



New church for Grand Bay



The parish of the Nerepis and St. John will begin construction of a \$1.8 million modern worship facility this spring, based on the above design by architect Douglas Kochel.

BY ANA WATTS

The Parish of the Nerepis and St. John will begin construction of a \$1.8 million modern worship facility in the heart of Grand Bay this spring. The parish already owns the land and has raised about \$650,000 in cash and pledges in support of their Church of the Resurrection project — not including a \$1,600 Christmas gift of love and encouragement from their Baptist friends and neighbours.

On Monday evening, Dec. 19, following a narrative musical concert called Christmas is Jesus, Pastor Edward Powell of Grand Bay Baptist Church asked those gathered to

encourage and support their Anglican neighbours with a love-offering toward the building of their new church. The final amount included a similar offering from the people attending the Grand Bay presentation at Germain Street Baptist Church the previous evening.

In a thank-you letter to Mr. Powell and the people of his church, the Ven. Vicars Hodge, rector of The Nerepis and St. John said: "... the 'love offering' taken up that evening for the Church of the Resurrection gave our hearts joy. It was of course, not just the money that blessed us, but also the wonderful sign of Christian love pushing past all the boundaries. It was an

expression of our Lord's prayer that the Church would be one just as He and the Father are one. Such a kindness from a neighbouring church is a profound encouragement to us."

As far as Mr. Powell is concerned, the offering is just one more example of Christians working together in the region. "Over the last couple of years the Anglicans, Baptists and Wesleyans here have co-operated on a number of things. We have shared vacation Bible schools. Recently we collected garbage and passed out free water bottles as acts of kindness during Love Saint John Day, intended to show the love of

See Baptists on page 2

Diocese seeks experienced communicators

New Brunswick Anglicans with communications experience and expertise are encouraged to offer their services to a communications subcommittee of the Administration Team of Diocesan Council.

In response to the consistent identification of communications as a diocesan priority and the expanding opportunities for electronic communication, Bishop Claude Miller has called for the creation of a seven-person communications subcommittee with specific terms of reference, mandate and goals. It will include himself, his executive assistant and the communications officer as well as four other members which he will appoint from those who express an interest in the work.

"We need a vision for communication," says Bishop Miller. "We need to develop an effective strategy in order to use the communication tools we have to greatest advantage. We need people with experience in print as well as electronic communications to share their knowledge and skills."

In 2004 the diocese created a communications officer staff position. Ana Watts, editor of

the New Brunswick Anglican since 1992, was appointed to the new position. She assumed responsibility for content and distribution of E News and editorial content of the website. Archdeacon Geoffrey Hall, the bishop's executive assistant, and David Wilson of the Parish of the Nerepis and St. John, developed the diocesan website, one of the earliest diocesan sites in Canada. Archdeacon Hall also developed the Diocesan Information Management System or DIMS, a custom software package that offers opportunities for specialized communication with specific groups within the diocese.

In recent years the New Brunswick Anglican has been supported by an advisory board. That board was disbanded in order to make way for the creation of the communications subcommittee.

Those interested in serving on this committee should send their resumes to Bishop Claude Miller at 115 Church St. in Fredericton, E3B 4C8, or at claudio.miller@anglican.nb.ca. Please write "communication" on the outside of the envelope or in the subject line of the e-mail.

Obituary

Canon Gordon Smith

The death of the Rev. Canon H. Gordon Smith occurred at the York Manor Nursing Home on Sunday, January 1, 2006. Born in Hoyt in 1915, he was the son of the late Herbert and Ellen (Fielding) Smith and the husband of Margaret Edith (Crawford) Smith.

He attended local schools from 1921 until 1929. In 1930 he attended Fredericton High School, and completed his secondary education at

Rothsay Collegiate School from 1931 until 1933.

His post-secondary education began at Provincial Normal School. He attended University of New Brunswick summer schools in



Canon Smith with granddaughter Kathleen

See Canon Smith on page 2

ORDINATION

Bishop Claude Miller recently ordained Terence Chandra deacon at St. Margaret's Church in Fredericton. It was an historic occasion for the parish on two fronts. First, Mr. Chandra grew up in the parish, and second, it was the first ordination of a deacon ever to take place in St. Margaret's.

Mr. Chandra is a graduate of Wycliffe College, University of Toronto, and among the many guests at his ordination was the Rev. Dr. George Sumner, principal of the college. On behalf of the parish, the Rev. Canon Jon Lownds presented Mr. Chandra with a silver home communion set and a reception following the service featured a giant celebration cake. Mr. Chandra serves as assistant curate in the Parish of Woodstock under Archdeacon Walter Williams.



PATTY FLEMING

CONGRATULATIONS

The Rev. David W. Plumer was recently made a Canadian Citizen at a ceremony in Fredericton. Born in China, he studied at Berkley Divinity School and Yale University, began his ministry as a missionary in Panama and Ecuador. He made his way to Newfoundland about 25 years ago, and retired to Hartland in 1995.

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DIOCESAN NEWS

Retreat to focus on prayer and discernment

New Brunswick Anglicans seeking a deeper prayer life and experience of Christian community will appreciate Traditions of Prayer: Discerning God's Will in Community. The weekend retreat is scheduled for March 10-12 at Villa Madonna in Rothesay and sponsored by the diocesan Companioned Spiritual Formation (CSF) Team.

"Our intent is to provide an occasion to satisfy God's yearning for His people to discern His will for the world, for the Church and for each individual," says Dr. Gregg Finley, a member of the CSF team and one of the retreat leaders. "We plan a quality weekend of teaching, learning, prayer, worship, solitude and sharing, focusing on the spiritual practices and perspectives of the Anglican, Ignatian and Celtic traditions."

Bishop Claude Miller, the Rev. John Cathcart and the Rev. Neville Cheeseman of Fredericton, and Lorna Jones, member of the Atlantic Association of Spiritual Exercises Apostolate and teacher of Ignatian spirituality at St. Stephen's University, complete the leadership team.

The weekend begins with

registration at 6 o'clock Friday evening at the retreat centre (www.villamadonna.ca/) and ends with lunch on Sunday. A \$130 registration fee includes accommodations for both nights, five meals and refreshments. Registrations are accepted on-line at <http://anglican.nb.ca/csf/> or through the Rev. John Cathcart, 169 Canada St., Fredericton, E3A 3Z7

"*In Discerning God's Will Together: A Spiritual Practice for the Church*, the authors Danny E. Morris and Charles M. Olsen sum up our reason for hosting this event," says Dr. Finley. "They maintain 'Discernment is personal, but never entirely private. It engages the person in the depths of his or her soul and therefore is a profound relationship with the Spirit of God. Discernment also involves the person in the community of faith and brings the community to decisions that order its life and ministry..."

"Saints through the ages have practised discernment and we need to listen to them ... In spiritual discernment, we draw on time-honoured practices and disciplines of faith and rely on them as we step forth onto holy ground and into mystery."

Baptists support project

Continued from page 1

Jesus. In our church when we talked about how we could encourage the Anglicans as they work toward building a new church, Barb Rogers, our music director, came up with the idea of presenting our Christmas musical one more evening, inviting the community, and giving the offering to the Anglicans. When the people at Germain Street Baptist, where we presented it on the evening of Dec. 18, heard what we were

doing, they took up an offering for the Anglicans too."

The Parish of the Nerepis and St. John is the result of a successful amalgamation of the former parishes of Grand Bay, Greenwich, Ketepec and Westfield in the lower St. John River valley. For now, the main congregation gathers for worship at River Valley Middle School in Grand Bay-Westfield under the banner of The Church of the Resurrection.

Canon Gordon Smith obituary

Continued from page 1

1937 and 1938, received a BA from King's College in 1942 and a BS Litt. in 1944. During these years he also taught school.

Canon Smith was ordained a priest at Trinity Church in Saint John on June 25, 1944. He served the parish of Canterbury and Benton with Richmond from June 1, 1944 until May 31, 1956. He was Rural Dean of Woodstock from 1949 until 1952. He was rector of the Parish of Moncton West and Northwest from 1956 until 1963, when he went to the parish of Newcastle and Nelson. He was Rural Dean on Chatham in 1968 and 1969.

