP to info@hcppriory.com or call 416-697-9081, ext. 24. St. John’s is located at 298 Humbertonside Ave., a 12-minute walk from High Park subway station. Street parking is available. Holycrosspriory.org, founded in 1973, is part of the international Order of the Holy Cross.

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**Bishop’s Opinion**

Continued from Page 4

Jesus, who calls us to serve. The Gospel of Matthew, chapter 25:31-46, reminds us to see the face of our Lord in the faces of those we serve.

“...Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?...”

“...The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’”

There are so many ways to serve. How are you called?

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**Writer reflects on faith journey**

Dinner raises funds for clergy families, scholarships

**BY MARTHA HOLMEN**

“I’ve never been deeper in my faith. I’ve never been happier in my faith. I’ve never been more challenged by my faith.” So Michael Coren described himself at the 56th annual Bishop’s Company Dinner, held May 16 in downtown Toronto.

Mr. Coren was the keynote speaker at the event, held each year to raise funds to help clergy and their families in need and to provide scholarships for theological students. An often-controversial figure in the Canadian media landscape, once known for his conservative Roman Catholic views, Mr. Coren started quietly attending Anglican services several years ago. He was formally received into the Anglican Communion at St. James Cathedral in April 2015.

“It was very difficult to somehow build a new identity. And I didn’t want to build a new identity; I just wanted to move very gradually and slowly into a new way of being in relationship with Christ Jesus,” he told about 450 people in attendance. “I didn’t feel particularly different. I’ve never been more challenged by my faith.” So Michael Coren describes himself at the 56th annual Bishop’s Company Dinner.

Mr. Coren shared the story of his lifelong faith journey in a deeply personal and often funny reflection, including several moving stories about his own life, relationships and understanding of Christian identity. “I believe that no one will get to know me better than my family, you did for me.”

Archbishop Collin and Ellen Johnson, front row centre, stand with members of Christ Church, Deer Park, the first parish in the event’s 56-year history to sponsor the dinner. At right, Alice Jean Finlay (left) presents a $10,000 cheque from the diocese to the Rev. Judith Alltree, executive director of the Mission to Seafarers Southern Ontario, for its new station in Oshawa, named after the late Archbishop Terence Finlay. ALL PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

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The Rev. Megan Jull tells how the Bishop’s Company provided financial support to help meet the educational needs of her son.

The Rev. Megan Jull provided a special gift of $10,000 from the Bishop’s Company to the Mission to Seafarers Southern Ontario for its new station in Oshawa, named after the late Archbishop Terence Finlay, the 11th Bishop of Toronto, who died in March after a brief illness. To honour his memory, Archbishop Johnson provided a special gift of $10,000 from the Bishop’s Company to the Mission to Seafarers Southern Ontario for its new station in the Port of Oshawa. The station was named after Archbishop Finlay, who served as diocesan representative to the Mission to Seafarers in Canada after he retired.

For the first time in its 56-year history, the dinner was sponsored by a parish of the diocese. In appreciation of its diversity, and to welcome refugees to Canada. The Rev. Megan Jull, associate priest at Church of the Redeemer, Elsor Street, shared the story of how the Bishop’s Company provided financial support to help meet the educational needs of her son.

Just before dinner, Archbishop Collin Johnson paid tribute to Archbishop Terence Finlay, the 11th Bishop of Toronto, who died in March after a brief illness. To honour his memory, Archbishop Johnson provided a special gift of $10,000 from the Bishop’s Company to the Mission to Seafarers Southern Ontario for its new station in the Port of Oshawa. The station was named after Archbishop Finlay, who served as diocesan representative to the Mission to Seafarers in Canada after he retired.

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There are so many ways to serve. How are you called?
I’m pleased to be sharing with our readers the new strategic plan for our diocese. By way of background, in 2016 Diocesan Council gave approval to proceed with a strategic plan for the next five years. As a diocesan volunteer, I was asked to chair the steering committee to develop the plan. The mandate for the Strategic Plan Steering Committee was to provide oversight and advice to the project. Funds were approved to hire consulting resources to carry out the information-gathering process.

After extensive involvement with key parishioners, clergy and staff, as well as information-gathering and research, a draft of the strategic plan was presented to Diocesan Council for acceptance and approval in June of 2016. The next pages set out the plan.

