

No more cuts Budget promises more, asks more

BY ANA WATTS

No more cuts.

Without quibbling about line items or arguing about increases, Diocesan Council passed an operating budget for 2001 that addresses emerging realities and changing priorities. Projected budgets for 2002 and 2003 were also presented in order facilitate planning.

After seven straight years of budget cuts, and seven straight years of budget deficits, the 2001 budget comes in at nearly \$2,159,000, more than \$100,000 over last year's budget.

"When we cut budgets we ask less of ourselves, and that's what we get. Let's draw the line, let's not go back, let's go ahead," said Canon Fred Scott, the diocesan treasurer, as he presented the budget on behalf of the Board of Finance.

In developing the budget the board honoured emerging realities and changing priorities within the diocese. At the June 2000 synod there was a great deal of discussion around ways to im-

prove the nature, scope and life of various ministries. Many ideas were offered and great hope was expressed.

That moved the board from maintenance mode into ministry action. It recognized that its recent practice of trimming costs to meet income levels, while fiscally expedient, was not sufficient to meet these new challenges.

Diocesan deficits stem mainly from the inability of some parishes to meet the assessment and mission requirements in support of the Diocesan Budget. There was some improvement in this area in 2000, but not enough.

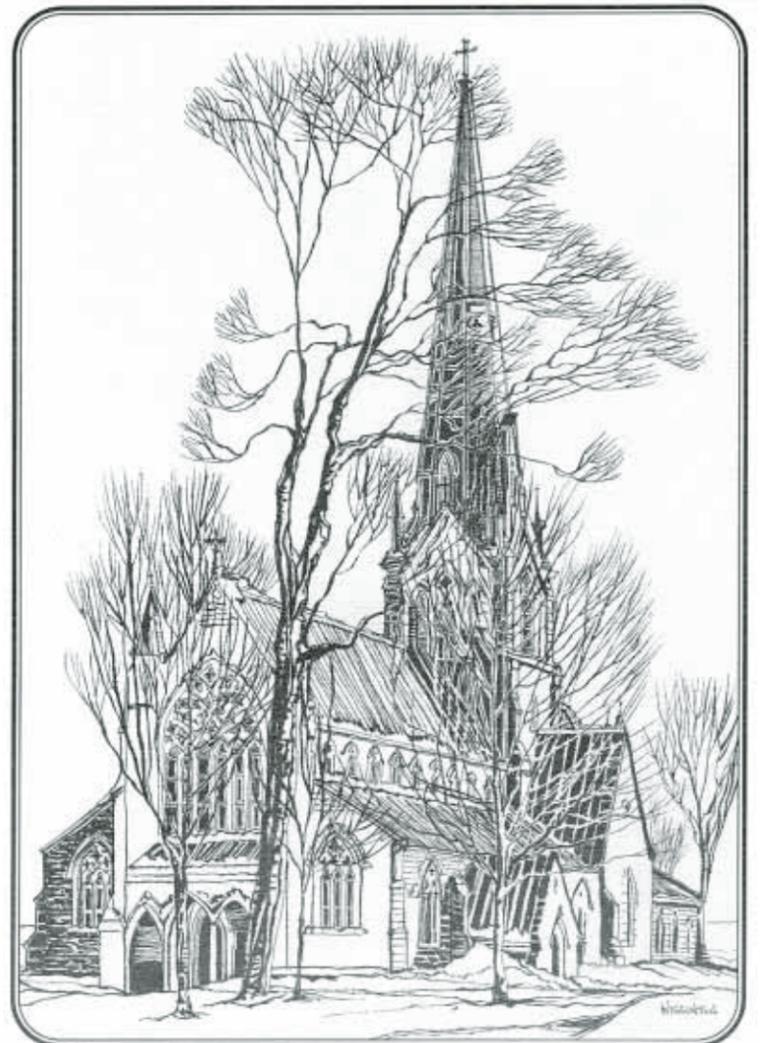
In order to impress upon parishes the need and importance of supporting the budget, a *Diocesan Sunday*, will focus parishes on the life and work of the Church beyond parish boundaries. The day would stress the relationship each parish has with the others in the diocese and how each parish's role is vital in the ministry of the diocese of a whole.

A *Bishop's Appeal* will also be established. It will ask individuals and parish corporations to provide supplementary support for the Diocesan Budget.

The 2001 budget no longer uses a formula for mission outreach calculations. Instead, each parish is asked to contribute \$500 more in 2001 than it did in 2000. In some parishes this amount means very little, and they will be encouraged to do more. In parishes that have nothing or just nominal amounts to missions in recent years, it is an attainable goal.

"If this doesn't work then the cuts will come," said Canon Scott. "The National Church and Mission Grants in our own diocese will take the hits."

A residential diocesan Youth Forum, support for lay ministry, clergy development, even legal costs are included in the 2001 budget.



"For unto us a child is born...
and He shall be called wonderful
counsellor,
prince of peace."

May the peace of Christ
be with you now and
throughout this coming year.

The Diocese of Fredericton commissioned its own Christmas card this year. It features a Lynn Wigginton drawing of Christ Church Cathedral in winter on the front with the text shown at the left inside. Ordering enough cards for four years cost less than anonymous, commercially produced cards.

Clergy stipends increased

Over the next three years clergy stipends will increase \$650 per year, but their benefit contributions will be increased. During that same time, the number of years of service required to reach the maximum stipend scale will be reduced from 14 to 11.

These recommendations from the Stipend and Human Resources Committee, accepted and approved at the November 2 meeting of Diocesan Council, raise the stipend at ordination from \$23,483 to \$25,433 and the stipend for the most experienced clergy from \$28,664 to \$30,614 over the next three years. They also re-establish the 66 per cent diocesan/ 34 per cent clergy cost-sharing split on medical and dental benefits that was suspended in 2000. During this year the diocese paid 100 per cent of the benefit costs in order to

ease the burden of additional taxes levied on clergy for rectory utilities.

Bishop William Hockin told the committee that he was anxious for the diocese and its parishes to show their support of clergy. In his travels around the diocese he has heard clergy say they do not feel valued. Although he recognizes that financial remuneration is not the only way to indicate value, indeed that it is probably not even the best way to indicate value, but it is an important way. He was also surprised that only one-third of the parishes in the diocese pay their clergy more than the minimum stipend. All parishes, except those that receive mission grant assistance, are free to pay their clergy above the minimum scale in any amount they wish.

The three-year increments were introduced in order to help parishes and the diocese to plan to meet the increased commitments. The diocese hopes the significant and systematic stipend increases will be seen as evidence of its commitment to an adequate stipend and improve the overall level of clergy contentment, thus reducing the loss of clergy and improving recruitment efforts.

Clergy on Diocesan Council had varying opinions on the recommendations. A younger priest had concern for recent graduates who had invested in seven years of post-secondary education, incurred debts and faced limits on their remuneration. An older priest whose children are grown, indicated the increase was essential, because he and his wife had less

continued on page 2

*The Rt. Rev. William Hockin & Isabelle Hockin
will be pleased to greet the
People of New Brunswick
at a
New Year's Day Evee
2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m., January 1, 2001
Cathedral Memorial Hall
Church Street
Fredericton*

Index

Bishop's message	3
ACW news.....	4,5&10
News from Paul Jeffries	6
Christian Education Report	8
Sunday School in Wilsford	9
Intercessions	11
penultimate WORD.....	11
Maggie's Kitchen	12

Inside



The ACW will distribute Grace Cards in the New Year. See page 4

Clergy stipends increased *continued from page 1*

disposable income now than they had when they were supporting their children. Another priest with children in university said he was close to bankruptcy. There was also concern about incentive for priests who reach their maximum stipend range within 11 years and a call for recognition of longevity. A priest in a far-reaching rural parish even expressed concern with the present travel allowance. He suggested indexing it, since gas prices are 24 per cent higher this year than last.

Jim Morell of the Stipend and Human Resource Committee

put the amounts in perspective. He said the total clergy 'package', including the rectory benefits, averages between \$40,000 and \$50,000 per year. "There are many people, especially in rural parishes, whose income is far less than that."

Other ways to show clergy they are valued were also included in the Stipend and Human Resources Committee report. They include: ensuring priests have a few days off in the post-Christmas period; development activities to enhance clergy skills and well-being; rectory upgrades or replacements where necessary.

Over the next year the committee will pursue several related issues: policies and guidelines for parishes who wish to, or who would normally be expected to, pay above scale; a sabbatical leave policy; personal development seminars on subjects like financial planning and wellness; adjustments to travel reimbursement policies; red book policies regarding the continuation of benefits for retired clergy/families, and other pension-related issues; and guidelines for parishes employing lay people. The committee will also continue to monitor the medical/dental plan.

Obituary

Abram Young Goss, C.M. May 4, 1920 — October 31, 2000

BY HIS SON, DAVID GOSS

sioner, and provincial President for Scouts Canada.

As a Kiwanian he held several offices in the Lancaster Club and served provincially as the Lieutenant Governor. He was also a member of the Lancaster Golden Service Club.

Abe sang in St George's choir, with the Kiwanis Tonsilaisers,

and Carleton Choristers. Many years ago he played in St Mary's Band and later with The Saints.

