Director teaches compassion

Businesses learn how to help homeless

BY MARTHA HOLMEN

ANGIE Hocking does a lot of things at Redeemer, Bloor St., but her latest task may be her most unusual yet.

Ms. Hocking, who is Redeemer’s director of outreach services, is teaching staff at local businesses how to be more compassionate and helpful to people who are homeless or struggling with mental health issues.

She led a 90-minute workshop on “compassion training,” as she calls it, at a bank in May. She also planned to lead workshops over the summer for the staff at a cafe and for a security team at an office tower. A clothing store and an eyeglass shop have also expressed interest.

“It’s new and I don’t know where it will go but I think it’s a beautiful and important way to be present,” she says. “In the end, the goal is to teach that we are all human beings and we all deserve respect. That’s what we’re called to do as Christians, and if we emulate that and teach that, it’s a powerful witness.”

Hocking says there are a lot of homeless and marginalized people who live or spend their days in the area around Redeemer, located at the corner of Bloor Street and Avenue Road in downtown Toronto. Some of them go into banks and other businesses and buildings for a variety of reasons - to sit down, to sleep, to get out of the cold, to ask for food or money - and the staff are unprepared to help them. Security guards are often called on to eject them from the premises.

After one such incident at a local bank, Ms. Hocking spoke to the manager, to see if there was anything she could do. The manager explained that her staff were often scared and didn’t know how to respond when a homeless or marginalized person entered the building and wanted to be served.

“The staff are doing their jobs as best they can but they don’t know what to do when that happens, and they’re not aware of any resources in the neighbourhood that can help,” says Ms. Hocking.

Out of that conversation, she came up with the idea of providing compassion training. Her workshop consists of three parts. First, she builds empathy by showing the sorts of challenges and barriers that homeless and marginalized people deal with every day. Second, she teaches de-escalation tactics and how to engage with the person instead of immediately ejecting the person or struggling with mental health issues.

There are about 50 deacons in the diocese. A deacon is an ordained person who is a servant minister, doing work in charity, social justice and pastoral care. They enable people to carry out their baptismal promise to seek and serve Christ in their daily lives.

In the neighbourhood that can help, “compassion training” is being lived out.”

Ms. Hocking says there are a lot of homeless and marginalized people who live or spend their days in the area around Redeemer, located at the corner of Bloor Street and Avenue Road in downtown Toronto.

New archivist loves searching for answers

BY MARTHA HOLMEN

AFTER four years in the Finance department, Claire Wilton is back in the diocesan Archives, this time as the new Archivist and Privacy Officer. Having previously worked closely with Canon Mary-Anne Nicholls, who retired as Archivist in the diocesan Archives, which turned into a permanent position.

While she says there’s no typical day in the Archives, they almost always include some kind of research request. “Helping people find answers to questions is my favourite thing to do. I love to do research,” she says. Her work with parishes and diocesan offices continues. An honours local man

THR Rev. Claudette Taylor, a deacon at Epiphany and St. Mark, Parkdale, has been honoured by her peers in Canada and the United States.

Ms. Taylor, who is an Ambassador of Reconciliation in the diocese, received the Association of Episcopal Deacons’ 2019 Stephen’s Award at the group’s conference in Rhode Island in June. The award recognizes diaconal ministry in the tradition of St. Stephen.

“It was very humbling and overwhelming,” says Ms. Taylor. “I feel this award is not so much about me as it is about the work done by all the deacons in the Anglican Communion and in our diocese in particular.”

There are about 50 deacons in the diocese. A deacon is an ordained person who is a servant minister, doing work in charity, social justice and pastoral care. They enable people to carry out their baptismal promise to seek and serve Christ in their daily lives.
Bob Boeckner decided to stay in Toronto in his retirement so he could continue to help the various organizations he was involved in. “I wasn’t one of those folks who decides to go to Florida for six months to play golf,” he says. Anglicans in Canada should be glad he made that choice. As a trustee of the General Synod Pension Plan and a member of the national church’s Responsible Investing Task Force, Mr. Boeckner has helped the Church and Anglican-affiliated organizations to invest not only wisely but responsibly.

In recognition of his efforts, Mr. Boeckner has been chosen to receive the Anglican Award of Merit, which honours lay people for their contributions to the Anglican Church of Canada. Five other people across the country have also been named.

The new Primate, Bishop Linda Nicholls, will present the award to Mr. Boeckner at his home church of St. Clement, Eglinton at a mutually agreeable time.

Mr. Boeckner, who is a churchwarden at St. Clement, says the award came as a surprise. “I hadn’t expected it. I don’t do what I do to gain recognition. I was thrilled that it happened.”