Questions have been raised such as, why do we need such a plan and who is it for? A strategic plan for any organization is a statement of commitment to the priorities that will move it forward. It is not intended to be limiting; rather, it guides the use of resources and decision-making. It is a tool to take us “from here to there”—“there” being carrying out our mission, i.e. work, to get closer to realizing the vision or desired future. The strategic plan will be successful if it is known and shared by all members of the diocese. The five Focus Areas are specifically high level in their description so that they can be used at all levels of the diocese, from the parish to the staff and the bishops.

The strategic plan for the Diocese of Toronto is outlined in a document named “Growing In Christ” (GIC). It has its own visual identity that has been developed over the last year. It has been launched gradually by presenting it at regular meetings of clergy and laity as well as on the website.

As the strategic plan is used to guide and direct the priorities of our work together, it helps us to develop our common understanding and language. The five Focus Areas in the plan come from the feedback that was received from across the diocese. Each of the Focus Areas has priorities which need consideration and recommendations for change or improvement. As we move forward, we will develop review and measurement mechanisms that will help us to evaluate our progress.

Opening ourselves up to conversations and possibilities

A year after the plan was approved, what has been the benefit so far? In my view, it has renewed our Diocese of Toronto’s mission, vision and values among our Anglican community. The real “value added” is that having the plan has opened us up to conversations and possibilities together, clergy, laity and staff. It has meant that we can name our issues and think together about how to move forward. Not wanting to overpromise, it seems like we are in a stage of discovery at the diocesan level as the working groups share views and attempt to find ways forward on the priorities.

The strategic plan helps us to be stewards in our time and to build for the future.

Susan Abell
Interim Chief Administrative Officer
Diocese of Toronto
August 2017
OUR STRATEGIC PLANNING: FRAMEWORK AND FOCUS AREAS

For us to faithfully achieve our vision for this diocese in the next five years, we must build on the success of the past and focus our efforts on the areas that will have the most impact. We have identified five Focus Areas to guide and support the prioritization of resources over the coming years. These Focus Areas are presented in the following graphic, surrounding our mission statement. Our strategic framework sits on the foundation of our values, which guide our behaviour and decision-making, and are core to our culture. Each piece of our strategic framework is connected, interrelated and equally important to create a holistic path forward for our diocese. On these two pages you will find more detail on how we define each of these Focus Areas and the plan to achieve them. Focusing on these areas will allow us to leverage the success of the past and enhance our diocese in the future.

LEADERSHIP & FORMATION

We have much to do over the coming years as our diocese works to determine its place in a changing society. This change will require transformational and adaptive leadership to move the organization forward. We believe that the Holy Spirit continues to call and gift leaders for this work. We are committed to supporting and developing leadership capacity and capabilities of our clergy and lay leaders. As we work through this change, we as Anglicans will remain committed and engaged with our faith through formation and discipleship to deepen our relationship with God and welcome new seekers into our community.

Together, we will intentionally develop leadership, both lay and clerical, by:
• Deepening the Christian spiritual lives of our clergy, lay leaders and parishioners.
• Defining and developing transformational leadership which will be collaborative and accountable.
• Identifying and nurturing current and future leaders.
• Cultivating intercultural leadership that is reflective of the diversity in our communities.
• Supporting the education and development of lay and clerical leadership that builds both skills and Christian character.
• Changing our management model to refocus time and resources on formation and grow gift-based ministry.

We will achieve this by:
1. Developing leaders (both clerical and lay) to lead the transformation of this diocese.
2. Expanding the availability and practice of continuous education for both clergy and lay leaders.
3. Adopting new models of formation and diversity of leadership.

TRUST & CULTURE

When we say “we believe...” we are saying “we trust...”: in God, in God’s promises, in God’s people.

For the implementation of this plan to be successful, we must work as a team, with the involvement and input of our partners, to lead our diocese into the future. Across our Anglican community, we are committed to fostering a positive culture that is respectful and inclusive of all backgrounds and experiences and enables all individuals to contribute, and recognizes the gifts and knowledge that they bring. We know there are a lot of good things happening across our community and as we develop and define our culture we will continue to share, celebrate, and learn from each other.

Together, we will build a collaborative and trusting culture by:
• Promoting mutually beneficial collaboration based on shared values and vision.
• Strengthening respectful relationships and communication across the entire diocese, including synod office and local parishes, and with our community partners.
• Developing guiding principles for the way we interact and communicate with each other.
• Nurturing culturally inclusive leadership, relationships and attitudes across the diocese.

We will achieve this by:
4. Continually evolving our culture to one that is positive, collaborative, adaptive to change and reinforces our vision and values.
5. Building positive, respectful and transparent communication across this diocese.
6. Developing working relationships to facilitate an integrated team-based operating model between synod office and parishes.

