



Success of summer students bodes well



CINDY PRICE

Three outstanding theology students enjoyed summer placements in this diocese in July and August. Paul Ranson, left, now in his third and final year of study at Wycliffe College in Toronto, worked in the Parish of Nerepis and St. John. He and Avril Wood-Toner organized and led a week-long vacation Bible school with daily attendance running at more than 60. Held during the Olympics, the theme of the week was God's All Star Champions, with the boys versus girls. The girls won and Paul bore the brunt of the defeat with a pie in the face. Avril took a surprise hit.

BY ANA WATTS

The three theology students who worked in the diocese this summer left all those who came in contact with them excited about the future.

Ellen Curtis of Newfoundland and Paul Ranson of Saint John are confirmed postulants for the diocese and served in the parishes of Sussex and Nerepis and St. John, respectively. Michael Amirault served the parish of Rothesay. He can be confirmed as a postulant following attendance at the Advisory Committee on Postulants for Ordination (ACPO) next May. All three students are in their final year of studies at Wycliffe College in Toronto.

Ms. Curtis spent a very busy summer working with the Rev. David Barrett in Sussex. Her duties included coordinating the parish vacation Bible school, home visiting, assisting at several funerals and taking responsibility for the parish when the rector was on holiday. She also undertook a major study on youth ministry in the parish. She met individually with teens to get a feel for the kind of program they wanted and included her findings in a

report to vestry. As a result, the parish decided to hire a part time youth worker.

"She was a fabulous person, a terrific asset to the parish," says Mr. Barrett.

Archdeacon Vicars Hodge in Nerepis and St. John was thrilled with Mr. Ranson's work in his parish as well. "It was a great experience for the parish and for Paul. He took right over our youth ministry when Anna Caines left for Africa and he and Avril Toner led a wildly successful vacation Bible school."

Mr. Ranson also did his share of parish visiting, preaching and led worship. He was in charge of the church at Oak Point for a full month while Archdeacon Hodge was on holiday.

"We found a lovely, romantic cottage right on the water for Paul and his bride Beth," says the archdeacon. "She fit right in to the parish too, played with our praise band."

Michael Amirault spent four months with Archdeacon Richard McConnell in the Parish of Rothesay where he worked extensively with young people. He led chapel services for seven week-long day camps and went

See "Youth Work" on page 2

Reconfigured Diocesan Council hits the ground running

Diocesan Council approved the appointment of a communications officer, the implementation of an integrated WEB-based data management system and the purchase of telephone equipment for the synod office at its meeting in Gagetown on Sept. 15.

Altogether, diocesan committees/teams brought eight motions to the meeting. The seven committees were established in May to support the diocese's seven primary ministries (administration,

parish support, stewardship and financial development, episcopal, mission and outreach, spiritual formation and youth), as identified by the bishop and council at a visioning session earlier in the year.

Each committee met at least once over the summer to elect a chair, give thought to priorities for the rest of 2004 as well as 2005, identify some preliminary priorities for action, and prepare a report for the September meeting of Diocesan Council.

The Council Administration

Team, which enables and supports diocesan administration and staff, brought five motions to council, all were passed.

One called for the appointment of a full-time communications officer on a year-to-year contract basis. The position includes responsibility for media relations, internal communications and the diocesan web site as well as the New Brunswick Anglican, the diocesan newspaper. Archdeacon Geoffrey Hall, the bishop's executive assistant, has

covered these areas in addition to his other duties. Ana Watts, editor of the New Brunswick Anglican for the past 12 years, started in the expanded position on Oct. 1. The change will cost about \$16,000 per year.

Another administration motion called for the investigation and implementation of an integrated WEB-based data management system for the diocese. Archdeacon Geoffrey Hall reported that over the past year efforts have been made to develop a more sophisticated

and useful system for managing the diocese's statistical, financial and contact information because the current process is cumbersome and inefficient. He said once the system is finished and piloted by the diocese, it could prove to be a marketable product. Start-up costs for the project could be up to \$15,000 spread over three to five years. Annual operating costs could amount to as much as \$6,000 per year.

The diocese will also purchase user-owned telephone

See "Diocesan" on page 2.

Camp campaign seeks parish support

BY MARJE HARRISON

Later this month, your parish will be approached for gifts, either monetary or in kind, for the renewal and ongoing development of our diocesan camp ministries. Before you respond, look around you in church this Sunday.

If you are very fortunate your parish family boasts several

generations. If you're not so fortunate, you will see nothing but grey hair, blue rinses and bald heads.

If we want the Anglican Church to thrive and grow, if we want our rector, our building and our friends to continue to "be there", we need young people in our churches today. We need to support youth ministry.

Camps Medley and

Brookwood are at the heart of that ministry, and it is time for us all to get on board with Bishop Claude Miller and all the people in this diocese devoted to making the church a welcoming place for our young people.

For nearly 60 years our camps have welcomed more than 50,000 children of all faiths, given them wonderful camping experiences

See "Camps" on page 2.

INSIDE



See the results of a campaign to acquire antiques to furnish Bishop's Court on page 6.

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DIOCESAN NEWS



ANA WATTS

The new double cabins at Camp Medley (the inset shows one during construction) are bright, airy and cheerful. The shady breezeway between the two sections is a popular gathering place on hot summer days and its night-time washroom (available next season) saves a spooky stroll across the dark field at night.

Camps help build faith for a lifetime

Continued from page 1

that have stayed with many of them throughout their lives. That kind of ministry took its toll on the fabric of the camps, made them a little ragged around the edges.

The camp boards and the diocese have recognized the need to enhance and improve the facilities at both camps. A fund-raising effort is underway, the ACW is on board, now we are looking to the parishes for help. This is a fabulous opportunity for all of us to become stakeholders in this important ministry. The camps belong to us, not the the boards or the clergy.

The old Medley cabins that no longer met safety standards were replaced in time for the summer camping season. The campers were delighted with the new bigger, cleaner cabins that even had lockers for "stuff", so it didn't have to be mashed under the bed. The next phase at Medley includes a new dining hall, worship space and accommodation for staff. We hope to have it completed by next year.

Camp Brookwood needs better access, better staff accommodation, structural and electrical repairs as well as a new pool liner.

The long-term plan is to make Camp Medley into a full-time retreat facility — a great place to gather families, hold clergy and other conferences, workshops and retreats. The opportunities for this kind of facility are endless. Camp Medley is a serene and peaceful place to find spirituality and have a chat with God.

So, please encourage your parish to support the youth camps fundraising campaign as generously as possible. Help us build faith for a lifetime in our youth, and keep our churches alive.

Diocesan council supports enhanced communications

Continued from page 1

equipment for the Synod Office in order to address identified deficiencies and reduce costs. The initial investment of about \$6,000 should be recovered within about two years.

The other two administration motions had to do with the 2005 budget. Treasurer Fred Scott presented the framework for a narrative budget as well as preliminary figures. The final budget will reflect how funds are allocated among the seven ministry areas. Narrative budgeting is intended to explain the vision of the diocese and represents a shift of priorities from maintenance to mission.

"We need to move to a system that isn't as much about balance sheets as it is about the story of our mission and ministry," said Canon Scott. A draft of the narrative budget will be presented at deanery consultation meetings throughout the diocese.

The Stewardship and Financial Development Team, which promotes a spirit of

generosity and the practice of good management, called for a strategy to meet the remaining \$87,000 diocesan Residential Schools financial commitment. It amounts to about \$200 per parish per year over five years.

The Episcopal Team called for financial support from the diocese for parish curacies for new ordinands. In the past, newly-ordained were often put in charge of a parish. The diocese and parishes have often paid dearly for that kind of inexperience. A new model calls for the newly-ordained to serve as assistant curates with experienced rectors for two or three years, however parishes cannot afford to pay for assistants. The estimated cost of an assistant curate is \$40,000 annually. The motion as presented called for a diocesan contribution of about \$4,000 per year per assistant, based on three positions. Committee members asked to have the diocesan contribution raised to about \$15,000 per year. A sliding

scale was also discussed. The Episcopal team will develop a curacy policy for the diocese.



DEADLINE
for copy and photo submissions to the **New Brunswick Anglican** is the first working day of the month previous to publication.

Oct. 3 for the November issue; Nov. 1 for the December issue

Role of council vice-chair expanded

The role of the lay vice-chair of Diocesan Council, who assumes the chair in the absence of the bishop, was expanded at the September meeting of Diocesan Council. Dr. Mohan Iype, who was elected vice-chair in May, will now coordinate some of the work of council with the bishop, oversee key strategic directions and coordinate activities of council.

"Administratively we're thin on the ground," said Bishop Claude Miller, referring to the very small staff at the synod office. "I will also be away for about six weeks over the next two months. I want to be able to check-in with Dr. Iype, know things are going as they should. People will still direct questions to me, and in my absence they will go to Geoffrey (his executive assistant, Archdeacon Geoffrey Hall).

Council also approved

membership of an executive committee to deal with urgent matters between meetings of diocesan council. Typically these are employee matters. Executive actions are usually ratified by council at the next meeting. The executive committee is chaired by the bishop.