An actuary by profession, Mr. Boeckner worked as a pension and benefits consultant for the second half of his career before retiring. He joined the General Synod Pension Plan’s board of trustees in 2008 at the invitation of a colleague. “I thought that was great,” he recalls. “It would give me a chance to use my experience for the benefit of the Church.” The pension plan has a membership of more than 3,000 retired and active clergy and lay employees of the Anglican Church of Canada. Mr. Boeckner chaired the board’s ESG (environmental, social and governance) Subcommittee, which sought to ensure that the plan’s funds were invested responsibly. “As stewards of God’s creation, we’re required to take care of it, so those of us who are involved with investing want to be sure that the organizations we’re investing in are doing the right thing,” he says.

In addition to being a trustee, Mr. Boeckner became a member of the national church’s Responsible Investing Task Force, created in 2016. The group’s mandate was to review and, if deemed appropriate, recommend changes to the investment portfolio and the investment policies of the national church and the General Synod Pension Plan in relation to ESG concerns. Soon after it began its work, the task force discovered there were about 30 other Anglican groups in Canada that were also investing funds, including dioceses, theological colleges and foundations. The task force expanded its work to include those other organizations. Mr. Boeckner says listening to Anglicans from across the country was a valuable learning experience. "Initially, many people were focussed on a low-carbon economy, and therefore any church-related fund should not be investing in any oil and gas stock. But that’s kind of a simplistic way to tackle it. As we moved along, we came to understand that it’s a complex issue and as a Church we might be more effective in staying engaged in what’s going on in the wider world.”

A good example of how staying engaged can be effective, he says, was when the Church of England went to the annual general meeting of ExxonMobil a couple of years ago and, along with other shareholders, forced the company to start reporting to shareholders what the impact on its business would likely be if the world’s average temperature rose by 2 degrees. “If the Church of England hadn’t held those shares, they wouldn’t have been entitled to go to the AGM and make that case,” he says.

The task force delivered a report to the Council of General Synod last year. It included theological foundations, highlights of current investing practices, and recommendations for increased engagement and updated practices by the General Synod Consolidated Trust Fund, the General Synod Pension Plan, and other funds associated with the Anglican Church of Canada.

In addition to the report, the task force produced a booklet called Investing with a Mission: A Guide to Responsible Investment and Church Funds. The booklet, which contains the task force’s research and findings, is a valuable tool for organizations wishing to further their engagement on ESG issues.

Mr. Boeckner says the task force plans to survey Anglican-affiliated groups across Canada, to see if any of the recommendations have been implemented. In the meantime, the pension plan has already taken action, he says. “We’ve been able to work with our investment managers to get them to implement responsible investing,” he says. “Instead of taking our money away from them, we kept saying, what are you doing on ESG? Eventually they were prepared to become signatories to the UN-supported Principles for Responsible Investment. Now they’ll be responsibly investing not only our money but all the other money they’ve got as well.”

In addition to his work for the Church at the national level, Mr. Boeckner has been involved at St. Clement’s, where he is a reader, greeter, sidesperson and a former Synod member. Outside of his church-related activities, he is a member of the University of Toronto’s business board and its audit committee. He also chaired a mentorship program at U of T’s University College, helping students learn from professionals in their field of interest.

He says his faith is one of the main reasons why he has been involved in so many activities over the years. “My religion has two major aspects. One is my relationship with God, and because of my relationship with God I’m called upon to serve others or serve the wider world. You can’t have one without the other.”
Endowment to fully fund office by 2022

BY STUART MANN

Anglicans in the diocese have made a significant investment in the future. Due to a successful campaign that raised $1.5 million for The John Strachan Trust, they’ve helped to ensure that the ministry of the Bishop of Toronto will be funded for generations to come.

“We’ve put a stake in the ground that helps us build into the future, that says we plan to be here for a very long time,” says Bishop Andrew Asbil, the 12th and current Bishop of Toronto.

He thanked all those who took part in the campaign, which began last spring and ended with a reception at the Cathedral Centre on June 28. “I want to express a word of deep gratitude for the ministry of Anglicans across the diocese, and for their generous support of this program in particular,” he says.

With the completion of the campaign, The John Strachan Trust now stands at about $9 million. The trust provides most of the funding for the office of the Bishop of Toronto, with the rest coming from the diocese’s operating budget. The trust is expected to be able to fully fund the office by 2022, when all pledges to the recent campaign are expected to be fulfilled. The costs of the office include the bishop’s stipend, housing, travel, support staff costs and other expenses related to his or her ministry.

The Bishop of Toronto is the chief pastor of the diocese, working with four suffragan bishops to provide episcopal oversight to some 230 congregations and ministries in 183 parishes. The diocese extends from Mississauga to Brighton and north to Haliburton.

In addition to chairing Synod and other important meetings of the diocese, the Bishop of Toronto advocates on behalf of the poor, presides at confirmations and ordinations, and institutes clergy into their new parishes. The Bishop of Toronto is the diocese’s chief evangelist, teaching, preaching and interpreting the gospel in parishes and the wider community.