Serving Christ’s mission, faithfully and effectively

It gives me great pleasure to share our diocese’s new strategic plan with you. Like all organizations today, our diocese is in a time of change and transition. We face a number of challenges, both internal and external. We will respond to them head-on as a community rooted in our faith in Jesus Christ and our shared values as Anglican Christians, while being adaptive to our context, under the provided guidance of the Holy Spirit.
We are committed to bringing new and creative ways of thinking and operating into our diocese. This could be achieved through the adoption of different forms and models of ministry or innovative programs and initiatives carried out by our parishes and synod office. To enable smart risk-taking and share best practices across our diocese, we need to be more driven by data and evidence, both qualitative and quantitative, to make decisions, measure impact and learn from outcomes.

Together, we will implement a culture of continuous improvement and intelligent risk-taking by:

- Being open to change and new opportunities, and learning from both successes and failures.
- Partnering with the National Church, and other denominations and organizations, to build a broad base of evidence and best practices.
- Being intentional about measuring and reporting our performance.
- Making decisions informed by data and evidence.
- Investing in the tools and technology that will support sound decision making and increased accountability.

We will achieve this by:

7 Doing things differently through the adoption of best practices and innovation.
8 Using data to measure outcomes for the purpose of continuous improvement.
9 Using technology to enhance data collection, reporting and decision making.

Our diocese is blessed with resources, both human and financial, that support our missional work. We are accountable for these gifts and will use them boldly to respond to God’s mission. It is essential that these resources be managed in a way that aligns with our vision, contributes to mission and supports vibrant, sustainable ministry across our Anglican community. Sharing these resources generously and broadly is an act of faith, an expression of compassion and a mark of collaboration.

Together, we will be faithful stewards of our current resources and seek out new ones to support our vision by:

- Responsibly investing in programs, parishes and people.
- Embracing the diversity of our communities at all organizational levels.
- Increasing the awareness and understanding of available diocesan resources.
- Pursuing different streams of revenue and sources of funding.
- Developing effective management models for real-estate and other assets.
- Using technology to improve the availability of information and reduce costs.

We will achieve this by:

12 Strategically tracking, managing and leveraging real-estate assets to support the mission and future health of this diocese.
13 Being an organization that attracts and retains the best clergy, lay leadership and staff.
14 Diversifying funding sources to support future needs and sustainability.

This plan lays out a bold vision and sets the foundations for how we will work together to build healthy, missional Anglican communities that engage faithfully with the world and share the gospel of Jesus Christ. We have listened to lay leaders, clergy, parishioners, staff and partners. Your thoughtful feedback and input have been invaluable to this process and inspire the positive change we seek to create.

As we work to implement this plan, we will continue to depend on your deep commitment and unique gifts to align our ministry as a diocese to serve Christ’s mission, faithfully and effectively. I extend my thanks to the Strategic Plan Steering Committee for their leadership throughout the development of this plan.

I look forward to working together with all of you and sharing our success over the next five years.

Archbishop Colin R. Johnson
Diocese of Toronto
Motivated to do the good work of the Church

I used the five Focus Areas of the strategic plan as the basis for my report to vestry here at St. John’s. I think that really speaks to the strength of the plan – that it is applicable at the parochial level as well as the diocesan level. The other real strength of the plan is that clergy and laypeople can see places where they can be motivated to do the good work of the Church wherever they are and whatever their ministry involves.

One part of the plan I like in particular is identifying and raising up leadership. The work of discernment is always done in community, and much of the most important work that we do as parishes is done face-to-face, at the church door or the local coffee shop. Empowering laypeople to go about the work of discerning good leadership for their parishes is really important.

The other Focus Area that really sticks out for me is strengthening our stewardship of resources, both people and property – not just in the sense of getting people to give money or go on PAR, but in thinking more intentionally of stewardship as a matter of personal discipleship. We give because we recognize the blessing we have received in our own lives.

It’s also helpful to think of how we’re stewarding our human resources. Thinking intentionally about how much we are asking of our volunteers has been important for me in the parish – making sure that just as I try to practice self care, I’m also encouraging others to practice good habits.

I’ve been involved in a couple of strategic planning processes, and looking at this strategic plan and being able to identify with every single piece of it in my own context has been a really refreshing experience.

The Rev. Jesse Parker
Incumbent
St. John the Evangelist, Port Hope
Yukon teens visit Toronto
Exchange program seeks to foster relationships

BY THE REV. MEGAN JULL
She had never been on an escalator. He had never used a revolving door. She had never been to a shopping mall before. He had never seen an action movie on the big screen before this trip.