The vice-chair of council (Dr. Iype), secretary (Archdeacon Geoffrey Hall) and treasurer (Canon Fred Scott) of synod, the chancellor of the diocese (Mr. Charles Ferris) and the dean (Dean Keith Joyce) are automatically members. Also appointed to the executive were four clergy members of council, the Rev. Kevin Borthwick, the Rev. Keith Osborne, Archdeacon Walter Williams and Archdeacon Malcolm Berry; and three lay members of council, Mrs. Shara Golden, Mr. Don Thompson and Mr. David Watts.

Youth work, preaching and visiting keep students busy

Continued from page 1

on many field trips with the children.

"He preached every other Sunday," says Archdeacon McConnell. "There is no doubt he is a gifted and unique preacher."

Mr. Amirault also established an Upper Room program that included supper, music and prayer. It was an opportunity for him to get to know several people individually.

"He found visiting both challenging and rewarding, and to end the summer he went on a fantastically successful trip to Fundy National Park with the Junior Youth Group. At least that's what the kids tell me," says Archdeacon McConnell.

Marian Lucas Jeffries of the Parish of Nerepis and St. John, now in her second year of study at the Atlantic School of Theology in Halifax, is also a confirmed postulant for the diocese. She will receive a student placement next summer.

Summer placements are often made at the end of the second year of theological study and are part of the school's academic program. The placements are funded two-thirds by the diocese and one-third by the parish. Students are paid close to the beginning stipend rate with travel funds and accommodations supplied by the parish.

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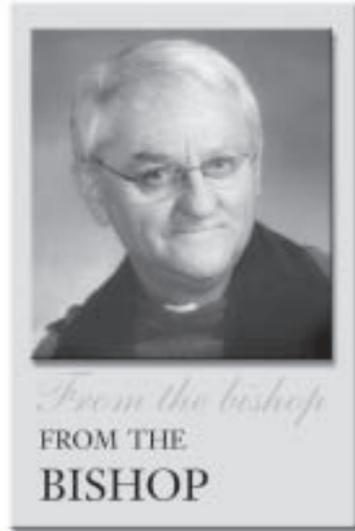
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THE BISHOP'S PAGE

Our blessings are luxurious, not just necessary

Thanksgiving is one of our most popular festivals. We decorate our churches with grain, corn stalks, colored leaves, fruit, vegetables and preserves. Our hymns and prayers build on the agricultural themes of scattering the seeds and reaping the harvest. The truth is, however, few of us provide for families and sustain ourselves by tending a garden. We go to the local supermarket to "gather in" what we need, expecting "fresh" even in the dead of winter.

Our Thanksgiving symbols are, at best, a dated reminder of a time when the availability of food was an important preoccupation. As hands-on farmers, our connections to the land were strong and the flavor of the produce was enhanced with the sweat of the brow. A failed crop meant certain disaster for family, community or even a nation. In our twenty-first century reality, however, a failed crop most often means no more than a temporary price increase accompanied by a few grumbles.



Today food is just another commodity choice. In our consumer reality our symbols have changed. Sociologists and economists tell us that Ronald McDonald and the Golden Arches more fairly represent our wants, our perceived need for abundance in a hurry - no need to wait.

An editorial in my latest issue of *Christianity Today* challenges us to take a second

look at life's priorities. Under the heading "More is less" it says: "To live in sync with Biblical priorities, we need to assess and reassess what constitutes the good life. Our consumer society impoverishes our imagination by normalizing luxury."

In a brief reflection she calls "Fasting and Freedom", Elizabeth Canham tells the story of a refugee who was offered shelter in a home where those escaping from poverty and oppression were staying. The refugee inquired about the building attached to the home and was stunned to learn that it was a house for a car. In his country many people lacked even rudimentary lodgings, yet we in the west created buildings in which to house our new, shiny vehicles.

Our annual Thanksgiving service brings glory to God as we gather to praise Him for his abundant generosity. God provides *all* for our needs for his honor and glory. And yes we are desensitized as to the level of luxury we understand

as "normal" for the "good life". While we ought not lose our appreciation for God's food provision, there is much more to God's generosity.

As we assess and reassess our lives, perhaps it would be appropriate to include our luxurious blessings among our church decorations — a personal computer complete with a work station, our academic diplomas, cell phones, designer clothes, high definition televisions, even an SUV, the latest recreation vehicle, and some travel brochures.

They might not look as nice in the sanctuary or nave, but these powerful symbols would go a long way toward helping us reflect on our priorities and our relationship with God.

In a spirit of Thanksgiving, may God continue to bless you so that you might be a blessing to others.

PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS

Oct. 12
Parish of Hardwicke 2 p.m.

Oct. 13-15
Consecration of Bishop of Montreal

Oct. 17-24 Deanery of Shediac

Oct. 28
Leadership Development Day on Stewardship

Oct. 29-30
Men's Conference

Oct. 31-Nov 4
House of Bishops

APPOINTMENTS

The Rev. Christopher Hayes is appointed rector of the Parish of Richmond, effective Oct. 15. He leaves the Parish of Wicklow, Wilmot, Peel and Aberdeen.

The Rev. Neville Cheeseman retired from the Parish of Fredericton Junction at the end of September. He and his wife Judy now reside in Fredericton.

Clergy to discuss same-sex blessings in light of Lambeth report

Diocesan clergy will meet late this month or early next to discuss the blessing of same-sex unions in light of the findings of the Lambeth Commission on Communion, to be released on Oct. 18.

Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams established the

commission under Archbishop Robin Eames last year to make recommendations to the primates of the Anglican Communion on how to maintain the highest degree of communion possible following developments in North America, principally around the

issue of same-sex blessings.

Bishop Claude Miller of this diocese asked Dean Keith Joyce to organize the clergy development day, which is intended to be a good Biblical and theological examination of the issues involved. Presenters from outside the diocese will

lead the examination. Time and place for the meeting were not available at press time, but it will be held in a central location on a weekday.

"It will also be a time for good, open discussion in the context of prayer and worship," says Bishop Miller.

Last spring Dean Joyce chaired a diocesan task force on human sexuality that invited written submissions and hosted five regional meetings throughout the diocese. The mandate of the task force was to listen to the diocese on the issue of blessing same-sex unions in the church.

Leadership development day Oct. 28

The Rev. David Ponting, director of stewardship and financial development for the diocese of Niagara, is keynote speaker for a diocesan leadership development day on stewardship to be held at Trinity Church in Sussex on Oct. 28.

Bishop Claude Miller has called for diocesan clergy, members of Diocesan Council and other key leaders in the diocese to attend. At that time, he will share his vision for stewardship in the diocese.

Mr. Ponting will lead a session on the practicalities of narrative budgeting for parishes and organizations. He brings experience as a successful parish priest and from the business world where he spent several years in marketing and advertising with large multi-national companies.

The diocese is preparing a narrative budget for 2005.

Clergy encouraged to care for themselves and one another

The Rev. John Pearce, a retired priest in charge of the Parish of Kent, uses an allegory to describe the value of the annual Clergy Conference hosted by the bishop at the end of August each year.

A man was walking in the woods. He thought he saw a bear in the distance, headed his way. He thought he had better shoot it before it got too close. As he prepared his gun, the bear came closer and he realized it wasn't a bear after all, it was a man.

"That's what we are like sometimes, we see each other as bears. When we have an opportunity to get to know one another, we see we are all human. You can't say bad things about someone you know."

Archbishop Tom Morgan, retired metropolitan of the ecclesiastical province of Rupert's Land, was keynote speaker for this year's August 30 to Sept. 1 conference held at Rothesay Netherwood School. The theme was Travel Light.

"He was excellent," says Mr. Pearce. "He came among us as a brother and shared his life in ministry, emphasized that we have a spiritual life. He was

humble and revealed his humanity. He also got to know us all by name in just a few hours."

Bishop Claude Miller used some of the Clergy Conference time to address the issue of same-sex blessings and the recent decision, or lack thereof, of General Synod.

The Rev. Bonnie Baird of the Parish of Musquash appreciated the way Bishop Miller set the tone for respectful dialogue. She also appreciated his sharing of observations during parish visits throughout the diocese.

"He said parishioners named good, thoughtful preaching and visiting as two priorities they expected of their clergy," says Ms. Baird.

She too learned from Archbishop Morgan's "humble offerings". "He encouraged us to listen with our hearts, model that time is sacred and that God inhabits it too."

He stressed the importance of sabbaticals and retreats and regular prayer time, renewal in the midst of busyness, spiritual direction and the support of colleagues.

"He told us we need to

recognize that we are yoked with Christ and his church in the work we do — everyone with something to do, no one doing nothing, no one overburdened."

Archdeacon Stuart Allan of Saint John recently took a sabbatical retreat in Arizona.

The Future of Ecumenism
A Conference in Three parts

The Future of Ecumenism in a post modern world" sponsored by the Atlantic Ecumenical Council, Paul Watson Lectureship and Atlantic School of Theology (AST), will be presented on Sunday, Oct. 31 and Monday, Nov. 1 at St. Columba Chapel AST. Registration \$40. For information go to <http://www.theaec.ca>.