He also found time to volunteer for the Home and School, Red Cross, Canadian Cancer Society, the United Way, the Saint John Volunteer Board, the Legion, Meals on Wheels, Seafarer's Mission, and he was an associate member of the Telephone Pioneers.

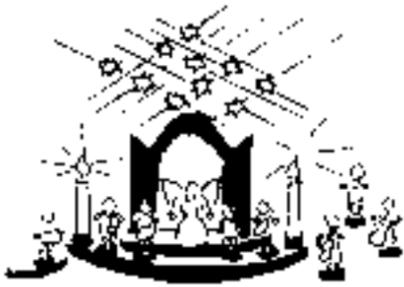
Though he never sought recognition, Abe was honoured by the Boy Scouts with their highest award, the Bar to the Silver Acorn. He was a recipient of the Queen's Jubilee Medal, Canada 125 Medal, and was made a member of the Order of Canada in 1988. He was also the initial recipient of the Thomas Higgins award in September 1996.

He was predeceased by his first wife, Marion Aileen Chetley.

He leaves his wife Mary (Hovey) (Ervin); sons David (Donna) of Saint John, Douglas (Elaina) of McAdam, George (Christine) of Hampton; and daughter Barbara (Geoffrey Foss) of Hampton, 14 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Abe led a happy and productive life. Born in St. George in 1920, he moved to Saint John in 1931. He worked at the port then moved on to the street railway and eventually City Transit, where he spent 25 years. In 1964 he was appointed Chairman of the New Brunswick Film Classification Board in the Treasury Dept. He retired in 1985.

Through the years Abe epitomized the Christian spirit in his volunteer work in the community. Among his many roles at St. George's Church were Sunday School teacher, vestryman, warden and organizer of the St. Joseph's Guild. He became a Club leader in 1953. He went on to be a Gilwell Scouter, and served as District and Provincial Commis-



Getting there one blessing at a time

I wish Becky were still living with her boyfriend. I know I 'shouldn't', but I do anyway. She moved in with him a year ago September, and until she left him this past summer, she was as happy as I have ever known her.

For those of you who haven't followed the *Watts Family Soap Opera* over the years, Becky is our middle daughter. She was abandoned by her mother as an infant, left with an attachment disorder and fetal-alcohol effects that have contributed to some severe behaviour problems over the years. She turned 20 in early November.

Being Becky's mum is an exercise in identifying 'the small stuff' and trying not to 'sweat it'. I know 'living together' isn't exactly small stuff, that the church takes the issue seriously even if society doesn't, but for Becky and for us, that time was a blessing.

Her boyfriend was kind, generous, well-spoken and employed. He loved her dearly and she certainly seemed to care for him. When they were 'home' for dinner I used to watch in amazement as she made sure he had everything the way he wanted it. She even stirred the sugar in his tea. I had never seen her concerned with anyone else's well-being before.

Last Christmas they shopped together for thoughtful gifts, took part in family gatherings. It was wonderful to have Becky around and not be worried about what she might do to spoil everything. It was wonderful to know that she had a warm and safe place to live. Late this spring they even began to talk of marriage. She seemed to have what she had never managed before, a successful long-term relationship.

Eventually her anger and frustration took over. We're back in a familiar pattern. She's 'living around', mooching off her old friends, none of whom are kind or generous, well-spoken or employed. When they have had enough of her she will end up on the street, cold and hungry.

We'll do what we can to help, everything short of letting her come to live with us. We know from experience we can't deal with that any more, but it still makes us feel like heartless innkeepers.

Chances are good that Becky will never be fully able to look after herself. We supported her for as long as we could, then the province took over. Once she turned 19 she was on her own. I'm just glad when she turned to a young man for support that he was a nice one. I'm only sorry it didn't last longer, and that she left him in the kind of emotional puddle our family knows all too well.

Jean Vanier founded L'Arche communities where people with mental handicaps are loved, respected and encouraged (see page 12). I wish he, or someone, could establish communities where people like Becky, who want and need those things but can't seem to let themselves accept them, could live safely and comfortably too. Up to now, no one has ever been able to give her enough love and support to make her feel safe and comfortable anywhere.

There's a new shelter for homeless women in the works in Fredericton. Perhaps that's the best we can hope.

So 'something for Becky' is once again at the top of my Christmas wish list. If that 'something' manifests itself as a nice young man again, so be it.

Have a happy Christmas.

Ana Watts is editor of the New Brunswick Anglican

The New Brunswick
Anglican

<http://fredericton.anglican.org>

Official Publication of the
Diocese of Fredericton
The Rt. Rev. William Hockin,
Bishop and Publisher
The Rev. Neville Cheeseman
Chair, Board of Management
Ana Watts
Editor

Published 10 times per year
price of subscription \$10.00

**Please send news and photo
submissions to**

Ana Watts
773 Glengarry Place,
Fredericton, NB E3B 5Z8
phone/fax 506-459-5358
awatts@nbnet.nb.ca

**Please send subscription
renewals, changes of address
and undeliverable copies to:**

The New Brunswick Anglican,
c/o Anglican Journal
Circulation Department
600 Jarvis Street,
Toronto, ON
M4Y 2J6

Printed & mailed by
Oxford Web Publishing
Woodstock, Ontario

BISHOP'S PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS

December 3, 5-8
Visit with Deanery of Shediac

December 11
Advent Noon Hour Address
Four Christmas Stories
Sports Hall of Fame, Fredericton

December 12
Bishop's Counsel

December 17
Parish of Saint John 7.30 p.m.

December 18
Advent Noon Hour Address
Four Christmas Stories
Sports Hall of Fame, Fredericton

December 24
Christmas Eve
Christ Church Cathedral

December 25
Christmas Day
Christ Church Cathedral

January 1
Cathedral Memorial Hall
Bishop's Levee
2.30 - 4 p.m.

January 10-14
Visit with Deanery of York



From the Bishop Time to get our lives in tune

The story is told about a shepherd in Wyoming who sent a letter to Toscanini, the famous conductor of the New York Philharmonic Orchestra. The letter said:

Dear Mr. Toscanini,

Each Monday night I enjoy listening to your concerts on the radio from New York. It is awful lonely out here with no one to talk to. My only comfort is my battery radio and my old fiddle. Winter is here and I am not able to get to town. I am afraid my radio batteries will die before spring. This means that soon my only comfort will be my old fiddle. However, it desperately needs a tuning.

Would you be so kind as to sound the note 'A' next Sunday night so I can be sure that my fiddle is up to standard pitch.

Thank you.

The following Sunday the CBS announcer read the letter over the radio and then said: "Now ladies and gentlemen for our listener in Wyoming here the note of 'A'". The pianist sounded the note and thousands of listeners visualized what was happening so many miles away — a lonely man, a fiddle under his chin, busily tuning his strings to match the pitch sounded in New York City.

There are a lot of us who go to Church on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to hear again a kind of harmony, a picture of how life ought to be lived. All of us have this image of what Christmas ought to look like. It may be a Christmas more Hallmark than Scripture, but it is a picture of things in their proper place — of giving and goodwill to others; of families together with plenty of food and gifts for all; of peace at home and in the world.

Although we know this picture is seldom a reality on this day, we get out of our beds and go to Church to hear again the sound of harmony through the story of Christmas.

Many words have been used to describe the 20th century, but harmonious is not one of them. As the History Channel constantly reminds us: "war was the constant factor of the 20th century". So it is no wonder that we flock to our churches in record numbers in the hope that we might get a glimpse of how life ought to be, to hear the sound of harmony in a world of discord.

Could Christmas be another of God's attempts to give us that one singular note? The note that has sounded through two thousand years, the note by which we might re-tune our lives.

I believe that in Christmas God gave us His Note, His story. Any one of us can use it to find a new harmony for our lives. God's gift, this sacred and eternal Note, is His Son Jesus — born in Bethlehem, wrapped

in swaddling clothes, and laid in a manger.

According to John's Christmas Gospel, He is the light that dispels the darkness from our hearts, He is God's Word become human, full of grace and truth.

When I examine why I believe in Jesus of Nazareth, why I am in so incredibly attracted to Him, I find it is because of His skills — people, teaching and healing.

Probably what attracts me most to Jesus is the way I see Him treat people, the way He treats me. In the Gospel accounts of His life I see Him sensitive with the sick and confused, honest with those who seek the truth, gracious with those who have messed up, attentive with those who speak to Him, and directive with those who are lost.

Jesus was one who taught the truth through stories. Stories like the Prodigal Son and Good Samaritan. Stories that bring us face to face with truth: that God is loving Father and we are his lost children who need to come home to Him. Stories that teach our responsibilities to our neighbours in need, and the joy that brings to the Father's heart.

While others ran from or avoided the blind, the lepers, the brokenhearted, Jesus got close to them, healed them. When He was criticized for spending too much time with the losers of society He stood up for them.

In all of this we hear the very clear note sounded out across eternity, a note by which we can re-tune our life values.

Whenever I attend a symphony concert I notice the little ritual that the orchestra goes through before every performance. About ten minutes to concert time most of the orchestra members take their places and begin to make sounds on their instruments. It is just noise. There are no tunes, there is no harmony, just people doing their own thing.