From June 23 to July 3, the Church of the Redeemer, Bloor Street, together with St. George’s on-the-Hill in Etobicoke, hosted an exchange group from the Yukon. The participants were members of the Naxa Nyuk Dun First Nation, and are connected with St. Mary and St. Mark Anglican Church in Mayo, Yukon Territory. For many, it was their first visit to a major urban centre.

The Church of the Redeemer became connected with St. Mary and St. Mark last summer during a youth service and learning trip. While there, we began to talk about what might be possible in terms of structuring an exchange trip. More importantly, we talked about how we might foster relationships between urban and rural Canadians, and how we might help young Torontonians and Indigenous youth forge relationships. We wondered how the building of relationships and travel to one another’s home might further the cause of reconciliation.

We secured funding through a Bloor Street Canada program called Experiences Canada, which sponsors youth exchanges for participants between the ages of 12 and 17 years of age. Our twin group in the Yukon was also able to secure funding from the Anglican Healing Fund; this covered the travel costs for the trip and $500 toward the Rev. Mary Battaja. She accompanied the young people on all our excursions here and reflected on the experiences with the youth. Most importantly, she provided a traditional lens through which to interpret the experiences.

For 10 days, the Redeemer and St. George’s youth groups got to play tour guide. We saw the usual Toronto sights: the CN Tower, Ripley’s Aquarium, the zoo, the ROM, and so forth. We made a day trip to Niagara Falls. We attended a Pow Wow and went behind the scenes at the ROM to view artifacts from the Yukon. And we participated in some service-and-learning experiences, namely a day spent with the staff at Redeemer’s drop-in program to learn about homelessness and social isolation in the downtown core. As well, the group worshipped in each parish on Sunday morning. I think it is fair to say that the highlight of the trip for many participants was shopping at the Eaton Centre. At first glance, that may seem trivial, but it spoke to a great truth. When I asked some of the participants which purchases they were most happy with, I was a little surprised by the answers. “I’m happy about my shoes, which I got to try on before buying. Usually, we order online, and it’s hard to know if something will fit right. And it’s really expensive to ship items back to return them,” another said. “I got to go to Sephora and find the right colours for my skin tone. Now I know what to order.” Their greatest delight was in making choices that you and I might take for granted.

“Making choices was an overarching theme of the exchange experience – the source of greatest joy and the most persistent frustration. What’s it like to make choices? What’s it like when you feel forced to follow the group’s itinerary? What’s it like when the meal offered isn’t what you’d choose for yourself? What’s it like to go along with someone else’s choice instead of your own? And more significantly, how does choice relate to socialization? To the pressure to conform? To self-determination?”

For 10 days, we were group leaders, overnight chaperones and tour guides. It was a taxing week. But it came with great joys: to see our own city through someone else’s eyes; to look with joy and wonder at the everyday marvels we tend to take for granted; to build relationships; to work through competing expectations; to see young people engage as equals in relationship, despite their regional differences and varied cultures; to see that all these things which might divide us can be overcome when friendships are made and when new experiences are shared. A special thank-you to the people of the Redeemer and St. George’s who supported this trip and donated funds. And thank-you to my fellow leaders: Alexandra McIntosh, James Noronha, and Valerie Maier.

The Rev. Megan Jull is the associate priest of the Church of the Redeemer, Toronto.

Church abuzz over bees

BY MONIQUE CHIRREY

Bees are responsible for at least one-third of the food we eat, and commercial agriculture depends on them. A world without honeybees would look very different – we would not have fruit like apples, watermelon, almonds, berries, onions, coffee and, of course, honey. Bees also pollinate oilseeds like cotton.

Since the late 1990s, beekeepers around the world have observed the mysterious and sudden disappearances of bees and reported unusually high rates of decline in honeybee colonies. Perhaps you’ve seen the commercial on TV or online for Honey Nut Cheerios’ “Bring Back the Bees” campaign. Honey Nut Cheerios and the environmental group Oceana partnered to give away wildflower seeds to Canadians. To date, they have given away over 40 million seeds.

Youngsters at Church of the Evangelists, New Tecumseth, hold up packets of wildflower seeds, used to help rebuild bee populations.

Larry Moore, a parishioner at Church of the Evangelists, New Tecumseth in Tottenham, contacted the church’s Sunday School team with a suggestion: why don’t the Sunday School children take on this initiative as a spring project? The Sunday School contacted the “Bring Back the Bees” campaign for free wildflower seeds and promotion material. But they also saw a greater need to share this awareness and decided to take it one step further.