COMMENTARY

PASTORAL TO HOMOSEXUALS

Those who object to your union still love you

BY KEITH HOWLETT

Many people in the Anglican Church reject the proposals to bless same-sex unions and to ordain and consecrate gay clergy and bishops. I know it is probably difficult to believe that these people, for the most part, love you, but I believe that they do. They are concerned for your mental, physical, and spiritual well being. While there are people who hate homosexuals, that is not true of the majority of the people in the Church. They speak out against these proposals with the same love and intensity that any loving parent or sibling would to protect their loved one from danger.

It is natural for children to react towards their parents and siblings with resentment to what they interpret as interference and criticism. Most people think they know what is best for their life and put up walls to the pleas and warnings that others give. We say, "No one is going to tell me how to live my life." All of us press on through trial and error to discover the right or wrong of our decisions and actions.

People who love us respond in different ways when we make our own decisions and set our own course contrary to the loving advice we rejected. People who love us may feel hurt that we do not respect their wisdom, or understand why they are worried about us. They may even think that we don't love them because we will not do what they say. Those who love us may even threaten us with punishment or rejection as they try to force upon us what they sincerely believe is best for us.

Unfortunately, both parties may fail to discern and demonstrate that they love each other, and once the process is set in motion, neither side knows how to get back to the wonderful relationship they enjoyed before the disagreement.

Some parents and siblings choose to respond with respect to the decisions of their children, or their brother or sister, by affirming their love for them, and they embrace the loved one with assurance that if they ever need help, just ask. We know the dangers of drinking and driving. Some parents try to force their children not to drink, and especially not to drive while they are drunk. It works in some families. Other parents tell their children to call home if they have been drinking, and someone will come to drive them home.

I choose not to make a judgment about which parent is right. I do choose the last approach because it has less potential about whether love is still present. The child or sibling can find themselves in a dangerous situation as a result of intoxication, but the right decision to call home for help will redeem the parent, the child, the sibling, the innocent bystander.

Gay and Lesbian Anglicans have many siblings in the Church. Each person responds differently to who you are and the decisions you have made about how to live your life. Some respond as authority figures while others respond with a willingness to affirm love and concern and to be there if needed. But please remember that both responses are attempts to be loving.

A few of us have decided to take the second approach to gays and lesbians in the Church. We love you, respect your decisions, and want to walk with you. That is why we want to begin a group known as Integrity. We invite you to participate in a celebration of the Holy Eucharist with us. Watch for the advertisement. We will continue to be family together and trust God to work the miracle of love in all the children of the kingdom.

The Rev. Keith Howlett is rector of Oromocto.

DOG MATTICKS

by Doug Patstone



LETTERS

Sloppy theology on both sides of issue

Dear Editor;

Instead of a prayerful and reasoned dialogue seeking the direction of the Holy Spirit the present state of theological debate in the Anglican Church of Canada seems to be more like a conflict involving the Montagues and the Capulets. On the one side are opponents to the blessing of same sex unions calling for the sanctity of marriage and a biblically obedient Church; on the other are those proclaiming that love, justice and pastoral care are the prime directives of the Gospel and that we must act in accordance. While the cases stated on both sides may seem to be long and convoluted in some instances and in others mere emotional appeals, both sides have a couple of things in common: sloppy theology and what appears to be a total disregard for the Church.

The sloppy theology on the anti-blessing side is evidenced by appeals to such empty phrases as the sanctity of marriage (some Anglicans even dare call marriage a Sacrament!), family values, and bumper sticker pseudo-theological phrases like, "The

Church must be under Scripture not over it."

Not to be outdone, the pro-blessing camp has been equally adept at sloppy theology. While examples abound, the most risible one came with the passing at the recent General Synod of a motion which affirmed the sanctity of same sex unions which was accompanied by the statement that the word "sanctity" was not being used in a theological sense. This is much like saying $2+3=4$ because I don't mean "3" in the mathematical sense. Space does not permit an examination of the tortuous exegesis and eisegesis used by both sides.

Of much graver concern is the apparent disregard on both sides for the nature of the Church. On the anti-blessing side, the attempts to exercise "alternative episcopal oversight" and the recent demand by Essentials that members attending their meeting sign a document of "disassociation from the actions of General Synod" demonstrate a profound devaluation of the episcopal nature of the Anglican Church as well as the vows made by rectors at their induction.

Regardless of their statements to the contrary, I believe that Essentials means essentially anti-episcopal and it will be the force that shatters the Anglican Church of Canada.

The pro-blessing side has ignored the worldwide nature of the Anglican Communion and the Church itself. While I am not much concerned if some distant Archbishop has his knickers in a knot, it does concern me when our brothers and sisters are physically attacked, pilloried, and have their homes set afire because their neighbours consider all Christians immoral due to the actions of a few North Americans.

In ignoring the suffering of the Body of Christ the pro-blessing group is decidedly self centred in its imperialist attitude concerning a North American cultural agenda and they have done much to hinder the Gospel.

Let us pray that the Holy Spirit will prevail in all these matters.

Sincerely,
The Rev. William Morton
Rector, The Parish of
Salisbury and Havelock
Petitcodiac, NB

Invitation from the north

Dear Ana,

It was with great interest that I read the commentary by the Rev. Canon Philip Ward in the September issue. Thank you Canon Ward for the encouraging words. The members of the Parish of New Bandon (just east of Bathurst) have realized this for many years. We live in one of

the most beautiful parts of the province. WE ARE SURVIVORS.

We are hard workers, working both spiritually and financially for the betterment of the parish. We not only have fund-raisers, we have FUN-RAISERS. Anyone wanting a little FUN should join us at one of our events.

It's time that the Diocese

hold some of their meetings in the northern part of the province. We are only approximately 2 1/2 hours from Moncton and 3 hours from Fredericton.

We extend a warm welcome to ALL from Bishop Miller's home parish.

Elaine Good

COMMENTARY

Recommended book has serious defects

BY PHILIP WARD

Canon Jim Irvine would like us all to study sexuality (“Church not prepared to discuss any sexuality”, September), and to use a particular study guide: *Human Sexuality and the Christian Faith – Episcopal Edition*.

With Canon Irvine’s help, I have a copy of this study and, after reading it through carefully (all 70+ pages), I’m very glad the Diocese did not decide to follow his urging – that parishes use it. It has a number of serious defects, which I list below.

- The underlying philosophy sounds like the basic premise of Freud: behind everything we do is libido, the sex drive. Many students of psychology and psychiatry challenge Freud’s beliefs.

- Succumbing to the “tyranny of the urgent over the important”, the authors do not enquire why marriage and family life are breaking down; instead they focus on the three “especially urgent concerns in our church and society today”.

- The underlying philosophy in the study consistently follows only one school of interpreting the Bible, that of liberal scholars, as though there were no other legitimate, scholarly interpretation. This method looks at the scriptures through 21st-century eyes, as though our modern knowledge and expertise alone are adequate. The authors accept the 19th century Documentary Hypothesis. But many scholars now question those ideas. They believe that the Gospels “re-interpret” Jesus’ sayings and actions. Many scholars would distance themselves from any such idea.

- They say “The Old Testament by itself cannot tell us precisely how to solve questions concerning sexual relationships, [in today’s context]”. This is special pleading! Regarding the New Testament, we are encouraged to hold the post-modern view that truth is relative, not absolute; that what was not permissible then may be OK today; that the Church is free to shape its own moral boundaries. That may be respectable to some – but it is not acceptable to all Christians, not even to all Anglicans. And it’s not acceptable scholarship to many scholars.

- The authors describe as their foundation for ethical decisions a basis so flimsy that it cannot stand – especially when contrasted with the confident writings of the New Testament.

- The Bible is treated in this study not as God’s reliable word, but as the result of human efforts to find a way – acceptable in, and acceptable to the current culture. We are encouraged to consider (as possibly acceptable) behaviour which goes totally against Biblical teaching. Compassion is identified as an adequate reason to ignore boundaries. But Jesus’ compassion never implied that moral boundaries do not matter, that they can be set aside; His compassion was expressed only towards the boundary-violators that He was willing to forgive.

- Anyone planning to use this study should be warned: the study encourages us to teach “children, adolescents and adults” to masturbate. Such self-gratification completely opposes Jesus’ call to self-denial. The modern thirst for

sex reveals that people have not found Christ, who offered to satisfy the deepest thirst that every human being has. Jesus Himself looked to His relationship with His Father to satisfy that thirst – and as a result had no need of “genital sexual intimacy”.

The Church’s responsibility is so to live and preach that people can meet Christ, know His continuing presence in their daily lives, and learn how He wants us all to live – as members of His Church, and as citizens of society. If we do that, the sexual aspects of life will fall into their proper place.

Space does not allow me to give here the evidence for thinking as I do. But I will willingly send my full statement to all who ask. Contact me at bethany@nbnet.nb.ca. Canon Philip Ward lives in Tracy.

NEW BRUNSWICK ANGLICAN

How about Easter in Cuba, with baseball on the side?

BY ANA WATTS

Don Goodspeed of Bathurst is looking for a dozen people to join him on a trip to Cuba in March — people who wouldn’t mind putting baseball equipment and minor medical supplies in an extra suitcase, or adding a bicycle to their luggage allotment. It costs an extra \$5 to take the bike, but he will deliver it to the airport, even take off the pedals and turn the handlebars sideways, so it fits easily into the luggage compartment.