He was appointed rector of Fredericton, Christ Church (Parish) Church, in 1969 and remained there until early 1984, when he retired from active ministry. He was appointed Vicar of St. Mark's Chapel of

Ease at Kings Landing on April 1, 1986.

In addition to his devoted wife Edith, he is survived by a son, the Rev. David Fielding Smith (Esther) of Napanee, Ontario; a daughter, Catherine Wetmore (the Rev. Ian) of Fredericton, and three delightful and well-loved granddaughters, Kathleen and Miriam Smith and Sarah Wetmore.

He was predeceased by his parents and three brothers, the Rev. Gilbert Edsforth, Charles Edsforth and Horace Smith.

Canon Smith's body rested at Christ Church (Parish) Church from where his funeral was held on Thursday, January 5 at 11:00 a.m. with Archdeacon John Sharpe as celebrant. Interment will be in the St. Luke's Cemetery, Hoyt, at a later date.

Traditions of Prayer: Discerning God's Will in Community March 10-12, Villa Madonna, Rothesay

Registration \$130

includes meals, accommodations and refreshments.

Registrar on-line at <http://anglican.nb.ca/csf/> or

by mail addressed to

The Rev. John Cathcart, 169 Canada St., Fredericton, E3A 3Z7

LEVEE LEVITY



ANA WATTS

Among the many New Brunswick Anglicans who enjoyed Bishop Claude Miller's New Year's Day levee was Ada Lounds of St. Margaret's in Fredericton. From left to right above are Sharon Miller, Bishop Miller, Dean Keith Joyce and Ms. Lownds.



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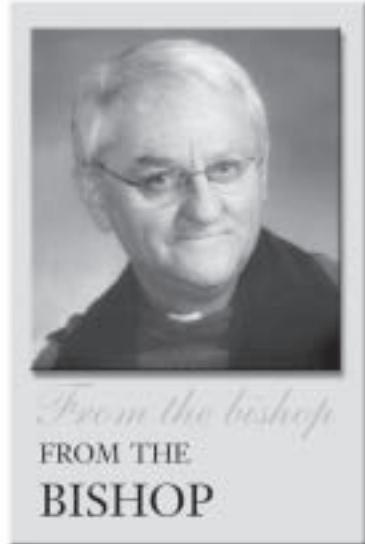
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THE BISHOP'S PAGE

Understanding our challenges as blessings

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people. So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought to him all the sick, those who were afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, and paralytics, and he cured them. And great crowds followed him from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.
Matthew 4:23-25 (NRSV)



There is a great deal of Good News to share in our diocese, particularly in parishes that have identified mission as their reason for being. At the same time, however, we must be realistic about the fears and challenges that we face both personally and corporately.

It is difficult at best to understand our challenges as blessings. Jesus, as he went about all Galilee, taught and preached the Good News of the Kingdom, healed every disease and every infirmity among the people. We see Jesus' miraculous power at work, but the gospel provokes us to look deeper than a miraculous quick fix.

A recent "CBC *Ideas* program featured a

conversation between a mother and her 12-year-old son afflicted with Tourettes Syndrome. The mother wrote poetry to cope with her struggle and the concern she had for her son. She read some of her poems to him then asked what he thought. He replied that her poems spoke to her struggle and pain but didn't really speak to him. He went on to say he was glad he had Tourettes because he knew his problem and could make the necessary adjustments in his life. The child was grateful in the midst of physical and emotional limitations, while his mother prayed for miracles.

Jesus' popularity grew as he took God's healing love among the people. Our mandate as His

body, the Church, is to emulate his ministry, to dispense his love to the afflicted. To be effective in our mission we must accept our condition with gratitude. We must make the transition from maintenance to ministry and mission. Jesus commissioned the disciples to proclaim the Good News of God's Kingdom so that others might become followers. Mission is not an option for the church, it is our reason for being.

Discerning God's will gives rise to challenges at every level. We need to know ourselves, identify our strengths and weaknesses. In this diocese I sense a deep desire at the parish level to be transformed to new life.

At a recent development day with Suzanne Lawson we began to ready ourselves for partnership with our National Church. We determined that our tasks and efforts would be Christ-centered, Biblically based and growth orientated; that we would share leadership and responsibility inter-generationally and demonstrate responsible stewardship within the Anglican Communion.

This Shared Ministry Plan is a vision that demonstrates life with room for growth and change. It is a ministry of the faithful, responsive to the needs and vision of the church in this place.

Our narrative budget (see the January *New Brunswick Anglican* or find it on-line at http://anglican.nb.ca/synod/finance/06_narrative_full.pdf) articulates our progress thus far. I understand local financial realities make it difficult for some parishes to support our corporate vision, but even in the midst of those difficulties blessings and signs of hope abound.

In *The Spiritual Work of Gratitude* by Henri Nouwen, he says that to be grateful for the good things that happen in our lives is easy, but to be grateful for all of our lives — the good as well as the bad, the moments of joy as well as the moments of sorrow, the successes as well as the failures, the rewards as well as the rejections — requires hard spiritual work.

"Let's not be afraid to look at everything that has brought us to where we are now and trust that we will soon see in it the guiding hand of a loving God."

When Jesus is in our midst, expect miracles.

Claude Miller is bishop of Fredericton.

PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS

Feb. 13
Romaro House Mobile Unit

Feb. 19-23
Deanery of Woodstock

March 5-8
Deanery of Shediac

March 15
Diocesan Council

March 21
Bishop's Counsel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- For health reasons, the Rev. Philip Ward resigned as interim priest-in-charge of the Parish of Fredericton in early January. Mr. Don Thompson was appointed layreader-in-charge for a six-week period.
- Archdeacon Malcolm Berry resigns as rector of the Parish of Shediac on March 31.
- The Rev. Dana Dean is appointed rector of the Parish of Grand Manan, effective June 1. He leaves the Parish of St. Martins and Black River.

Can we do it? Yes we can!

In gratitude for a successful year on the campaign trail

BY PETER IRISH

At our Building Faith for a Lifetime financial campaign cabinet meeting in November, Bishop Claude Miller asked us if we still thought we could raise the million dollars necessary to rebuild, refurbish and repair Camps Medley and Brookwood. Like my grandson's cartoon hero Bob the Builder, we all said "YES WE CAN!" But we acknowledged that it will take much more work and a little longer than we anticipated.

As I reflect on the past year working full-time (and then some) to raise money to preserve our diocesan youth camps, I offer my heartfelt thanks.

As of Dec. 31, our campaign total is \$292,454.99 -- 29 per cent of our \$1 million goal. The multi-year Building Faith for a Lifetime phase II is off to a great start. We hoped for 1,000 donations of \$1,000 to make up our million, and indeed more than 100 of our donations and pledges were over \$1,000. Leading the way was the Diocesan ACW with a pledge of \$40,000. One individual gave

\$7,200 and three donations were more than \$15,000. We had a total of 12 donations more than \$5,000, and 20 were over \$5,000.

Bishop's Dinners

Last fall's Bishop's Dinners alone raised more than \$86,000. The 900 people who attended the regional events really enjoyed themselves. Time and again I heard: "This is great Peter, we have to do this again next year."

Bishop Miller was pleased. Besides being a great social success, the dinners were an opportunity for Camp Medley alumni to share some of their camping experiences. They eloquently spoke about how Camp Medley or Camp Brookwood had changed their lives and urged dinner patrons to give generously to ensure that these camp ministries continue for the next generation. The dinners succeeded because the archdeacons' organizing teams made them fun. Thanks sincerely to all of you for a job well done.

Not since I left Newfoundland have I been as enjoyably entertained as I was at the Bathurst dinner planned by

Laura McNulty. In Westfield they not only raised money from donations and pledges but they added several hundred dollars from the sale of the floral centrepieces, boxes of mints and anything else that wasn't nailed down.

The Fredericton dinner went well once I got my foot out of my mouth. I introduced Bishop Miller and his wife Cynthia. Of course the bishop's wife's name is Sharon, Cynthia is Archdeacon John Sharpe's wife.

We are encouraged by dinner comments like: "I didn't know that the facilities were in such rough shape. I will send you a donation next week." The Parish of Riverview was so impressed it sent a cheque immediately and followed it up with another cheque at year-end.