On Sunday, May 28, the Sunday School team hosted a “Bring Back the Bees” service. The children gave a special presentation during the service, followed by the planting of wildflower seeds in the church’s backyard. Afterwards, the children participated in crafts and activities related to bees. They also served refreshments after the service made with local honey, and everyone went home with a special gift of wildflowers to plant at home.

For more information about the campaign, visit www.bringbackthebees.ca.

Monique Chirrey is a Sunday School teacher at Church of the Evangelists, New Tecumseth.

Chimes ring on music day

DEBORAH ZIMMERMAN played the 15-bell chime at St. George’s Memorial, Oshawa on BBC Music Day on June 15. St. George’s was the only Canadian church registered for the event. Ms. Zimmerman chimed for 44 minutes, beginning at 7 p.m. BBC Music Day is an annual celebration that aims to unite generations and communities in their love of music. Highlights of the day, including video and music clips, are posted on the event’s website. “Playing the chimes brings me great joy,” says Ms. Zimmerman, the head chimer at St. George’s. “I use my volunteer role as an outreach ministry that brings joy to others. I believe that bells should be rung as often as possible, to celebrate life and to remind people of our faith in God. Personally, I experience peace and joy when playing the chimes – it is a real privilege and responsibility.”
The concert ended on a high note – another, everyone will know you out our theme: “I give you a new verse during the interlude to bring “Water” with the reading of a Bible singalong of “Bridge Over Troubled along. To close the night, we had a members clapped and followed sang St. Elizabeth’s very own an-little Chinese flare. The choir then accompanied by the piano, with a from our youngest choir members One in the Spirit” began with solos songs. Our rendition of “We are St. E.” The audience was delighted theme, the lyrics “meeting in Bei- millennium Chinese Music Workshop, tence through the choir members’ brought the Gospel to the audi- performed three songs. The group and the Treasure in the Jar Choir concert, conductor Michael Wong the church will start preparing Elizabeth’s. After a little break, the church will start preparing the music for its 25th anniversary worship and banquet on Oct. 15. For more information, visit www. stechurch.com.

By Joanne Loo, the music director at St. Elizabeth, Mississauga Church has booth at baby show Members of St. Peter, Erindale, set up a booth at the spring Baby-Time Show in Mississauga on April 28-30, leading to many surprising con- versations. “This was our second experience at a Baby-Time Show, and quite a good one,” said the Rev. Canon Jennifer Reid, incum- bent. “It is a strange and yet holy experience.” The church invited Rabbi Audrey Pollack from nearby Solei Syna- gogue and Arlene Botnick, its di- rector of education, to join the booth and present a seminar on raising a spiritual child. Nearly hundred people accepted a bedtime prayer for children, many of whom engaged in conversations about churchgo- ing, prayer, faith and forgiveness. One woman commented on how intimidating it can be to start going to church and asked, “Can I just walk in?” A grandmother asked for advice about her daughter, who doesn’t want to have her baby bap- tized. A new mother asked about raising a child in both Christian and Jewish families. A single mother, describing herself as wounded and angry, said she is searching for a church to give her child something to hold onto. A mother asked when she should start teaching her two- year-old son to pray. One woman looked at the prayer card, smiled, and said, “I still have the one you gave me a year and a half ago on my frigde. My child is almost two now, and we look at it every day.” The church’s volunteers encour- aged people across from the GTA to check out their local Anglican churches and to take the time to teach their children about God. “I never thought I would say this, but I have seen enough babies for my fridgde. My child is almost two now, and we look at it every day.” The church’s volunteers encour- aged people across from the GTA to check out their local Anglican churches and to take the time to teach their children about God. “I never thought I would say this, but I have seen enough babies for my fridgde. My child is almost two now, and we look at it every day.” The church’s volunteers encour- aged people across from the GTA to check out their local Anglican churches and to take the time to teach their children about God. “I never thought I would say this, but I have seen enough babies for my fridgde. My child is almost two now, and we look at it every day.”

Parishioners learn foundations of faith

Christian Foundations, subtitled “A Grounding for a Life of Faith,” is so comprehensive that it might equally well have been dubbed “All You Ever Wanted To Know About Christianity But Were Too Afraid to Ask.” This new nine-module course was written under the di- rection of the Rev. Canon Dr. Judy Paulsen, director of the Institute of Evangelism at Wycliffe College, with co-authors Patrick Paulsen and the Rev. Canon Susan Reid. There is an attractive handbook for each student, which is also a personal workbook. A group of 40 parishioners at All Saints, Whitby, led by the Rev. Canon Stephen Vail, signed up for the course as a Lenten study this year, ending two weeks after Easter. Each Wednesday even- ing, a simple supper of soup and bread was offered before the course started, providing fellowship and an opportunity to forge new friend- ships. A repeat session was run by a lay person, Joanne Warman, on Thursday mornings for those unable to come on Wednesdays.