Endowing the office of the Bishop of Toronto is an important way to ensure the future of the Church, says Stephen Rodaway, ODT, chair of the Anglican Diocese of Toronto Foundation, the body that administers The John Strachan Trust. “As a lifelong Anglican, I’ve inherited the Church and I need to make sure it’s there for future generations, whether it’s my children or my grandchildren,” he says. “The John Strachan Trust is a perfect example of how we can do that. It ensures that the support for the Bishop of Toronto is always there.”

He says he was impressed by the response to the campaign. “Anglicans never cease to amaze me. When they’re asked and there’s a good reason to give, they will give. They’re always willing to help and lend a hand.”

Blake Goldring, ODT, a member of St. Clement, Eglinton and the Bishop’s Company, says the endowment supports the Church’s leadership. “When you see leaders up close, you realize it can be lonely at the top. Challenges can be quite daunting, especially in the face of limited time and financial resources. To the extent this fund can assist our bishop in achieving his goals with less stress and friction, that is a highly desirable outcome.”

He praised Anglicans for their support of the campaign. “It is a great accomplishment and testament to the commitment among Anglicans in our community to ensure that our bishop is able to fulfill his mission in the best way possible,” he says.

Continued on Page 5
We have failed the Church again

The Anglican

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Conference to provide ray of hope

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For more information, please visit Anglicanchurch.ca

The Anglican Church

The Anglican Church is a global community of 70 million Anglicans in 164 countries.

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Here’s why some churches are growing

Michael Cassabon, manager of major gifts and legacy giving for the Anglican Diocese of Toronto, launched a learning experience. Mr. Cassabon launched the campaign - his first major capital campaign - after taking up his position last year.

“One of the things I learned is that our churches have great love for the diocese, the Church and the bishops, both past and present,” he says. “But when I asked so many locals about Archbishop Terence Finlay and Archishop Colin Johnson, and about the legacy gifts that Bishop Ashbol brings.”

He says it was often donors’ personal connections to the bishops that inspired them to give. “They wanted to give back to the diocese and the people who had mentored them.”

The inconvenient truth about congregational health, however, is that nearly 70 per cent of our parishes are experiencing declining participation; it is gentle and hardly noticeable. For others, the decline has been seen since around 2010, more of their Sunday worshippers since 2012. As the decline intensifies, it leads to lost morale among existing congregants and may eventually signal the closure of a church and disestablishment of the diocese. About 20 per cent of our parishes are in, or perilously close to, this reality.

Our Church is in decline in terms of attendance and participation; it cannot be avoided. Across the mainline Protestant denominations in Canada and the global West - including Anglican, Evangelical Lutheran, Presbyteri- an and United churches - the decline has been happening since the 1970s. It is only recently, however, with the aging and passing of the first-form of the boomer generation, that the pace has ac- celerated.

There are glimmers of hope. Diaspora congregations in those homelands include China, the Middle East, Africa and the Philippines; are growing at an unprecedented rate in the diocese. There are at least 14 of these congregations in our churches, representing a Sunday worship population of close to 1,000. These congregations are not factored into the data noted earlier. Another sign of hope is the significant growth of youth centres in locations that have lain dormant for some time. These are often referred to as “anglican youth centres” or “anglican youth centres”

1) Giving to church ministry is exceptional. In our diocese, the average gift per year through envelope giving or pre-authorized giving is $1,500. In our healthiest parishes, the average gift is $1,000. Our top-giving parish has an average of over $4,000 per person. 10 of our parishes have average giving over $5,000 per giver.

2) There is a breadth of engage- ment in outreach. Our top parishes often give more than 10 per cent of their total offering to outreach initiatives: food banks, hot lunches, Out of the Cold, after-school clubs, Faith-Works, mission trips to the developing world, etc. Some, like St. Stephen in-the-Fields, Toronto, take outreach so seriously that it defines who they are, and they don’t break a bank for anything under 25 per cent of their giving to this purpose. Churches need to look beyond their own walls and seek to involve as many parishioners as possible.

3) Newcomers are welcomed and invited to become involved in ministry of the parish. The role of the greeter should be more than handing out the order of service. We need to present our very best newcomers: worshipers, give generously, model Christ in their lives and give witness to the work of the Holy Spirit.

4) Clergy are active in promot- ing discipleship and Chris- tian formation. The Rev. Canon Harold Percy notes in his book Your Church Can Thrive that “the failure to make disciple-making a pri- ority is the basic cause of our current malaise and stag- nation.” He contends that church members must: lead the gospel, teach people how to pray, read scripture, forgive, worship, give generously, model Christ in their lives and give witness to the work of the Holy Spirit.

5) The church makes con- necting with young people a priority. Parish leaders often lament the absence of young people in their pews. Connecting with adolescents needs to be part of our core witness. How do we involve young people? Are they serving at the altar? Do they participate in reading the word of God, singing, playing an instrument, welcoming newcomers and organizing events? Young people are pining for opportunities to be active in the Church. We need to find ways to capture their energy and engage with them.

6) The church has a well-main- tained website and uses various communication methods. If you’re still promoting the strawberry social from 2014, something has gone amiss. Healthy parishes use their

Our Church is in decline but it is not too late. Change is unavoidable, but decline can be reversed. Many churches will close or amalgam- ate. Others will reconfigure their ministry to better respond to their demographic or geographic reality. Can we, collectively, realign the Church to arrest decline and set our churches on the path to health and growth? We will take up the challenge to do church differently in our own worship community and help lay the foundation for a healthy, vital Anglican presence in the years to come? Are we open to being creative in things we connect with the community, newcomers and young people? Thinking that says “we’ve tried that before” or “it didn’t work” needs to be reconsidered. Just because an idea didn’t work at one time isn’t reason enough to not try again. A hallmark for any church of the future will be change and adaptability.

Our Church is in decline in terms of attendance and par- ticipation; it cannot be avoided. Across the mainline Protestant denominations in Canada and the global West - including Anglican, Evangelical Lutheran, Presbyте- rian and United churches – the decline has been happening since the 1970s. It is only recently, however, with the aging and passing of the first-form of the boomer generation, that the pace has ac- celerated.

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Deacon focuses on reconciliation
Efforts welcome and bring people together

The Rev. Claudette Taylor (fourth from right) stands with other deacons from the diocese at the conference in Rhode Island.

The Rev. Susan Climo is the in-priority ministries. She has also raised up the contributions of black Anglicans in the Church and the wider community. “I focus on how we, as the people of God in our diocese, can embrace each other and reconcile,” she says. “I always ask, how can we work together to enrich and understand each other and join each other in faith?”

Ms. Taylor is a member of the diocese’s Social Justice and Advocacy Committee. She also started the Social Ministry Group at her church, providing hospitality to members of the congregation and the neighbourhood through a community barbeque.

She says she enjoys being a deacon. “It teaches me and humbles me and makes me think what the gospel is really about.”

Deacons are vital to the Church, she says. “Deacons are important because they bring us back to the crux of what Jesus was saying. What is it like to truly live a Christian life? As a deacon, you see the good, the bad and the ugly. It not only humbles you but allows you to examine yourself – who are you and how do you get the message of Christ to people in need, not by preaching to them but engaging with them in some way?”

About 14 deacons from the diocese attended the conference in June, with financial assistance from the Archbishop Johnson Leadership Trust. The conference included workshops on food security and advocacy for refugees, immigrants and asylum-seekers. Bishop Michael Curry, the presiding bishop of the Episcopal Church, was the keynote speaker. He spoke about deacons being the “defibrillators” of the Church, applying electricity to its heart and restoring it to the natural rhythm that Jesus Christ taught.

As the effects of climate change and loss of biodiversity are increasingly being felt around the world, the need for Christians to deepen their responsibility for care of creation has become more urgent. At General Synod this past July, delegates overwhelmingly supported a resolution to:

• adopt the Season of Creation in the Anglican Church of Canada as an annual time of prayer, education and action;
• encourage dioceses to engage with the Season of Creation and to develop initiatives, resources and suitably authorized liturgies for use during the season;
• ask the national Creation Matters Working Group to monitor, network and share Season of Creation initiatives through the General Synod website and in other ways.

Some of this work is already being done at both national and local levels. In our diocese, Church of the Redeemer, Bloor St., celebrated its first Season of Creation in 2018. Parishioners Grant Jahnke and Karen Turner describe its effect on the parish as “transformative,” offering the congregation a chance to lament the environmental crises facing the Earth and renew their commitment to creation care within the context of their faith. They will be offering a workshop at the diocese’s outreach conference this October.

In his video message for the Season of Creation, Bishop Andrew Asbil says: “This season gives all of us the opportunity to lament and confess, to pray and give thanks, to re-commit and to act as faithful stewards of creation. I invite your congregation to join Christians around the globe to immerse yourselves in this time of prayer and reflection, and to make it part of your yearly liturgical life.”

The Anglican Consultative Council is encouraging Christians around the globe to observe a “Season of Creation” or “Creation Time” between Sept. 1 and the feast of St. Francis of Assisi on Oct. 4. The Anglican Consultative Council first called on provinces of the Anglican Communion to “celebrate a liturgical Season of Creation as an integral part of the Church’s yearly pattern of worship and teaching.”

In 2009, the Most Rev. Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, has joined other leaders within the Anglican Communion to “celebrate St. Francis of Assisi on Oct. 4. The Anglican Consultative Council first called on provinces of the Anglican Communion to “celebrate a liturgical Season of Creation as an integral part of the Church’s yearly pattern of worship and teaching.”

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

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Early deadline - October 1; final deadline - October 15
Space shortage presents challenge for archivist

Continued from Page 1

individuals gives her plenty of that. “Often it’s people calling for a copy of their marriage record or baptismal record,” she says. “And then we get requests from parishes about their history, or what to do about certain records that they have, and whether we want them or not.” She and Sue Halwa, the Archives Assistant, also field requests from diocesan staff for old meeting minutes or information on the history of the diocese.

As she reacclimatizes to the Archives, Ms. Wilton says she’d like to spend some time considering how to manage the diocese’s electronic files. “Right now, they’re kind of just sitting in limbo,” she says. “Programs change, and sometimes you can’t open old documents, so it’s important to figure out how to store them permanently so they can still be accessed.”

This is something other church archivists are exploring as well. “There’s quite a nice little group of church archivists, and we touch base with each other. We’re all kind of exploring similar things, like electronic records management,” she says. “How do we do this, how do we budget for it, how do we implement it?”

Along with parish and diocesan records, the Archives also holds a few more unique items. “We have very old clerical garb that the Archbishop once wore to a historical society dinner. It’s interesting that we have these items and we don’t really get to display them,” she says. “We do hope to do a display at Synod on the Archives this year.”

In the longer term, Ms. Wilton says she’d like to keep developing resources to help parishes and researchers explore the Archives. “Mary-Anne coordinated the project to create the Guide to the Holdings of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario. It’s a great resource. So hopefully we can create some other resources more specific to the Diocese of Toronto,” she says.

For now, she’ll keep doing what she loves best – helping individuals and parishes, staff and researchers learn more about their own past and the history of the diocese.

### Twenty-eight confirmed at outdoor service

**Six languages spoken**

**TWENTY-EIGHT** people were confirmed by Bishop Jenny Andison at a large outdoor service at Christ the King, Toronto on June 9. The confirmands came from the following churches: St. Matthew, Islington, Christ Church St. James, Toronto, Church of South India, Toronto, the Ghanaian Anglican Church of Toronto, St. Philip, Etobicoke and Christ the King. The readings and prayers were spoken in six languages, and music was provided by the Ghanaian church choir, the Church of South India choir and St. Matthew’s praise band. In honour of a Ghanaian tradition, the confirmands were asked to dress in white. Afterwards, everyone enjoyed the food of different lands.

The joint confirmation service, attended by about 300 people, was organized by clergy in York-Credit Valley’s Etobicoke-Humber Deanery.

“It really was a Pentecost experience, one of the most unique events I’ve ever been a part of,” says the Rev. Stephen Blackmore, the incumbent of St. Matthew’s and coordinator of the event. “It really showed the diversity within the diocese and our area, and it was amazing to see how people came together. Everyone talked and laughed and prayed with each other.”

He says the deanery will probably hold more joint confirmation services in the future, and possibly joint confirmation classes as well. “In a world that’s so divided and polarized, the Church’s message of being together under the banner of the risen Christ is a powerful message and one that we really want to embody and celebrate.”

The service also gave the younger confirmands an appreciation of the wider Church, he adds. “Hopefully moments like this, when they see how big and diverse the Church is, will prepare them for a future life in the Church,” he says.
Bishop joins volunteer corps at conference

BY SHARRON LAMOUR AND KIRK VANDENZANDE

BISHOP Andrew Asbil joined 40 stew ardship and congregational development volunteers who gathered on May 11-12 at The Briars resort at Jacksons Point to worship, listen and generate recommendations from the field.

The diocese boasts a volunteer corps of more than 75 trained coaches and volunteers from all walks of life. They come from all corners of the diocese and from every size of parish. Last year, they provided over 2,400 hours of unpaid professional consultancy to 200 parishes. Working closely with the area bishops, they help parish lead ers plan reconfigurations, prepare parish profiles, navigate clergy transitions and strengthen parishes for healthy growth, effective mission and long-term sustainability.

The volunteers are subject-matter experts who bring local knowledge and boundless enthusiasm to their assignments. They help parishes tackle changing demographics and have pledged to continue working on aspects where they can make a difference.

Bishop Asbil’s opening address introduced four words that highlight his vision for the diocese: creation, diversity, discipleship and mission. Bishop Asbil and Janet Marshall, the director of Congregational Development, summarized what they had heard at the conference and promised to carry those insights and opinions back to the Diocesan Centre and the College of Bishops.

The volunteers came away from the weekend renewed, hopeful and committed to think outside the box. As one volunteer put it, “I feel like I am part of a family of volunteers, inspired to be more effective.” The closing words, from the sermon by volunteer Val Whalley, encouraged those present to “listen for the Shepherd’s voice in everything you do. Try to look beyond the processes we use and the busyness we get involved in, and remember to seek ye first the kingdom of God.”

Do you know anyone who would be a good stewardship or congregational development volunteer – maybe even you? Any of the volunteer corps members would be delighted to chat with you. If you don’t know one of the volunteers, please contact the Diocesan Volunteer Resources Coordinator, Elizabeth McCaffrey, at emccafrey@toronto.anglican.ca.

Sharron Lamour and Kirk Vandenzande are members of the diocese’s volunteer corps.

Orillia church honours Sir Sam

ORILLIA is well known for its diversity of summer music festivals, farm-to-table events and celebratory parades. Sunday, June 23 was no exception. After months of planning, St. James, Orillia hosted an historic commemoration of Sir Sam Steele, the Northwest Mounted Police officer and army veteran who was born in Medonte Township in 1848 and baptized in St. James more than 100 years ago.

The Rev. Colin Bowler, interim priest-in-charge of St. James, welcomed uniformed guests from CFB Borden, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, The Grey and Simcoe Foresters, the Ontario Provincial Police, the Lord Strathcona Horse (Royal Canadians), the Orillia Royal Canadian Legion and the 1st Orillia Scouts. Guest vocalist Jean Miso, a recipient of the Order of Canada, accompanied by local organist Paul Bencivenga, sang Amazing Grace and the national anthem in the original language of Sir Sam Steele’s time.

In a ceremony at St. James, a wreath was laid at the base of a statue of Sir Sam Steele, which was erected in 1974 and recently refurbished. The ceremony included a parade, which included the Orillia band and Prescott military personnel. The event also included a special presentation of a bronze plaque to mark the occasion.

Orillia Mayor Steve Clarke and Ed Broadbent were among those who took part in the event. Broadbent, a former NDP leader, spoke about his relationship with Sir Sam Steele and the importance of remembering the sacrifices made by those who served in the Canadian military.

Subscription deadline pushed back

The deadline for re-subscribing to the diocesan and national newspapers, The Anglican and Anglican Journal, has been moved to Oct. 31. Readers who haven’t already done so need to re-subscribe by that date to continue to receive the print versions of the papers. The original deadline was the end of June. Readers are being asked to re-subscribe so that the paper’s subscription list is updated and cost-effective. To re-subscribe, call the Anglican Journal at 1-866-553-0949 and leave a message that includes your name, address and phone number, or visit www.anglicanjournal.com/yes.

Ed Broadbent will be the main speaker at “Celebrating Those Who Stood with Japanese Canadians,” a potluck event at Holy Trinity, Trinity Square, Toronto, on Oct. 5 beginning at 5 p.m. All are invited. For more information, contact Joy Kogawa, jkogawa@rogers.com.
Compassion training produces results

calling security. Third, she focuses on resources in the vicinity, including Redemser’s outreach program, called The Common Table, which provides meals, counselling and activities.

She says trained staff can make a big difference in the lives of homeless and marginalized people. “If we can train people and places to be compassionate, engaging and human – that’s a great outcome. If people are treated well, they might access a service that takes them to the next level of stability.”

Her connection with the bank has already produced results. Not only did the training go well, but the staff volunteered at The Common Table for a day and donated $1,000. The bank has also expressed interest in doing some fundraising for The Common Table and bringing in donated clothing in the fall.

“Compassion training produces results”

CELEBRATION

Christ Church, Deer Park’s Church on Tap community celebrates Pride month on June 14 with a Eucharist, followed by a drag show in the parish hall. Clockwise from top right: drag performer Carolete Carlisle reads the gospel during the service; the Rev. Molly Finlay celebrates the Eucharist, accompanied by Lydia Knowsall-Walsh; Deb Whalen-Blaize sings and plays the guitar; the Rev. Dawn Legier and others sing ‘We Belong’ by Pat Benatar; the Rev. Canon Cheryl Palmer, incumbent of Christ Church, thanks the performers and organizers. Church on Tap is a gathering at the church on the fourth Friday of every month, featuring a Eucharist followed by snacks and beverages. PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON

Call for Provincial Synod 2021 Nominations

The Nominating Committee of the Diocese of Toronto is calling for nominations for Provincial Synod 2021. All voting members of Diocesan Synod are entitled to make nominations of any voting members of Synod. The election will take place at the 159th Regular Session of Synod on November 8 and 9, 2019.

The next Session of Provincial Synod will take place in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, hosted by the Diocese of Algoma in the fall of 2021.

Provincial Synod meets every three years and the term of office is for three years beginning at Provincial Synod 2021. Nominees to Provincial Synod will be required to remain a member of the Synod of the Diocese of Toronto for the duration of their term, they must be willing and able to attend all meetings of Provincial Synod, and must be willing to serve on a sub-committee or working group should they be asked or elected to do so. Expenses incurred are covered according to diocesan policy.

The Nominating Committee is requesting that nominations be submitted by September 24, 2019 at 12:00 noon to the Secretary of Synod. Nominations must be submitted using the Nomination Form which can be found on our homepage at www.toronto.anglican.ca.

For further information you may contact Pamela Boisvert, Secretary of Synod, 416- 363-6021 ext. 231 (1-800-668-8932).
Students start holidays at church

Event shows kids, parents ‘we care,’ says priest

On the last day of school in June, about 60 students from King Albert Public School in Lindsay headed over to St. Paul, Lindsay for a couple hours of games and refreshments before starting their summer holidays. The outdoor celebration was hosted by St. Paul’s and four other local churches.

“It was a way to celebrate the end of school and say to the families of the children that the churches are here for you, we care about you, and we’re available to talk about God and faith if you want to,” said the Rev. Dr. Warren Leibovitch, incumbent of St. Paul’s. “It’s also a way for families to get to know who we are and be a little less intimidated about coming into the church and checking us out.”

King Albert, located behind the church, is considered an inner-city school and many of the families are dependent on some form of social assistance. The kids, from Kindergarten to Grade 6, were accompanied by their parents to the celebration.

The event featured a barbeque, a bounce castle, games and “summer survival kits” for the kids that included sunscreen and a lively Junkanoo performance, a bouncy castle, games and a mobile kitchen for the celebration.

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The Rev. Theodore Hunt, incumbent of St. Stephen's, with Cynthia Knight, Velma Tucker and Carmen Carthy. At right, church members and neighbours enjoy the food and activities. Photos by Michael Hudson.

Cultures celebrated

St. Stephen, Downsview held its annual Cultures Festival and Parish Fair on June 29. The cultures of many lands were represented, including Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Nigeria, Trinidad and Tobago, Sierra Leone, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines. There was also a lively Junkanoo performance, music, delicious food, face painting and a bouncy castle for the kids. “The festival allows us to showcase the various cultures within our parish and community, and to reach out to welcome our friends, neighbours and local businesses in Downsview,” says the Rev. Theodore Hunt, incumbent. “It also enables us to raise funds to support and continue the work of the parish in our outreach among our neighbours.”

Students, parents and volunteers enjoy the festivities outside St. Paul, Lindsay. At right, volunteers get ready to provide lunch. Photos courtesy of St. Paul, Lindsay.

Mr. Leibovitch said the parents were very grateful that the church had hosted the end-of-school celebration. He added that the children had a great time.

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Executive director to retire

ANGELA Hantoumakos, the diocese’s Executive Director, has decided to retire at the end of September. A keen cyclist, she says she is looking forward to spending more time with her family and getting out on her bike.

“It has been a privilege to work with the College of Bishops, the staff and so many dedicated clergy and laypersons. But I’ve been feeling for a while now that it’s time to change gears, and now seems like the right time to do so.”

The diocese’s Executive Director has oversight of all the administrative and support program functions of the Diocesan Centre, including administration, archives, communications, congregational development, finance, human resources, property resources, stewardship development and social justice and advocacy.

Since joining the diocese in 2017, Ms. Hantoumakos has worked on several major initiatives. She has developed and facilitated a process to make strategic decisions about church properties. She has also worked with the Governance and Decision-Making Working Group to propose changes to the diocese’s governance structures.

Ms. Hantoumakos will be succeeded by Rob Saffrey, the Director of Operations and Finance at St. James Cathedral. Mr. Saffrey has worked for the Church and for the diocese, having started as its comptroller in 1992 and eventually becoming its Director of Finance before moving to the cathedral in 2008. He will start at the diocese in early October.

Rob Saffrey worked for Bishop Asbil when he was the dean of the cathedral from 2010 to 2018 and says that played a big part in his decision to accept the job at the diocese. “I really like Andrew’s vision for the Church and for the diocese. He is committed to the things that need to happen to help the Church at this time.”

Bishop Asbil says he is looking forward to working with Mr. Saffrey again. “Bob brings a tremendous amount of experience and knowledge of the Church. I’m delighted that he will be joining us.”

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Music & Worship

SEPT. 11 - DECEMBER 11 - Organik Kingkoway Organ Recital, 12:30 p.m.
11:30 a.m. - All Saints, 2544 Bloor St. W., Etobicoke. Recitals Sept. 11 & 25, Oct. 9 & 23, Nov. 6 & 20 & 27. Admission is free but a free-will offering will be accepted.

SEPT. 22 - Rock Eucharist, featuring the music of Pink Floyd, 7 p.m., Church of the Redeemer, Bloor Street and Avenue Road, Toronto.

SEPT. 29 - Bach Vespers, BWV 136: Herr Gott, dich loben alle wir. 7 p.m., Church of the Redeemer, Bloor Street and Avenue Road, Toronto.

OCT. 5 - As part of its 150th anniversary celebrations, St. Thomas, Broolink is presenting a Harvest Concert at 7 p.m. Featuring well-known (former) St. Thomas staff and McDermott. Tickets are available through the church office, 905-653-3883.

Conclusions


The Rev. Rev. Jacqueline Daley, Priest-in-Charge, St. Jude, Bramalea North, Sept. 29 at 4 p.m.

The Rev. Jennifer Miller concluded her ministry at the Church of the Evangelists. New Tenezumey, Sept. 18 at 4 p.m.


The Rev. Jonathan Turville, incumbent, the Parish of Chai-ghur & Midhurst, Aug. 1.

The Rev. Lesley Barclay, Interim Priest-in-Charge, St. George, Grafton, Sept. 15.

Area Bishop’s Direct Appointment Process

- St. Hilda, Fairbank

Vacant Incumbencies

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

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- Incarnation, Toronto
- St. Margaret-in-the-Pines, Toronto
- St. Martin, Bay Ridges
- Parish of Fenelon Falls
- Christ Church Caledon
- St. Mary’s, Whitby
- Christ Church, New Tecumseth
- St. Paul, Newmarket

Second Phase - Parish Selection Committee (receiving names via Area Bishop):

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Celebration of New Ministry

St. James Cathedral

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York-Credit Valley


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At the parish level, ACW groups and vital organization, she says. Smaller, the ACW is still an active reverse that.

“Consider myself in between president,” she says. Ms. Corbett, who took over the reins of the organization in April, would like to see a younger woman step into the role when her term expires in 2022 – or sooner, if possible.

“The ACW is a lifeline for younger women in the ACW. The president,” she says. Ms. Corbett says the organization’s most important function is to provide support and fellowship to other women. She’s been a member since 1970 and has seen countless other women. She’s been a member of Holy Trinity, Thornhill’s ACW since 1970 and has seen countless examples of that over the years.

“When you have major life events, like the loss of a spouse or a child, having that support behind you – both the spiritual and emotional support – makes a big difference,” she says. “The ACW also gives you a core group with whom to do your Christian service. You’re not alone.”

As president of the diocesan ACW, Ms. Corbett will chair its board meetings, represent the board when requested at parish ACW events and represent the ACW at Diocesan Council and Synod. She will also liaise with the presidents of other diocesan ACWs in Canada and attend the annual national conference. She brings a lot of experience to the position. She joined the diocesan ACW’s finance committee in 1997 and served two terms as the organization’s treasurer. She is currently a diocesan volunteer, helping churches with their finances. She was a member of the diocese’s treasury board and sits on Wycliffe College’s finance committee. In her parish, she has been a churchwarden and is chair of the cemetery committee.

She succeeds Anita Gittens, ODT, who served as diocesan ACW president for 11 years. She says Ms. Gittens’s leadership was inspiring. “Anita was knowledgeable, compassionate and a good shepherd,” she says. “She was very kind when sharing her knowledge and put in many hours late at night to keep on top of things. We are thankful and privileged that she guided us for so many years. Her leadership will be missed.”

In Motion

Relinquishments

• The Rev. Simon Davis has voluntarily relinquished the exercise of ministry as priest in the Anglican Church of Canada as of April 3.

Retirement

• The Rev. Dr. John Stephenson’s last Sunday at St. John the Divine, Scarborough was July 28.

Death

• The Rev. A. David Wainwright died on June 25. Ordained deacon and priest in 1978, he served as assistant curate at St. Paul, Bloor Street, incumbent of St. Peter, Carlton Street, incumbent of St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough, Archdeacon of Trent-Durham, and interim priest-in-charge of St. Timothy, North Toronto. He retired with his wife Adele to Vancouver in 2016, where he occasionally served at Christ Church Cathedral and provided supply service in the Diocese of New Westminster. His funeral was held at St. John the Evangelist, Havelock on July 3.

• The Ven. Gordon Finney died on July 23. Ordained in 1979, he served as assistant curate at St. Paul, Bloor Street, incumbent of the Parish of Elmvale, incumbent of St. Peter, Carlton Street, incumbent of St. John the Evangelist, Peterborough, Archdeacon of Trent-Durham, and interim priest-in-charge of St. Timothy, North Toronto. He retired with his wife Adele to Vancouver in 2016, where he occasionally served at Christ Church Cathedral and provided supply service in the Diocese of New Westminster. His funeral was held at St. John the Evangelist, Havelock on July 3.

CRICKET FESTIVAL

Nine teams their fans participate in the third annual Anglican Church Cricket Festival in Brampton on June 15. St. Peter, Erindale beat St. Bede, Scarborough, 114-81 in the final to win the tournament. Teams from Trinity, St. Jude, Brampton, St. James the Apostle, Brampton, Holy Family, Heart Lake (Brampton), St. Margaret in-the-Pines, Scarborough, St. Joseph of Nazareth, Brampton and St. Thomas a Beckett, Erin Mills South, also took part. (Clockwise from top right: the team from St. Peter, Erindale hoists the winner’s trophy; Lucky Lushenge of St. James, Brampton shows off his team’s new jerseys; St. Peter’s bowler delivers; providing and enjoying the music; St. Joseph of Nazareth supporters cheer.

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL HUDSON