Plans for 2006

I feel that 2006 is going to be an exciting year for The Building Faith For A Lifetime Campaign and the camps projects. Because of the success of the regional dinners, I can see some type of archdeaconry activity in the fall. I have already talked with



ANA WATTS

With a pledge of \$40,000, the Diocesan ACW is the most generous contributor to the Building Faith for a Lifetime capital campaign to refurbish our diocesan youth camps. ACW member Carolyn Howlett (left) and diocesan ACW president Heather Carr (right) were enthusiastic participants in the Bishop's Dinner event in support of the project in Fredericton. They are seen here with Peter Irish, chair of the fundraising campaign.

the ACW about an event in May. We are working on a "Camp Ministry Sunday" with Bishop Miller. I plan to work with the camps on on-site activities.

We will focus some of our campaign activity on businesses and individuals who may be able to make a substantial donation to the

program, apply to the Anglican Foundation and others.

Thanks to everyone who has worked on the campaign. And to everyone, please keep our camps in your prayers.

Peter Irish is chair of the Faith for a Lifetime diocesan youth camps financial campaign.

COMMENTARY

Getting to Cuba — by hook, crook or primate

When I publish a letter to the editor that doesn't get me in trouble I'm grateful, so to publish one that actually does some good is a thrill.

In January, Don Goodspeed of Bathurst wrote to the paper once again looking for travellers to Cuba willing to take baseball and minor medical supplies to Fr. Carlos. He and his wife have done this for years and have recruited lots of other travellers to do the same. It makes a huge difference to Fr. Carlos and his people.

Archbishop Andrew Hutchison, our primate, read Don's letter and wrote him through is executive assistant Jo Mutch. The primate noted there was a "a fair contingent going to Cuba from Toronto for the Episcopal Church in Cuba's Synod meeting in February." If Don could get some of his supplies to Church House before they left on Jan. 31, they would take them. There was just one hitch. "With regret, the General Synod is not in a position to pick up the expenses which might be incurred to send the supplies to Toronto," says the letter.

Hitches don't hobble or hinder Don Goodspeed.

"Now of all things to happen, I was at my local vestry meeting on Tuesday night and I asked my fellow members to help me assisting Father Carlos in Cuba," says Don. "I explained that these people were very dedicated Anglicans and poor. The vestry approved of \$100 for minor medical supplies like Aspirin and Tylenol and things like that.

"When I heard the National Church wanted to help me send things down to Four Corners in Cuba, I asked the church here in Bathurst to let



GETTING THERE
ANA WATTS

me use the money they gave for the minor medical supplies to send my supplies on-hand to Toronto. I had no opposition, as this is a worthwhile project."

Don packed up 150 pounds worth of supplies and took them to the bus station in Bathurst, where his good Anglican friend and bus station manager Harvey Aubie would give him a discount so he could get everything to Toronto.

The Rev. Dr. George Porter, our Canon for Youth and Youth Action Co-ordinator, also saw Don's letter. He took a mountain of supplies to Cuba last year as he planned the youth C2C mission with Fr. Carlos, and offered his services again this year. Don put 17 boxes of supplies on a bus to Fredericton too.

"I will collect more medical supplies before Maxine and I leave for Cuba the end of March," says Don. "If anyone would like to get minor medical supplies for me before we leave, I would be happy to take them down."

You can get in touch with him at gladys2@rogers.com or 506/546-5387.

A.

Ana Watts is editor of the *New Brunswick Anglican* and communications officer for the diocese of Fredericton.

LETTER

Synod did not change Anglican beliefs

Ana, I write in response to the letters of Gordon Fairweather in the November issue and those of Mary Rimmer and Eldon Hay (retired United Church minister, gay activist and past president of PFLAG-parents and friends of lesbians and gays) in the January 06 issue.

In my understanding, our diocesan synod of June 2005 did not change what the Anglican Church has always believed with regard to human sexuality and sexual activity. Synod simply restated and reaffirmed what we have believed as revealed by God. As such it did not make the

Anglican Church any more or less inclusive.

My question is whether a synod, diocesan or national, is adequate to change doctrine. Even when a majority of bishops, priests, deacons and lay-people agree it does not ensure that they are correct or that God will change His mind about what He approves.

If a majority of the world's population agreed to cancel the law of gravity I suspect that apples would still fall to the ground.

Bill MacMullin

The Rev. Canon Bill MacMullin is rector of the parish of *Nashwaaksis and Douglas*.

DOG MATTICKS

by Doug Patstone



Bishop Hockin quietly challenges ACW

BY FLORENCE CHISWELL

Bishop William Hockin challenged us to look at our Christian lives, our beliefs, our place in the church and our place in the community at the ACW Quiet Day in September.

More than 80 Anglican women were greeted by a beautiful morning on the Washademoak Lake in the Village of Cambridge-Narrows. From Woodstock to Penobsquis to Saint John and all the places in

between, we came together for a day of fellowship.

The day began at 9 o'clock with registration, tea and coffee, muffins and biscuits at the Municipal Building.

At 9:30 we moved across the road to the Church of the Good Shepherd for a devotional and prayers lead by Mary MacDonald, ACW diocesan vice-president. This was followed by an introduction to our speaker, Bishop Hockin, and the first two of his three talks.

At noon we returned to the Municipal Building for a

beautiful luncheon prepared by the ladies of the Church of the Good Shepherd.

The afternoon was spent back in the church. Florence Joy Clements provided music at various intervals throughout the day. The bishop's third talk was followed by a communion service, which was a fitting end to an inspiring day. Our offerings were sent to the Primates World Relief and Development Fund in support of Katrina victims.

AUSTRALIAN SPEAKER



Jennifer Sparks (centre) of Youth With a Mission in Australia was guest speaker at the Nov. 21 ACW meeting and the Nov. 27 morning service at Trinity Church in Sussex. She has since returned to Australia where she works with the Impact World Tour in Townsville. Impact World Tour is an evangelistic campaign aimed at reaching every person, every nation, and every generation with the truth of Jesus Christ. The Australian tour stretches from Townsville to Darwin, from reef to outback. In the photo with Jennifer are Carol Branscombe (left), president of Trinity ACW and Rose Pearson, the ACW social action secretary.

SUBMITTED

PARISH NEWS

Rare fund-raiser well done

BY ANA WATTS

Every Thursday from May 5 until Oct. 20 of 2005, four faithful women from St. James Church in Moncton hustled their buns outside City Hall at lunch time.

Susan Goguen, Charlene Routledge, Natalie Saulnier and Betty Hunter are determined to raise enough money to build a new parking lot at their church, so rain or shine during the barbecue season, they set up outside City Hall and add to the fund one hot dog at a time — if all goes well. If someone is hungry, asks for food and cannot pay, well, the fundraising goes on the back burner.

"We never turn anyone away that doesn't have the means to purchase our food," says Susan. "We believe if that person asked the Lord for food, He would feed them. Since we are to be Christlike, our motto is: 'If they ask, they receive.'"

Net proceeds from the barbecue fundraiser in 2005 totalled just over \$5,000, so obviously most people can afford to pay. A lot of it came from their regular weekly customers, but some of it came from special barbecues they put on at a couple of festivals and other events, at the request of Downtown Moncton.

The estimated cost of the new parking lot is about \$35,000. Donations and barbecue proceeds so far amount to nearly \$19,000, so it's going to take a few more seasons and a lot more

rods/burgers/whatever to reach the goal.

"We have land at the back of St. James for a parking lot," says Susan. "In 2004 we had preliminary plans drawn by a firm in Moncton called Acadia Consultants & Inspectors Limited. The cost was about \$3,500 and that's all been paid from our fund. We are not able to go any further at this time because once you submit the plans to City Hall for the permit the work must be finished with in a year. We have to have enough money to finish the job before we start it."

Vestry member Reg Godsoe came up with the barbecue fundraising idea in support of the parking lot in 2003. With the approval of the corporation, he contacted City Hall and got permission to set up in that space as a non-profit, charitable organization.

"We started with about 30 volunteers and barbecued once or twice a month," says Susan. "We also barbecued at Sobeys and Canadian Tire when we were permitted, but City Hall was the place where we met people who wanted our services. The first couple of years at City Hall we were like a very large family. We had regular customers and got to know what they liked. We even made friends. It was a wonderful experience."

In 2004 some of the volunteers, Susan among them, took a food-handling course and



SUBMITTED

Proceeds of lunch-time barbecues outside Moncton City Hall go toward the construction of a parking lot for St. James Church. At the barbecue is Susan Goguen. Backing her up and serving customers are Natalie Saulnier, Betty Hunter and Charlene Routledge.

became certified to serve in public places for city functions other than at City Hall.

By the end of the 2004 season, however, many of the volunteers had run out of propane and resigned.

"In April of 2005 I wrote a letter to vestry to say Charlene and I were willing to continue the barbecues in front of City Hall," says Susan. "We were granted permission. I asked Natalie and Betty to help and they were both willing. I asked Natalie's husband Vic to help us

transport and set up our equipment each Thursday and that's what he does. He comes back four hours later and takes it all down again. I asked my husband Norman to let us use his trailer, and now he helps us if Vic is not available. Everyone is making sacrifices to make this project successful."

Clearly Susan is determined the parking lot will be built. She is a determined woman. She is also a member of the Mothers' Union Canadian Council. When she took her place on this

national board in early 2005 she learned that group intended to upgrade its newsletter, but some wrangling over a new dues structure to fund it had left the project short.

Susan was determined the MU newsletter would be the best it could be and set out to supplement its budget. She taught her barbecue team to make fudge, which they sold right along with their barbecue fare on Thursdays, and donated the proceeds to the MU Canadian Council.

ARCHIVES CORNER

St. Machutus' Anglican Church, Arthurette

In his 'Reminiscences' of a long pioneering ministry in the Carleton-Victoria area, the Rev. Leopold A. Hoyt noted that when he first visited the Tobique River area, he was told that it was "Methodist ground" and that they had occupied it for many years." However, Methodist influence waned and by the late 1880s, there was a flurry of Anglican activity there. Settlers were sent from St. Mary's, Saint John after the Great Fire, a lengthy tour was made by Bishop H.T. Kingdon accompanied by L.A. Hoyt, and the Mission of Gordon and Lorne was established in 1889.

The Methodist Church in Arthurette was purchased by the Anglicans for \$500 in 1889. Under the leadership of the Rev. J.R. Hopkins, (first Missionary from Wales), the church was soon finished and named St. Machutus in honour of St. Machutus (Malo) (c.1520-1620), the Welsh saint, a hermit living on an island near Brittany and



later, Bishop of Aleth in Brittany. The See of Aleth, transferred to Malo, was named for him.

On July 1, 1894, Bishop Kingdon returned to the Tobique, consecrated both St. Machutus Church and the accompanying burial ground

and confirmed 18 people (aged 14-50).

Still used today, its Sentence of Consecration reads: "... and whereas the said building is now completed and furnished with all things requisite for the due performance of public worship, and is free from all legal liability

for debt, and is now ready for Consecration; and whereas a petition has been presented to Us by the Incumbent and others, praying that we would be pleased to consecrate the said building:

"NOW therefore We, HOLLINGWORTH TULLY, by Divine permission Bishop of Fredericton, do by virtue of the Authority ordinary and Episcopal to Us committed, consecrate the said building, and do set it apart from all profane and common uses, and do dedicate the same to Almighty GOD for the ministration of His Holy Word and Sacraments and for Public Worship according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England, and no other, by the name of Saint Machutus in the township of Arthurette.

"AND We do pronounce, decree, and declare that the said Church shall remain consecrated and set apart, and dedicated forever by this Our

definitive sentence and final decree which we read and promulge by these presents."

Major additions to the church were the construction of the steeple, with a new entrance and the addition of the chancel in 1935. St. Machutus remains part of the Parish of Tobique.

Information from the Deed of Consecration (PANB MC223 T1-2B6), a history of St. Machutus' Church written for a Memorial Service held on July 22, 2001 (PANB MC223 T1-19), 'Reminiscences' by L.A. Hoyt (PANB, MC223 A3-16) and from the Catholic Digest (on line) and other on line sources.

The Archives Corner is prepared by Twila Buttimer (twila.buttimer@gnb.ca, 506/4534306) and Frank Morehouse (frankm@nbnet.nb.ca, 506/459-3637). Feel free to contact us with your questions, comments and/or suggestions.

PARISH PHOTO

CONFIRMATION



Seven candidates from the parishes of East Saint John and St. James were confirmed at All Saints Church in Saint John on Nov. 15. In front are Jacqueline and Allie Murchison, Allison Olsen and Peter Colwell; in the second row are Bishop Claude Miller, the Rev. Robyn Cuming and Elizabeth Godfrey; in back are Sean Slader and Nicholas Godfrey.

WARM W



All Saints' Church in McKeen's Corner, decorated in for the Advent season, participated in a fundraising tour for the Keswick Ridge Historical Society. Volunteers welcomed 125 visitors to the church on a mild December day. A Medley-designed church built in 1861 and consecrated in 1862, All Saints' is a designated historical site. Its beautiful windows and English Minton tiles are original to the church. Visitors, like those greeted by Geoff Gollings (above), were glad to hear that the church is still very vibrant and active in the community. Photos by Debbie Edmondson.

History celebrated in Hartland

BY CHRIS HAYES

The past came to life at Holy Trinity in Hartland on a very rainy fall day. An open house/historical display included stories of past rectors read aloud, a photograph of the church in England upon which the church in Hartland was modeled and many gifts given to the church over its 85-year history. Visitors got to see plans that the church's architect, the Rev. Canon Nicolo Franchetti, had drawn up, but never used; they read about the three different hymns books used in its worship services; they even got to meet a woman of the parish adorned in turn-of-the-century formal wear, complete with an historic hat pin!



It was a wonderful time to be together with people from the community, as many shared stories of their involvement with the church over the years. We shared the ubiquitous coffee and other refreshments as well. The rector and congregation would especially like to thank Twila Buttimer and the staff at the Provincial Archives for all their assistance in tracking

down information, stories, and other items. It was a pleasure to work with them. How important it is to remember the past as we look to the future!

The Rev. Chris Hayes is rector of the Parish of Richmond, which includes Holy Trinity in Hartland.

CHAPEL REFURBISH



Saint George's Church (Parish of Moncton) rededicated its refurbished Chapel of St. Mary and All Angels on Sunday, Oct. 16. Clergy who had served the congregation over the past 40 years were special guests for the occasion. Left to right above are the Rev. Chris VanBuskirk, rector; Archdeacon R.B. Stockall, Archdeacon Tom Crowther, Canon Wally Corey and Canon David Mercer, former rectors; wardens Mark Staples and Ralph Black; and Ron Freeman, chair of the parish property

S AND NEWS

WELCOME



inside and out church/house...
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 ...ated in 1862...
 ...l stained glass...
 ...e building...
 ...e in the



ED, REDEDICATED



committee. The east windows date from the earliest church on the site at Queen and Church streets in downtown Moncton, opened in 1852. It was destroyed by fire in 1873, but the stained glass fragments were salvaged from the ruins and painstakingly reassembled by a skilled craftsman in Saint John. The reconstructed windows were installed in the replacement wooden church which served the congregation until 1932, when it was demolished to make room for the today's stone structure.

Concert proceeds aid refugee family

BY KEITH DOW



Dr. Paul Murray at the restored organ in historic Trinity Church, Kingston.

The Mission and Outreach Committee of the Parish of Kingston sponsored the well-attended gala organ recital last summer. All proceeds from the free-will offering were used to aid an Afghan refugee family living in Saint John.

Trinity Church, Kingston, was the setting for the recital of Loyalist and heritage music. The church is a designated National Historic Site and its organ is the oldest continuously played organ in Canada. It was built in London, England in 1785 and installed at Trinity in 1852. The 220 year-old instrument was recently rebuilt and restored to its optimum playing condition.

Dr. Paul Murray was the guest organist at the magical evening of traditional organ music which also celebrated the organ's restoration. His solos included compositions by J. S. Bach and George Frederick Handel as well as works by several French and English composers. He also entertained the appreciative congregation with his droll sense of humour as he explained the fascinating features of the 18th century instrument. A mixed choir, drawn from the community, led the congregation in several traditional songs of praise.

Keith Dow is a warden at Trinity Church, Kingston.

Recital celebrates 170th anniversary of organ

A fall recital featuring Christ Church Cathedral organist Michael Capon marked the 170th anniversary of the Henry Jones tracker pipe organ in St. Peter's Church in Fredericton. St. Peter's organist Sandra Gereau offered a brief lecture on the history of the instrument, which is the only one of its kind in New Brunswick.

As part of the Oxford Movement and Gothic revival in the Anglican church, a new emphasis was placed on small parishes participating in the musical life of the Church. So throughout the 19th century there emerged a second tier of organ builders (as opposed to the builders of the great cathedral organs) who specialized in building small chapel or chamber organs that were especially designed for small parish and private use.

Henry Jones, apprenticed to the London (England) organ builder Joseph Walker, set up in business on



St. Peter's organist Sandra Gereau and Christ Church Cathedral organist Michael Capon admire the unique and historic organ he played in a recital to celebrate its 170th anniversary.

his own account there in 1845 where he built and rebuilt organs. Since the St. Peter's organ predates even Jones' apprenticeship, it is assumed to be a rebuilt Joseph Walker organ.

It is one of 17 Jones organs shipped abroad. Six survive and are still played in Australia and New Zealand, the St. Peter's organ is the only one remaining in North America.

Ms. Gereau's research has not revealed an older organ in Canada that is still used in church services. Its St. Peter's home is fitting, because this is the oldest church building of any denomination in the Fredericton area.

The instrument's fascinating history, however, pales in comparison to its inspiring sound, especially in Mr. Capon's talented hands.

BATHURST VBS



The theme of last year's successful Vacation Bible School at St. George's in Bathurst was The Jesus Expedition. More than 20 students were ably educated and entertained by leaders and assistants from the parish. The men's Bible study group hosted a closing barbecue.

DIOCESAN NEWS

UNB researcher to train clergy on domestic violence

Clergy are often called upon to counsel parishioners in the aftermath of family violence. Now a researcher at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton is providing them with support.

Nancy Nason-Clark, who worked with the Diocese of Fredericton in the late 1990s to help our clergy recognize domestic violence, was recently awarded \$440,000 by Lilly Endowment Inc. to develop a web-based model for training clergy to respond to domestic abuse.

"Clergy have a major, though often undervalued and under-resourced, role to play in responding to abuse victims and in calling abusers to accountability," says Dr. Nason-Clark. "With this funding from Lilly Endowment, I will lead a project that will assist churches and their leaders to pave the pathway between the steeple and the shelter — between

spiritual guidance and practical support."

The project is based upon the notion of partnering for change, where religious leaders and their congregations learn the steps to co-operate and collaborate with community-based services.

"Central to the project is the belief that referrals and support between churches and community agencies must be based on trust and good working relationships, and honoring of professional and occupational talents," she says. "It is both a way of working and a way of thinking. 'Are churches safe places to disclose that you have been abused by a family member?' 'Are community agencies a safe place to disclose that your faith is a vital part of your life and decision-making?'"

The web-based training model for clergy will provide them with up-to-date information on responding to

family violence and outline the steps for building bridges to relevant community-based services.

"By using the web, we can deliver training to the clergy in the privacy of their home or church office," says Dr. Nason-Clark.

The web-based training will have interactive capacities for questions and answers, offer video clips relevant to the content, and include special monthly features, such as guests-online, panel discussions between experts and 'ask an expert' section.

"Training is so much more than knowledge acquisition," says Dr. Nason-Clark. "It is both a process and a product. To be successful and impactful, it needs to be tailored to the individual needs of a pastor or a congregation."

To this end, the project will employ community-based teams of professionals at four sites —

one in Canada and three in the United States — to assess, modify and implement selected aspects of the training model.

In addition to providing training, the website will also be a resource for congregations, denominations, seminaries and community resource personnel on abuse in families of faith.

"While there is no compelling evidence that violence is more frequent or more severe in families of faith, research shows that religious women are more vulnerable when abused," says Dr. Nason-Clark. "They are less likely to leave, are more likely to believe the abuser's promise to change his violent ways, frequently have reservations about seeking community-based resources or shelters for battered women, and often express guilt that they have failed their families and God in not being able to make the marriage work."

Dr. Nason-Clark has been a

professor of sociology at the UNB since 1984. Her book publications include *The Battered Wife* (1997), *No Place for Abuse* (2001), and *Refuge from Abuse* (2004). An award-winning teacher, she has published extensively, obtained 38 research grants, and given more than 250 presentations, invited speeches, seminars and workshops in Canada and around the world.

"With knowledge comes social responsibility," she says. "For me, scholarship and social action go hand-in-hand."

Lilly Endowment Inc. is an Indianapolis-based, private philanthropic foundation created in 1937 by three members of the Lilly family through gifts of stock in their pharmaceutical business, Eli Lilly and Company. In keeping with the wishes of its founders, Lilly Endowment supports the causes of education, religion, and community development.

Calling all Choir School alumnae . . . There's a medallion waiting for you

BY MARJE HARRISON

In 2007, Choir School will celebrate 50 years of wonderful choral music in the province of New Brunswick. In preparation for this great celebration, we are offering a choir school medallion to all those who get in touch with us who ever attended, even if it was just for one year. If you still sing in a church choir, your Choir School

medallion will shine every week. If you no longer sing in church, it still makes a great keepsake of your time at Choir School.

Choir School librarian Lynn Mills looks after the medallions and keeps records of attendance, she will be happy to talk to you and track the years you attended, or



you may be able to help her if you pre-date her records. If you qualify for a medallion as a Choir School alumnae, please get in touch with her at Holy Trinity in Hammond River — 506/847-0850, <pgillies@nbnet.nb.ca>.

We introduced the medallions, made by the Cathedral Pewtersmiths in Fredericton, as an incentive to the choristers to sing well and participate in all activities. It also has a nice English cathedral touch. The ribbon colour, which changes every five years, is

coded to indicate the number of years of attendance.

We are very excited that Choir School is still growing after all this time, thanks to a wonderfully dedicated Board of Directors and an equally wonderfully dedicated school staff. The choristers make the school and we would like to thank all those who have helped in the past to get us where we are today.

We look forward to celebrating 50 years of fantastic choral experiences in 2007.

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Please write "communication" on the outside of the envelope or in the subject line of the e-mail.

ORDINATION IN HONDURAS



Last fall Kara Thompson, daughter of the Rev. Gordon and Bell Thompson, and her husband Nelson Mejia, were ordained deacons in the Episcopal Church of Honduras by Bishop Lloyd Allen. Gordon and Bell presented Kara and participated in the service, which lasted well over three hours. Seen here following the service they are, left to right, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Mejia, Ms. Thompson and Mrs. Thompson.

COMING EVENTS

Marking 175 years of ministry in Musquash

BY BONNIE BAIRD

It was October 1831. The place was St. Anne's Church in Musquash, which had just been built. The people gathered that day to worship with the Rev. Canon W Walker. Four years later the church was consecrated by the Rt. Rev. John Inglis, Bishop of Nova Scotia, who described the church as "a neat and well finished building, erected by the exertions of a small but zealous congregation."

From such beginnings emerged the Anglican Parish of Musquash. Eventually three other churches would stand in the peninsula that juts out into the Bay of Fundy about 20 minutes outside of west Saint

John: St. Mary's in Prince of Wales, Trinity in Maces Bay, and St. Margaret's in Lepreau. Like many other parishes, the history of this one includes challenges and sadness, some church closings and deconsecrations. And lots of fine ministry, both lay and ordained.

This year, the Parish of Musquash remembers 175 years of ministry in the area with a number of parish services and a special fall weekend of activities. Past rectors will be invited back, and we hope that past servers, layreaders, choir members, wardens, and other former parishioners will come out to the services. We are also putting together a memory book.

You are invited to bring your

stories and memories and come celebrate with us at some special Sunday morning, 10 o'clock services.

On Sunday, May 7 we will celebrate at Trinity in Maces Bay; on June 11 at St. Margaret's in Lepreau; August 13 at St. Anne's and St. Mary's (it's open air at St. Anne's cemetery so go to the Musquash fire hall in case of rain). On Oct. 1 we will wrap-up our celebrations with another service at St. Margaret's.

If you have photos, artifacts or articles you would like to share with us, please contact me at 659-2384.

The Rev. Bonnie Baird is rector of the Parish of Musquash.



ECUMENICAL BLESSING



A Catholic priest, an Anglican minister and a Baptist pastor went fishing ... when the Rev. Dan Sentner of Chance Harbour United Baptist Field began his sermon that way the congregation knew it was no joke. He was speaking at an ecumenical Blessing of the Fishing Fleet service held Nov. 4th at St. Brendan's at Dipper Harbour. It was the first time the Catholic church had hosted the service and the first time all three local denominations had been represented by their clergy. The service, held each year at the start of the November lobster season, asks for God's blessing on the boats and fishermen; remembers those who have died. Left to right above are Fr. Joseph Arsenault, St. Rose of Lima (Saint John) with mission of St. Brendan's, Mr. Sentner, and the Rev. Bonnie Baird of the Parish of Musquash.

What difference does it make?

A coming video has the answer to this and other questions about fundraising

Is "making a difference" just a fundraising ploy? Does it really matter if I give some time to learn about the post-tsunami political situation in Sri Lanka, offer an intercession for Guatemalan reconstruction efforts in Prayers of the People, bake some brownies for an earthquake fundraiser, or send a cheque to PWRDF marked "Darfur"?

In the soon-to-be-released documentary "Day by Day, Step by Step" teenagers who collected money for tsunami relief at a Gimli, Manitoba high school ask those kinds of questions on videotape and offer heartfelt encouragement to survivors. Through a sort of video postcard exchange, an

Indian family of fisher folk whose livelihoods were destroyed by the sea is able to respond to the students and tell the story of their ongoing recovery. The exchange gives all of us a chance to see what difference generosity and accompaniment make, how they compel compassion into action and transform survival into livelihood and healing.

"Day by Day, Step by Step" documents the PUMA (Presbyterian, United, Mennonite, Anglican) partnership with the Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA) in India to help in the reconstruction of a number of tsunami-devastated fisher villages in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu. What difference does it make? All the difference in the world.

Watch for Day by Day, Step by Step on Vision TV on Feb. 16.

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COLUMNS

It's easy to blame God when we feel like Job

BY LIZ HARDING

As I write this I am sitting in a Honda dealership in Bangor, Maine far from my home in Massachusetts. Just a couple of hours ago I was enjoying my drive with a thankful spirit. The roads were clear, the snow that edged the roadway and rested on the trees sparkled in the sun, and I had my car back. It spent several weeks in an auto body repair shop in Fredericton following an accident I had before Christmas and I got it back yesterday.

Everything changed when a deer also decided to enjoy the beautiful weather and the clear roadway. He pranced (as only a deer can prance) right in front of me and my newly repaired car. I tried my very best not to hit him, but his hind quarter caught the front corner of my car.

I admit my first reaction was to cry out to God — “I have had it” and “why is it always me.”

As I look at the front corner and side of my car, however, and see the incredible damage done to it by just one deer, I am overwhelmed by the fact that I am safe and pretty much in tact, other than being a little shaken. Yes, this is an



inconvenience and I am sure that my insurance company will be as shocked as I am, but I am safe.

It is easy to blame God in our Job times, even though I again admit his circumstances were a lot worse than the trials I endured over the past month.

Job cried out to God just as I did. He got a direct reply. The reply I got was not audible, but I know that he is here in the midst of my mess. I know that because there are so many blessings in my life. In Fredericton God provides me with good Christian friends and colleagues to help and support me. I have a husband who is at this moment driving from Massachusetts to meet me. (He will either limp my car home with me or drive me home.) The police officer and tow truck driver that came to my aid were compassionate and caring, they helped me to focus and make the decisions that needed to be made. The Honda dealership is open and

willing to look at my car to see if it is at all possible to drive home. I am alive and safe.

These may seem like simple things and could be seen as just pure coincidence, but they are God-given gifts to me right now. God provides angels to be with us in times of joy and difficulty.

I am also blessed to drive a car that has protected me twice in one month and that I can afford insurance. God provides support, care and guidance in many ways; we just have to look for and acknowledge them.

I acknowledge that I am frustrated as I look at my car and review my past month, but I know if I am faithful, not perfect but faithful, God will be with me at every turn in the road of this journey of life. He will be there, even though I may not always be in a space where I am aware of his presence.

PS

With my husband's help, I was able to limp my car home. The deer is limping too. The police officer did an extensive search and found evidence that he was still jumping over fences, albeit with a very sore rear end.

I have written before about

seeing God in the difficult places in our lives and I have also written about the importance of mentorship and story telling in the process, so this is my story for you.

PPS.

God has a sense of humour. As I sat relaxing in my living room in suburban Westborough, my older son

saw a deer skipping through our front yard. It bumped into one of our cars. He causes no visible damage but it does cause us to laugh, which brightens our day.

Liz Harding is diocesan director of Christian Education. Contact her at elizabeth.harding@anglican.nb.ca

A Little Child Shall Lead Them

BY DONNA MULHOLLAND

A cry to use the litter box. Open the cellar door. A heart-rending cry of agony. A body writhing in pain, crying for help. A stroke! Our beloved B.J. has had a stroke. Confirmation from the vet meant her life here was over. Letting the family know was upsetting and difficult.

That wonderful child who felt our pain while allowing hers to show as well, gathered us together to offer up to the Father the 'soul' of our beloved cat. As Papa dug the grave, she prayed, on her knees, her own prayer which only she and the Father heard. When Papa placed the coffin in the grave, she laid her hand on it and said another prayer. As Papa placed the earth over it, more prayers. While we watched and listened, our granddaughter had us all say what B.J. meant to us and what we hoped B.J. would find in Heaven.

One by one we spoke what was on our hearts. Then it was her turn: “Dear God in Heaven. I pray B.J. will have lots of friends to play with. I hope there are lots of butterflies to chase and mice to catch and lots of cat grass to eat. Amen.”

From that wee soul giving us so much, I reckon we could learn a great deal — empathy, sympathy, compassion, the embodiment of the “thinking heart.”

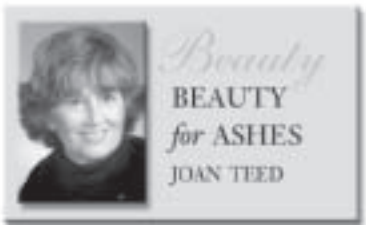
Donna Mulholland is a layreader at St. John's, Oromocto.

Offer your love a heart full of unconflicted love this February

BY JOAN TEED

In this month of Saint Valentine, with its plethora of greeting cards and heart-shaped boxes of chocolates, we find an increasing number with apologies. Our distressed world takes such a toll on relationships that on February 14 many go cap (or card) in hand to their loved ones for forgiveness.

Psychologist John Gottman says he can often predict within five minutes of meeting a couple for marriage counseling whether or not their relationship may end in divorce. He listens carefully to what couples actually say to each other — for the prevalence of harsh start-up in a conversation full of criticism, contempt, defensiveness, and stonewalling as well as the unwillingness to accept influence. He listens for stories about failed attempts to repair the marriage. He watches for psychological reactions like flooding (feeling so overwhelmed as to be shell shocked). He identifies pervasive negative thoughts about their marriage. All these signs suggest an emotional separation, and in most cases divorce is only be a matter of time.



Gottman calls criticism, contempt, defensiveness, and stonewalling the four horsemen. His research indicates they are used with considerable gender difference in their effect. Women are often willing to work at damage repair when they are accused of hurting feelings (say from hurling criticism) and tone down their comments immediately. Men accused of not listening, however, will often react with one of the four horsemen and escalate the problem a hundred fold. Research also shows that women are very damaged by the four horsemen in marriage. A husband's acceptance of his wife's influence is a predictor of marital success. If a husband does not listen, or uses the four horsemen, then he is not accepting her influence, nor is he showing her respect. He buys a lot of those apology cards.

What are the signals of relationship and marriage

difficulty? According to the experts, there are four signals that announce its death: you see your problems as severe; talking things over seems useless, so you try to solve problems separately; you start to lead parallel lives; loneliness sets in.

When a couple gets to this stage, one or the other or both may have an affair, but this is just the symptom of the dying marriage. Many couples notice the signals too late, blow up in a sudden rage, divorce, or enter another relationship; others live separate lives together as friends — or maybe not so friendly.

Last month I wrote about building empathy between marriage partners, learning to see your partner's worth and changing your self-perspective. This is often the essential ingredient to rebuilding a marriage gone wrong.

To be more positive, the factors most important in healthy marriage are the survival of fondness, admiration and respect, which contribute to long lasting romance. A person can have personality flaws that bug us to death, many toilet seat variety quirks, but we still honour the person who is so fundamentally valuable to us.

As Alfred Lord Tennyson said in Vivien's Song: In Love, if Love be Love, if Love be ours, Faith and unfaith can ne'er be equal powers: Unfaith in aught is want of faith in all.

When we read 1 John 3 it can both affirm and terrify us about love. We certainly see God loves us, but when we read the rest and see the demanding model we have to follow — Jesus — we could easily fall into total despair and

hopelessness if we didn't have the grace of God to help. I know that I also sin, hence, I know I need prayer and guidance to help me keep an open heart as well as to feel a lot of empathy for others.

Let's offer all our loved ones a full heart of unconflicted love in this cold month.

Joan Teed is a vocational chaplain as well as a social worker and counsellor in private practice.

Vivien's Song by Alfred Lord Tennyson

*In Love, if Love be Love, if Love be ours,
Faith and unfaith can ne'er be equal powers:
Unfaith in aught is want of faith in all.*

*It is the little rift within the lute,
That by and by will make the music mute,
And ever widening slowly silence all.*

*The little rift within the lover's lute
Or little pitted speck in garnered fruit,
That rotting inward slowly moulders all.*

*It is not worth the keeping: let it go:
But shall it? Answer darling, answer, no.
And trust me not at all or all in all.*

Include everyone, there's enough love to go around

BY JIM IRVINE

The excitement of my first Valentine exchange was electric. Wednesday, after supper, I cut the Valentines out of the oversized book — cards in the front, envelopes (some assembly and a drop of LePage's mucilage required) in the back. I followed the lines with my small scissors, biting the tip of my tongue to aid in concentration.

The collection prepared, I pencilled, as neatly as possible, the name of one of my classmates on each envelope. I left no one out. On each card I printed my name — Jimmy. The last card and envelope I prepared for my teacher.

No one was left out. I prepared a card for every boy and girl in my class — some of whom even read this column.

I prepared a card for each of my friends and playmates, regardless of how well I knew them or how much I liked them. None of the names on my list had done anything to deserve a card. I didn't scratch off the names of people who made me jealous or afraid. I prepared cards for my classmates regardless of where they lived or how they fared under the academic challenges of grade one. I have forgotten some of their names, but many I do remember, and all of them were remembered on that February Thursday in 1952.

The gospel injunction to love one another was disarmingly simple then. There was no sense of preference or exclusion. Oh, there was the cute little girl in the second seat in the third row — odd that I can't remember her name — but for all her beauty as beheld by my six-year-old eyes, she did not eclipse a single classmate. Our Valentines were neither libidinal nor carnal. Our remembrances were disarming, heart-warming.

Knowing that we belonged was enough. Not one of us was disappointed. Even before we heard Jesus' admonition, we were obedient. I opened each card with glee. There were no surprises — I was a Valentine!

In later years Valentines took on a cosmetic dimension. The more complicated it got, the more selective and focused and exclusive it became. As if we took Paul's words of maturity and gave them a turn of the screw. When we were children we acted like children: we did childish things. When we grew up, we put childish things away, became adults.



Al Pacino gives voice to that attitude. "Love is overrated, biochemically no different than eating large quantities of chocolate," he says. The cardiac Ganong moment of the heart-shaped box is the icon for our Valentine offering. The cynic would say if we are rejected we can always devour the contents. We unconsciously heed Pacino's depiction of Satan in *The Devil's Advocate* rather than Jesus' quiet demand of his disciples moments before his betrayal. The longer our arms grow the less we extend them to their full extent and embrace those we meet. Thus we dismiss those we would never have left out in our youth, when our reach was so much shorter.

Scissors are no longer required. I noticed a box of Valentines in a local shop just the other day. It provided sufficient Jimmy Neutron, Boy Genius cards for a class of 34 and a teacher. Clearly children still begin with an assumption of inclusion that many of us disavow as adults. Do we think there isn't enough love to go around?

We are held in a wholly loving gaze that sees all our surface accidents and arrangements, all our inner habits and inheritances, all our anxieties and arrogance, all our history — yet loves the whole tangled bundle that makes us who we are.

That gaze of free and selfless love sees all the twists and distortions of our messy selves, all the harm we can do and have done, but also sees all that we can become, all that we can give to others, and all that we can receive.

We must look on the faces around us — cleaners, entrepreneurs, immigrants, waitresses, nurses, teachers, the aged and alone, the unemployed and the retired — as individually held in the same overwhelming, loving gaze.

This love makes no distinctions about worth, race, religion, age, innocence, strength or beauty.

This lavish and indiscriminate love is unfettered acceptance and utterly disarming. To believe such good news, such a Gospel, is very, very difficult.

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Canon Jim Irvine makes his home in Fredericton.

INTERCESSIONS

FEBRUARY

¶ 20: Parish of Saint John, the Ven. Stuart Allen, the Rev. George Trentowsky, honorary assistant. The Rev. Donald Trivett (retired).

¶ 21: Parish of St. Margaret's, Canon Jon Lownds, the Rev. John Harvey, honorary assistant.

¶ 22: Parish of St. Mark (Stone) Church, the Rev. David Edwards. Canon Philip Ward (retired).

¶ 23: Parish of St. Martin's and Black River, the Rev. Dana Dean.

¶ 24: Parish of St. Mary's (York), the Rev. Ian Wetmore.

¶ 25: Parish of St. Peter, the Rev. Dr. Ross Hebb.

¶ 26: Pray for the clergy and people of the Anglican Church of the Province of Central America Archbishop Martin de Jesus Barahona Primate of IARCA and Bishop of El Salvador. EcoJustice Committee of General Synod meeting (March 2-5). Province of British Columbia and the Yukon and the Provincial Council. Diocese of Yukon, Old Crow - St. Luke, the Rev. Deacon Marion Schafer, Esau Schafer and family, lay ministry team, Bishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family.

¶ 27: Parish of St. Philip's, the Rev. Kevin Borthwick. Ana Watts, editor NBAnglican.

¶ 28: Parish of St. Stephen, the Rev. Peter Mills.

MARCH

¶ 1: Parish of Salisbury and Havelock, the Rev. William Morton. The Rev. Dr. R. Lee Whitney (on leave).

¶ 2: Parish of Shediac, the Ven. Malcolm Berry, Capt. Hugh Bateman.

¶ 3: Parish of Simonds, (open incumbency), Canon Wally Corey, priest-in-charge. Kevin Frankland, Atlantic School of Theology.

¶ 4: Parish of Stanley, the Rev. Dr. Ranall Ingalls.

¶ 5: Pray for the Anglican Province of the Congo, Archbishop Drokpa Balufuga Fidèle, also bishop of Kinshasa and Bukavu. Diocese of Eastern

Newfoundland and Labrador Bishop Cyrus Pitman. Diocese of Yukon, Bishop's Aboriginal Advisory Council, Sarah Usher diocesan administrative officer, members of the Diocesan Executive Committee, Bishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family. Claude, our Bishop, William, George and Harold, retired bishops, and their families.

¶ 6: Parish of Sussex, the Rev. David Barrett, the Rev. Ellen Curtis assistant curate. Church Army, Capt. Rob Marsh, Staff of Taylor College, the Rev. George Eves, Janet Edwards.

¶ 7: Parish of the Tobique, (open incumbency).

¶ 8: Parish of Upham, the Rev. Philip Pain. Canon George Akerley (retired).

¶ 9: Parish of Upper Kennebecasis and Johnson, (open incumbency).

¶ 10: Parish of Victoria, Canon David Kierstead. Julie Golding-Page, Wycliffe.

¶ 11: Parish of Waterford and St. Mark, the Rev. Allen Tapley.

¶ 12: Pray for the Church of Ireland, Archbishop Robert Henry Alexander Eames Primate of All Ireland and Archbishop of Armagh. Diocese of Central Newfoundland Bishop David Torrance. Diocese of Yukon, Pattie Tetlich Yukon Apostolate, Bishop's School of Yukon Ministries, Bishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family.

¶ 13: Parish of Westmorland, (open incumbency). The Rev. Wendy Amos-Binks.

¶ 14: Parish of Wicklow, Wilmott, Peel and Aberdeen, The Rev. Douglas Painter.

¶ 15: Parish of Woodstock, the Rev. Walter Williams, the Rev. Terence Chandra assistant curate. The Rev. Julie Armstrong (on leave).

¶ 16: Parish of Andover, the Rev. John Mills.

¶ 17: Parish of Bathurst, the Rev. Roderick Black, Steve Golding-Page, Wycliffe.

¶ 18: Parish of Bright, the Rev. Anthony Kwaw.

¶ 19: Pray for Hong Kong Sheng

Kung Hui Archbishop Peter Kwong of Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui and Bishop of Hong Kong Island. Diocese of Western Newfoundland Bishop Percy Coffin. Diocese of Yukon, Rev. David Pritchard Mission Education and PWRDF coordinator, Gloria Hockley diocesan ACW President and all ACW members, Bishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family. Claude, our Bishop, William, George and Harold, retired bishops, and their families.

¶ 20: Parish of Cambridge and Waterborough, the Rev. Brenda McKnight. The Rev. Robert B. Barry (retired).

¶ 21: Parish of Campbellton, the Rev. Arnold Godsoe.

¶ 22: Parish of Campobello, the Rev. Capt. Charles Smart, priest-in-charge. The Rev. Robert J. Barry (retired).

¶ 23: Parish of Canterbury, (open incumbency), the Ven. Walter Williams priest-in-charge.

¶ 24: Parish of Carleton, the Rev. Howard Anningson, Marian Lucas-Jeffries, Atlantic School of Theology.

¶ 25: Parish of Central Kings, the Rev. Robert LeBlanc.

March 26: Pray for the Church of the Province of the Indian Ocean Archbishop Remi Joseph Rabenirina, Province of Indian Ocean and Bishop of Antananarivo. Archbishop Andrew Hutchison Primate and the Council of General Synod. Diocese of Yukon, those retired from the diocese - Isobel Greenwood, the Rev. Ben Hall and Nancy Hall, the Rev. Dorothy Thorpe, the Rev. Bruce Aylard and Audrey Aylard, the Rev. Don Sax and Deacon Lee Sax, the Rev. Dr. Ellen Bruce OM, the Ven. Ken and Aldene Snider, the Rev. Geoffrey and Rosalind Dixon, the Ven. Arthur Privett and Muriel Privett, Canon David and Alice Kallie, the Ven. John and Deacon Carol Tyrell, Marion Carroll, Edith Josie licensed lay minister, Bishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family. Claude, our Bishop, William, George and Harold, retired bishops, and their families.

CHRISTMAS IN LOBSTER TOWN



Some of the ice-breaker activities at Christmas in Lobster Town consumed copious amounts of toilet paper as youth pastor Tim Frazer (left) and Santa Claus/ Colin Berry (right) demonstrate in these photos by youth action director Canon George Porter.

YOUTH

Keepin' Current

Recommended Resource
Single Digit Youth Groups:
Working with Fewer than
10 Teens

by Marcey Balcomb

Available through Anglican House
A groundbreaking resource
challenging the popular notions of
'critical mass' thinking and
offering practical ways of doing
youth ministry with smaller
numbers

A 5-star resource!

Applications for
summer employment

at Camp Medley

are available from

Youth Action Director

George Porter

(george.porter@anglican.nb.ca)

Congratulations

Victoria Martin

daughter of the

Rev. Leo and Debra Martin

2005 recipient of the \$1,000

Mabel C. Dean Bursary

available to children

of licensed diocesan clergy
pursuing post-secondary
education.

Deadline for 2006 bursary
applications

March 31

available from the

Synod Office, 115 Church St.,

Fredericton, E3B 4C8

or on-line at

[http://www.anglican.nb.ca/
admin/](http://www.anglican.nb.ca/admin/) (bottom of the page)

Teens Encounter Christ

May 20-22

For 16 to 21-year-olds

an exciting, life-changing
experience

Application forms on-line at

<http://tecnb.net/>

Cathedral Youth Service

Feb. 19

6:30 p.m.

Do not say, 'I am only a child'

(Jeremiah 1:7)

The Ways God Uses

Young People.

Building on Biblical examples,
speaker Alan Sears,

a professor

of education at UNB,

will outline several principles for
how and why

God uses young people.

Everyone Welcome

Christ Church Cathedral

Fredericton

Info 450-8500,

office@christchurchcathedral.com

Hard times had most impact on C2C team

BY KARA DOUCET

I think perhaps the C2C team learned three important lessons in Cuba last year (I can't believe it will soon be a whole year since we went). The first was how to love people that you don't even know; the second was how to love and watch out for each other as a team; the third was to swat the bugs off your bed before you get in.

Looking back, I really feel as though it was the harder times during our week-long mission that had the most impact on the team. The times when we were physically and mentally burnt-out really opened our eyes to see what the people in the little village where we stayed lived through each

and every day. The thing that really stirred my heart was that these people somehow remained positive in their poverty. It was clear how much their faith meant to them through the way it impacted their everyday lives.

I wonder if we found ourselves living in that kind of physical poverty, could we really remain spiritually rich? Or would we simply give up, and dwell on the material things we used to have?

I am positive that much of what the team saw in Cuba is burned into our memories—sunsets on the beach, barefoot children walking down the street, the family of spiders that lived in the shower.

It seems like just



GEORGE PORTER

A group of young people from the Diocese of Fredericton spent a week in Cuba last year. They helped to build a church, tend an organic garden, and care for the village children. Above is mission team member Kara Doucette with a Cuban friend.

yesterday we boarded the plane in Havana to come

home — minus the sunburns and sickness that is.

I'm curious, George ...

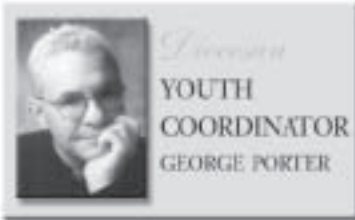
What does Confirmation have to do with mission?

BY GEORGE PORTER

The face of Confirmation is changing. For many years this sacramental rite was seen as a sort of 'rite of passage' automatically experienced as a matter of course when one reached the 'appropriate age.' For many young people it felt like a kind of graduation ceremony — they passed out of the institutional church.

That's changing, however, as we begin to see again that the reason for the church's existence is *mission*. It has begun to change as we have begun to come around to taking the sacramental laying on of the bishop's hands more seriously.

Among the inward graces that we celebrate and pray to see in the Confirmation event is the strengthening of the Holy Spirit to fulfill baptismal vows, including



the one to "proclaim by word and example the good news of God in Christ." A significant part of what happens when hands are laid upon a person is a commissioning to ministry and mission as the people of God.

Though we are sometimes slow to realise it — and sadly, even slower to realise it where young people are concerned — neither ministry nor mission are spectator sports. They require our involvement and participation. The gifts of the Holy Spirit empower the people of God, regardless of age, for ministry.

As Kenda Creasy Dean writes in her book, *Practising Passion: Youth and the Quest for a Passionate Church*, the practices of ministry "are not intended for accumulation; they are intended for transportation."

She also notes that the "point of ministry is never to watch me, but to join me, patterning our lives more perfectly after the passion of God in the process."

One of the things that we'll be doing during *The reGathering** in early April is exploring this very thing.

Neither ministry nor mission, however, is something we can do on our own steam. We rely on the Holy Spirit for the strength and guidance necessary. When the bishop lays hands on young people (and others), following the example of the early apostles, asking the

Holy Spirit to come afresh to God's servant kneeling there, should we be surprised that God answers? Shouldn't we expect to see a whole new generation of ministers and missionaries rising from their knees and going out into God's world among God's people?

Godspeed.
George+

* *The reGathering* is an event hosted by Bishop Claude Miller for the more than 300 young people, and others, he has Confirmed so far in his episcopacy.

The Rev. Dr. George Porter is Canon for Youth and Diocesan Youth Action Director.

"Remember now the Creator
in the days of your youth..." —Ecclesiastes 12:1

emergent