Starting with the basic tenet that God wants us to know him and pass along the invitation to oth- ers, the modules take participants through the story of Israel and the structure of the Old Testament. This provides a vital context to the arrival of Jesus, and who he is. The journey continues with the birth and development of the early church and the New Testament. Key doctrines and the split that re- sulted from the Reformation come next. The final two modules deal with growing in one’s faith through spiritual disciplines and, lastly, how every Christian can grow as a disciple, or an “apprentice”, of Jesus. Each module is made up of information narratives, interactive exercises, small group discussion questions and fill-in-the-blank quizzes. Ms. Warman commented that Christian Foundations was a good refresher course. “It re- minded me of the fact that God desires a relationship with his children,” she said.

The group’s overall satisfaction was expressed in the feedback received after the final session: “Great course, great workbook;” “I learned a lot that I didn’t know that helped other information make sense;” “I would recommend that everyone should do this course;” “I especially liked the way the course gave an overview of the history of the church.”

There is no doubt that Christian Foundations was a worthwhile venture. It is a very thorough study of how Christianity was born and where it is going. At the same time, the clear layout of the book makes it easy to follow. The last word comes from one person who had never at- tended a Christian course before: “At first, I felt I was going to be in the middle of a lake without padd- ies, but to my surprise a number of us felt that way. I am glad we earned our paddles!”

For more information about run- ning Christian Foundations in your parish, visit www.wycliffecollege.ca/christianfoundations.

By Jacky Bramma, a member of All Saints, Whitby.

KIDS FIND STRENGTH

St. Peter, Churchill welcomed 30 kids and youth leaders for its vacation bible school, called Hero Central: Discover Your Strength in God. The camp, which ran July 10-14, included a presentation on Sunday morning for family and friends. PHOTO BY LINDA GEROW
Transformation takes root in Tanzania
Diocese’s donation funds maternal health projects

BY ELIN GOULDEN

May I visited Tanzania with a delegation from the Primates’ World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF), on a learning exchange to the Diocese of Masasi. Our aim was to learn about the successful conclusion of the Preventive Health and Food Security project and the implementation of the All Mothers and Children Count (AMCC) project, which will last until 2023. The Diocese of Toronto gave $300,000 to PWRDF for maternal, newborn and child health projects in 2016, including the AMCC. The AMCC project also receives 6:1 matching funds from Global Affairs Canada.

Our delegation, diverse in age and geography, included three PWRDF staff members (Zaida Bastos, Suzanne Rumsey, and Jennifer Brown); Maureen Lawrence and Bishop David Irving from the PWRDF board of directors; Chris Pharo and Geoff Strong, volunteers PWRDF representatives for the dioceses of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, and British Columbia, respectively; PWRDF Youth Council members Asha Kerr-Wilson and Leah Marshall; André Forget from the Anglican Journal, videographer Jordan Leibel, and myself.

Long journey

Getting there was a long journey. From Toronto, we flew overnight to Amsterdam, then to Dar es Salaam, arriving late Friday evening. Early the next morning we flew to Mtwara, on the southern part of the coast, where we were met by the Rev. Limus Burami, assistant development officer for the Diocese of Masasi, Joyce Luniuri, the diocese’s Mothers’ Union secretary, and two Land Rovers with drivers to take us on the three-hour journey inland to Masasi. Zaida assured us the drive had been two to three times as long before the highway had been paved! When we finally arrived at Masasi’s cathedral, we were welcomed by hundreds of people of all ages singing, dancing, ululating and shouting “Kabustu! Welcome!”

Over lunch at the Diocesan Centre, Bishop James Almasi told us that the welcoming included Muslims and Christians of other denominations as well as Anglicans, because all members of the community benefit from the projects supported by PWRDF. He thanked Canadian Anglicans for their support and offered musical offerings from five local choirs, the whole service was about four hours long, but the energy and joy expressed by the 700-strong congregation was palpable. In the afternoon, we visited projects supported by the local Mothers’ Union and met with youth from the diocese.