Then, about one minute before concert time, the concert master appears. He carries a violin and stands and sounds one note. A. Every instrument that must tune itself does so in that same key. When all are in tune he sits and awaits the conductor.

Each one of us is the conductor of our own life. We are responsible for our CONDUCT. If there is to be any semblance of harmony, order, or beauty to our lives, we must choose our concert master carefully. We must let Jesus put us in the right key.

† William
Bishop of Fredericton

Bishop as author

The Habit of Hope, a collection of sermons based on Lenten messages presented by Bishop William Hockin at the New Brunswick Sports Hall of Fame over the past two years, will be launched in Toronto and Fredericton early in the new year.

Described as relatively easy reading for private Lenten devotions, the 110 page book, published by the Anglican Book Centre in Toronto, will be available at Anglican House in Saint John in time for Lent, which begins on February 28 this year.

This is the third book written by Bishop Hockin to be published by ABC

Confirmation Crosses

At the suggestion of Bishop William Hockin, graceful pewter crosses engraved with a chalice on the front, have been especially designed as gifts for confirmation candidates. They are available from the Cathedral Pewtersmiths at a cost of about \$6. Each cross will have the recipient's name and date of confirmation engraved on the back. All proceeds go toward the Cathedral Restoration Fund. To order a cross contact Ann Waugh at 459-7296, or Wendy Dean at 455-6848.



Archdeaconry Commissions Proposed

At the spring 2001 meeting of Diocesan Council, Bishop William Hockin intends to propose the creation of Archdeaconry Commissions to deal with local issues of property, financing and parish alignment.

"The archdeacon and regional deans would serve with four lay representatives on each commission. Parishes considering new construction or experiencing financial difficulties would take them to their own commissions. Following study and discussion of the issues, the commissions would forward recommendations for action to the bishop.

"Most of these types of decisions are made at the diocesan level now. Archdeaconry commissions would provide a local perspective. They would be more in touch with the needs of the parishes and the region, their recommendations would have more integrity," says the bishop.

Clergy College set

The first annual Clergy College will be held at the Hugh John Flemming Forestry Centre in Fredericton from June 18 - 23, 2001. Three speakers will address three themes over the six days; clergy may choose to take one, two or all three of the two-day modules. Preaching; understanding and proclaiming Christian faith in the light of post-modern culture; and understanding and ministering to those under 30 will be presented by speakers whose names will be announced in the bishop's January video to be circulated throughout the diocese.

Diocesan vacancies

In November of 1999 there were 12 vacant positions in the diocese. In November of this year there were five: the Parish of Marysville in Fredericton; the Parish of McAdam; the Parish of St. Mark's (Stone Church) in Saint John; the Parish of Westfield; the Parish of Campobello; and the Hospital Chaplain's position in Saint John.

Men need other men

BY

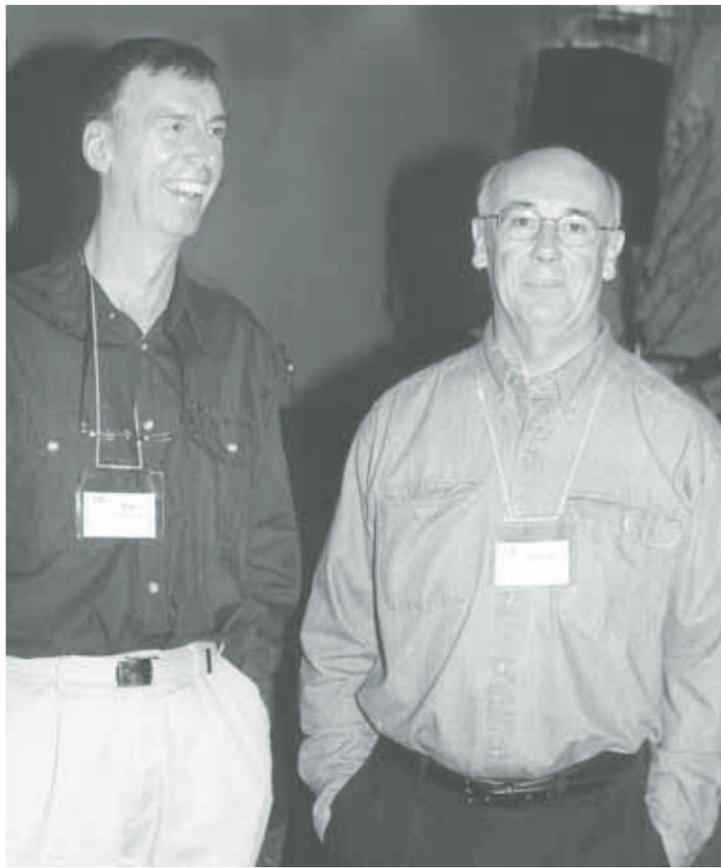
THE REV. BILL MACMULLEN

Men need other men. That was an important part of the message the Rev Canon Harold Percy gave to the 120 men gathered for the second New Brunswick Anglican Men's Conference held at the Fredericton Motor Inn on October 13 and 14.

Men from around the diocese, both clergy and lay, gathered to hear Canon Percy talk about *A man's Life, His Loves, and His Legacy*. His presentation showed he understood how men think and react differently from women, and how important it is to understand these differences in order to meet each others' needs. He also emphasized the necessity for a husband to work together with his wife if the rest of his life is to be sorted out. He challenged us to live our faith and take practical steps to leave a Christian legacy — a positive impact on other lives for Jesus Christ.

Music was an important part of the conference. The Rev. Eric Phinney and the 'clergy band' led in worship as male voices joined to sing both contemporary praise songs and traditional hymns.

The topic and speaker struck a chord with the participants. Many of the 100 evalua-



Jim Morell (left) of Fredericton shares a laugh with the Rev. Canon Harold Percy, keynote speaker at the New Brunswick Anglican Men's Conference held in mid-October.

tions we received contained positive comments and suggestions, and all of them clearly supported another conference next year.

One man suggested we need a workshop to build on what

we learned this year. He said we need to have a conference on the practical ways to be a mentor. We also need to have a support group. These things will enable us to leave the legacy we should.

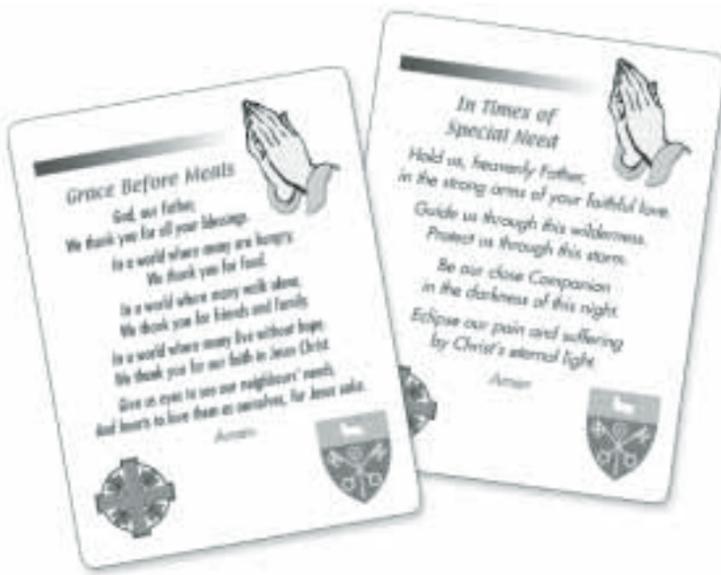
ACW to fund and distribute grace cards

The ACW wants every Anglican family in the diocese, including families whose only connection with the church is a child in Sunday school, to have a Grace Card for the kitchen table.

Bishop William Hockin mentioned such cards in his charge to Synod 2000. Following synod he wrote a grace as well as a prayer for times of special need and had the text incorporated in an attractive design. The ACW has offered to pay the printing costs and will distribute the cards throughout the diocese early in the New Year.

The ACW even decided to double the bishop's initial order for cards from 5,000 to 10,000, to ensure the diocese would be well covered. About 9,000 families contribute to the church in this diocese.

The tent-style cards will be laminated and easily propped on the table. They are intended to help develop prayer habits among families.



“They are the thin edge of what we hope will develop into a bigger wedge. Their success will depend on the willingness and desire of parents to bow their heads and share a prayer with the family,” says Bishop Hockin.

“We see this as an outreach project. Through our ministries in our branches, Sunday schools, and Mothers' Union, we hope to reach every Anglican family,” says ACW Diocesan president Mary Lou McCann.

Report from ACW Lancaster Deanery Annual

BY DEANNA WONG

The 38th annual meeting of the Lancaster Deanery ACW was held at St. John's in Gagetown on September 26. Guest speaker Constable Doug Findley of the RCMP gave an interesting talk on phone fraud and answered many questions from the members.

The day began with a service of Holy Eucharist conducted by the Reverends Gerry Laskey

and Harley Clowater. A memorial service for departed ACW members was conducted by members of the Welsford branch.

President Grace Hasson presided over the annual meeting. Marilyn McKinney offered a welcome, seven branches paid their dues and gave brief reports on their year's activities. Diocesan officers Mary Lou McCann, Ann Longthorp and Marjorie Hanson were introduced and each offered

a short talk. Financial support was sent to PWRDF and two places of safety for women — Women in Transition of Fredericton, and Hestia House of Saint John.

