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Ordination



In the first such service of his episcopacy, Bishop William Hockin (centre) raised four deacons to the priesthood at Christ Church Cathedral on Christ the King Sunday, November 26. Left to right they are: the Rev. Patricia Drummond, Diocesan Christian Education Director, and honorary assistant at the Cathedral; the Rev. David Perks, assistant curate in the Parish of Wicklow, Wilmot, Peel and Aberdeen; the Rev. George Trentowsky, assistant curate at Trinity Church in Saint John; the Rev. Elaine Hamilton, assistant curate at Christ Church (Parish) Church in Fredericton. Photo by David Watts

McCain to speak at Bishop's Dinner

Proceeds will go toward meeting clergy needs

The Hon. Margaret McCain will speak at the first annual Bishop's Dinner, Thursday evening, April 19, at the Sheraton Hotel in Fredericton. Proceeds from the \$100 a plate event will go to the Bishop's Discretionary Fund for the assistance of special clergy needs, including the Clergy College scheduled for June.

"We live in challenging times, our clergy are spiritual and moral bastions dealing with contemporary issues of society. They need on-going support and training in order to cope with the challenges they face. The Bishop's Discretionary Fund does not exist as a line-item in our budget. The bishop sees these funds as essential and asked me to form a com-

mittee to launch a fund raising event," says Keith Dow.

The dinner is modeled on similar events in the Dioceses of Nova Scotia and Toronto and will include special guests and entertainment as well as the speaker.

Mrs. McCain, a former lieutenant governor of New Brunswick, an advocate for women and children, and the wife of a wealthy and powerful industrialist, spoke at the Diocese of Toronto dinner last year and shared her spiritual and secular journey in a meaningful way.

"She is thrilled with the opportunity to come home and share with us as well," says Mr. Dow.

Organizers hope to sell a minimum of 200 tickets. A tax receipt for about \$65 will be issued.

Bishop William Hockin hopes the dinner will become an annual event to take place in the larger centres of the diocese on a rotating basis.

Bishop wants priests to take a winter break

Rest required following Christmas season

Bishop William Hockin wants parishes to grant rectors an additional week of vacation to be taken after Christmas and before Holy Week each year.

In a pastoral letter to the wardens in each parish of the diocese the bishop asked that they strongly encourage their priests to honour his concern for a period of rest following the additional demands of the season.

The letter was written following his own reflection and consultation with the Stipend and Human Resources Subcommittee.

Epiphany and Ash Wednesday are not to be included in the holiday week, which must include a Sunday.

The time is optional at the discretion of the priest, and may not be accumulated.

Bishop Hockin recognized that there might be some financial cost to the parish for worship and pastoral oversight, so he encouraged priests to give reasonable notice of their intent to take the vacation time.

Consultation connections

BY ANA WATTS

An afternoon of consultation with representatives of the National Church connected the residential school issue to this diocese and revealed a sense of support for the National Church.

On November 27 Andrea Mann, a member of Church House

staff in Toronto, and Elizabeth Hutchinson, a member of the Council of General Synod volunteer from the Diocese of Montreal, met with about 40 representatives of the Diocese of Fredericton at Cathedral Memorial Hall.

The major part of their presentation was a video that offered

several perspectives on the litigation launched by natives against the government and churches to address abuses (some proven, some alleged) perpetrated against them in residential schools established and funded by the federal government and administered by

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Hazel MacKenzie from the Parish of Minto and Chipman (standing at the right) is one of about 50 people in the diocese who participated in a National Church Consultation session held in the Cathedral Hall in late November. Elizabeth Hutchinson, a Council of General Synod member from the Diocese of Montreal (seated at the left, facing Mrs. MacKenzie, and National Church staffer Andrea Mann (next to Mrs. Hutchinson) facilitated the event.

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Inside



A Visit from St. Nicholas — page 7

LETTER

Dear Ana,

Just a note of thanks for the article in the NB Anglican on students! (October 2000) I went over to Jarvis St. and picked up copies for all of us here at Wycliffe — fun to see ourselves in print.

I am attaching a little piece I wrote on Jean Vanier - thought you might want to use it or not.

Take care and Happy Advent

Wendy

Wendy Amos-Binks studies Theology in Toronto. Her article on Jean Vanier appears on the right.

Jean Vanier, a powerful presence, a humble man

BY WENDY AMOS-BINKS

Recently Jean Vanier was celebrated as a 'Modern-day Saint' in my home parish of Riverview, back in New Brunswick. Since I attended 'A Day of Reflection' with him here in Toronto, I understand why.

He is tall, a man with a powerful presence, and yet it is a power, a presence of humility and transparency. His speech is a wonderful gift. When he spoke to us he engaged our hearts as well as our minds. He spoke without notes, he

met our eyes, he reached out to touch those whose questions he could not catch. He spoke of "Ministering from Brokenness". He ministered to us.

He told us we can minister from our brokenness. The one who can heal the wounded is the wounded one.

It is in our painful places that we realize our need and listen to the Spirit. The Spirit will move us as it did the Samaritan — we

will stop and "be moved" by the one in need.

The "Good News" is given not to those who serve the poor, but to those who are poor, he said.

We hide, we do not want people to know how weak and poor we are. We do not have to be powerful or the best ... we need to offer others a helping hand rather than a push up the ladder.

When we really listen we will wonder and come to under-

stand the pain of the other. That is love. In love we can trust enough to open and allow connection. Do we trust Jesus?

Friendship is a relationship of fidelity, a covenant to honour the other.

Ours is a cleansing and spiriting Gospel which calls us to new life in a culture of the Beatitudes. It is a culture different from the one we live in.

Thank you Jean Vanier. You are one of God's saints.

Consultation clarifies residential school issue

various religious denominations throughout the country. The video also looked at the church's healing and reconciliation efforts in this regard.

Following the video those in attendance were divided into small groups to discuss various aspects of Healing & Reconciliation as well as to prioritize choices and directions for the mission of General Synod and to rank the importance of Healing & Reconciliation within those priorities.

A list of General Synod priorities

identified in 1995 was used as a starting-point. At that time mission and development outside Canada was at the top of the list and the strengthening of a commitment to indigenous peoples and domestic missions in the north were near the bottom. It was generally agreed by those at the consultation that the priorities were now reversed.

David Watts, who attended a Sacred Circle at the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples last summer, also made a brief presen-

tation. He said he went to the Sacred Circle feeling an outsider, since the Diocese of Fredericton is not named in any Residential School suits. Its only Residential School only operated from 1786 to 1825. By the time the conference was over, he appreciated the Residential School issue is a concern of the entire Church.

The Rev. David Kierstead of the Parish of Victoria in Saint John challenged National Church representatives on the lack of native representation.

"How difficult would it have been to have aboriginal persons here instead of you? We are all white people discussing how to solve this problem. We need to hear from aboriginal persons."

Ms. Mann said the consultation called for a native member to be present. "We had a native member with us in Nova Scotia but he wasn't able to come on to New Brunswick."

Hazel MacKenzie from the Parish of Minto and Chipman spoke on behalf of women like her

.....continued from page 1

mother who spent many years supporting the schools, unaware that in some of them the children were abused.

"They didn't know what was going on, even women teaching in some of those schools didn't know what was going on. People like my mother through they were doing an honourable thing, that they were offering honourable gifts when they sent mittens, hats and blankets."

Bishop William Hockin said he felt the consultation was very successful despite the lack of a native participant.

"I think there was a positive response from those who attended, and that we have begun to recognize we are not all that far removed from the Residential Schools issue. There is a growing consciousness of the alienation felt by natives and I sensed a will to bridge that gap. I also sensed support for the National Church."

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Getting there and sometimes not getting there

I spent a good part of late November on the trail of a big story for the New Brunswick Anglican. Bob Harvey, the religion editor at the Ottawa Citizen even joined the chase for a while. He knew when to give up. I didn't. That's why he gets the big bucks.

There was a story there. It may even be a hard-news story, but I haven't got any hard facts, so I'll tell you about it here instead of on page one.

Bishop Bill called me one evening and said: "Something's up. Banks are calling parish loans, denying rectory mortgages and requiring personal guarantees. It may have something to do with the National Church financial situation."

I assumed the 'scoop' position and got on the Internet and the phone.

The Anglican Editors Association has an e-mail list. I can post a message or a question on it and every Anglican editor with e-mail (and I think that's all of them now) gets it. I told them what our bishop had said asked if any other dioceses had the banking blues. The editor of Crosstalk, the Ottawa diocesan paper, also works at the Ottawa Citizen, so that's how Bob Harvey got in on the act.

No other dioceses seemed to be having trouble, but I started calling around our diocese to see just what was going on.

In the Parish of St. George the wardens understood they had a line of credit, the Bank of Nova Scotia said it was a term loan and wanted it repaid. It was not interested in discussing the matter or making any other arrangements. The wardens got a new loan from a different bank in Saint John and had to guarantee it personally.

The most disturbing bank story, however, comes from the Parishes of Waterford and St. Mark, which built the fabulous new rectory you can see on page 4.

"We came up with a mortgage package and went off to the four banks in Sussex, expecting to be welcomed. We only required an \$80,000 mortgage on a \$200,000 property," says Allen Tapley, the rector.

"At the Bank of Nova Scotia we were told 'We don't give mortgages to churches'. End of conversation. The National Bank seemed pleased to see us though and we worked on the arrangements. Eventually they said 'everything is fine, all we need now is

a list of the people who contribute to your parish and how much they contribute each year. Orders from head-office'. We ended that conversation

"We went to the TD bank, organized interim financing and everything was going well. The lawyers went in to sign the papers and they said 'just one more thing, we need three people to personally guarantee the mortgage'. We had to do it."

These things happened about the time the National Church's financial problems in the light of Residential School lawsuits were being splashed across every front page in the country and there was concern that perhaps the banks had put Anglican parishes and institutions in general on a 'bad risk' list.

I talked to representatives of the Canadian Bankers Associations and Bob talked to bank PR people and they assured us we weren't being targeted or listed or anything.

So why the sudden change in attitude? Diocesan Treasurer Fred Scott offers this:

"The Anglican Church in this diocese has a good history and we thought it would stand it in good stead. Over the past 200 years we have built strong community relationships, but these no longer exist in the eyes of the banks. Local managers no longer have authority to make decisions based on the history of these relationships. Other churches, newer churches, have long been subjected to the kinds of things to which we have been subjected lately."

Makes sense, but just in case some banks are still uneasy about Anglican churches, I got a quote from Doug Tindal, Communications Director for General Synod.

"There is simply no connection between General Synod and parishes or dioceses. If there, people wouldn't have to sue them both. If there were any way to get money out of parishes and dioceses who are not named in Residential School lawsuits they would have gone after St. Paul's Bloor Street long ago."

Hope that makes everyone feel better.



Ana Watts is editor of the New Brunswick Anglican

BISHOP'S PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS

January 10-14
Bishop's Visitation
Deanery of York

January 16-21 & 28
Bishop's Visitation
Deanery of Fredericton



From the Bishop Going home another way

Well our tree went out the other night. The needles, at least most of them, are swept up, the outside lights are unplugged. These are powerful symbols. Christmas is over and a New Year has begun. The Church does its best with the transition, calls it Epiphany, which literally means appearance or manifestation.

James Joyce used the word in his novels to mean "a sudden revelation of the essential nature of a thing or a person or situation. It is the moment in which the soul of the commonest object seems to us radiant." The human response to an epiphany is therefore: "Wow, I never knew that — awesome, I finally know what it all means."

The Epiphany of Jesus Christ celebrates that moment when suddenly the implication of who He is and why He was born becomes apparent. "The soul of this Bethlehem event becomes radiant to the world."

The story usually associated with the Epiphany is the story of the journey of Wise Men from the East who brought their gifts to Jesus. Tradition tells us they were astrologers from Persia (modern day Iran). In the first century astrology was considered a sophisticated science and religion for the ruling class. Herod himself, fascinated with Greek culture, probably had a resident Star Watcher. He took the words of the Magi seriously.

The essential message of the story is recognition of the significance of the child in Bethlehem by people outside Jewish culture. Recognition that "the soul of this thing is radiant". People in the world outside of rural Judea were suddenly saying: "wow, we had better look at Him."

Two thousand years later we are still looking — at Him.

Last year a front page story in one of our newspapers was headlined "Give them Jesus but no theology." It said "Jesus is hot, He is being silk screened on gowns, He has a board game. Jesus is the icon of choice on t-shirts and tote bags, and He pops up in the lyrics of some rap music's biggest hits.

"But", continued the article, "this doesn't mean people are going back to Church, instead they are circling on the edges, they don't want theology, they want a good experience. And many feel that Jesus can deliver. They want a tradition free, context free Wal-Mart God"

Now the upside of that story is that people, out of their spiritual hunger, are once again looking at Jesus of Nazareth. There has to be something good about that. The downside is that we don't have a theology-free Bible, or a theology-free Jesus to offer. The Wise Men, for instance, didn't leave Bethlehem wearing a Jesus t-shirt and just go home with big smiles on their faces. They went home with a lot more.

For us, you see, this is the Jesus who said: "Come unto me all who are tired and heavy laden and I will refresh you". But He also says "Take up your cross, keep my commandments, and follow Me".

The Wise Men went home another way, and I suspect it was not just to avoid King Herod. Maybe. I believe it also means that because they met Jesus they could never be the same again. That their lives would be changed for ever.

Throughout my pastoral ministry I have met a lot of people who long to live the rest of their lives "another way". They want a fresh start. They are tired of being tired. Tired of work that doesn't satisfy. Tired of nothing new in their lives.

We all want to somehow connect our longing for personal change with this God who makes Himself known in Christ, and in that connecting we want more than just souvenirs, more than t-shirts and tote bags. We want a change in our lives. We want to go home 'another way'.

Matthew's Gospel tells us that the Wise Men did three things that I believe can be translated for our consideration.

First they saw their lives as a search for truth. They recognized there was something missing, something that didn't fit. They went looking for it and found it in Bethlehem. That reminds me of something Tony Campollo once wrote: "You are as young as your dreams and as old as your cynicism".

Second, they worshipped. When they found the child "they worshipped Him". One of the great, liberating moments of life comes when we are able to admit that our lives cannot be fulfilled until we can worship someone outside ourselves. P.T. Forsythe put it this way: "Unless we have someone within us that is above us, we succumb to what is around us".

The third thing the Wise Men did was to give, generously. "They presented unto Jesus gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh". Being a generous person is one of the essential ways of getting on with life in 'another way'.

So as we leave another Christmas, and struggle to find our way in this New Year, we need three things. We need to see life as a journey, to search for more of God. We need to see the majesty and awesomeness of God, and to bow our heads to reverence and to worship Him. We need to begin each week on Sunday with God's energy, not just our own. We need to be generous, to see life as a gift and share it with others.

These are three things we all can do; three things that very wise people have always done; three things that will make for a wonderful and dynamic New Year. God bless you.

The Rt. Rev. William Hockin is Bishop of Fredericton

Bishop again communicates through video

A second video from Bishop William Hockin is on its way to parishes. In it he enumerates actions taken since Synod 2000 and elaborates on preparations for the upcoming synod in June.

The first video prepared by the bishop last winter asked parishes to offer their concerns for the church. More than 90 per cent of the parishes responded, and the common concerns expressed in those responses formed the basis for the bishop's charge to synod in 2000.

"I think this is an effective way to communicate with vestries and congregations," said Bishop Hockin. "It was a great experience last time. Some parishes just showed the video at vestry meetings, others showed it to the entire congregation."

The video is accompanied by a feed-back document.

Archdeacon appointed

The Rev. Douglas Patstone was appointed Archdeacon of Chatham, effective January 1, the service of Installation will take place in Christ Church Cathedral on January 14 at 7 p.m.

Recently appointed as Rector of St. George's, Bathurst, Mr. Patstone was brought up in Westfield. In the late 1960s he attended the Church Army Training College. As a commissioned officer he traveled throughout eastern Canada as an evangelist and worked with young people.

He entered Wycliffe College in 1973, and in 1976 he was granted an LTh. He was ordained deacon and priest by Archbishop Harold Nutter in 1976 and 1977 respectively.

Following ordination he served as assistant curate at Christ Church (Parish) Church in Fredericton. Later he moved Vancouver Island where he served at St. Albans in Port Alberni and later at St. Matthias in Victoria. At the time of his appointment to the Parish of Bathurst earlier this year, he was rector of the Church of St. Bride in Mississauga, Ontario. He served as regional dean in both Victoria and Mississauga.

The Archdeaconry of Chatham includes the deaneries of Chaleur and Miramichi.

Part-time parish appointment

The Rev. Charles Smart was appointed part-time Priest-in-Charge of the Parish of Campobello, effective December 1. Mr. Smart recently retired from the Parish of McAdam.

AST looking for new partners

In light of uncertain provincial government funding, the Atlantic School of Theology (AST) is exploring options for future partnerships. Discussions with its partner churches — Anglican, Roman Catholic, United Church of Canada — as well as the government of Nova Scotia are underway in an effort to stabilize the funding base for the Halifax school.

"As founding partners, we are firmly committed to the continuation of AST," says Bishop Fred Hiltz of the Anglican Diocese of Nova Scotia and PEI.

"We have pledged to continue to meet to explore options preparatory to meeting with the Department of Education."

The Nova Scotia Department of Education is on record as favouring fewer universities in the province. In light of this imperative, AST's president, the Rev. Dr. William Close, has been involved in discussions to investigate new partnerships and associations which would be

mutually beneficial, and which would achieve new economies.

AST is the result of the 1971 union of three schools — the Divinity Faculty of King's (Anglican), the Holy Heart Institute (Roman Catholic) and Pine Hill Divinity Hall — so new partnerships are nothing new to the AST culture. AST was granted its University Charter in 1974.

The school's accreditation by the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada was renewed for 10 years in 1998. The 10-year accreditation was awarded because of the school's quality of programme, faculty, and its recent improvements in administration.

AST is confident that its clarity of vision and commitment to mission will result in strategic alliances in the future which will benefit AST and its constituents.

One student from the Diocese of Fredericton is enrolled at AST.

A New Rectory in Dutch Valley

The Anglican Parishes of Waterford and St. Mark have built a new rectory to replace the existing house in Sussex Corner. The new house was designed and built to diocesan standards and to serve clergy families of various sizes for years to come.

The new rectory is located on a one acre lot in Eden Park Estates in Dutch Valley. It has four bedrooms, two and one-half baths, kitchen, dining room, living room, family room, laundry room, rector's study, plenty of storage space and a garage. The first floor is barrier free. It was built by Joe Waugh Construction of Corn Hill, NB to exceed R2000 standards for energy efficiency.

The Reverend Allen Tapley, who has been in the parishes since 1995, said the project has been in the planning stage for several years. The original parish rectory was in Waterford and is now a private home sitting behind the Community Hall, next to Trout Creek. The present rectory at 40 Needle Street was purchased in the 1960's with an addition built in the 1970's. Difficult decisions were taken during the planning process. Some wanted to renovate, some wanted to upgrade; others thought the old house should be removed and the new one built on the existing site. The final decision had a bit to do with money, Mr. Tapley said, "We needed the equity from the present property and it is currently for sale."

A rectory in the Anglican tradition is more than a house where the parson lives. It is a sort of parish house where meetings,

events and teaching often take place. The new house has many rooms for privacy, rather than the open style we might choose for ourselves. Family members can live a near normal life whilst other activities go on around them.

When any congregation builds something it has to be paid for. In years gone by "sweat equity" and local materials allowed for the construction of buildings we could not afford to have built today. Building codes, other standards and busy lives have made this method more difficult today. Others begin fund-raising projects. Numerous dinners, breakfasts, bake sales and auctions can often take all the energy the people have to offer, and ministry can be hindered. Waterford and St. Mark has a long held principle of "tithes and offerings only" to support the work of the Church in their parishes. They do not fund-raise and when they have a pancake supper on Shrove Tuesday or an offering from the Living Manger it goes to a need outside the parish.

Marshall Fanjoy, chair of the Rectory Finance Committee, said that "For the past several years we have budgeted an amount toward the rectory project and we have appealed to our people for extra gifts. They have been generous".

Even with this generosity, a sizable mortgage will be necessary. "That in itself is a story", says Mr. Tapley, "Many banks don't seem interested in lending money to local Christian Churches. I find that odd considering our demonstrated sense of responsibility and the fact we



This new rectory for the Parishes of Waterford and St. Mark is built to diocesan standards with four bedrooms, two and one-half baths, kitchen, dining room, living room, family room, laundry room, rector's study, plenty of storage space and a garage.

have been in uninterrupted business for 2000 years."

"My only concern", says Mr. Tapley, "is that the project will hinder the ministry of the Good News of Jesus Christ which we are called to do and that's why we want to pay the debt away as quickly as possible."

A 35mm film cannister "Toonie Campaign" took place in Advent. Parishioners filled specially marked film canisters with \$2 coins and contributed them to the church.

The action also saved a lot of wear and tear on their pockets.

Friends of the church who would like to help out financially can contact Mr. Fanjoy or the parish secretary at 4 Needle St., Sussex Corner, NB E4E 2Z4. All donations are tax-deductible.

The Parishes of Waterford and St. Mark consist of three congregations: St. John the Evangelist in Waterford, All Saint's in Jeffries' Corner and St. Mark's in Sussex Corner. They are known for their

enthusiasm, evangelism, Alpha Courses, music, the Living Manger and community service. Worship is each Sunday at 8, 9:30 and 11.

The people of the parishes want to thank Joe Waugh, Mary Norrad, Graham Moore, all the sub-contractors and everyone who helped with the project.

The new rectory was named "Gilead", and the public was invited to see it during a New Year's Eve on January 1.

Historic church needs major repairs

Appeal for funds sent to Kingston' family and friends' across the country

Trinity Church in Kingston needs help. Built by Loyalist settlers in 1789, it is a National Historic Site and the oldest Anglican church building still standing on its original site in New Brunswick. Time has taken its toll, however, and major structural repairs are necessary. It will take about

\$200,000 to ensure the integrity of its steeple, walls and roof.

Members of the congregation have hosted all kinds of fund-raising events including dinners, auctions and concerts. One talented parishioner even took some of the wood that had to be removed from the steeple, carved, sanded finished crosses that are small enough to be worn as pendants or broaches. They are for sale at the church.

Despite all these efforts the restoration fund is still in desperate need.

Recently the parish mailed letters across the country to as many Kingston descendants as they could identify, asking for contributions to the Restoration Fund. New Brunswick Anglicans with Kingston connections are also encouraged to lend their support in order that Trinity Church may remain a vital spiritual and historical presence.

Donations may be sent to :
Trinity Restoration Fund,
3948 Rte. 845,
Kingston, NB
E5N 1E9.

Obituaries

NORMAN REDMOND CODY

Norman Redmond Cody died in Hanwell (near Fredericton) on November 19. He studied art in Saint John as a young man and was a part of a vibrant art community that included Violet Gillett, Jack Humphrey, Miller Brittain and Ted Campbell. He was the son of Archdeacon H. A. and Jessie Cody. His father was a celebrated author. Norman Cody was predeceased by his wife Della. He is survived by three daughters Sharon of Fredericton, Katharine of Vancouver, Cynthia of Halifax; one son, Robert of Moose Jaw; his brother George in England, his sister Frances Alexander of Victoria, BC. nine grandchildren and one great grandchild. A memorial service was held at Christ Church Cathedral on November 22. The Rev. Elaine Lucas officiated.

LEONARD PHILIP EDWARD

Professor Leonard Philip Edward of Fredericton died on November 24. His long and distinguished career in education began

at the age of 15, when he completed high school and began to teach on a local permit in Cape Breton. He retired from full-time teaching at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton, where he served as Head of the Math Department, in 1973, but continued to tutor students until he was 90. His contributions to the Anglican Church included sidesman, layman and choir duties at Christ Church Cathedral; as a layreader he conducted services in several rural parishes; he was a delegate to Provincial and General Synods on a number of occasions. His devotion to his church was recognized with an honorary Doctor of Civil Laws by the University of Kings College in Halifax. He was predeceased by his wife Bernice. He is survived by three children, Sterling of Manila, Philippines, Merrill of Fredericton and Diane Stephenson of Grand-Bay Westfield; one sister, Elsie Huskison of Yarmouth; seven grandchildren, five great-grandchildren. His funeral was held at Christ Church Cathedral.

USED MINOLTA PHOTOCOPIER

The Parish of Pennfield has a used copier which needs repair, but could well be useful for some time to come.

We are offering this at no charge.

Please call one of our wardens if interested.

Mr. Tony Munn 755-3097

Mr. John Waugh 659-2472

Anglican House gets a face-lift

BY DAVID BARRETT

Friends of Anglican House in Saint John recently undertook to spruce-up the venerable bookstore. Now it is as bright, cheerful and efficient as its willing staff.

Cathy Westgate of the Parish of Millidgeville started the ball rolling. She and her helper Andy, who wishes to remain otherwise nameless, painted the entire store in accordance with guidelines set down by the Saint John Preservation Review Board. The result is most impressive!

There were other willing workers involved in the renewal process. The Rev. David Kierstead of the Parish of Victoria did some much-needed electrical work. He also made a new outdoor sign, arranged to have it painted and installed, then helped to sort out some problems with the computer system.

The Parish of Carleton offered lots of support too. David Goss is a long-time promoter of Anglican House who also helped to paint. The Rev. Vicars Hodge and his wife, Carol developed a new layout for the store. The result is a more attractive presentation of the store's wonderful selection of Christian books, gifts, cards, and church supplies. Virtually any book can be ordered by manager Gwen MacKnight or her assistant Rhona Milley.

Anglican House is a remnant of The Church of England Institute. Established in 1876 by the Rev. F.H.J. Brigstocke, Rector of Trinity Church, it was a place for clergy to meet, read, and learn. A variety of magazines and newspapers were



Cathy Westgate, right, got the Anglican House Renewal Project ball rolling. She and her helper Andy (left) led a team of volunteers who painted the entire store in accordance with guidelines set down by the Saint John Preservation Review Board. The result is most impressive.

on hand and guest lecturers were frequently brought in.

The institute's first home was destroyed in the Great Saint John Fire of 1877. The present building at 116 Princess Street was bought shortly thereafter.

The Church of England Institute provided the first mission

to the seamen in Saint John. Its Ladies' Auxiliary conducted hospital visits and delivered flowers, fruit, and gifts to the sick. Over the years the role of the Institute changed. Eventually it became a Christian book store with a fiction lending library attached. The library was phased-out a few years ago.

The Rev. David Kierstead of the Parish of Victoria made a new outdoor sign then arranged to have it painted and installed at Anglican House in Saint John.



Once the walls and trim at Anglican House were freshly painted, The Rev. Vicars Hodge and his wife Carol, from the Parish of Carleton, developed a new layout for the store. The result is a more attractive presentation of the store's wonderful selection of Christian books, gifts, cards, and church supplies.

Despite the best efforts of the Board of Directors, there seldom seems to be enough money for repairs to the 123-year-old building, so a huge thank-you is owed to all the volunteers, including many not named here, for this much-needed face-lift. The only cost to Anglican House was the

price of the paint. Thank you as well to the Diocese of Fredericton for its annual \$6,000 grant. Without that support Anglican House could not carry on.

Please stop by to see the renovations and browse through the store. If you mention this article, you will receive a 10% discount!



Companion and Mission News

Quispamsis /Recife connections

The Parish of Quispamsis will host a theology student from our Companion Diocese of Recife for 14 weeks, beginning May 1 of 2001. The primary objective of

the visit is for the student to learn English. The Diocese of Recife will cover transportation costs.

The parish will also send a mission team to Recife when the

student returns in August. Judy Pennanen and her daughter Allison hope to be members of the team and have begun to study Portuguese.

Fill a film tube with 'Toonies'

Picture how you can change a life

On a dusty road in Uganda an eight-year-old boy heads off to work. As he walks he dreams of earning two dollars so he can pay for one semester in a government school. This is a common scene, a common dream, in Uganda.

The Rev. Paul Jeffries, principal of Bishop McAllister Col-

lege in Uganda and a Volunteer-in-Mission from our diocese, has challenged his school to take in orphans. In order to help his school help the orphans, and in order for Paul to remain in Uganda for the next two years and help all those children who cannot afford to go to school, the Diocese of

Fredericton Missionary Society has a plan.

Save your 'Toonies' in a 35mm film canister. When it is full you will have \$50. Send that \$50 to The Diocese of Fredericton, 115 Church Street, Fredericton, E3B 4C8, earmarked for Paul Jeffries.



Amazing Technicolour VBC

The 43 children who participated in the 10th annual Vacation Bible Club at St. Mary and St. Bartholomew's Church in Saint John last summer had an amazing time.

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat was the theme of the week, and included attendance at the KV Players production of the musical. A colourful wall-hanging created by the children that week was dedicated in the church in October.

They even managed to find time to pose for a photo with their Sunday school teachers and leaders.

From left to right they are: **front row**, Michael Tipling, Adrian Little, Suzanne Gilmore, Raymond Little, Matthew Coleman, Chandler Scott, Dustin Little; **second row**, Andrew Fitzpatrick, Joanne Fitzpatrick, Kayleigh Thibodeau, Chelsea Murray, Lindsay Ramsay, Kaitlyn Day, Josh Forward, Dylan Crawford, Pauline LeBlanc,



Mercedes Ryder, Jenna Bramston; **third row**, Canon Wally Corey (rector), Brock Crawford, Bonnie Crawford, Kim Gillet, Nicholas

Coleman, Jordan Fitzpatrick, Meredith Fitzpatrick, Amy Ryder, Carol Lloyd and Stephen Lloyd (with the sign; **fourth**

row, Nicky Scott, Colton Scott, Bronwyn Ryder, Betty McVicar, Brenda Gilmore, Katie Gilmore, Katie Vandebroek, Steven

Vandebroek, Erica Forward, Lynne Corey; **back row**, Ashley Fitzpatrick, Carter Scott, Anne Gilmore and Betty Betts.

Employment Opportunity

Youth/Christian Education Director

Christ Church (Parish) Church
Fredericton, N. B.

This is a full time position involving leadership and co-ordination of the Church's youth and Sunday School programs, including recruitment and training of youth group and Sunday School leaders, co-ordinating and leading Bible study groups, participation in regular Church programs, and visitations.

For a detailed job description, please
E-mail: ccpc@nbnet.nb.ca

Salary commensurate with experience

The successful candidate will demonstrate formal training and experience in working with youth within a Christian environment, excellent motivational, communication and organisational skills, and familiarity with the Anglican tradition of worship.

Applications to include a detailed resumé and three personal references will be accepted until March 2, 2001 and may be mailed to:

Youth Director Search Committee
245 Westmorland Street
Fredericton, N.B. E3B 4L9

Connect with TEC

BY AMY FRANCIS
TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST 2001

Youth are important!! That is the message we would like to express to everyone who reads this article. Youth have been identified as one of the initiatives by Bishop Hockin.

Let's do something about it! We need to create programs in our churches today, that reach out to youth, offer the love of Jesus Christ. We need to make a place for youth in the church, and get them involved! Shall we build up the youth of our churches together? Aren't our youth the Christian church of tomorrow?

It is vital that we acknowledge that youth are important, and that we need to build up our youth, to become the leaders in the church for the future.

Did you know that there are already many Christ-centered programs for youth in New Brunswick? One of such existing programs is Teens Encounter Christ or "TEC".

On the long weekend in May young people from 16-21 gather at Camp Medley to learn and grow in their Christian walks, while having lots of fun too!

Join us. All the contact information you need is right here. See you in May!

TEC Connections

More information can be found on the TEC webpage
www.tecnb.homepage.com

Applications for this weekend are available on the webpage too or from the registrar
Mary Dillon
mdillon@nbnet.nb.ca
or
at any Anglican Church

If you would like to help organize this weekend please contact the Chair of the TEC steering committee,
Karen Bent
4bents@sprint.ca

A visit from St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas paid a return visit to St. George's Church on the Eve of St. Nicholas Day. He was made most welcome.

About 140 children and about 50 parents and helpers were packed into the church and singing Christmas songs on the evening of December 5 when the distinguished bearded man made his entrance.

The Rev. Vicars Hodge, the rector, welcomed Santa Claus. St. Nicholas said he preferred his Christian name.

"I have a number of names in various parts of the world. Claus is short for Nicholas or Nikolaus in German, and the Santa means Saint. So Father Christmas and Saint Nicholas are the same person. I prefer Nicholas because it was given to me at my baptism."

"Why do you give things to people?" asked one little girl.

"My model is Jesus Christ and Jesus gave away everything for us. Giving away things is easy to do if you keep your eyes on Jesus," replied Nicholas.

Following a half-hour, in-church visit the party continued in the parish hall. The Carleton Branch of the Mothers' Union set up stations organized with craft activities, hot chocolate and sweet treats. There was even a St. Nicholas Shop where a child could buy a present for a special friend for a toonie. (Nobody was disappointed, even if they didn't have a toonie handy.)

The St. Nick's Eve children's event grew out of our concern that Santa Claus gets so much "play" and Jesus is often pushed to the side during the Christmas season. All this seems even more unfortunate when one recalls that the original Nicholas, a bishop or overseer of the Church at Myra, was a devout Christian. Nicholas gave away everything he had, eventually even his life, in order to point beyond himself to Jesus Christ.

"Our St. Nicholas Eve program includes about 30 minutes of singing and conversation about Christmas. We do not "do in" Santa Claus, but attempt to help the children to know that St. Nicholas, who has many names in many cultures, was a Christian. The whole event



St. Nicholas Eve crafts and treats at St. George's in Saint John, were provided by The Carleton Branch of Mothers' Union.

takes a little more than an hour. It is hard work to make sure that a large number of children have a fun time. Many members of the congregation are involved and play various roles, but we believe it is worth it. This program has allowed us a won-

derful opportunity to talk to children about Jesus. Many of the children who come to this event do not come to church. It is a wonderful opportunity to share the Lord with children in the neighbourhood," says Mr. Hodge.

St. George's would be pleased to send information on the event to parishes that are interested in the idea. Address your request to the rector at 100 Watson St., Saint John, E2M 1G2, call 506/635-8620 or e-mail vhodge@nbnet.nb.ca.

Inspired by workshops



The Rev. Pat Drummond, Diocesan Christian Education Director, (behind the lectern) recently led Church School workshops in Miramichi.

Sunday school teachers and clergy in the Deaneries of Chaleur and Miramichi were recently inspired by a presentation by the Diocesan Christian Education Director.

"She gave us a lot of information that we could really use," said the Rev. Bill LeGrand of Newcastle. His parish hosted the Church School Workshop at St. Andrews Church in Miramichi.

Information on available curricula and classroom management was especially welcome.

"Pat stressed the use of all the senses in teaching because we all learn in different ways, from different senses. She really helped to clarify a lot about the curricula too," said Mr. LeGrand.

Many teachers were also interested in a rotation workshop approach she suggested, which

involves more members of the congregation and successfully motivates children.

The workshops are similar to those used by Ann Hares, a former Christian educator in the Parish of Campbellton. Mrs. Hares led a committee which presented the compelling brief to Diocesan Synod that eventually resulted in the creation of a Christian Education position in the diocese. Programs like *Around the Cross on Good Friday*, with videos, crafts, drama, music and even food modules, are modeled on the rotation workshop approach.

Gwen McKnight of Anglican House in Saint John supported Mrs. Drummond's Miramichi presentation with books, activities and other resources materials. Members of the Mothers' Union and other volunteers from the parish served lunch.

The Annual Meeting CAMP MEDLEY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wednesday evening
January 31, 7:30 pm
St. James the Less Church
Rothesay

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

CATHEDRAL YOUTH SERVICE

at
Christ Church Cathedral
by The Green, in Fredericton!
(at Church and Brunswick Sts.)

ALL YOUNG PEOPLE WELCOME!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21 7:30 p.m.

Speaker
(Come and find out!)

Music
The Cathedral Music Band

Come for an evening of great music, a fine speaker, and joyful celebration!

Need more information? Do call or write.
450-8500
office@christchurchcathedral.com

Parish Profile

St. Margaret's A place for education, prayer and healing

The Parish of St. Margaret's reputation for education, prayer and healing attracts people from all over the Fredericton area.

Its Parish Nursing Team, unique to this diocese, provides clinical placements for university nursing and social work students. It also recently hosted a National and Atlantic Regional Parish Nursing Conference. It has long held monthly Healing Services under the auspices of the Order of St. Luke, and recently hosted two Schools of Pastoral Care. St. Margaret's also hosts grief and divorce recovery programs.

"We link faith and health, we focus on pastoral care," says the rector, Canon Jon Lownds. "Sometimes the people who come to us from other churches stay, sometimes they return to their former parishes and churches once their needs are met."

Founded by Bishop John Medley as a mission to the people of 'the mills' that flourished in the area in the 18th century, cathedral clergy and divinity students took the services at St. Margaret's for many years. Later St. Anne's took responsibility for the little stone church on the banks of the St. John River (close to where the Princess Margaret Bridge stands today) and it became a Chapel of Ease in the Parish of Fredericton. The church finally became a parish in its own right in January of 1990.

As faithful and familiar as the little stone church was, it was never adequate. It flooded each spring, lacked washroom and parking facilities, used wood for heat until the day it closed its doors. In January of 1968 the congregation purchased a three acre lot on Forest Hill Road. On February 5, 1995 — 27 years and seven building committees later — Bishop George Lemmon finally dedicated a new St. Margaret's on that site.

The new, one-level church with its tent-like roof sits on a huge rock ledge surrounded by a large parking lot. The old east window from the riverbank church is prominently displayed over the main entrance and lighted at night, as is a large silver cross over the building. Just inside the front doors is an immersion font.

The church is also surrounded by aging subdivisions with aging populations, so most of the worshippers at St. Margaret's each Sunday morning are seniors. There is no active Sunday School at the moment, but the Rev. Patricia Drummond, the Diocesan Christian Education Director, recently visited and shared some ideas about renewing children's ministry. The timing was good because one of the neighbouring subdivisions is expanding and young families are moving into its large, new homes. Some of those families have made their way to St. Margaret's.

The parish was able to pay off its mortgage on the new church within five years, now it is looking toward expansion. Two main-level conference rooms and a large narthex are adequate for programs most of the time, but a hall would be welcome, especially if the youth ministry program develops as planned.

Today a congregation of public servants, professors, business people and service professionals worship from the Book of Alternative Services in a modern building at the top of the hill. The pews are arranged around a central altar and light streams down from a cupola. Sometimes the organ accompanies the choir, sometimes a guitar and mandolin accompany the Praise Group.

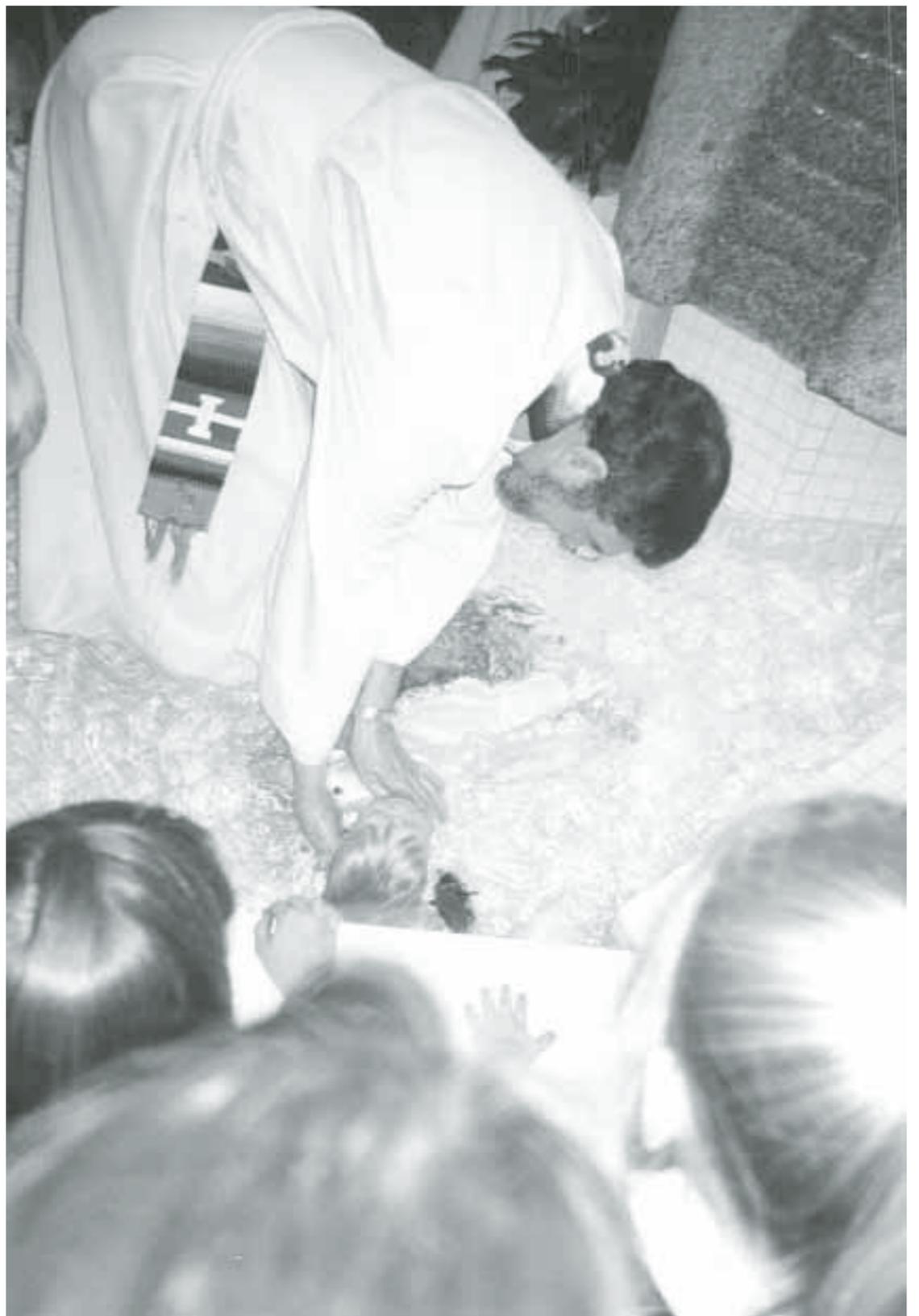
In many ways it's different from the little church at the bottom of the hill built to serve the mill workers, but in one way it is just the same — it is committed to carrying out Jesus' Great Commission that we love one another.



Philip Bone, Michael Smith and Lee McCarty were the first to be confirmed by Bishop William Hockin at St. Margaret's.



St. Margaret's, a view from the front. Pews are arranged around the central altar.



An immersion font is one of several unique features at St. Margaret's. Here The Rev. Jon Lownds conducts the first baptism in the new church in February of 1995. Joshua Robert Boucher was 'almost two' at the time.

Sacred Space

by the Rev. Pat Drummond
Diocesan Christian Education Director

Our classrooms were sadder than sad. Furniture-choked rooms with beige concrete walls and faded construction paper letters on crooked bulletin boards spelling out *ESUS LOVES YO*. None of us would decorate our children's bedrooms like those classrooms. None of us would allow inadequate lighting and 'basement mildew decor' in our schools. Why had we allowed it to happen in our church? Our kids didn't want to go down there. Even we didn't want to go down there. . . . We wanted an atmosphere that expressed the love of God.

—So write Melissa Armstrong-Hansche and Neil MacQueen in *Workshop Rotation*, a very interesting book available through Anglican House in Saint John.

I'm not suggesting that there are many Church Schools in our diocese that are quite that dreary, but January seems to be a good time to think about a spruce up, and to budget and plan for work to be done in the spring, especially with new wardens and vestries being elected who may be looking for projects.

We live in a world limited by time, space and the habits of our minds. But it is really a "split-level" universe. That other level has unlimited knowledge, wisdom and intellectual powers. It is a world incomparably more powerful and more mysterious than the visible — it is boundless and present at all times. It is the dwelling place of God. A doorway opens to this invisible world in our sacred spaces. Our churches are such spaces, and we see that they are kept as beautiful as possible. The furnishings are the best we can afford and our altar guilds act with great devotion to ensure that everything is as perfect as it can be for a meeting with God.

For our children, our church schools are often the sacred spaces where they have their first experiences of the Holy. The meeting may be less formal than an adult experience. It may involve joyful noise and lots of colour and activity. But it is a meeting with God. It is up to us to see that the space where that happens is fit for Him as well as for the faith and life-shaping experiences which will occur there.

Ways to brighten up Church School facilities

* **Check out the furniture** Discard things that are being stored in the children's area and will probably never be used again. Make sure the tables and chairs are 'kid-sized'. Sit on a chair. If it is uncomfortably small for you, it's likely to be right for them. If you use chairs and tables, make sure a child can reach the table to draw or write while sitting. (Maybe someone will need to saw the legs off a bit. Brightly coloured cushions make good alternatives to chairs for story times since children are often happy to draw, paint or make crafts while standing round a table. Another choice might be the sample carpet pieces from carpet showrooms which can often be purchased very inexpensively when a new line comes in.

* **Check out the paint** Is it fresh and bright? Maybe there is an artist in your congregation who could paint a colourful mural on the walls. Even if no-one is prepared to design a mural, it is possible to make one quite easily using an overhead projector. Use a piece of acetate or transparency film from an office supply store, and trace a suitable picture onto the acetate with an overhead marker. Put the acetate onto the overhead projector and project the image onto the wall where you want your picture. You can adjust the size by moving the projector closer or further away. Trace the image which is projected onto the wall, then colour in the picture with paint.

* **Check out the decorations** If you don't want to use anything as permanent as paint on your walls, make sure the posters and children's drawings are changed frequently. Posters lose their effectiveness if left up too long. Maybe you could get the end of a roll of newsprint from a printer and have the children make their own mural, and change it every few weeks.

* **Check out the book** Make sure that the Bibles or other books used by the children are age-appropriate and in reasonable condition.

* **Check out the crayons markers and other supplies** It is not too expensive to replace those that are broken or dried out, and it makes a big difference to the feel of a class if these little things are looked after.

* **Be creative with your space** Children will love to pretend to be nomads in the desert and have their lesson in a tent (erected indoors) for a change. If your lesson is about fishing or calming the waters or a similar theme, borrow badminton or volleyball nets to drape around the room and let the children make colourful fish to fill the nets.

* **Add some plants** — but only if there is enough light for them to stay healthy!

Parish of St. Stephen enriched and encouraged

BY THE REV. PETER MILLS

Those who attended the November 4 Parish Day of Enrichment in St. Stephen are definitely richer for the experience. We came — some with anticipation, others with trepidation — but we came. And we are so glad we did!

Webster defines enrichment as to make richer, so our day was indeed well named. Stan Weaver and Reid Saunders did a superb job of organizing and conducting the day's activities. The musicians were at their best and the speakers, without exception, were excellent. They shared insights, knowledge and personal experiences with expertise and the obvious guidance of the Holy Spirit. We were indeed thankful for the ministry of the Rev. Patricia Drummond, the Rev. Allen Tapley, John Edwards and Clyde Spinney.

The day was filled with much laughter, a few tears, and the joy of Christian fellowship. Before we knew it, the time to leave had arrived, but the messages, the music and the blessings of God from that day remain. Those in our parish who were privileged to attend this Parish Day of Enrichment joyously and unreservedly recommend it to others. God bless you all!



The people of the Parish of St. Stephen who attended a Parish Day of Enrichment in November would joyously and unreservedly recommend the process to others.

Handy new handbook from Board of Programme

The Board of Programme is pleased to present its improved Diocesan Ministry Handbook 2001. It provides listings of all ministries and programmes in the diocese in a handy booklet format.

"The old Blue Binder was based on a very good idea, but its format was the drawback", says David Watts, the board's vice-chair. "It provided replaceable pages for each entry, which were supplied on a regular basis, but

because it usually sat along with the other binders on the shelf of the rector's office, it wasn't often used."

The new booklet is digest sized and can easily be kept on a desk.

It has been distributed to all clergy and committee chairs. Those who haven't received a copy should contact the Rev'd Geoffrey Hall, board chair, 28 Murray Street, Grand Bay-Westfield,

NB, E5K 1C8, (506) 738-2055, heaven11@nbnet.nb.ca

The handbook will be reprinted each year.

All the information contained in the handbook is also available on the Board of Program website. Here it is updated as necessary. This site is also a good source for other Board of Program information. You'll find it at <http://www.fredericton.anglican.org/bop>.

ANGLICAN CYCLE OF PRAYER BOOKLETS

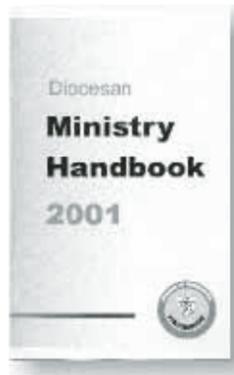
2001 - 2002

The
Anglican Cycle of
Prayer for 2001 and
2002

is available at
Anglican House
for \$11.95.

The
Anglican
Fellowship of
Prayer

is no longer able to
offer these books as
a complimentary
item due to budget
cuts.



Will ACW be viable?

Bertha Parsons, a long-time ACW member, sent the following story which appeared in the November edition of the Toronto Anglican. "I think our women might like to read it," she said. "Our ACW is down to five members, very sad."

BY ELIZABETH LOWETH
ACW DIOCESAN PRESIDENT
DIOCESE OF TORONTO

Will the ACW be viable in the 21st century? If it does not rejuvenate itself and broaden its horizons, no. If it can discern new challenges and act on them, yes.

The ACW needs to recognize its roots as the unifying vehicle for women of many different talents (originally the Chancel Guild, the Women's Auxiliary, the Church Year and the Mothers' Union).

Many worthy projects continue. Funds go from groups of ACW throughout this diocese to worthy causes — money that would not otherwise find its way into innumerable programs, ranging from women's shelters to camps for inner-city children. The bazaars and fund-raising events which provide these donations reflect hundreds of hours of devoted service. The amount and degree of contributions by all of the ACWs put together has not even been calculated. You only have to look at the list of donors to organizations such as the Downtown Churchworkers' Association and others to begin to see just how much good is generated.

Add to this outreach all of the contributions made to parish budgets for everything from the kitchen to the incumbent's discretionary fund, and you will scratch the surface of traditional good works by the ACW.

Another major contribution is through the ACW chancel groups throughout the diocese. Clergy and congregations are beneficiaries of the prayerful and careful work that centres on the worship of the church. Countless hours go into keeping altar appointments at their best.

The gifts and contributions of the ACW are legion, but they are not enough to keep this important arm of the church moving steadily into the 21st century unless we pause to reassess and rededicate ourselves to making a significant contribution in an ever-changing world.

Women in general are no longer at leisure to attend meetings or to gather for corporate good works on a regular basis. The church itself has opened up new avenues for women as wardens, clergy and leaders in many ways. In addition, a growing number of

women are accepting responsibilities outside of the church itself. This is an important ministry and we need to recognize that, but it does not add to the participation in dwindling parish ACWs.

Clearly the time has come for some creative planning that will involve all of the women of the church in their wide variety of skills, needs and interests. That was the intent when the ACW was formed — bringing together the four existing groups.

A number of current gaps in service have been noted. Among them is the desire to focus more closely on families and their immense importance in a world where there is less time together and more need for closeness. Our parish groups can support families and focus on the special needs of younger women, including those who are balancing careers with parenting. We hope to have some program resources ready for use in parishes before long.

Traditionally, the women of the world have seen gaps in community services and have valiantly tried to fill the void. Out of this tradition of caring has come a wide variety of voluntary contributions. Our world is ever closer to our door and we constantly see children trying to concentrate on work at school while they are lacking the food to fuel their minds and bodies. None of us can walk downtown without coming across men and women who are without jobs and homes. Environmental concerns flood our newspapers and move ever-closer as we seem to bounce from one crisis to another.

All of these and more demand our attention. But we need to do more than treat the symptoms. If we hope to eradicate or at least alleviate some of these social challenges, we have to get to the bottom of the problems and that is where our Social Concern and Action Committee comes in. Each parish ACW should have a similar committee to receive the information coming from the diocesan level and to share their own concerns with the rest of the diocese. Here we find ourselves addressing not only the temporary treatment of a social ill, but also digging deeper to the roots in order to ultimately eradicate it entirely.

The old year is a treasure, the new year a mystery

BY GINNY McEWEN

As one year gives way to another, we often take time to reflect on the past months. The previous year has become a memory, let us treasure our accomplishments and let go of the disappointments.

This new year is a mystery, it will hold many surprises. Let us not waste a day that God gives us. May each of you in this New Year have families to love and to love you as well as friends who care; may you have books to enjoy, flowers to

smell, breezes to refresh, rain for growth, sun for warmth, food for nourishment and faith for comfort.

This New Year will bring opportunities and changes. Many Mothers' Union members from across Canada have accepted the challenge of holding office at many different levels. The new Canada Council in the Diocese of Niagara — installed January 7 at Glen Williams, Ontario — will hold office until the end of the year

2004. Our new diocesan president, Kathy Nason, and our immediate past president, Alice Kennedy, represented us at the Service of Installation.

In our own diocese we welcome members who are taking on new roles at the diocesan and branch levels and we appreciate the continued support of our Diocesan Chaplain, Dean Keith Joyce. Following are New Year greetings from some of these dedicated Christians.

Our challenge is to grow spiritually

BY THE VERY REV. KEITH JOYCE
MOTHERS' UNION DIOCESAN CHAPLAIN

The New Year brings hope for new opportunities, of new possibilities. It is a good time to raise our expectations of the work of God's Holy Spirit in and through Mothers' Union. May we see His presence strengthen Christian marriage and family life in our parishes and in society.

Our primary challenge is to grow spiritually, it must be the foundation of our activities, but we must not be content to let our growth be contained in our branches. It is vital to reach out to those around — to encourage, to help those in need, while keeping in mind our MU goals and objectives in the context of international expression.

A blessed New Year to all!

We give to God this year 2001

BY KATHY NASON
MOTHERS' UNION DIOCESAN PRESIDENT

Another year is past and we face a new one. Where did the year 2000 go?

For some of us, no matter where it went, it went too quickly. We are left with only happy memories of conquered challenges and victorious milestones. A year that saw the hand of God in our lives.

For some of us, though, it was a year we wish hadn't happened — a year of hardship, a year of buried hopes, a year of questions.

Where is God?

How could this be my life?

How can I understand what is happening?

We question as the disciples on the road to Emmaus questioned in the darkest hours of their lives. How could Jesus have been cruci-

fied? It was then a stranger appeared and walked with them. They didn't recognize him until the end of their journey. Who was with them in their darkest hours? Jesus. We too can trust and hope in Him. He is with us and will carry us through.

Praise the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Messiah! By His boundless mercy and resurrection we have been born again to an ever-living hope.

We close off the old year and give to God all that was in it. We pray to God to take the events of the year, to change what needs to be changed, the heal broken hearts and to renew us in Him.

Now we have a new year with a fresh start, a new beginning. We give to God this year 2001, knowing that we can trust Him as we

walk with Him into the unknown. We can be assured that He will never leave nor forsake us.

May we follow the advice of this unknown author: "I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year, 'Give me a light that I may walk safely into the unknown'. He replied, 'Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than a light and safer than a known way'."

I know the Mothers' Union has a calling from God to make a difference in our homes, communities and diocese. May we be faithful in the responsibility God has given us so that He may use Mothers' Union for His glory. God bless each member and each parish. May God bless his work in this year 2001.

Happy New Year.



INTERCESSIONS

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

JANUARY

Sunday, January 21
 Anglican Communion Sunday: Pray for the Anglican Communion, Anglican Consultative Council, the Secretary General John L. Peterson and the Anglican Communion Office Staff; Diocesan Office, Bishop D. Edward Robinson de Barros Cavalcanti, Recife Brazil; 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; Holy Trinity Cathedral (Catedral da Santissima Trindade), Dean: Rev Paulo Ruiz Garcia, Recife Brazil; The Rev. Lloyd Lake (R) Loch Lomond Villa & Saint John Regional Correction Centre Chaplain.
23: Parish of Woodstock, The Ven. Walter Williams; Living Waters Mission (Missao Agua Viva), Ministry: Rev Simea Meldrum, Jardim Brazil.
24: Parish of Andover, The Rev. John Mills; The Rev. Wilfred Langmaid, Chaplain, UNB, STU.
25: Parish of Bathurst, Ven. Douglas Patstone; Bethel Missionary Station (Ponto Missionario Betel), Ministry: Lay

Ministry Evilasio Tenorio, Recife Brazil.
26: Parish of Bright, The Rev. Ian Wetmore; Bethany Parish (Paroquia Betania), Ministry: Rev. Leonides Menezes, Recife Brazil; Bonnie LeBlanc. Atlantic School of Theology.
27: Parish of Cambridge & Waterborough, The Rev. Reginald MacKinnon; Christian Love Mission (Missao do Amor Cristao), Ministry: Rev. Washington Franco, Maceio Brazil.

Sunday, January 28

28: The Church in Pakistan, Moderator Samuel Azariah, Dioceses of Faisalbad, Hyderabad, Karachi, Lahore, Multan, & Pesawar; Diocesan Office, Bishop D. Edward Robinson de Barros Cavalcanti, Recife Brazil; Diocese of Yukon: Pelly Crossing - St. James the Lord's Brother; Deacon Walter Majola & Olga Majola; Licensed Lay Minister: Betty Joe, Bishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family; William, our Bishop; George and Harold, Bishops Emeriti, and their families.
29: Parish of Campbellton, The Rev. William Morton; Beatitudes Missionary Station (Ponto Missionario das Bem Aventurancas), Ministry: Lay Ministry Armando Fiel da Costa, Timbauba Brazil; The Rev. Kenneth Legassick (R).
30: Parish of Campobello, The Rev. Charles Smart, Priest-in-Charge; Good Shepherd Par-

ish (Paroquia do Boom Pastor), Ministry: Rev. Josafa dos Santos, Salvador Brazil.
31: Parish of Canterbury, The Rev. John Hall; Good News Mission (Mssao Boas Novas), Ministry: Lay Ministry Israel Cardoso, Caapora Brazil; The Rt. Rev. George C. Lemmon (R).

FEBRUARY

1: Parish of Carleton, The Rev. Vicars Hodge; House of Hope Missionary Station (Ponto Missionario Casa da Esperanca), Ministry: Rev Miguel Uchoa, Jaboatao Brazil.
2: Parish of Central Kings, The Rev. William Sheppard; Good Samaritan Parish (Paroquia do Bom Samaritano), Ministry: Rev Filadelfo Oliveira Neto, Recife Brazil; Jessica Swift, Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, England.
3: Parish of Chatham, The Rev. Alan Reynolds; Christ Liberator Mission (Missao Cristo Libertador), Ministry: Rev. Jorge Aquino, Joao Pessoa Brazil.

Sunday, February 4

The Church in Pakistan, Moderator Samuel Azariah, Dioceses of Raiwind, Sialkot, Dhaka, Kushtia, Coimbatore & Dornakal; Diocesan Office, Bishop D. Edward Robinson de Barros Cavalcanti, Recife Brazil; Diocese of Yukon: Carmacks - St. George, Mayo - St. Mary with St. Mark and the community of Keno, Captain Jason Haggstrom, Licensed

Lay Minister Nova Haggstrom & family, Bishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family; William, our Bishop; George and Harold, Bishops Emeriti, and their families.

5: Christ Church Cathedral, The Very Rev. Keith Joyce, The Rev. Pat Drummond, Honorary Assistant, Rev. Canon Hubert Drillen (R), The Rev. Elaine Lucas; Communion Missionary Station (Ponto Missionario Comunhao), Ministry: Rev. Marcio Meira, Joao Pessoa Brazil; The Rev. Lance McAdam.

6: Parish of Coldbrook & St. Mary's, The Rev. Wally Corey; Calvary Parish (Paroquia do Calvario), Ministry: Rev. Adonias Ramos, Paulista Brazil.

7: Parish of Dalhousie, The Rev. Andrew Fraser; Hope Mission (Missao da Esperanca), Ministry: Lay Ministry Claudio Linhares, Joao Pessoa Brazil; The Rev. Ron McBrine (R).

8: Parish of Denmark, The Rev. Michael Canning; The Comforter Missionary Station (Ponto Missionario O Consolador), Ministry: Lay ministry Antonio Costa, Joao Pessoa Brazil.

9: Parish of Derby & Blackville, The Rev. Richard Harris; Christ The Saviour Parish (Paroquia Cristo O Salvador), Ministry: Rev. Josafa dos Santos, Ilha de Itaparica Brazil; Wendy Amos-Binks, Wycliffe College.

10: Parish of Dorchester &

Sackville, The Rev. Kevin Stockall; Jesus of Nazareth Mission (Missao Jesus de Nazareth), Ministry: Rev. Severino Abel da Silva, S. Goncalo do Amarante Brazil.

Sunday, February 11

The Church of Bangladesh, Moderator Barnabas Dwijen Mondal, and Deputy Moderator Michael S. Varoi, Dioceses of East Kerala, Kanyakumari, Karimnagar, Karnataka Central & Karnataka North in India & Jaffna in Sri Lanka; Diocesan Office, Bishop D. Edward Robinson de Barros Cavalcanti, Recife Brazil; Diocese of Yukon: Dawson - St. Paul; Moosehide - St. Barnabas; Eagle, Alaska - St. John; The Klondike Creeks; the Dempster Highway: The Rev. John Tyrrell, Deacon Carol Tyrrell & family; Deacon Percy Henry, The Ven. Ken Snider (Honourary Asst), Aldene Snider & family, Licensed Lay Ministers: Bonnie Nordling, Mabel Henry, Shirley Pennell, Bishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family; William, our Bishop; George and Harold, Bishops Emeriti, and their families.

12: Parish of Douglas & Nashwaaksis, The Rev. William MacMullin; God Liberator Missionary Station (Ponto Missionario, Deus Libertador), Ministry: Lay Ministry Carlos Alberto Tome, Joao Pessoa Brazil; The Rev. Stephen McCombe (R)

It's Jesus' words that are important

*Heaven and earth will pass away;
 my words will never pass away.*

Luke 21: 33

Some times I enjoy being surprised, but most times I don't. The trouble is, surprises inevitably change the way things are, which is what bothers me about surprises. I think that it bothers all of us.

It wouldn't be so bad if surprises didn't have such an adverse affect. They can take us beyond our expectations, but when they fall short we are disappointed. Surprises are beyond us, beyond our control. They frighten us. At least they frighten me.

You, on the other hand, may be thinking of some surprises that didn't frighten you. Surprises you knew about. But then they weren't surprises.

An epiphany is a lot like that. Oh, I don't mind the discovery of the baby Jesus by the Iraqi magi. That was their surprise, their epiphany. And I don't mind the discovery of the Messiah by Jew

and Gentile alike. That, after all, that was their epiphany.

What I mind are the surprises that touch me!

I had such an epiphany not long ago. I discovered it. Now, isn't that just like us with such surprises? We do the discovering! I know that I find solace in asserting that I do the discovering. Truth be said, God in Christ discloses and all I can do is respond to his gracious gesture of revelation. I may call the response, 'discovery', but I know better!

I was reading Luke's account, but I could just as easily have 'discovered' this in Matthew or Mark. Jesus said, 'Heaven and earth will pass away; my words will never pass away'.

Earth will pass away. I knew that. But I wasn't prepared for Jesus' words 'Heaven and earth will pass away'.

Heaven and earth!



the penultimate  Word
 BY JAMES IRVINE

I had read the words before ... but I hadn't heard them.

It's fairly straightforward. What we accumulate on earth will pass away. That may be upsetting, but who's to argue? We have seen it and we know it to be true. No surprises there.

But Jesus said: 'Heaven and earth will pass away'.

Heaven isn't going to last? Heaven is going to pass away? You mean, the whole point of this isn't 'heaven'?

So, it's the words that are important. Earth isn't important. Heaven isn't even important. It's Jesus' words that are important.

I re-read the verse. Yeah, I read it correctly. 'Heaven and earth will pass away'. But, Jesus continued, 'my words will never pass away'.

So, it's the words that are important. Earth isn't important. Heaven isn't even important. It's Jesus' words that are important.

How come? That's what jarred me. Frightened me, really.

Earth, as limited as it is in mortality, is solid enough. It's real. Passing, but real. As for heaven, I'm not the only one who has understood heaven in spatial terms.

It's Jesus' words that are elusive. They are abstract. They evade me. I avoid them. But then I allowed Jesus' words. He knew what he was talking about all right! Heaven has passed away, and many times over for me. A gate

made of pearls certainly has passed away, and so has the old-man-in-a-white-beard image of my youth. More of heaven has passed away than I had realized.

And as for earth, I discovered that it has already begun to pass away with every personal loss. I've already begun not taking it with me, as it were!

As for Jesus words, well they place themselves in sharp contrast to the loss of things celestial and things earthly: Jesus' words give life! An epiphany!

Been surprised lately?

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 James T. Irvine

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

ReJOYce

Music ministry for the diocese

Many paths lead to God and a closer relationship with Him. ReJOYce, an eight-member Fredericton band, paves one of those paths with music.

"We want to see renewal in our churches, to see people — both within and without the church — turning to and serving Jesus. We believe that music can contribute to this," says lead vocalist Cheryl Jacobs from Christ Church (Parish) Church.

Much of the group's music is modern, mostly middle-of-the-road contemporary Christian, but the group isn't married to any one style.

"We are not clearly one style or another," says lead guitarist Gary Barfitt of Christ Church Cathedral. "Depending on the song, we lean one way or another. We often lean toward folk. The instruments we use and our varied musical backgrounds don't clearly fit into any one style. We're even comfortable with traditional church music, only it may sound less traditional when we do it."

"I think traditional music is about God and modern music is to God. Both forms of expression are valid," says acoustic guitarist Stan Weaver from St. Margaret's.

ReJOYce, in various configurations, has been playing since the early 1990s. Although based in Fredericton, the group has traveled the province and often participates in parish enrichment days, youth missions, even mini Christian ashrams. At some services ReJOYce simply provides the music; at others the group works with the worship leader and performs other parts of the service. In some cases the group leads the entire thing.

All the members of ReJOYce see their participation in the group as part of their ministry as followers of Christ.

"The scriptures say 'sing unto the Lord a new song'. Our ministry is to introduce some new music to congregations in order to broaden their musical resources. Part of our ministry is also to assist congregations in starting their own praise groups using their own resources," says Stan.

"We emphasize contemporary Christian music not just for the style, but because the language is less awkward and it presents a Bible-based, but less complicated, theology," says Cheryl.

If you are interested in the ministry of ReJOYce, contact Gary or Joanne Barfitt 357-9765
barfitt@nb.sympatico.ca.



ReJOYce is a Fredericton based praise group with a music ministry throughout the diocese. Left to right in front of the piano are Jane Hubbard (piano) and Wendy Thompson (back-up vocals). Behind the piano are Stan Weaver (acoustic guitar), Marc Schneider (base), Keith Thompson (violin), Cheryl Jacobs (lead vocals), Joanne Barfitt (back-up vocals) and Gary Barfitt (lead guitar).



... from Maggie's kitchen

January — time for quiet musing, as I sit in my breakfast room drinking another cup of decaf. Winter, of course, is the time to think of things like Death, Judgement, Heaven, Hell. (Yes, I know — those are usually the subjects of Advent sermons, but it isn't till along about now that I have the leisure to really *think* about them.)

A priest I know was asked recently, "Do you think there's any life after we die?" (As if he'd be doing what he's doing if there weren't!) The conversation drifted into the question of what heaven is like (if there is a heaven). The priest talked about the images of the Revelation of St. John the Divine — the streets of gold, and so on — as conveying in human language what is beyond all thought. His questioner countered with her own preferred image, a kind of peaceful walk through the woods. (Which I suspect derives from the popular, and decidedly unbiblical, song, "I walk through the garden alone", a favourite at funerals.)

I suppose you could argue that since they're just images, it doesn't matter what image you choose. But are images simply up for grabs? If we don't like one, may we substitute another?

The problems with images of our own making are several. First is the matter of "garbage in, garbage out": Our creations are flawed to the same degree as *we* are flawed. Our sins have given us a kind of spiritual astigmatism, distorting our vision. We need corrective spectacles, so to speak, which the Biblical images supply.

Second, entirely apart from sin, there is the matter of our limited perspective: We are like "flatlanders" living in a two-dimensional world and trying to imagine a three-dimensional one. (Not, mind you, inhabitants of a three-dimensional life trying to imagine a two-dimensional life hereafter — though I have known Christians whose idea of heaven is of something less substantial than this life.) Anyway, we know a lot about physical life, but only catch glimpses of the spiritual, so why pretend to know more than we do?

Third, there is the matter of load-bearing capacity: Our home-made images, at best, carry only our limited understanding, whereas the ones God has provided carry an infinite weight of meaning. On the surface, His may seem childish, but their content is inexhaustible — and true.

Images aside, how do you make sense of *anything*, if there's nothing more to life than this life? As St. Paul said, we might as well eat, drink, and be merry. Why obey laws, if you can avoid getting caught? Beyond what is legally required, why be kind to your neighbour? Why forgive your enemies? Why give to charities? Why be chaste? More and more of us behave as though there were nothing more than this mortal life, putting our faith in the dictum "Carpe diem" — "Seize the day" (which we like to think means, "Pursue pleasure while you can") — and scoffing at the idea of a coming Day of Judgement

We're even raising our children to think there's nothing more to life than this life. "As long as they're happy," apparently, anything goes. There's no hint given that "Carpe diem" might mean, "Make use of today's opportunities" to be prepared for tomorrow — that is, for the coming Judgement. Seventeenth-century poets like Robert Herrick understood it this way. His "Gather ye rosebuds while ye may" is almost universally misunderstood by today's textbook publishers, who can't grasp his Biblical and Christian imagery. So our kids are led to think that sex and drugs are "experiences" (rosebuds) not to be missed, that family life can wait while they travel the world or gather possessions, and that having a good time is the whole point of this life.

No wonder people prefer images of their own making. That way they never have to come to terms with the cost of their self-centered behavior. Or at least not for awhile.

Something to cook up against the cold while you're contemplating the ramifications of the life to come (God's version) and avoiding being left out in the cold yourself:

CORN OYSTER CASSEROLE

This was my mother-in-law's traditional, and delicious, Christmas Eve offering, a time which just doesn't work out in my household. It would do just as nicely for Epiphany, as the great festal season ends.

Melt 1/2 cup butter in a skillet; add 1 Tbsp finely chopped onion and saute lightly. Toss in 2 cups coarse cracker crumbs, then 1 dozen cut up fresh oysters. In a buttered casserole put 2 cans creamed corn; add 1/2 cup light cream and some chopped parsley. Mix in skillet contents, and season to taste with salt and pepper. Top with more cracker crumbs. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.

Maggie Harris lives in the
Parish of Derby & Blackville