Visiting projects

From Monday through Wednesday, with our guides the Rev. Geoffrey Monjesa, the developer officer for the diocese, and his assistant Limus, we visited PWRDF-supported projects in and around Masasi and the neighbouring district of Nachingwea. These ranged from medical clinics and community health workers, to improved health and food security to be the foundation of health. Thus, in addition to funding clinics and community health workers, the AMC project provides wells for clean water and seed and livestock to improve the food and income security of beneficiaries. The Diocese of Masasi works to build relationships with ward, village and ward leaders to gain support for the project. The members of the communities involved may not be Anglicans or even Christians – several villages were predominantly Muslim – but building trust and openness has paid off.

The needs are identified by the communities themselves, and individual villagers are trained to carry the message forward as community health workers and “Trainees of Trainers.” This leads to greater community ownership of and engagement in the development work. Those who receive seeds and livestock give the first offspring or a portion of their first crop to the group of villagers in need, paying the gift forward. Trained professionals, including nutritionists, nurses, midwives, livestock officers, and monitoring and evaluation officers, provide advice and accountability. It was especially exciting to see women taking the lead in many of these roles. Because the projects are short-term, they aim to make community involvement self-sustaining, and to transfer responsibility for ongoing inputs (the salaries of medical staff, drugs and supplies for clinics) to the Tanzanian government. This approach has made the Diocese of Masasi a trusted development partner of PWRDF for more than 20 years.

Bodwe village

In five years, the Preventive Health and Food Security project met and surpassed its goals, doing well for the success of All Mothers and Children Count, which is applying the same principles in a further 72 villages. Births attended by trained medical staff have doubled, while infant mortality and stunting of children under five have plummeted.

As impressive as these statistics are, what stays with me are the stories of the people we met. Nurse Maghalena Mwijiili no longer must walk 11 km to her work at Miami clinic because staff housing on-site allows her to be on call for labouring mothers. Joyce Mwamba of Ruundu village used seeds and agricultural techniques to improve her farm, and is now supporting extended family members with her increased crop production. Hassan Miktange and his wife Nouru Salamu have used the milk from their dairy cows and the income from her calves to improve their home and farm and send their daughter Halima to secondary school, opportunities they could barely imagine five years ago.

On our last day in Tanzania, we met with staff at the Canadian High Commission in Dar es Salaam. The challenges of poverty in rural Tanzania, exacerbated by climate change and limited access to health care and education, especially for women, are very real. But in the people we met in Masasi, we saw how transformation can take root, and success build on success.

Elin GoulDen is the diocese’s Social Justice and Advocacy consultant.

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ANNIVERSARY
Children take part in a presentation during St. Paul, Bloor Street’s 175th anniversary celebration on June 11. At right, members of the congregation hoist CLXXV Anniversary Lager, made in honour of the occasion. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

NEW NAME
From left, St. James Cathedral churchwardens Don Solomon, Angela David and Jayne Hobbs and the Rev. Canon David Brinton hold up plaques renaming the cathedral’s old vestry The Brinton Vestry. Canon Brinton retired in May after serving as sub-dean and vicar of the cathedral. Below, Canon Brinton joins members of the Mandarin Fellowship at an event in his honour. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

CONGRATULATIONS
Anita Gittens, president of the Diocesan ACW, holds letters from the Hon. Jane Philpott, MP for Markham-Stouffville, and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, congratulating the ACW on its 50th anniversary. Ms. Philpott gave the keynote address at the ACW’s annual general meeting, held May 13 at Christ Church, Stouffville. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON

WITH PRIDE
Bishop Kevin Robertson, the area bishop of York-Scarborough, reaches out to bystanders as he walks with Anglicans down Yonge Street in the 37th annual Pride Parade in Toronto on June 25. PHOTO BY MICHAEL HUDSON
COUNSELING

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COUNSELLING

IN MOTION

Appointments

The Rev. James Hall, Dean of the Diocese of New England, held on Sept. 21 at 7 p.m. in the Diocese of Niagara at Christ Church, St. Catharines, ON.

Vacant Incumbencies

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

First Phase – Parish Selection Committee in Formation (not yet receiving names):

• Christ Church, Bolton
• St. Andrew, Scarborough

Second Phase – Parish Selection Committee (receiving names via area Bishop):

• Parish of Bobcaygeon, Dunsford and Westminster
• Parish of Craigleith and Waubaushene
• Parish of Hawkesbury

Third Phase – Parish Selection Committee Interviewing (no longer receiving names):

• Christ Church, Deer Park

Ordinations

19. The Rev. Simon Davis ordained a priest at Christ Church, Chang, on Sept. 21 at 7 p.m.

18. The Rev. Philip Smith ordained a priest at St. Mark’s, front Street East and Silver Birch Avenue.


16. The Rev. Jeffrey Nowers was ordained a priest at Christ Church, Bolton on Sept. 24.

15. The Rev. Simon Davis ordained a priest at St. Mark’s, front Street East and Silver Birch Avenue.


Retirement

The Rev. John Locker who has been a priest-in-charge at St. James Cathedral, Ontario on May 7.