Deanery officers remain the same for the coming year: Grace Hasson, president; Deanna Wong, vice-president, and Elva Waycott, secretary/treasurer.

The 2001 annual meeting will be held at Trinity Church, Maces Bay.

Found! The Peace of God

BY GAIL LEGRESLEY

Well over 200 women seeking peace met at the Hugh John Flemming Forestry Complex on Saturday, October 28. Many of us found it.

I've had an exceptionally busy time at work since that inspiring Saturday, but in spite of ringing phones and dinging e-mails, I feel oddly calm. I give credit for that sense of calm to Gail Reid and the impact of her presentation at this year's Christ Church Cathedral ACW Women's Conference.

She spoke to us of the five principles of peace. She told us to seek the right kind of Peace, the Peace of God; to find the right partner in Peace, Christ; to get the right perspective on peace, by putting our trust in God; to find the right power, God's power and not our own; and finally, to be in the right place to find peace.

In addition to all that we received through Gail, we received the gift of song from Mary Lee McKenna. Her teaching skills had all of us singing and loving every moment of it.

I was forced to confront my sanity — in fact, to wonder if indeed I had any — when I accepted the job of publicity coordinator for this conference a few months ago. My best friend's response when I told her I had agreed

to do this job was: “You did what! Are you crazy?” (reference to the above-mentioned questionable sanity, I think). She knew as well as I did that my life was really too busy with work and family and friends but, in retrospect, I feel I was fortunate to have been offered the job and am glad that I said yes.

That answer allowed me to spend the past six months or so in the company of the most wonderful group of women (the conference planning committee) that I could ever hope to know. And I got to meet many more wonderful women at the conference itself.

From the record number of women who participated in this year's conference, we can only conclude that the conference's theme — *The Peace that Transcends* — was a good choice. And while the theme was a good choice, Gail Reid as guest speaker, was the best possible choice! She held us enthralled — she made us laugh, she caused us to think and reflect — and in so doing, she conveyed to us an understanding of the Peace of God and what to do to find it and hang on to it in a world that is moving faster than many of us can handle.

So in spite of my hectic work week, I'm sitting here with a smile on my face! Who would have thought? Gail Reid? Maybe. God? For sure. Peace!

ACW presidents focus on 4-Cs

BY MARY LOU McCANN

ACW DIOCESAN PRESIDENT

Compassion, commitment, celebration and community — it was around these 4-Cs that the ACW National Presidents/Coordinators Conference revolved. Thank you for letting me represent you, the Diocese of Fredericton ACW, at this wonderful conference held in the Diocese of Niagara in late October.

Alice Jane Findlay, wife of the Bishop of Toronto, spoke to us about commitment. She challenged us to know and be involved in the outreach of our church. We need to learn what the social issues are in our community, and to act. Archdeacon Jim Boyles from the National Church, spoke to us about the residential schools litigation, how it has already affected various dioceses in Canada, and how we must keep working for social justice. He said we must never look back, we must always look forward and build for the future of the Anglican Church of Canada.

Margaret Norrie McCain, the former lieutenant-governor of our province, had a message about compassion. She challenged us to explore and act as we see the need for compassionate care. I was honoured to be asked to thank her for her challenge, and to say ‘hello’ on behalf of the Anglicans of New Brunswick. Dorothy Peers, our primate's wife, spoke about our call to service in ACW. She reminded us how to use our gifts and talents in ministry and teaching, to lead with diligence, generosity and cheerfulness. Her text was Romans 12: 4-8. She reminded us of our baptismal covenant and shared her own story of service with us.

Other leaders provided workshops on the 4-Cs upon which our conference was built. These workshops served to enhance the messages of the main speakers. The weekend finale was a service of joy and celebration at the cathedral with Bishop Ralph Spence of Niagara, who acknowledged the faithful and dedicated service of ACW. He also challenged us. He told us to go back to our communities, to work and serve the Lord, and to build for the future of our local and National church.

In this season of Advent, I ask each Anglican Church Woman to count the ways she has shown compassion, commitment to her work in the community, and to celebrate! Give thanks for the wonderful gifts you have shared and reflect on how you can continue to work and grow in love and stewardship during the New Year. I close with a wish for a happy Christmas season and thanks for the great and generous work you do.



Christmas tea & tour in Westmorland

Proceeds send kids to camp

A Christmas tea and tour in the Parish of Westmorland is a lot more than an opportunity to see heritage homes, B&Bs and churches decorated for Christmas. It is more than an opportunity to enjoy sandwiches and sweets. It is even more than an opportunity to compete for the musical title of 'best singer of *Here We Come a Carolling*'. It is an opportunity to help send a child to camp.

Members of St. Luke's ACW have long sent two children to camp each summer. "The children tell us camp is a lovely, busy time for them. They learn to swim, make friends, have fun, and find out about 'doing unto others' in the best possible ways. In short, they tell us camp is the highlight of their summer. We wanted to be able to extend the good influences of camp to more children, so we decided to institute a Christmas Tour and Tea," says Patricia Glencross, the camp project coordinator.

The ACW branch came up with a three year plan to feature as many of the areas' heritage homes and other buildings as possible in the tours. Last year's tour was a great success. The branch raised \$800 and sent eight children to camp, but it didn't do it alone.

"While we were working on the project it became evident that the eight members of our little group would need help. We contacted members of ladies groups in the United, Presbyterian, Pentecostal and Roman Catholic churches. They all pitched-in with enthusiasm! They helped to sell tickets, made sandwiches and sweets, and found children to send to camp," says Ms. Glencross.

A 'ticket' for the tour is actually a booklet that not only provides a map and lists the properties, but includes line drawings and a little history of each one. Participants have their booklets

stamped at each property and the tour runs into the evening so Christmas light displays can also be appreciated.

Tea is served at Munro House in Port Elgin, a heritage home which now houses the Port Elgin Museum. It's about mid-point in the Parish of Westmorland, which stretches about 50 kilometres, from Aulac to Cape Tormentine. Munro House is also the place for tour participants to enter the carol singing contest.

Since the ACW always sends two children to camp, and the proceeds from the tour sent eight more, a total of 10 area young people enjoyed the camp experience last summer. Some went to Camp Medley, others to Camp Ta-Wa-Si, still others to Camp Evangeline and Camp Wildwood.

"Camp costs about \$150 per week. We decided that in order to help as many children as possible we would offer \$100 to each camper and leave the rest to parents or local church groups. Most of the parents were able to supply the balance, so the \$100 from our camp fund made all the difference.

"We also adopted a no-questions-asked policy. If a group nominates a child for camp, our ACW treasurer sends a cheque directly to the camp. It's first come, first served until our funds are exhausted," says Ms. Glencross.

This year's Tour and Tea takes place on Saturday, December 9 (storm day is Sunday, December 10). The more participants in the tour, the more children will go to camp.

For tickets call

Linda Fury
at 506/538-1010 or

e-mail

fury@nbnet.nb.ca or
lbiddle@nbnet.nb.ca or
pdglens@nb.sympatico.ca.

Synod to discuss Waterloo Agreement

The Waterloo Agreement on Full Communion of the Anglican Church of Canada and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada will be discussed at the 2001 Diocesan Synod of Fredericton on June 7, 8 and 9 in Fredericton. It will follow the format introduced at Synod 2000 in June of this year, which allows every voice to be heard.

"Synod will no longer consist of all plenary sessions at which only a dozen or so voices are heard. The synod last June was a very positive experience. Every voice was heard and people have made it a point to thank me for that," says Bishop William Hockin.

The people of the diocese set the priorities for that synod in response to a video sent to each parish last January. In preparation for the June 2001 synod, a new

video will be in the hands of vestries throughout the diocese by mid-January. In it the bishop will offer his thoughts on the response to last year's charge and the people of the diocese will have yet another opportunity to tell the bishop what excites them and what disappoints them.

"We had a 90 per cent response from parishes to the first video," says Bishop Hockin.

Those responses identified issues considered important to the diocese and were included in the Bishop's Charge to synod. Synod delegates were then divided into groups to address those issues. The ideas generated in the small groups were incorporated in the response to the Bishop's Charge delivered at the end of synod.

WEEKEND SYNODS?

At a recent meeting of Diocesan Council the Rev. Neville Cheeseman called for synods to be held Friday evening through Sunday mornings in order that working people could attend without sacrificing working days or holiday time.

"How serious are we about recovering what we call that 'lost generation'? The people in their 30s, 40s and 50s? How prepared are we to put our money where our mouth is?" asked Mr. Cheeseman.

Such a schedule would leave parishes throughout the diocese without their priests on Sunday morning, a possibility that was exciting to some members of council, a cause for concern to others.

Bishop Hockin promised to do some research and consultation on the proposal and consider it for a future synod.



Many diocesan clergy were on hand to celebrate the induction of the Rev. Canon Wally Corey as rector of the Parish of Coldbrook & St. Mary's in Saint John. Canon Corey is in the centre of the front row above. Dean Keith Joyce, who preached at the service, is on the far left of the front row.

Parish celebrates induction of rector

BY CAROLYN VANBUSKIRK

Joyful hymns of praise and thanksgiving resounded from St. Mary and St. Bartholomew's Anglican Church on Westmorland Road in Saint John on Sunday evening, October 22. Many clergy and Church Army officers from throughout the diocese joined the people of the parish for the induction of the Rev. Canon Wally Corey as the seventh priest and rector of the Parish of Coldbrook and St. Mary's.

The Very Rev. Keith Joyce, Dean of the Diocese of Fredericton (Christ Church Cathedral), a friend of Canon Corey's since their days at Wycliffe College in Toronto in 1974, preached the sermon.

He spoke on the deeper meaning of prayer and called the church to "pray and help unburden its priests so that priestly du-

ties can be carried out effectively." Dean Joyce also added an exuberant note to several hymns — including *Praise to the Lord and Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* — with his trumpet.

The parish's full choir, directed and accompanied by organist Alice Menier, presented the anthem *How Amiable are Thy Dwellings* from Psalm 84.

Canon Corey served 14 years with the Church Army in Canada before being ordained deacon and embarking on his studies at Wycliffe. When he was ordained priest he was appointed rector of the Parish of Cambridge and Waterborough. He subsequently served in the parishes of Dalhousie, St. James' (Saint John), Sussex and Moncton. He serves as an honorary captain of the Church Army.

The Parish of Coldbrook and St. Mary's was formed more

than 30 years ago when St. Mary's Church on Waterloo Street in Saint John was demolished and the parish amalgamated with St. Bartholomew's Church in Coldbrook, on the outskirts of the city. A new parish church was built and called St. Mary and St. Bartholomew's.

Among the other clergy and Church Army officers present for the service were: Archdeacon Stuart Allan, Regional Dean Rufus Onyewuchi, Canon David Jackson and the Reverends Keith Borthwick, David Barrett, Douglas Patstone, Vickars Hodge, Lloyd Lake, David Gray, Les Petrie, Bentley Steers, George Trentowsky, Tom Graham; Captains Cathy Borthwick, David Parsons, Rod and Lisa Brantfrancis.

A reception in the church hall followed the service.

Back to Africa

Paul Jeffries will stay in Uganda until 2003

The Rev. Paul Jeffries will make sure his staff at Bishop McAllister College in Uganda get paid something in time for Christmas. The teachers will be anxious to buy a kilo of meat and the 'sodas' (soft drinks) that constitute 'Christmas dinner and all the trimmings' in his neck of this African country.

"Cows are slaughtered for Christmas, but really the big focus here is on church and family visiting," says the parish-priest-turned-missionary who is winding up his fifth year overseas and plans to stay for at least two more.

Paul was the last of four theology school tutors sent by the Diocese of Fredericton to the Diocese of Eldoret in Kenya during a 10-year Companion Diocese relationship. School administration changes during his second term in Eldoret saw him look for another placement. In 1998 he made the move to Uganda.

When he arrived to teach at the Bishop McAllister College he found a ramshackle institution on the verge of collapse. Today he is principal, younger students have been admitted to a junior school in order to help the theological school survive. The 'campus' has been spruced up, new buildings have been constructed, running water has been added. And because teachers know that Paul will pay them eventually, even the teaching staff has been upgraded.

He has established a school ministry to destitute orphans — the AIDS epidemic has caused the country to be practically overrun with them — and arranged for a health plan for the students.

"A child with malaria died before I came here. I couldn't have that."

He has had malaria, though. "Everyone over here has it, you just treat it like the flu."

There was typhoid in the school well until the water gravity project brought them running water. He was injured in a bus accident and there was an ebola outbreak nearby, but he's still where he wants to be.

"When I went to Kenya I wasn't even sure if I could teach, but I fell in love with it! When I became deputy principal at Bishop McAllister, I thought 'I can't do this'. But I found I could do it, and do it well. When they appointed me principal for once in my life I was confident, I knew I could do the job well. I'm not here to 'take over' because no one here can do the job, but I was here and I was able and it is working well."

Bishop William K. Magambo of the Diocese of West Ankole sent a passionate letter to our diocese and the Volunteers In Mission department of the National Church, appealing for continued support of Paul in his diocese.

Paul was 'home' for a few weeks this fall to meet with Bishop William Hockin and secure his blessing for a few more years in Africa and spoke to several supportive groups throughout the diocese. He also met with the Diocese of Fredericton Missionary Society, which supports Paul overseas. During Paul's visit that group also got a new chair, the Rev. John Tremblay.

On his return to Uganda the school held a five-hour party to celebrate his return. A bull was slaughtered and roasted on the front lawn, there were speeches of welcome and more than 30 different plays presented by the students.

"I really struggled with the idea that God was calling me to serve in this way because it is so far from what I had imagined my ministry would be. Eventually I came to the conclusion that God was indeed calling me to continue to serve as principal of Bishop McAllister College in Uganda."



Top students in each form enjoy Breakfast with the Principal each Wednesday morning at 7. The breakfast is light, just fruit, but the Bible study that accompanies it is heavy-duty. It's the highlight of Paul's week.



English is spoken at Bishop McAllister College, but the students are encouraged to celebrate their own culture, especially with cultural dancing. Vernacular singing is also being introduced in the chapel.



**Contact Paul at
Bishop McAllister College
PO. Box 88
Bushenyi, Uganda
or at
jeffries_paul@hotmail.com**

Students at the college make bricks from scratch for new building construction.

On to Brazil

Simea deSouza Meldrum visits from our new Companion Diocese



The Rev. Simea deSouza Meldrum (right) from the Diocese of Recife, who built a church in a garbage dump because that is where the people were, recently toured the Diocese of Fredericton. One of her stops was at Christ Church (Parish) Church in Fredericton, where she spoke to the children. She is seen here with Robyn and Tara O'Kane.



The Rev. Simea deSouza Meldrum (left) and the Ven. John Sharpe, rector of Christ Church (Parish) Church shared a sermon with dialogue at Christ Church (Parish) Church (Fredericton) in November as part of Simea's tour of the Diocese of Fredericton. Following the service Marg Routledge (centre), one of the original members of the Companion Diocese Committee, joined them to look at photographs of Recife.

The Companion Diocese Committee provides leadership and support to the Diocese of Fredericton in the implementation and maintenance of the Companion Diocese relationship.

The Rev. Simea de Souza Meldrum from our Companion Diocese of Recife, Brazil, brought some 'family pictures' with her when she visited the Diocese of Fredericton in late October. They weren't pictures of her own family, they were pictures of a Brazilian 'street family', including one of a newborn baby called Peter. One close-up picture shows him swaddled and held. Another, taken from farther back, shows him sleeping on a blanket spread out on a sidewalk, his homeless parents sitting with him.

"Every five minutes a child dies of hunger in northern Brazil. How can a family like Peter's bring up a child in a country 'owned' by 10 families, where one family earns 50 per cent of the income of the entire country? We have three classes in my country. The upper class, the middle class and the misery class. The misery class grew by 50 per cent last year. Now it is 70 per cent of the population. It is up to the church to bring change, to bring a light to the poor," she says.

Simea is doing just that. She established a church in a garbage dump, where people lived and scavenged for food to eat, glass and paper to sell.

"Peter was born on the street. He was taken to a hospital for two days, then sent back to the street. There are no shelters. As Christians we must all help to make a difference. We must be the example. We must be the light."

During her visit to New Brunswick Simea attended services in Moncton, Shediac, Fredericton, Saint John and Gondola Point. She accompanied clergy on pastoral visits in hospitals, visited Taylor College in Saint John, met with members of our Companion Diocese Committee, attended a layreaders Holy Spirit Seminar, and met with the bishop, the bishop's executive assistant, and the dean.

In her discussions with the bishop, Simea expressed some frustration with the companion relationship to date. Bishop Hockin recently told Diocesan Council he is anxious to improve the relationship and has accepted an invitation to attend synod there in December of 2001. In the meantime he hopes a prayer cycle among parishes in both dioceses will be established. He also plans to talk to the Companion Diocese Committee about hosting a theology student from Recife. "She wants to come here for three or four months to study English. They (Diocese of Recife) will pay the travel costs, will only be responsible for housing."

For more information on our Companion Diocese relationship, contact:

Mr. Ken Arbeau (Chair)
64 Teakwood Way, Moncton NB
E1G 1X3
506/384 4554
arbaulp@nbnet.nb.ca

Christmas, an ideal time to 'Show the Flag'

BY PAT DRUMMOND
DIOCESAN CHRISTIAN EDUCATION DIRECTOR



A few years ago I was with a church group which enjoyed paper and pencil games at its Christmas party. One game involved getting points for one's answers to certain questions, the winner being the person with the most points at the end. For example, you could give yourself one point if someone in your immediate family had a December birthday, or for every item of red clothing you were wearing, and so on. I always dreaded the questions which focussed on one's readiness for the holiday — Give yourself a point if all your Christmas shopping was done, and another if you had made your Christmas

cake, and yet another for mince-meat. I never got points for those questions and they made me feel inadequate, guilty and panic-stricken. I was almost ready to leave the party and rush home to chop and mix.

Most of us have pre-conceived ideas about the essentials of Christmas, and most of us, if we are honest, are exhausted by Christmas day from trying to meet the too-perfect expectations of ourselves and others.

If we are to use the Advent season as it is intended to be used, as a time of spiritual preparation for the miraculous birth of our saviour, and of reflection and repentance, we have choices to make.

Last year I read a magazine article which exhorted its readers to cut back. It suggested asking members of one's family to list the three things without which Christmas would not be Christmas for

them. Then to put the lists together, and discuss the items left out to see if anyone really minded if they were omitted. To my shock, Christmas cake and pudding were items my family could do without — not surprising really, since they're not enthusiastic about dried fruit. Attending midnight mass and decorating the tree together rated highly. Try this exercise. The results may surprise you too, and may just give you more time for the really important things.

A cleric once said to me that, as Christians, it is important for us to "show the flag". To me, "showing the flag" at Christmas means making sure that the Christmas cards we send bear Christian pictures, however cute the teddy in the Christmas stocking looks, or however beautiful the snow-scene with the frost-laden trees. This is not easy if we shop in secular stores, but Anglican House

in Saint John has a good selection, as do most Christian bookstores. It wouldn't hurt to ask the secular store politely why they stock so few Christmas cards with religious themes.

"Showing the flag" also means selecting gifts which do not go against the Christian message of peace and goodwill to all. This will involve some Christian service to others — visiting those who are sick or shut-in with a small tin of home baking; offering to help an elderly person to put up a Christmas tree or some lights, or to write and mail some cards; taking part in the church's appeal for help with Christmas boxes. These are also great ways to involve children and encourage them to remember the *giving* rather than the *getting* side of Christmas.

"Showing the flag" may also mean making sure a creche is a central part of our Christmas

decorations and having an Advent wreath on our dining table — and being able to explain to our guests the significance of each. Directions for making a simple Advent wreath and some of its symbolism may be found in the December Christian Education bulletin insert.

I received a wonderful early Christmas present recently when I was invited to visit an evening Sunday School Open House at St Luke's, Welsford. It was exciting to see the tremendous enthusiasm of this inspired group of teachers. Please read their article on the following page.

Have a wonderful Advent and Christmas, a time of spiritual renewal as we prepare to celebrate the miraculous birth of God in human form. Let us pray for strength and patience to meet the many tasks ahead of us each day, and for discernment in deciding which will claim our time and effort.

Christmas traditions from our faith and family affirm our identity

BY GINNY MCEWEN

Tradition is a significant component of the Advent and Christmas seasons. At this time of year we share many of them with nearly 600,000 other Christian New Brunswickers.

Webster's Dictionary defines tradition as 'a cultural continuity, transmitted in the form of social attitudes, beliefs, principles and conventions of behaviour, deriving from past experience and helping to shape the present'.

We have traditions in three main areas: family, church and community. Our communities work very hard to establish and continue holiday customs. Some of them help the less fortunate with food and gifts, others — like carol singing, skating and tree-lighting — unite us in fellowship.

Our churches have countless rituals and traditions that are a large part of Christmas for many of us. We light the candles of Advent wreaths, gather for Sunday

school concerts, youth/men's group/Mothers' Union/choir celebrations filled with laughter and caring. We decorate the church and worship by candle-light on Christmas Eve.

Family traditions evolve and are refined as the years pass. These family traditions are important too. Each family's customs centre around the history of that family unit. They include the things both Mom and Dad brought with them when they started a new family, and are enriched by new customs that have been blended in with the old.

Some traditions — like Christmas trees, stockings and turkey dinners — are wide-spread. But each family gives it its own slant, makes it its own.

Our Christmas tree always wears a wide assortment of ornaments, each one with a special memory attached. We have a reindeer that hung on my parents tree all the time I was growing up.

There is a glass slipper that my daughter (now 21) insists she must hang each year. There are wonderful ornaments that came as gifts from my Mothers' Union secret prayer partners over the years. The list of special ornaments just goes on and on.

I often long for the exquisite designer decorations I see in stores. I know they would be ideal to decorate 'the perfect tree'. But I prefer to unpack my decorations and my memories each Christmas. It is part of the joy of our family Christmas. Our tree may not be the latest in colour or content, but the traditions it carries with each ornament make it much more valuable.

There are as many takes on Christmas stockings as there are families. In our house Christmas stockings are decorated felt cowboy boots, each one with a name at the top. When our first child was born a cowboy boot stocking made sense for a little

boy. Thirty years (and many boots) later, his old boot is pretty worn and plain, compared to that of our four-year-old grandson. My son won't let me make him a new one though. He says it just wouldn't be the same.

There are so many other customs — Christmas cards, Advent wreaths, nativity scenes, Christmas sleigh rides, special Christmas movies and food — Oh, let's not forget the food!

Nearly all of our customs are decades or centuries old and can be traced to other countries. The Christmas tree was first used in Germany. Mistletoe was sacred to the Druid priests of ancient Britain and Gaul. The Norse used holly and the yule log to keep evil spirits away, and the first Christmas card was printed in England in 1843.

Of course the most meaningful and memorable traditions are the Christmas worship services planned to accommodate everyone. For me, the icing on the

tradition cake is the Christmas eve service. It is a time to just stop, sit, contemplate and worship our Lord. This service puts it all in perspective. It ensures Christ a real and rightful place among our Christmas celebrations.

The roots of our Christmas traditions, for the most part, stem from our faith, our childhood, our parents, our ancestors. These traditions affirm our identity as members of a family and help us feel secure in who we are. Let us value them and pass them on.

The Diocesan Council of Mothers' Union would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a blessed Christmas season and happiness in the coming year.



Seafarer's Mission seeks Christmas gifts and year-round volunteers

Thoughtful gifts that fit in a shoe-box help seamen far from home capture some of the spirit of Christmas.

Church Army Captain David Parsons of the Seafarer's Mission in Saint John is always glad to have gifts for the sailors who visit the port over the Christmas season. From mid-December through mid-January he distributes shoe-boxes filled with thoughtful items.

"We always appreciate receiving filled shoe-boxes or even items that can be put with others to fill a shoe box."

Many such items are often found in 'dollar stores'. Playing cards, candy and toiletries are always welcome. Work gloves and warm socks are especially useful.

"Use your imagination when you fill a box for a sailor, and don't forget to enclose a note with your name and address so the recipient can send you a note to say thanks," says Captain Parsons.

The Seafarer's Mission is always in need of reading material too. General interest magazines with timeless stories are best. New and old Reader's Digest, Canadian Geographic, National Geographic, Guide Post and Catholic Digest magazines are popular. How-to books on woodworking, photography and other hobbies as well as novels (but not the 'romance' type) are welcome too.

VOLUNTEER IN COMFORT

The Seafarer's Mission could also use volunteers in order to better serve the sailors from all over the world who stop over in the Port of Saint John. The mission is a comfortable place. Sailors come to drink coffee, relax and call their families. The centre offers long-distance telephone cards, so it is simple to help the sailors keep in touch with their families. Volunteers just need to 'be there' so the facility can be open.

If you are in the Saint John region and can spare some time in the afternoons or evenings, the

sailors would appreciate it. Call Captain Parsons at 657-8321 or send an e-mail to outreach@nb.sympatico.ca.



Challenged children come back for more

The children of St. Luke's in Welsford can't wait to get to Sunday school each week and often invite their school friends to accompany them. They collect non-perishable food items to share with those in need during the Christmas season, and collect used postage stamps to purchase Bibles in different languages. They have even sent school supplies to students in third-world countries.

Where does this group of about 30, two to 13-year-olds get its inspiration? From their teachers — Marie Hamilton, Brenda Charlton, Kathy Logan, Kim Fitzpatrick and 'the Rankin family', Michele, Donny and Melody. Here is their story.

Welsford is a small rural community located on Highway 7 between Saint John and Fredericton. Our Sunday school is the only one in our area so children from varying backgrounds attend. We are six teachers with one teen helper, and our religious backgrounds are just as diverse as the children's. We work together to teach the children that we are all God's children and that He loves each of us because we are special and precious to Him.

When we were looking for a different approach to teaching Sunday school, we came across a book called *Sensational Learning Centers* from Augsburg Fortress. It was designed to help churches provide fun Christian educational experiences based on specific themes presented in learning stations.

We chose Mission Expedition. It provided the opportunity for children to explore how Jesus and his followers as they shared the good news of God's love with others. It also encouraged the children to continue on that journey and to discover ways in which the Christian church is growing today.

Mission Expedition activities emphasize that the journey of Jesus does not end with the book of Luke. In Acts Jesus' followers are commissioned to pursue the mission of the church through the world.

With that thought in mind we went to work. We transformed our Sunday School building into a miniature world. The entrance and central gathering place became the Disciples' Dock. Chairs were replaced with planks and concrete blocks, the walls took on a nautical theme and were decorated with pictures of mission work and a large map of the world with the countries we would visit highlighted. The windows and classrooms were decorated to represent Japan, Papua New Guinea, Tanzania and Peru.

We dressed as sailors, lined up along the gangway and invited the children 'aboard'. Once inside the Disciples Dock the children

had their pictures taken for their passports' and were divided into teams.

The "team leaders", who were the older children in Sunday school, were given their first assignments: to assemble their teams and come up with names. The Faithful Fishermen, Heaven's Helpers, Hungry Whales, God's Angels, Jesus' Ship and Rising Son teams were born.

Each week we assemble in Disciples Dock for our opening worship and praise time. Then the team leaders hand out the passports, find out what country their teams will be visiting that week and 'set sail' for that country. We are very fortunate to have, on loan from the Ten Thousand Villages store in Saint John, some actual pieces of work from the countries we are studying.

The teachers dress in costumes resembling the country they are hosting — African dresses, ponchos, kimono's, home made grass skirts. The children hear a true mission story, do craft projects related to mission work and learn about the country. They even have an appropriate snack. They have had green tea with fortune cookies, sugar cookies with caramel sauce and grated coconut called alfajores, sugared peanuts, fresh pineapple, bananas and coconuts.

The children are given a sticker for their passports with the word Jesus printed in that country's language.

At the end of Sunday school the ship's bell rings. We re-assemble at Disciples Dock and sing more songs — usually with the chorus in different languages like Japanese, Swahili and Spanish — then have our closing prayers.

As the children leave the building they are faced with a sign on the door. It reads: YOU ARE NOW ENTERING THE MISSION FIELD ... BE CHALLENGED ... BE CHANGED.

That is what we are all trying to do. We invite you to take the challenge and be changed too.



Sunday School students at St. Luke's, Welsford see the world and church in a new way

BY MARIE HAMILTON, BRENDA CHARLTON, KATHY LOGAN,
KIM FITZPATRICK AND MICHELE, DONNY & MELODY RANKIN



Fredericton Deanery ACW learns first hand ... It's a small world after all

BY ELIZABETH WHITE

World-traveller Chris Lister of Harvey addressed the Fredericton Deanery ACW meeting at St. Mary's, York in Fredericton on October 12.

Chris spoke of the life-experiences she and her family had in Lesotho, South Africa, and Java, Indonesia as she compared the two cultures. She also brought some African music and a wonderful display of souvenirs.

One special joy that resulted from her visit to the meeting was an introduction to Alice Mokoena of Christ Church (Parish) Church. Alice is from Lesotho and has family there. Chris was able to greet Alice in her own language and discovered that her husband Ross knew Alice's son. The two had worked at the same dairy farm! A small world indeed.

Joy was the theme of the entire day for the 62 ACW members representing 17 branches who attended the meeting. They were joined by nine diocesan officers, including president Mary Lou McCann, vice-president Ann Longthorp, secretary Joanne Bowmaster and treasurer Marjorie Hanson. Diocesan Missionary Liaison Rosalie Brown, Foster Children Secretary Marion Carter, Mothers' Union Liaison Sharon Miller, Pickett Scovill Fund representative Wendy Banks and Farraline Place Board Chair Beverley Ward were also in attendance.

Gwen McKnight from the Anglican House Book Store was on hand with a great display of books and gifts.

Holy Eucharist was celebrated by Archdeacon John Sharpe, assisted by the Reverends Barry Craig and Elaine Hamilton. The names of departed members were read during the service. The morning offering was sent to the Rev. Paul Jeffries for his missionary work.

During the meeting, outgoing president Elizabeth White thanked the branches for their support and noted that the Anglican Church Women of our deanery appear to be very busy serving the Lord in a variety of ways in their church, parish, community and world.

It was decided that for purposes of ACW, the branches of the Fredericton and York deaneries would continue to meet together on an annual basis. A new slate of officers was sworn in by Archdeacon Sharpe. They are President Heather Carr, vice-president Carolyn Howlett, and secretary-treasurer Donna Mulholland.

A delicious luncheon was served by the St. Mary's Branch. Delightful entertainment by the Fredericton War Bride Singers followed.

Next year's meeting will be held at St. John's Church in Oromocto.

Chris Lister of Harvey brought some mementos from her world travels when she spoke to the Fredericton ACW Deanery Annual. Among the ACW members present was Alice Mokoena, in the photo on the right. She is from Lesotho and knew just what to do with Chris' souvenirs. Chris was able to greet Alice in her own language and discovered that her husband Ross knew Alice's son. The two had worked at the same dairy farm in Lesotho! A small world indeed.



The Fredericton War Bride Singers entertained at the ACW Deanery Annual held at St. Mary's, York, in October.

Golfing 'fore' PWRDF



For the past six years, ROd Leroux of Christ Church (Parish) Church in Fredericton has organized an annual golf tournament in support of PWRDF. Above Marg Routledge prepares to putt during this year's event.



Among the golfers who support PWRDF are three organ donors/recipients. The Ven. John Sharpe, left, rector of the Parish Church, donated a kidney to his sister. Shirley Knee, third from right, is the recipient of a double lung transplant. Next to her is Ed Mantha, who has had a heart transplant and is awaiting a kidney transplant. He also won this year's men's low gross trophy. With the donors/recipients are their spouses, from the left, Cynthia Sharpe, Jim Knee and Shirley Mantha (far right).

INTERCESSIONS

Pray for others overseas, in Canada, and in our own diocese

DECEMBER

18: Parish of Restigouche, The Rev. Bill Morton; Rev. Canon David Genge (R).

19: Parish of Richmond, The Rev. Roderick Black.

20: Parish of Riverview, The Rev. Albert Snelgrove; The Rev. James Golding (R).

21: Parish of Rothesay, Rev. Canon Richard McConnell.

22: Parish of St. Andrew's, Rev. Canon John Matheson, Jessica Swift, Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, England.

23: Parish of St. David & St. Patrick, Rev. Canon John Matheson, Priest-in-Charge.

SUNDAY

24: Church of the Province of West Africa, Archbishop Robert G.A. Okine, Dioceses of Liberia, Sekondi, Sunyani, Tamale, Missionary Area of Cameroon; Diocese of Yukon: Golden Horn Parish: lay leadership; Bishop Terrence Buckle, Blanche and family; William, our Bishop, George and Harold, Bishops Emeriti.

25: Parish of St. George, The Rev. Mary Anne Langmaid; The Rev. David Gray (R).

26: Parish of St. James, Moncton, The Rev. Donald Routledge.

27: Parish of St. James (Saint John), Capt. Rod Brant Francis; The Rev. Gerald Gray (R).

28: Parish of Saint John, The Ven. Stuart Allen, The Rev. George Trentowsky, assistant.

29: Parish of St. Margaret's, Rev. Canon Jon Lownds, Wendy Amos-Binks, Wycliffe College.

30: Parish of St. Mark (Stone) Church, (Vacant).

SUNDAY

31: Give thanks and praise to our Lord for the privilege of serving him in the twenty-first century; Diocese of Yukon: Atlin - St. Martin: Deacon Vera Kirkwood, Tom Kirkwood and family; Bishop Terrence Buckle, Blanche and family; William, our Bishop, George and Harold, Bishops Emeriti.

JANUARY

1: Parish of St. Martin's & Black River, The Rev. Robyn Cuming; The Ven. Lyman Harding (R).

2: Parish of St. Mary's, The Rev. Barry Craig.

3: Parish of St. Paul's (Valley) Church, The Rev. Rufus Onyewuchi; The Rev. Earl Hawkes (R).

4: Parish of St. Peter, The Rev. Ross Hebb.

5: Parish of St. Philip's, The Rev. Kevin Borthwick; Andrew Horne, Wycliffe College.

6: Parish of St. Stephen, The Rev. Peter Mills.

SUNDAY

7: Diocese of Yukon: Faro - Church of the Apostles and Ross River - St. Stephen's, Bishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family; William, our Bishop; George and Harold, Bishops Emeriti, and their families.

8: Parish of Salisbury & Havelock, The Rev. Ellis Jagoe; The Ven. Harold Hazen (R).

9: Parish of Shediac, Capt. Hugh Bateman, The Ven.

Malcolm Berry.

10: Parish of Simonds, Rev. Bentley Steers; Rev. Canon David Jackson (R).

11: Parish of Stanley, The Rev. Ranall Ingalls.

12: Parish of Sussex, The Rev. David Barrett; James Duffett, Wycliffe College.

13: Parish of Tobique, The Rev. Richard Steeves.

SUNDAY

14: Diocese of Yukon: Haines Junction - St. Christopher; Beaver Creek - St. Columba; Alaska Highway mile 918-1202: The Rev. Geoffrey Dixon, Rosalind Dixon, Bishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family; William, our Bishop; George and Harold, Bishops Emeriti, and their families.

15: Parish of Upham, The Rev. Philip Pain; The Ven. J. F. N. Jones (R).

16: Parish of Upper Kennebecasis, The Rev. Leo Martin.

17: Parish of Victoria, The Rev. David Kierstead; The Rev. Tom Knox (R).

18: Parish of Waterford & St. Mark, The Rev. Allen Tapley.

19: Parish of Westfield, The Rev. Harley Clowater; Chris Hayes, Wycliffe College.

20: Parish of Westmorland, Rev. Robert LeBlanc, Priest-in-Charge.

SUNDAY

21: Diocese of Yukon: Whitehorse - Church of the Northern Apostles: interim lay leadership, Bishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family; William, our Bishop; George and Harold, Bishops Emeriti, and their families.

22: Parish of Wicklow, Wilmott, Peel & Aberdeen, The Rev. Christopher VanBuskirk, the Rev. David Perks, assistant curate; The Rev. Lloyd Lake (R) Loch Lomond Villa & Saint John Regional Correction Centre Chaplain.

23: Parish of Woodstock, The Ven. Walter Williams.

24: Parish of Andover, The Rev. John Mills; The Rev. Wilfred Langmaid, Chaplain, UNB, STU.

The Reason for the Season

God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, that everyone who has faith in him may not die but have eternal life. It was not to judge the world that God sent his Son into the world, but that through him the world might be saved.

John 3: 16-17
New English Bible

In recent years, cards and bumper sticker slogans tell us that "Jesus is the reason for the season"... but that just isn't the case. It flies in the face of the scriptural warrant and it flies in the face of our human experience as well.

The Father's initiative is seen in Bethlehem. Having heard the cries of his people, he responded to humanity's plea in an expression of grace and truth discovered in the stable manger. Our need prompted the chain of events that began in the City of David and led inexorably to the darkness of a Friday shrouding the Holy City some years later; so the scriptures proclaim, the creeds declare and we believe. Redemption ... forgiveness ... salvation ... drawing the attention of those who know their need in the midst of their struggles.

Our slogans avoid the point. We are reluctant to acknowledge that *we* are the reason for the incarnation. We demonstrate our arrogance and underscore our need for the Bethlehem event, year after year. We are beguiled and allow today's prevalent bumper sticker theology to deflect our attention from our own need. We are aloof and beyond any need of God.

That appears to be the heresy of the day. Oh, we *believe* in God, alright. But, our sense of self-righteousness may prevent us from acknowledging our *need* of God's grace. We consider ourselves as generally *good*, and we have no *need* of God: of accept-



the penultimate  Word

BY JAMES IRVINE

ance, of forgiveness, of salvation! Alternatively, our sense of righteousness may prevent us from acknowledging *others* need of God's grace. They are not good *enough*, and therefore they are undeserving of God.

Our sense of distance leads to the exclusion of others, and, ironically, a baby in a stable manger: a baby we consider we do not need but a baby we are prepared to worship nonetheless!

By removing our need of his reconciling love, we place ourselves above the baby and beyond his reach.

He receives our adoration, our praise, our obeisance. Enthusiastically, we say that he is the reason for the season and when we do, we fail to recognize our need of him: a need that first brought him closer to us, than we to him.

We are the Reason for the Season!

The Rev. Canon James. T. Irvine is rector of Gondola Point.

*May the joys and blessings
of
Advent and Christmas
follow you into the New Year
from
The Board of Management
&
Staff
of
The New Brunswick Anglican*



Jean Vanier to visit province in July

BY IAN DONALD

Jean Vanier, founder of L'Arche Communities International, will visit Bathurst and Saint John next July, tentatively on the 17th and 18th. In each city he will offer professional days for nurses, social workers, clergy, families and other members of the caring professions, and will address the public in the evening.

In preparation for M. Vanier's visit, the New Dawn Community Inc. of Saint John offers churches, clubs and other interested groups a short presentation, including a video. For more information, or to book a presentation, call 506/696-8157 or 506/635-8078. L'Arche supports a community home in development by the New Dawn Community.

In demand worldwide as a speaker, Jean Vanier maintains strong ties with Canada, where he was born, and visits annually. He makes his home in France in the community which he founded, a community that welcomes men and women with mental handicaps. L'Arche (the Ark), as he called his rundown little house where the

community began, became a model for others who were inspired to follow his example. The world seemed ready for his message because the L'Arche concept grew and continues to spread beyond expectations. Today a worldwide federation of L'Arche communities overcomes language, religious and cultural barriers to offer a mission guided by a common charter and spirit.

Today there are 26 L'Arche communities across Canada. Some are small, with only two or three households; others have many homes and workshops. They are all welcoming communities that operate in the spirit of the beatitudes. They are warm places of celebration, places of hope and friendship. This is the kind of place that is in store for Saint John. For the past nine years the New Dawn ecumenical fellowship has shared the L'Arche vision and will eventually launch a community home with the support of the international organization. It publishes a newsletter with notices of gatherings and celebrations.

"We speak about L'Arche as a school of the heart where we all, handicapped or not, are challenged to grow in our capacity to love, forgive and celebrate."

Nathan Ball



... from Maggie's kitchen

St. Adelaide's life was the stuff of novels, filled with intrigues and contentions.

Do you ever wish your life were more exciting? I sometimes do, especially during this dark time of the year. I can't head for Florida, where the sun is shining, since it's Advent and I'm needed at home in the rectory (anyway, I can't afford the trip), and I won't compromise the purpose of the season by turning it into a month of parties, tinsel and shop-till-you-drop. So I guess it's blahs-ville for me.

But then again, do I really want more excitement? Am I up to it?

The turn-of-the-first-millennium saint for this last month of the year probably longed for a more ordinary, peace-and-quiet, predictable sort of life. As it was, St. Adelaide's life was the stuff of novels, filled with intrigues and contentions.

Actually, Adelaide missed the turn of the first millennium by sixteen days (or 16+365, if you say 1001 marked the turn), dying on December 16, 999. She was born in 931, the daughter of Rudolf II of Upper Burgundy, a duchy in eastern France, on the Italian border. My knowledge of this era of western history is sketchy, but I'll do my best to guide you through the subsequent names and events!

With his eye on Lombardy, the Italian kingdom to the east, Rudolf makes a treaty with a potential rival, Hugh of Provence, in which treaty Adelaide, now age two, is promised in marriage to Hugh's son, Lothair. They are married fourteen years later (947), Lothair now being the king of Italy — or at least nominally so. The *real* power behind the throne is one Berengarius of Ivrea. Lothair and Adelaide have one child, Emma. But by 950, Adelaide is a widow, the likelihood being that Lothair has been poisoned by Berengarius, who then tries to talk Adelaide into marrying his son. Persuasion failing, he shuts her up in a castle on Lake Garda.

Fade to the German-Italian border, where the German king, Otto the Great, is bringing an

army into Italy to impose order. He defeats Berengarius and sets Adelaide free — or maybe she escapes the castle and joins him. Whatever. On Christmas Day 951, Otto marries Adelaide, thereby consolidating his authority in Italy. They have five children. Unfortunately, Otto is a widower with one son, Ludolf, by his first wife, the sister of Athelstan of England. As is all too common in "blended" families, jealousy rears its ugly head. Nevertheless, Adelaide's gentle and gracious nature is able to withstand her stepson's discontent and rebellion, and the German people come to love her.

In 962 in Rome, Otto is crowned emperor. The next ten years are quiet ones for Adelaide. Then Otto dies, and their eldest son, Otto II, ascends the throne. This son wants to be his own man, independent of mama, so he marries a politically ambitious Byzantine, Theophano, who takes over the reins and thoroughly sours the mother-son relationship. Adelaide, to keep the peace, retreats to her brother at Vienne. She appeals to the Abbot of Cluny, who manages a reconciliation; Otto II falls on his knees, asking his mother's forgiveness.

Now, in 983, Otto II dies. Otto III being only a baby (though duly crowned emperor), Theophano becomes regent, a job for which she is in fact very well-suited, Byzantine that she is. Adelaide deems it expedient to make herself scarce. But Theophano dies suddenly in 991, and Adelaide, now well past her prime, finds herself in the regent's chair. By the mercy of God, she has the able assistance of Willigis, the saintly Archbishop of Mainz, a great statesman of unflinching energy. As difficult as her job is, Adelaide has the gift of seeking — and heeding — good advice, and the empire is held together for her grandson and the new millennium. She dies peaceably back home in Burgundy, in one of the monasteries she founded.

I guess if I go looking for excitement in my life (which Adelaide certainly didn't!), I'd better be armed with the virtues Adelaide possessed: generosity, a readiness to forgive my enemies, faithfulness, awareness of my limitations, and submissiveness to wise guidance. Not to mention the ability to discern what is really

important: Despite the constantly shifting sands she had to walk on, Adelaide had room in her soul to be concerned for the conversion of the Slavs, who were troubling her eastern frontier, and put a great deal of energy into founding and restoring monasteries of monks and nuns, the stabilizing influence of her day.

Maybe I should just stick to culinary adventures, and try something made with chestnuts, a favourite food item in Adelaide's Burgundy. The following French Christmas favourite sounds intriguing, if decadent:

CHESTNUT YULE LOG

Melt 4 ounces dark chocolate in a double boiler. Remove from heat and add 3/4 cup sifted confectioner's sugar creamed with 3 ounces unsalted butter, 1 Tbsp brandy, and a 1-pound can of chestnut puree. Beat thoroughly, then spoon into a wax-paper-lined loaf tin; refrigerate for an hour. Transfer to another sheet of wax paper and, working quickly, form into a log. Smooth surface with a knife dipped in hot water; refrigerate again. Melt another 4 ounces dark chocolate; cool some, then spread on the log, using a fork to make "bark". Chill thoroughly. Decorate before serving with confectionary holly leaves and mushrooms; dust with icing sugar.

Maggie Harris lives in the Parish of Derby & Blackville