About 10 years ago, Don saw a CBC documentary on Cuba, where baseball is huge. Most of the kids he saw playing ball on the documentary hit dead balls with scavenged steel rod bats, so when he took his first trip to Cuba in 1996 (his wife Maxine was a bit nervous, so she stayed home), he packed half a dozen baseballs, about \$70 worth in Canada. They cost about \$40 each in Cuba. He was a popular tourist indeed.

Maxine accompanied him on his next trip. He also packed a duffel bag with 25 bats as well as some gloves and chest protectors that he got from a friend in Dalhousie. He fixed the gloves, sewed new rawhide inside them himself. He painted the bats so they looked like new and planned to take everything to a high school in Cuba, but a taxi driver told him he knew the district manager for a local baseball league.

“He took me to this run down old place, but I met the manager, and we distributed

the stuff among several teams,” says Don. “I got to know some of the baseball people too. When I came home I talked to Claude (Bishop Claude Miller, who was rector in the Parish of Bathurst at the time). He told me I should get in touch with the Anglican bishop in Cuba and make some connections that way. So I got the number through the National Church office in Toronto.”

Eventually Don connected with a parish in Varadero, a remote community where the young people see baseball as about the only way out of poverty. Along the way he has also worked with a Roman Catholic priest and even met some of Cuba’s professional ball players. He also identified other needs — for things like over-the-counter pain medication, bandages, tooth brushes and other minor medical supplies. Now he haunts dollar stores for combs and toothbrushes.

Don and Maxine stay at the same hotel each time they visit Cuba. One trip they went to check-in and found the woman at the desk in pain from a toothache.

“We were able to give her some medicine for the pain,” says Don. “It really helped and made her very happy. That really made our trip worthwhile, and from then on she called us *amigo*.”

Don also saw how valuable bicycles were to the people of Cuba, and how inexpensively they could be transported.



“One bike per passenger is allowed on the planes, and it only costs \$5.”

He also saw a need for school supplies and back packs, and he has taken down a few Bibles too.

Don’s duffel bag has made several trips to Cuba, and he has taken friends who have helped to carry the ever growing mountain of supplies — every time he goes he has more donations — but the need is great.

“I have special rates assured if we can sign-up a dozen people, we can save on the whole trip,” says Don. Later this fall the Moncton minor baseball association will sort through their equipment and has promised him what they can’t use, so there will be lots to carry to Cuba in March.

“I’m going down in March because I want to be there for

Baseball is huge in Cuba and often a way out of poverty. Don Goodspeed of Bathurst regularly delivers baseball equipment and other useful items. He’s looking for travelling companions with room in their suitcases.



Good Friday and Easter. It’s a wonderful experience.”

If you would like to join Don and Maxine on this special Easter trip, call him at 506/546-5387 or e-mail gladys2@nbnet.nb.ca.

If you don’t want to be part

of a tour but are planning a trip to Cuba on your own, Don still wants to hear from you, if you’re willing to pack a few extra things. Don’t be surprised if he has a bike with your name on it too.

FEATURE

Bishop's Court

Now permanently and graciously furnished

by Keith Dow

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANA WATTS

Thanks to the generosity of several New Brunswick Anglicans and two out-of-province benefactors, Bishop's Court is now permanently furnished and reflects the gracious heritage of the Anglican Church in New Brunswick.

In 2003, the diocesan Board of Finance (now Finance Committee) was surprised to learn that responsibility to furnish the century-old, late Victorian style home rested solely with the incumbent bishop. Members of the board agreed this circumstance presented an unfair burden and therefore duly passed a motion that an initiative be taken to secure major and permanent appointments complementary to the age and use of the gracious three-storey home at the corner of Church and Brunswick Streets in Fredericton.

A nominal budget was established for use if necessary, but it was decided to request donations of suitable period furnishings from Anglicans throughout the diocese.

Stories published in this newspaper soon brought forth several offers of suitable donations. These gifts included period mahogany and walnut settees and sofas, an 1850s mahogany banquet table with eight mahogany carved chairs, two silver candelabra and other silver items, a beautiful hand-woven east Indian rug, mid-Victorian grape backed chairs with needle point seats and some additional mahogany chairs which complement the dining room table.

The two out-of-province patrons, who donated several Victorian antiques and wish to remain anonymous, came to our attention through the kindness of Tim Isaac, a Saint John based antique dealer and appraiser. He is, a recognized authority on the provenance of the Georgian and Victorian periods and was of inestimable aid in securing donations of suitable acquisitions for Bishop's Court.

A period buffet or sideboard and a china cabinet, in mahogany or walnut, are still needed for the large dining room.

All the donated items were professionally evaluated and tax receipts were issued to the respective donors.

Keith Dow coordinated the Bishop's Court furnishings initiative.



CURRENT & COMING EVENTS

PARISH PICNIC



August 29 was a glorious day in Churches Corner, Albert County. The Rev. Bill Morton (left) led a service at All Saints and a cake and ice-cream picnic followed.

WHO? WHAT? WHERE? WHEN? WHY?



David Goss, an author and frequent contributor to the New Brunswick Anglican, is working on a book for Nimbus publishing that will look at the past and present. It will feature a series of old photographs with comparative photos from today. He needs a bit of help, though. For example, in the photo above he only recognizes his father, Abe Goss, third from the right. He doesn't know where the photo was taken or what the group was discussing. It could be a meeting of the Camp Medley board. If it is, David will get a photo of the current board to pair with it. If you know anything about the above photo, or have photos you want him to consider, contact him at 21 Glenwood Drive, Saint John, E2M 5P3 or call 506 672 8601 or e-mail gosswalk@nbnet.nb.ca .

GRAND ULTREYA



KEITH MUNRO

The New Brunswick Anglican Cursillo Movement held a Grand Ultreya at St. James Church in Moncton on Sept. 11. Following a day of fellowship, worship and uplifting sharing, participants gathered in front of the church for this group photo.

Tournament rained out, but benefits PWRDF anyway

The 10th annual Christ Church (Parish) Church golf tournament in support of the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) was virtually rained-out on Sept. 18. The weather in Fredericton, however, didn't stop the 72 participating golfers from raising nearly \$1,500.

The event, renamed the Rod Leroux Memorial tournament in honour of its founder, fell victim to the remnants of Hurricane Ivan. High winds and heavy rains, kept all but a few of the real keeners off the course during the day. They all gathered at the church in the evening for an awards banquet and fellowship to celebrate the event anyway.

Among those with something

significant to celebrate was the rector, Archdeacon John Sharpe. He only golfs once a year, but he was one of the keeners who braved the elements and shot par on one hole, according to fellow golfer and diocesan vice-chancellor Clyde Spinney.

As far as organizers know, the Rod Leroux tournament is the largest run by the church in support of PWRDF. Support of this kind enables PWRDF to fund programs and respond to disasters, like Hurricane Ivan. Although it only inconvenienced golfers in Fredericton, it ravaged several islands in the Caribbean and hit countries like Grenada especially hard. PWRDF responded immediately with relief funding.



Integrity

Fredericton gay and lesbian Anglicans and their friends invite you to attend Holy Eucharist at St. John's Anglican Church Oromocto (across from the hospital) Sunday, Oct. 24, 4 p.m. Pizza & Fellowship to follow

God's Covenant
Love In These Turbulent Times
6th Annual NB Anglican
Men's Conference
Oct. 29-30
Fredericton Inn
Featuring
The Rev. Dr. David Fisher
St. Paul's United Church

Dr. Fisher was ordained in 1988 by the Alberta Northwest Conference of the United Church of Canada. He has served in congregations in Newfoundland, Ohio and Saskatchewan. He brings an enthusiasm for the Lord, a compassion for the hurting, and a love for people. In addition to a MDiv. degree he holds an MA in Pastoral Counseling and a Doctor of Ministry specializing in Biblical preaching and church leadership. Dr. Fisher's articles have been published in Fellowship Magazine and Theological Digest and Outlook. He is working on several journal articles based on his doctoral research.

Dr. Fisher is associate minister of St. Paul's United Church, and shares his home and heart with his beloved wife Melissa and their lovable dog Rocky.

To register, send your \$35 conference fee along with your name, address and other contact information to

The Registrar
NB Anglican Men's Conference
Synod Office
115 Church Street.
Fredericton, NB, E3B 4C8

Please make cheques payable to the Diocese of Fredericton

RESOURCE NEWS

Resource Centre's collection enhanced by 150 items

BY PAT DRUMMOND

The Diocesan Resource Centre located at Anglican House in Saint John went from strength to strength this summer. Once again we were able to employ university student Dawn Masson to catalogue and process an additional 150 items. Dawn is entering her fourth year at UNBSJ, where she is studying for both a B.A. and a B.Ed. She was employed under a federal student grant for ten weeks and was invaluable to both the Resource Centre and the Bookstore during her time there.

The on-line catalogue now lists some 450 items which are available for parishes and individuals to borrow. Most of the collection is VHS videos, but it also includes many multi-item kits.

Last year someone remarked "You can't watch a video in the bath." With this in mind, we expanded our book collection this year. We bought some books from the late Rev. Peter Burchill's library as well as some specific titles recommended by interested Anglicans. We also bought some books written by faculty from the clergy colleges over the past four years.

Our expanded collection includes:

- Two new Anglican Learning Centres, *What Is In the Bible?* and *Prayer*. These are Sunday School units written by Patricia Bays, and enhanced with

additional materials and books so that they are 'user friendly' for Sunday School teachers with little scrounging for further resources. Each unit could last from four to six weeks.

- Two copies of the video, *Youth Ministry Outside the Lines*, recommended by our youth director, the Rev. Dr. George Porter.

- A set of seven, 26-minute videos, *Memorable Leaders in Church History*. (Aidan, Bede, Cuthbert, Hild of Whitby, Oswald, Wilfred and the Lindisfarne Gospel)

- *The School of Healing Prayer*. Level 2. 13 videos with manuals.

- *The Gospel of John* in both DVD and VHS formats.

- *Christianity 101*, a course for new Christians or those wishing to 'bone-up' on the basics, by The Rev. Harold Percy.

- *Developing an Effective Small Group Ministry*, a 100-minute video (how groups function and serve a congregation, how to get started, leadership)

- *Godly Play*, three videos on how to work with pre-school children using the Godly Play materials.

- *Baptism -- a Life Long Celebration*. We have six copies of this Anglican Book Centre



PAT DRUMMOND

University student Dawn Masson was employed by the Diocesan Resource Centre again this past summer.

video. Our diocese contributed to its production. About 30 minutes long, they are useful to initiate discussion with those considering baptism (or their parents/godparents).

- *Parables, A New Look at Familiar Stories*.

- *Tens*, an avant garde series by J. John on the 10 commandments.

- Five videos of Max Lucado's children's books.

There is much, much more. If you have the opportunity to visit

Anglican House please drop in and take a look. Alternatively, go on-line, www.anglican.nb.ca, scroll down the side to Ministry and click on Resource Centre/Library. Then browse the subject catalogue, click on one that interests you and see what is available.

Gwen McKnight and Cathy Ramey at Anglican House are also very familiar with the resource centre collection and willing to help in any way they can.

Items are sent out free of charge to Anglicans, but users pay the cost of returning them.

AST welcomes new professor

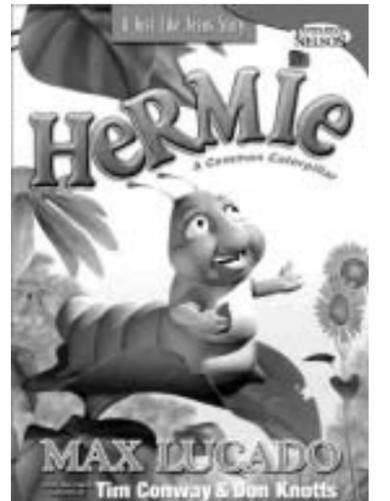
HALIFAX - The Board of Governors and Dr. Helga Mills, Acting President of Atlantic School of Theology (AST), are pleased to announce a new faculty member in Pastoral Theology, The Rev. Dr. Nancy L. Cocks.

Dr. Cocks, a Presbyterian, holds a Doctorate in Theology from the Toronto School of Theology and a Master of Divinity from Knox College, University of Toronto. She brings ordained pastoral experience along with considerable teaching and administrative work to AST. She is a former faculty member of Vancouver School of Theology. At present, she is Deputy Warden of the Macleod Centre, Iona Community, Scotland.

Dr. Cocks will begin her teaching duties at AST on January 1, 2005.

Atlantic School of Theology is an ecumenical graduate school preparing women and men to assume leadership roles in Christian churches and the community. AST offers courses at the masters and certificate levels, in the classroom and at a distance via Internet and television.

REVIEW



Hermie has a message

BY DAWN MASSON

The Diocese of Fredericton Resource Centre has recently added more than 150 new items to its holdings. Among them is a charming children's video called *Hermie: A Common Caterpillar*.

Based on the Max Lucado storybook of the same name, this video is an excellent resource to help children learn that God made each of us unique because we all have something special about us, even if we only feel ordinary compared to others. This video teaches us that we should embrace the gifts and qualities that God gives us which makes us special, and to be patient with God when we can't recognize the talents that we possess.

Tim Conway, the voice of Hermie, and Don Knotts as his pal Wormie, bring the characters to life in this beautifully animated video. The children are sure to be captivated by the catchy songs and brilliant animation, while adults will appreciate the humor as the two friends embark on their many adventures.

This 40 minute video is ideal for use with a Sunday school class or for an evening of entertainment with the whole family.

Hermie: A Common Caterpillar is available for loan from the Diocese of Fredericton Resource Centre located inside Anglican House at 116 Princess St., Saint John. When visiting the Resource Centre, be sure to take a look at the many wonderful resources available in addition to children's videos. There are Bible study kits and videos, as well as many other items for your own personal enjoyment.

Do you love music?
Does your spirit for life **LEAP**
from your soul?

The Parish of the Nerepis and St. John,
a new and innovative Anglican Parish
is looking for a versatile and gifted person
to serve as

Music Director / Musician / Choir Director

If you have both a traditional and contemporary
passion for music, good people skills

- and wish to be a part of a 'church-on-the-grow' -

please forward your resumé to:

Search Committee

28 Murray St., Grand Bay-Westfield, NB E5K 1C8

or for further information, call 738-2055 or at

<<http://user.fundy.net/pketepec/>>



"To be a unified, faith-driven, growing Anglican Church
proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ, serving the community
in traditional and innovative Spirit-led ministries."

DIOCESAN NEWS

ACW Quiet Day focuses on The Great Thanksgiving

BY EVE MORTON

A record number of ACW members attended the Diocesan Quiet Day at St. Andrew's in Petitcodiac on Sept. 9. at St. Andrew's, Petitcodiac.

Highlight of the day was guest speaker the Rev. Steven (Wally) Brown, who is on leave from the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. His topic was the church, and he made three distinct points.

First he told us that the church is called to be a welcoming community and asked if outsiders felt welcome in our "club".

"Would a total stranger walk through the doors of our church building? Shouldn't we be going to them instead of the other way round?" he asked.

He also said the church was called to be a sacrificial community. Quoting the prayer found on page 195 of the Book of Alternative Services, and on page 85 of the Book of Common Prayer, he said, "... and here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy,

and living sacrifice unto thee ..."

Wally reminded us that all of our lives, even those parts which we do not consider good gifts, should be offered back to God for his use. All of our lives should be one Great Thanksgiving.

He also said we are called to be a commissioning community, taking the light of Jesus Christ to others. As we receive the sacrament at the Feast of Holy Communion, we are called to carry the gift we have received outside the walls of the church building to a hungry world. He quoted the Prayer After Communion (page 214 in the Book of Alternative Services): "May we, who share his body, live his risen life; we, who drink his cup, bring life to others; we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world."

He highlighted our call to live Holy Communion in the world.

Despite the rainy day, 75 women attended the event, hosted by the ladies of the Parish of Salisbury and Havelock. Coffee and muffins were waiting for them on their arrival, and a delicious lunch was served during the noon break.

Archives Corner



The Archives contains photographs of all the churches in the diocese. These are of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Cambridge-Narrows, built in 1903.



CLOSING COOK-OUT



CINDY DERKSEN

Members of the Parish of Richmond branch of the Mothers' Union and their spouses celebrated the end of the season with a cook-out in June. Seen here are Susan Black, Pat Margison, Rod Black (rector of the parish at that time) and Wes Margison.

Recording Secretary

The Diocese of Fredericton invites applications for the position of Diocesan Recording Secretary. On a contract, per hour, as needed basis, this position will provide for the recording of minutes of diocesan council and committees, correspondence and other typographical duties.

The estimated time required is 160 hours per year.

Contact the Bishop's Office for a detailed job description, 506/46-0525.

Applications may be sent to the Ven. Geoffrey Hall

115 Church Street, Fredericton NB E3B 4C8

geoffrey.hall at anglican.nb.ca

Taylor College Presents

HOPE in the CITY

Oct. 25 - 29

a week-long intensive study with Church Army Officer Susan Daffern on staff with Toronto's Yonge Street Mission.

Topics include God's Heart for the Poor; Who are the Poor?; Imaginative & Creative Approaches..

Fee: \$15 daily. includes hot lunch & breaks. Register by Oct. 20.

Lectionary Preaching Workshop

Saturday, Nov. 13, 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., led by Bishop Bill Hockin

Particularly appropriate for Lay Readers and those with some preaching experience, others are also welcome.

Topics: Principles of Lectionary Preaching, and Tackling a Text

Fee: \$25.

Second Annual Pre-Christmas Art Show & Sale

Friday evening and Saturday, Nov 5 & 6

Works by artists and artisans.

Taylor College

105 Mountain View Dr.

Saint John

506) 693-8975 or edwa@nbnet.nb.ca.

ACW CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Christ Church (Parish) Church

Corner Westmorland & Charlotte Streets, Fredericton,

Saturday Nov. 13, 1 - 4 p.m.

Featuring fudge, jams, pickles, breads, sweets,

bridge items, gourmet foods and crafts

Sweet Treats served at Café au Bazaar

Wheelchair accessible



COLUMNS

The wonders and miracles of childhood

Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." Matthew 18:3.

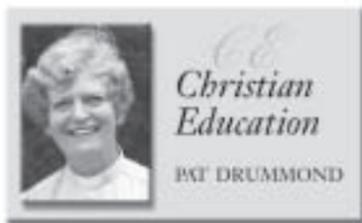
This was his reply to the disciples when they asked who was the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. What does Jesus mean? What are little children like? One commentary says trusting and unpretentious; another emphasizes humility and dependence. Both seem likely interpretations.

There is, however, another childish quality worthy of consideration. William Barclay's commentary suggests it is "the power to wonder, before he has become deadeningly used to the wonder of the world."

When you read this, fall will be ablaze with colour. Do we adults marvel at the magnificence of the display before us and long to jump in the great piles of leaves? Or do we only see the tedious tasks of raking, bagging and disposing?

When the snow flies, do we look with wonder at the changing landscape? Do we imagine ice castles and fairies with magic wands encasing branches and twigs with a shimmery coating of silver? Do we notice the magical patterns on the frosted glass? Or do we sigh at the prospect of more shoveling and slip sliding our way to work?

This summer I read



Learning to Dance by Michael Mayne, who was once head of religious programs at BBC Radio, vicar of Great St. Mary's in Cambridge and Dean of Westminster. He writes of how art, music and poetry can "mediate meaning and a sense of a higher, richer and more intense existence."

Perhaps for us as adults it is art, music and poetry that enables us to re-capture the power of wonder which we lost as we grew. Maybe that is why the arts have been such an important part of our religious heritage and so enrich our worship.

Mayne continues: "The nearest we come to the holy and the numinous is through these signs and instruments of the divine. This is what it means to live in a sacramental world: that matter is one of God's languages; that it is indeed the bearer of spirit; that we can come to understand, if only we would learn to open our eyes and ears, that the creation mirrors the Creator ... we may find the holy in the ordinary at every level and there is nothing that exists that does not contain some mystery."

Madeleine L'Engle, one of

my favourite authors, writes of the joy and holiness she finds in the music of Bach. "I've been working on his C Minor Toccata and Fugue since college, and I find something new in it every day. And perhaps this is because God was new for Bach every day, was never taken for granted. Too often we do take God for granted ..."

Little children have yet to learn to take the world for granted. Everything is new and exciting. Everything is full of wonder and mystery. This summer three-year-old Emily said; "Mummy, when you move the clouds apart, you can see Heaven. And then you can push them together again and Heaven hides."

May we never lose the ability to see Heaven, to see our world with the wondering eyes of a child.

The Rev. Patricia Drummond is diocesan director of Christian education.



Christmas Books for Children

BY PATRICIA DRUMMOND

October is not too early to order books for the children on your gift list, and the gift of a book is one that continues to give year after year, especially if there is more than one child in a family. A book is also a non-threatening way to be an 'evangelist' to a family and sow the seeds of faith.

Jesus by Brian Wildsmith. Oxford University Press, 2000, ISBN 0-19-272520-3. Paperback, \$15.95 The Times Educational Supplement says this book has 'pictures to be dreamed over, and meditated upon, over and over again.' It presents the story of Jesus from the angel Gabriel's visit to Mary until Pentecost, each page presents a significant episode in a few lines of text and Wildsmith's glorious pictures.

The Children's Illustrated Bible. Stories retold by Selina Hastings, illustrated by Eric Thomas. Published in two formats by Dorling Kindersley, 2000: ISBN 0-7566-0261-0, \$29.99; ISBN 0-7894-5331-2, \$19.99. There is a general introduction to the Bible and both testaments are introduced with maps. At the end there is an index and a 'Who's who in the Bible stories.' There are many excellent illustrations and interesting notes to go with each one, like the one on how vineyards were cultivated with Jesus' parable of the workers in the vineyard.

Lift-the-flap Nativity. Retold by Allia Zobel-Nolan and illustrated by Trace Moroney. Standard Publishing, 2001, ISBN 0-7847-1280-8, \$17.99. Little children love to lift flaps and this board book would be a good introduction to the nativity story for the two to five-year-olds. I particularly liked the scene of the village street in Bethlehem in which the doors and shutters of the homes have flaps that lift to show full rooms.

Granny Mae's Christmas Play by Bob Hartman, illustrated by Lynne Cravath. Augsburg, 2001, ISBN 0-8066-4063-4, \$19.99. Granny Mae organizes her family into acting out the Christmas story in a very simple but effective way. There are notes for those who want to try this themselves.

Christopher Bear's First Christmas by Stephanie Jeffs, illustrated by Jacqui Thomas. Augsburg, 2002, ISBN 0-8066-4349-8, \$6.99. This little preschool book is one of the 'Christopher Bear' series. It is a story about putting on a Nativity play in a preschool.

The Christmas Bird by Sallie Ketchum, illustrated by Stacey Schuett. Augsburg, 2000, ISBN 0-8066-3871-0, \$24.95. A Christmas legend of how the robin got his red breast with pictures so beautiful one can feel the heat from the fire.

Before and After Christmas by Debbie Trafton O'Neal, illustrated by David LaRochelle, Augsburg, 1991, ISBN 0-8066-2534-1, \$16.50. A wonderful source of Advent and the twelve days of Christmas ideas to keep children busy before and during the holidays. The activities teach the story, history and traditions of Christmas. Since no family could do everything in the book in any one year, it will be a source of inspiration and fun for many Christmas seasons.

Trust the navigator and face your fears with prayer

This province has produced a plethora of pamphlets to promote the incredible Bay of Fundy tides. Twice a day, a volume of water equivalent to that of all the rivers of the world washes in and out of the funnel-shaped bay. There are those who compare this process to the flushing of a giant toilet, but that image is absent from the tourism brochures. I just hope it doesn't reflect our environmental policies.

I spent many summers on the Bay of Fundy. At the risk of life and limb, I swam unsupervised at Tin Can Beach in the south end of Saint John. I still enjoy the cold rush of salt water and the power of the tide pulling me from shore — or should I say sure? I'm a cautious adventurer at heart. I love to be at the ocean's edge. Moving off shore is quite another kettle of fish, one I encountered later in life, when I hooked up with the Coleman family of Newfoundland.

Upon being introduced to my future in-laws, I took great pleasure in letting them know I would love to go and jig for



squid and cod. This was not customary for those of my gender, but since I was from the mainland my unusual requests were indulged. At four in the morning I was up and ready with my gear and took enormous delight in setting out in the dark to watch the sun enter the morning sky.

I had no fear in the endless seascape as it opened under the canopy of early light. I felt confident in the skipper guiding our 12-foot dory into the open Atlantic waters. It's great to be young and naive.

Thanks to my husband's father, Churchill, and his uncle, John Wallace, I spent a good many mornings jigging for fish. I had a lot of confidence in those old skippers. Even when all sight of land was lost to the rolling billows of the

from

The Rime of the Ancient Mariner

by Samuel Taylor Coleridge

O happy living things! no tongue
Their beauty might declare:

A spring of love
gushed from my heart,

And I blessed them unaware:

Sure my kind saint took pity on me,

And I blessed them unaware.

The self same moment I could pray;

And from my neck so free

The Albatross fell off, and sank

Like lead into the sea.

dark deep sea, I was not afraid.

Times change. Uncle John Wallace died. My husband's father grew old and the dory started to take on water. I did not change, but "the times, they were a changing." The new boats were made of fibreglass and had gas engines. They were skippered by the next generation of Coleman brothers and cousins. Their idea of adventure was to take a woman from the main land out to fish, then frighten the life

out of her by revving up the motor and hitting the swells head on.

My Fear Factor kicked in and I felt as if I were living The Rime of the Ancient Mariner, whose nightmare only took on new meaning when he began to pray. He moved from fear and despair to redemption and liberation.

The open waters of the Atlantic were my nightmare, each swell struck terror in my heart. To give any indication of fear would have been a fatal flaw, to the young men it was all in 'good fun'. My only recourse was silent prayer, which included a little bargaining, a lot of repentance and promises for big change. I may have to revisit that prayer.

That whole ocean-going adventure changed for me. There was no difference in the vastness of the sea, the new boat was better and safer, but my security was gone because I no longer trusted the navigator of the vessel.

The disciples shared this experience when they were out at sea too. Matthew's gospel sets the scene: it is the middle

of the darkest night and the wind is against them. Think Hurricane Ivan. Again the Fear Factor kicked in. I can imagine a little bargaining and repentance, some promises similar to mine in the hearts of the disciples as the small boat tossed about on that "sea of outrageous fortune." In their despair they see what they think is a ghost walking toward them on the water. They hear "Take heart! Do not be afraid; It is I."

Their fears, like the albatross, "sank like lead into the sea." They had built a relationship of trust with Jesus, and when He drew near and they heard him speak, they felt safe and secure. His presence brought peace and calmed the troubled waters.

"Take heart! Do not be afraid; It is I." Jesus continues to speak these words to those who follow Him. As we struggle through rough waters or sit beside a quiet stream, His message is the same. Peace be still. Be not afraid. I am with you.

Ruth Coleman lives, writes and dances in Hampton.

The poor would not be comfortable with us

BY JIM IRVINE

Give us grateful hearts that the whole human family may with us give thanks.

The words catch in my throat like a feared turkey bone at the harvest dinner. The liturgy is wonderful — familiar hymns of abundance and thanksgiving help accentuate the cyclical themes of rogation and harvest. The hymns, readings, decorations are the same. The smell of apples and the rustle of maple leaves prepare us for chancels festooned with purchased vegetables — tomatoes, carrots, potatoes, beets. We are even thankful for the lowly turnip. Above the steps, seedless grapes harvested at the grocery store and a loaf of baker's bread frame a chalice and paten.

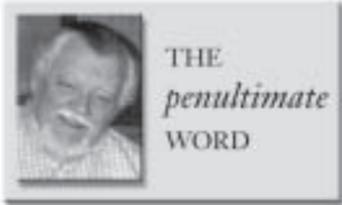
Choral anthems voice praise and thanksgiving on behalf of the men, women and youths who occupy the pews, enjoy the tokens of abundance expressed on so many levels; but the words catch in my throat. "Creator of the fruitful earth, you made us stewards of all things." As stewards we approach the mystery of God to acknowledge what inestimable blessings we have received at his hand. "Give us grateful hearts for all your goodness, and steadfast wills to use your bounty well." My words give depth to the heartfelt gratitude but strain at the thought of accepting the gracious gift of a steadfast will to act out of our gratitude.

Oh, the groceries will be delivered to the local food bank on Monday. Perhaps it will have to wait until Tuesday, but certainly by Tuesday the decorations will be delivered. Only a few days after our celebration.

When my daughter Sarah and I got our groceries at the local supermarket a few days ago I noticed the donation slips for the New Brunswick Food Bank Association at the check-out. It's easy as pie to give a donation at the same time we pick up the family grocery order.

I remember when food banks were first introduced. It was decades ago now. None of it seemed routine then. There was no organization. A need expressed was met and in the process became acceptable. Now the NBFBA is a regular feature of our community and we are not in the least outraged by the need that requires such an effort.

Our steadfast will has been one of acceptance of outrageous terms by which ever-growing numbers of our community live their lives. As a church we provide tinned



goods and non-perishable items, but we do it anonymously and without raising a voice.

I continue — "That the whole human family, today and in generations to come, may with us give thanks for the riches of your creation." I strain not to lose my voice. There are fewer people to be thankful than there are people who have little to be thankful for.

The homeless and the underemployed struggle. So do the single mothers, children of single-parent families, those who swallow pride and ask for help, those who are alone and fearful, and those who suffer addictions.

The litany of the streets awaits us as we leave our churches. No Harvest Home is chanted there; no response of thanks is heard. The silence of so many taunts us. We run the risk of being beguiled into thinking that their lack of blessing and their lack of thanksgiving are the sign and seal of God's displeasure towards them.

I have come not to expect those who have been marginalized to cram into our pews. They wouldn't be very comfortable. Neither would we, but for all that, I am resigned to the prayer and to make it ours. "May with us, I pray, give thanks."

It seems clear to me that the steadfast will of each one returning from the Communion rail pauses only briefly at a familiar pew before entering a world where we are found — together. Our prayer and intention leads us from where we are to where redemption is found: amongst the tired and broken and discouraged.

We cannot give thanks alone.

Courage allows our grateful hearts to recognize the goodness expressed to us. Helping the blind, the captive, the discouraged see God's favour and intent will encourage others.

We are not thankful in order to expose the ingratitude of others. Redemption finds voice in a choir that joins its voice with others expressing mercy, and justice.

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Canon Jim Irvine makes his home in Fredericton

INTERCESSIONS

OCTOBER

a 25: Parish of Marysville, the Rev. John Cathcart; the Rev. David Dean; Saint Stephen Anglican Mission Station, the Rev. Carlos Alberto Tomé da Silva, OSE, Assistant: ML. Frei Hélio Holmes, OSE.

a 26: Parish of Maugerville & Oromocto, the Rev. Keith Howlett; Saint Luke Anglican Mission Station, Evangelist Samuel Hansen.

a 27: Parish of Millidgeville, Canon Alvin Westgate, the Rev. Canon Brian Campion, the Rev. Paul McCracken, honorary assistants; Canon Paul DeLong (R); Mount Zion Anglican Mission Station, the Rev. Sérgio Andrade, assistant: lay minister Adilson Ferreira da Silva, OSF.

a 28: Parish of Minto & Chipman, the Rev. Eileen Irish; Jesus From Nazareth Anglican Mission Station, the Rev. Fernando Acosta.

a 29: Parish of Moncton, the Rev. Chris VanBuskirk; Terence Chandra, Wycliffe; Bethesda Anglican Mission Station, the Rev. Juciara Crasto.

a 30: Parish of Musquash, the Rev. Bonnie Baird; Martin Luther King Anglican Mission Station, the Rev. Israel Pereira Cardoso, OSF.

a 31: Clergy and people of the Church of the Province of West Africa, Archbishop Justice Ofei Akrofi; Diocese of Recife, Good Samaritan Parish, the Rev. Manoel Severino Moraes, OSE, coadjutor, the Rev. Fábio Vasconcelos, Bishop Robinson Cavalcanti and staff; Diocese of Yukon, Old Crow — St. Luke, the Rev. Martin Carroll, Ruth Carroll and family, Rev. Deacon Marion Schafer, Esau Schafer & family, lay ministry team, Bishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family; Claude, our Bishop, William, George and Harold, retired bishops, and their families.

NOVEMBER

a 1: Parish of Nerepis and St. John, the Rev. Vicars Hodge, the Ven. Arthur Gregg, honorary assistant; the Rev. Terry Doncaster (on leave); Nativity Anglican Mission Station, the Rev. Bruno Luiz Teles de Almeida, OSF.

a 2: Parish of New Bandon, (Vacant); Ipojuca Anglican Mission Station, the Rev. Geison Vasconcelos.

a 3: Parishes of Newcastle and Nelson, the Rev. Richard Steeves; Padre Richard Durrett, Oromocto; Mount Moriah Anglican Mission Station, the Rev. Miguel Uchoa, Assistant: Lay Minister Márcio José de Sousa Simões.

a 4: Parish of New Maryland, the Rev. Bruce McKenna; Mandacaru Anglican Mission Station, the Rev. Jorge Aquino, OSE, Assistant: Lay Minister Jocelenilton Gomes da Silva.

a 5: Parish of Pennfield, the Rev. Keith Osborne; Ellen Curtis, Wycliffe; Christ The Redeemer Anglican Mission Station, Lay Minister José Fernandes.

a 6: Parish of Portland, the Rev. Gordon Thompson; House Of Prayer Anglican Mission Station, Lay Minister Roberta Araújo.

a 7: Clergy and people of the Province of the West Indies, Primate Drexel Wellington Gomez; Diocese of Recife, Holy Spirit Anglican Parish, the Rev. Miguel Uchôa Cavalcanti, Coadjutor: the Rev. Geison Sávio de Holanda, Assistant: the Rev. Fernando Acosta, Bishop Robinson Cavalcanti and staff; Diocese of Yukon, Sarah Usher, diocesan administrative officer — bishop's secretary; members of the diocesan executive committee, Bishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family; Claude, our bishop, William, George and Harold, retired bishops, and their families.

a 8: Parish of Prince William, the Rev. Robert J. Barry; the Rev. Ernie Eldridge (R); Burning Bush Anglican Mission Station, Lay Minister Josenaide Maria Lopes Pereira.

a 9: Parish of Quispamsis, the Rev. John Tremblay; Peace Anglican Mission Station, lay minister Solange Cristina Pereira.

a 10: Parish of Renforth, the Rev. Eric Phinney; the Rev. Roy Embley (R); New Life Anglican Mission Station, lay minister Marconi Alves de Oliveira.

a 11: Parish of Restigouche, the Rev. Andrew Fraser; Holy Trinity Anglican Cathedral, the Very Rev. Sérgio Andrade, auxiliary: Rev. Edmar Carvalho Pimentel, osf.

a 12: Parish of Richmond, (vacant); Marian Lucas-Jeffries, Atlantic School of Theology; Emmanuel Anglican Parish, the Rev. Ian Meldrum, coadjutor: the Rev. Vera Nascimento.

a 13: Parish of Riverview, Canon Albert Snelgrove; Resurrection Anglican Parish, the Ven. Luiz Souza de França.

a 14: Clergy and people of the extra-provincial Diocese of Bermuda, the Rt. Rev. A. Ewan Ratteray; Diocese of Recife, Saint Paul Anglican Parish, the Rev. Juciara Rodrigues, Bishop Robinson Cavalcanti and staff; Diocese of Yukon, members of the Yukon Apostolate: Pattie Tetlich; Bishop's School of Yukon Ministries, Bishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family; Claude, our Bishop, William, George and Harold, retired bishops, and their families.

a 15: Parish of Rothesay, the Ven. Richard McConnell; the Rev. Greg Fraser, chaplain, Dorchester Correctional Centre; Good Samaritan Parish, the Rev. Manoel Severino Moraes, OSE, Coadjutor, the Rev. Fábio Vasconcelos.

a 16: Parish of St. Andrews, Canon John Matheson; Holy Spirit Anglican Parish, the Rev. Miguel Uchôa Cavalcanti, Coadjutor: the Rev. Geison Sávio de Holanda, Assistant: the Rev. Fernando Acosta.

a 17: Parish of St. Andrew's, Sunny Brae with Hillsborough and Riverside, the Rev. Robert Salloum; Mr. Charles Ferris, Diocesan Chancellor; Saint Paul Anglican Parish, the Rev. Juciara Rodrigues.

a 18: Parish of St. David & St. Patrick, Canon John Matheson, priest-in-charge; Redeemer Anglican Parish, interim rector:

the Rev. Vera Lúcia Lins Silva, assistant the Rev. Nadja Lins.

a 19: Parish of St. George, the Rev. Mary Anne Langmaid; Paul Ranson, Wycliffe; Good Shepherd Anglican Parish, interim rector Dom Filadelfo Oliveira Neto, OSE, Assistant; the Rev. Bruno Luiz Teles de Almeida, OSF.

a 20: Parish of St. James, Moncton, the Rev. Donald Routledge; Christ The Saviour Anglican Parish, interim rector Dom Filadelfo Oliveira Neto, OSE, assistant; the Rev. Bruno Luiz Teles de Almeida, OSF.

a 21: Clergy and people of the Lusitanian Church of Portugal, the Rt. Rev. Fernando da Luz Soares; Diocese of Recife, Redeemer Anglican Parish, interim rector the Rev. Vera Lúcia Lins Silva, Assistant the Rev. Nadja Lins, Bishop Robinson Cavalcanti and staff; Diocese of Yukon, Tom Parlee and Spence Hill, mission education & PWRDF coordinators, Bishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family; Claude, our bishop, William, George and Harold, retired bishops, and their families.

a 22: Parish of Saint John, the Ven. Stuart Allen, the Rev. David Dean, honorary assistant; the Rev. Royden Ferris (R); Reconciliation Anglican Parish, the Rev. Claudio de Souza Linhares, OSF, Coadjutor the Rev. Lillian P. da Costa Linhares, OSF, assistant the Rev. Claudio Norberto, OSF.

a 23: Parish of St. Margaret's, Canon Jon Lownds, the Rev. John Harvey, honorary assistant; Redemption Anglican Parish, the Ven. Maria Gorete Correia, OSE.

a 24: Parish of St. Mark (Stone) Church, the Rev. David Edwards; Lt. Col. John Fletcher, chaplain to the military; Jesus From Nazareth Anglican Parish, the Rev. Severino Abel da Silva, OSF

a 25: Parish of St. Martin's & Black River, the Rev. Dana Dean; Sower Anglican Parish, the Rev. Quintino Orenge.

a 26: Parish of St. Mary, the Rev. Ian Wetmore; Michael Amirault, student; Mediator Anglican Parish, the Ven. Arthur Cavalcanti, coadjutor the Rev. João Cândio Peixoto, assistant: the Rev. Gustavo Gilson.

a 27: Parish of St. Peter, the Rev. Ross Hebb; Saviour Anglican Parish, the Rev. Márcio Medeiros Meira, assistant: lay minister Cláudio Luiz Figueiredo de Brito.

a 28: Clergy and people of the Spanish Reformed Episcopal Church, the Rt. Rev. Carlos Lopez Lozano; Diocese of Recife, Good Shepherd Anglican Parish, interim rector Dom Filadelfo Oliveira Neto, OSE, assistant the Rev. Bruno Luiz Teles de Almeida, OSF, Bishop Robinson Cavalcanti and staff; Claude, our Bishop, William, George and Harold, retired bishops, and their families.

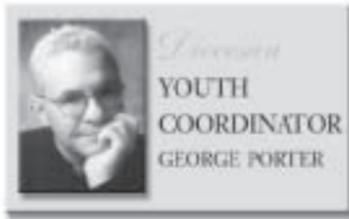
The Diocesan Intercessions are also available on-line at www.anglican.nb.ca

YOUTH

I'm curious, George ... Creation or evolution? What do you think?

This was the most common question asked by junior teens during the week I spent at Camp Medley this summer. The question preoccupies many Christians and has for a long time. I have spent quite a bit of time and energy myself with these debates. I've even visited the old Tennessee court house where the infamous 'Scopes Monkey Trial' was held. Meanwhile nearly daily I see car bumpers sporting fish sprouting legs (sometimes with DARWIN printed inside), while others carry fish (usually labeled TRUTH) swallowing up the fish sprouting legs.

The evolution question can be answered two different levels.



Personally, I have no problem with the idea that various species adapt to environmental factors (including genetic changes). However, I find the classical theory of evolution intellectually unconvincing and empirically unsubstantiated. I tend to agree with those who argue that believing this theory takes more faith than I am capable of mustering.

I'm equally unconvinced by those who argue that the

earth is but a few thousand years old (some even claiming that they know the date and hour of its creation!). The idea earth was created to 'look old', complete with fossils and geological layers, is just a tad beyond credibility.

I believe God created all that is, 'seen and unseen.' Just how God did that — maybe even how God does that — I don't know. Nor do I think it essential that I know. Maybe God, speaking the words of creative power, includes some form of evolutionary process; maybe not. What does it really matter?

This is likely one of those matters about which, as the Apostle Paul wrote, "each one needs to be convinced in his/her own mind." What seems

more important for most people is not necessarily the conclusions, but how we handle the debate.

First, we tend to reduce arguments to simple either/or questions when they are not. Here, for example, we find neither a single theory of evolution nor one belief about creation but rather many varieties of each.

Second, we tend to assume the answer before we begin talking. We assume what we already believe is what the Bible actually says and that anyone who takes our scriptures seriously will agree with us. If they don't, we 'dis' them, either dismissing or attacking them personally, instead of realising that committed, thinking Christians

sometimes hold differing views — realising that we can disagree about issues while still loving and respecting each other, as well as learning from one another.

If we were better at this, history would have looked very different (remember 'no one expected the Spanish inquisition?'), and we would better reflect the primary command of Jesus. He didn't, after all, say that we were to always agree with each other, but he did say we were to always love one another as he loves us.

Why is it that we are so good at 'majoring on the minors' instead of 'keeping the first things first'?

The Rev. Dr. George Porter is Diocesan Youth Coordinator.

In case you were concerned

Campers are leaving their marks on the new cabins at Camp Medley and inscribed boards from the old cabins will not be destroyed.

Youth Service
Sunday,
Oct. 17
6:30 p. m.
Christ Church
Cathedral
Fredericton

Worship with
musicians from
Camp Medley

Guest Speaker
Liam Warner
of St. Luke's,
Saint John

All Welcome!

Tidal Impact felt in Fredericton and Florenceville



BY BONNIE HUNT

If you see someone wearing a blue Tidal Impact shirt, ask about it — you'll hear a great story.

This summer the Fredericton and Florenceville areas were hit by a wave of more than 1300 youth all gathered for the same reason — to impact the area for Christ. Groups came from all over the Atlantic provinces and beyond — from as far as Saskatchewan, New Hampshire and Mississippi.

Two Anglican youth groups were among the 150 interdenominational groups represented. The youth group from Christ Church (Parish) Church, Fredericton hosted the youth group from St. Luke's in Saint John. It was the first time either group had been involved with something this large, and this focused on mission.

The week-long event allowed youth to give back to the community in real and tangible ways. Our mornings

were filled with a Kids Camp run out of the Parish church, which attracted children from the parish and the community. Afternoons were spent in different areas. We spent a couple in ministry at Wilnot Park, face-painting and playing parachute games with the children there. Fun was had by young and old alike. Another was spent at a concert of prayer where we divided into small groups to pray for schools, churches, the events of the afternoon, and special

projects in other countries. Yet another afternoon was spent giving back to our community. Our group prepared a mailing for The Parkinson's Society and also cleaned around the church buildings. The remaining afternoon was spent at Kingswood Park with a time to relax and have fun.

In the evenings the entire group from Fredericton gathered at First Wesleyan Church, no mean feat, since there were more than 750 of us. There we were led in worship by the Jay Phillips Band and our speaker was Dave Curries from British Columbia. Each night he challenged us to live for Christ and take another step in our faith journey.

One of the many highlights of the week was when the entire group was in one place. This happened once in Florenceville and again for our closing rally at the Aitken Center in Fredericton. These worship services were filled with great teaching and singing. We were challenged to make a difference in our schools and the communities around us.

Participant Danika Coleman said, "Tidal Impact was a great way for me to come closer to God and learn about to how tell people how I feel and make friends. I love to share things and Tidal Impact was the best place to do that."

Captain Bonnie Hunt is youth director at Christ Church (Parish) Church in Fredericton.

MILLGEN *Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in life, in love and in purity.*

1 Timothy 4:12