The Rev. Sean Davidson who has been a priest-in-charge at St. Peter, East Orangeville on May 7.

The Rev. Marilyn Finlay who has been a priest-in-charge at St. Philip, Hamilton on May 7.

The Rev. James Lu who has been a priest-in-charge at St. Philip, Hamilton on May 7.

The Rev. Jeffrey Nowers who has been a priest-in-charge at Christ Church, Brampton on June 1. He began a new ministry appointment with Ontario Pioneer Camp.

The Rev. Lesley Barclay concluded her ministry at St. Peter, Perrytown on Aug. 27.

The Rev. Canon Heywood McCance will conclude her ministry at St. Andrew, Scarborough on Aug. 28.

He will be taking up a new ministry appointment with the Diocese of Ruperta’s Land.

Workshops & Gatherings

SEPT. 22 - Trivia Night at St. Dunstan of Canterbury, 56 Lawson Rd., Scarborough. Includes five rounds of trivia, auction items and prizes, finger foods and refreshments. Cash bar at 6:30 p.m., trivia at 7 p.m. $30 per person or $70 for table of four. All seats reserved. Call 416-363-1844 to purchase.

SEPT. 23 - Anglican Amazing Race, a spiritual, physical and mental challenge, 7 p.m. Holy Trinity, Guildford, 85 Livingston Rd., Toronto.

OCT. 21 - Girls’ Night Out at St. Dunstan’s, 56 Lawson Rd., Scarborough. An opportunity to dress up in your most glamorous clothes. Food, drinks, chicken skewers, rice pilaf with roasted vegetables, crème brûlée, tea or coffee. Cash bar, silent and live auctions, live entertainment, $50, reserved tickets only. Call 416-363-1844 to purchase, cheque or VISA. Proceeds to research into cardiovascular disease in women and to the church.

Deaths

The Rev. Eugene Berlenbach died on June 7. Ordained deacon in 1988 and priest in 1990, he was the incumbent of Christ Church, Campbellfield, St. Barnabas, Peterborough, and was the regional dean of Peterborough, and was the regional dean of Peterborough and the Diocesan Board of Deacons. His last Sunday as chaplain at the Hospital for Sick Children. His last Sunday as chaplain at the Hospital for Sick Children. His last Sunday as chaplain at the Hospital for Sick Children. His last Sunday at St. Andrew-by-the-Lake, Toronto, was June 25.

The Rev. Jeff Hall’s last Sunday at St. Andrew’s, Toronto on June 12.

The Rev. Anne Gillett’s last Sunday at St. Andrew’s, Caledon, Canada on June 12.

Her funeral was held at St. John, westwood on June 12.

The Rev. Beverley Harvey died on July 31. Ordained a deacon in 1977 and priest in 1979, he was the assistant curate at St. Paul, Newmarket, then St. Mark, Richmond Hill. He was the incumbent of Christ Church, Campbellfield, St. Barnabas, Peterborough, and was the regional dean of Peterborough, and was the regional dean of Peterborough and the Diocesan Board of Deacons. His last Sunday as chaplain at the Hospital for Sick Children. His last Sunday at St. Andrew-by-the-Lake, Toronto, was June 25.

The Rev. Jeff Hall’s last Sunday at St. Andrew’s, Toronto on June 12.

The Rev. Anne Gillett’s last Sunday at St. Andrew’s, Caledon, Canada on June 12.

Her funeral was held at St. John, westwood on June 12.
GREAT DAY

Teams and their supporters from Holy Family, Brampton, St. Peter, Erindale and St. Thomas à Beckett, Mississauga, gather for the Anglican Diocese Cricket Tournament in Mississauga on July 22. St. Peter, Erindale won the tourney and hoisted the trophy (bottom centre) but all three teams won the day by making new friends. Nikhil Josh of St. Peter’s (bottom far right) accepts the Most Valuable Player trophy from Peter Marshall and Ranil Mendis. In addition to cricket there was a DJ and music, commentary, trophy presentations and plenty of food and beverage. Organizers plan to hold the tournament again next summer and are seeking more teams. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON