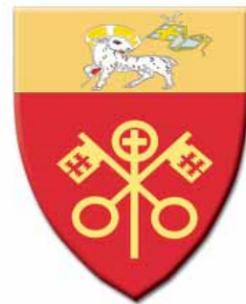


THE NEW BRUNSWICK ANGLICAN



A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL

MONTH 2008

SERVING THE DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON

WHERE ARE THEY NOW ?



The first recipient of the Mabel C. Dean Memorial Bursary has “gone about as far as you can go.” Laurie Brown and his wife Lisa of Woodstock spent 2007 traveling. They started with two months of sea kayaking the Baja Peninsula in Mexico, then they drove up the west coast of the U.S., visiting different parks. They hiked the West Coast trail in BC and canoed the Nahanni River in NWT. That is where the above picture was taken.

After exploring the west they drove back home to New Brunswick then flew to Nepal where they spent just over two months hiking, doing Everest Base Camp trek and the Annapurna Circuit. Finally it was on to Thailand for three weeks rest and relaxation then home for Christmas and back to work. They plan to do it again in 2010 accompanied by the baby they expect this July. See the Mabel Dean Bursary story on page 5.

Planning group looks outside Fredericton for venue

Have synod will travel

by Ana Watts

The dates for Diocesan Synod 2009 are tentatively set, but the location may be up for grabs.

“Synod usually takes place in the city of Fredericton, but it doesn’t have to,” says

Archdeacon Geoffrey Hall, Secretary of Synod and chair of diocesan synod planning. “Each town and city in the province is unique, has its own colour and flavour. Synod Planning can imagine a different venue could make synod a different experience for all of us.”

Synod Planning, a group composed in part by leaders of eight Synod Planning Committees, doesn’t get much down time. By the time it has

scrutinized, analyzed and prioritized the comments and suggestions from one diocesan synod, it’s time to start thinking about the next. It was feedback from the 2007 synod that encouraged the thinking outside the box as well as outside the city of Fredericton, for the 2009 synod scheduled for June 4-6.

In order to change the synod location for June 2009, Synod Planning would need to receive synod-hosting proposals by May

25 of this year. “Proposals from interested groups within archdeaconries that have the infrastructure to host a meeting with more than 350 delegates would be most welcome,” says Archdeacon Hall.

“If there is interest within an archdeaconry it should be discussed with the archdeacon. Registration, transportation and meals would be among the host group’s main responsibilities.” The venue and

membership of a remote arrangements committee must be finalized by early June, when specific planning for the 2009 synod begins.

“It would take three or four dedicated men and women in leadership roles to co-ordinate the event, and that group should work through their archdeacon,” says Canon Fred Scott, diocesan treasurer. “All we are looking for is hospitality.”

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DIOCESAN NEWS

Loving wife, mother and champion of Parish Nursing mourned

Ada Marion Lownds, beloved wife of the Rev. Canon Jon Lownds and mother of Richard and Elizabeth, died unexpectedly on Jan. 31 during surgery at the Saint John Regional Hospital.

Ada was a loving and dedicated wife, mother and nurse as well as a champion for her family and the Parish Nurse ministry.

Born Ada Marion Donley on a family farm near London, Ontario, as a child she was especially fond of horses and her friend and neighbour Ann Cronyn.

She married the Rev. Jon Richard Lownds in 1973 and moved to New Brunswick, living

for the summer in the Anglican Rectory in Florenceville. A year spent in Ottawa, where Jon did post-graduate study and Ada worked at the Ottawa Civic Hospital, was followed by a move to the Anglican Rectory in Doaktown, where she lived for nearly eight years. She worked in the nearby Doaktown Health Clinic, volunteered with St. John Ambulance, and was the first Director of Nursing at the Boiestown Nursing Home.

Her next move was to the Anglican rectory in Zealand where they stayed for seven-and-a-half years. It was during this time Ada began to work for the Victorian Order of Nurses. She ran a pilot program that

developed the first Adult Day Centre for VON.

Following the births of her "miracle children" Jonathan Richard and Ann Elizabeth Jean, Ada branched out into other areas of VON work including foot care, home visiting, clinics and working in New Brunswick Housing facilities in Fredericton. She loved her work and missed it deeply when ill health compelled her to leave it two years ago.

For the past 18 years Ada lived in St. Margaret's Anglican Rectory in Forest Hill, Fredericton and was an active member of St. Margaret's Parish family, putting her hand to many tasks and being an

inspiration to the congregation. It was in this parish she discovered a name for the ministry she had exercised throughout her married life -- Parish Nursing. It was also a time when those around her blossomed under her empowering spirit and her familiar expression "What you do is ..."

Ada was the daughter of late Allen and Jean Donley

(Roulston). In addition to her husband and children she is survived by her sister, Francis Okihiro of Toronto; brothers, Evan (Barb) of London and Neil (Georgie) of Winnipeg; several nieces and nephews, and their children.

Bishop Claude Miller officiated at the Funeral Liturgy at St. Margaret's on Tuesday, Feb. 5. The Rev. Canon Neville Cheeseman preached.



Diocesan Council Briefs

March 12, 2008
St. Luke's, Saint John

New Woodstock lay representative

Council accepted the election of Judith Campbell by the Archdeaconry Greater Chapter of Woodstock and appointed her lay representative of the archdeaconry on council. She was also appointed a member of the council stewardship team.

Permission to apply for funds

Council gave the Parish of Richmond permission to apply to the Anglican Foundation for funds to help the parish build a new church and hall. Anglican

Foundation grants to the diocese are capped at three per year so council must approve applications before they are actually sent to the foundation.

Cursillo restored

Council approved the revitalization of the New Brunswick Anglican Cursillo movement, as requested by the Spiritual Development Team. Dean Keith Joyce will work with the interim Cursillo secretariat to organize a restoration/reconciliation service in June.

Communication encouraged

Council approved a request from the Spiritual Development Team to encourage and promote communication with Essentials New Brunswick, Integrity Fredericton and the Zacchaeus Fellowship. These groups function in the diocese, are

composed of Anglicans and address issues of importance. The Spiritual Development team would be pleased to hear from these groups but they are not obliged to report to the team.

New committee member

Council approved the appointment of the Rev. Canon Neville Cheeseman (retired) as a member of the Human Resources Committee.

R&Rs adopted

Council adopted the Roles & Responsibilities of the Episcopal Team as presented. The team's mandate is to relieve pressures on the diocesan bishop by providing an effective means of communication between the bishop and the ministries that fall under the supervision of the bishop's office in matters that do not

require the bishop's immediate involvement.

Skype meetings

Because winter storms kept interfering with arranged meetings, the Episcopal Team met through a Skype conference call. The Skype software is free to download and there are no time charges for the call, so the meeting was free.

Mission relationships

The Council Mission Outreach Team reported good progress on initiatives relating to the Coverdale Foundation, Parish Nursing, Saint John Hospital Foundation and the Seafarer's Mission. The Rev. Capt. Keith Osborne, who sits on the Mission Outreach Team and who was a founder of the Seafarer's Mission said the present part-time chaplain works on an inter-faith

basis and expressed disappointment that there was no longer an evangelical component to the ministry.

Weekend visitor

Angela Medadues-Badohu, daughter of Bishop Matthias of our Companion Diocese of Ghana, is a student at Rothesay Netherwood School. She appreciates long-weekend invitations to stay with families in the diocese and is a willing and able speaker. Any parish that would like to entertain her for the Victoria Day weekend should contact RNS Chaplain the Rev. Julian Aldus at (506) 847-8224.

Next meeting

The next meeting of Diocesan Council will be held on Saturday, May 31 in the archdeaconry of Woodstock.

Synod Planning Group accepting proposals from archdeaconaries willing to host 2009 meeting

Continued from page 1

Using the resources provided by parish support of the diocesan budget, the Synod pays the costs."

The necessary infrastructure includes a meeting space large enough to accommodate 360 delegates seated at tables, dormitory or other non-commercial lodging for Synod delegates (the number of delegates requiring lodging depends on the location), and a church large enough to seat about 400 people for the synod service.

"A synod outside the city of Fredericton would give many of us an opportunity to get to know the diocese better and to appreciate its varied cultures and landscapes, but that is not

the only benefit," says Canon Scott. "Hosting our synod could provide quite an economic boon to any town or city in the diocese. Local businesses and church groups stand to do a brisk business."

The last time the Diocesan Synod was held outside Fredericton was 1995, on the occasion of the diocesan sesquicentennial (150th anniversary). The business meetings were held on the UNB Saint John campus and the sesquicentennial service was held at Trinity Church in the city centre.

Synod Planning is composed of the Bishop, the Secretary of the Synod as chair, members of diocesan staff as necessary, the

vice-chair of Diocesan Council, and chairs of the eight synod planning committees -- nominating, agenda, hospitality, technical support, credentials, worship, resolutions and arrangements. The group co-

ordinates the planning of synod based on the anticipated needs, vision and agenda of the Synod, taking into account evaluation of previous synods.

Proposals to host Diocesan

Synod June 4-6, 2009 should be discussed with territorial archdeacons who will forward them to Synod Planning through the chair, Archdeacon Hall at the Office of the Bishop.



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

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ANGLICAN

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COMMENTARY

An honest account of life in community and with illness

In Age Reborn, By Grace Sustained

One woman's journey through aging and chronic illness

by Sister Thelma-Anne McLeod, SSJD

Augsburg Fortress Canada

REVIEWED BY
NEVILLE CHEESEMAN

Had I not been asked to review this book, I probably would not have read it, even though I have known Sister Thelma-Anne for more than forty years.

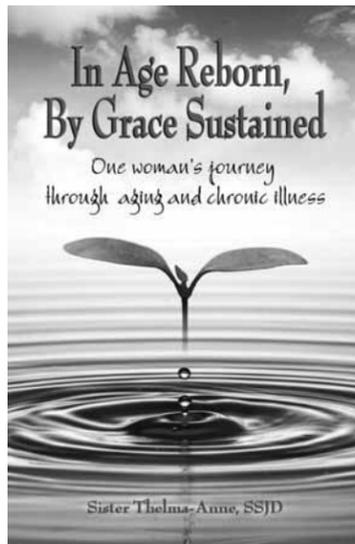
That would have been my great loss.

This account of Sister Thelma-Anne's aging with Parkinson's disease begins with a look at her pre-diagnosis life. As a young woman she considered herself an agnostic, like her father. She was a good student and assumed she would pursue an academic career. In her final year at Queen's University, however, she had "an unmistakable, self validating presence of the Divine." It was the turning point in her life. She left university, took a business course and became a secretary in a law office. Later she embarked on an active and energetic vocation as a Sister of St. John the Divine (SSJD), an Anglican monastic community.

Monasticism is misunderstood in our secular culture and virtually unknown within many parts of Canadian Anglicanism, so Sr. Thelma-Anne introduces us to life in her community early on in the book.

With that background, she goes on to record her journey through aging and Parkinson's. It is an honest account. She shares her frustrations, anxieties, and the dry periods in her prayer life. It is a validation of the feelings of other Christians in the same kind of situation. It also shatters the myth that clergy, monks and nuns are not vulnerable to the same doubts and difficulties we encounter and endure.

Sister Thelma-Anne always took pride in her self-sufficiency and independence. As she grew older and weaker



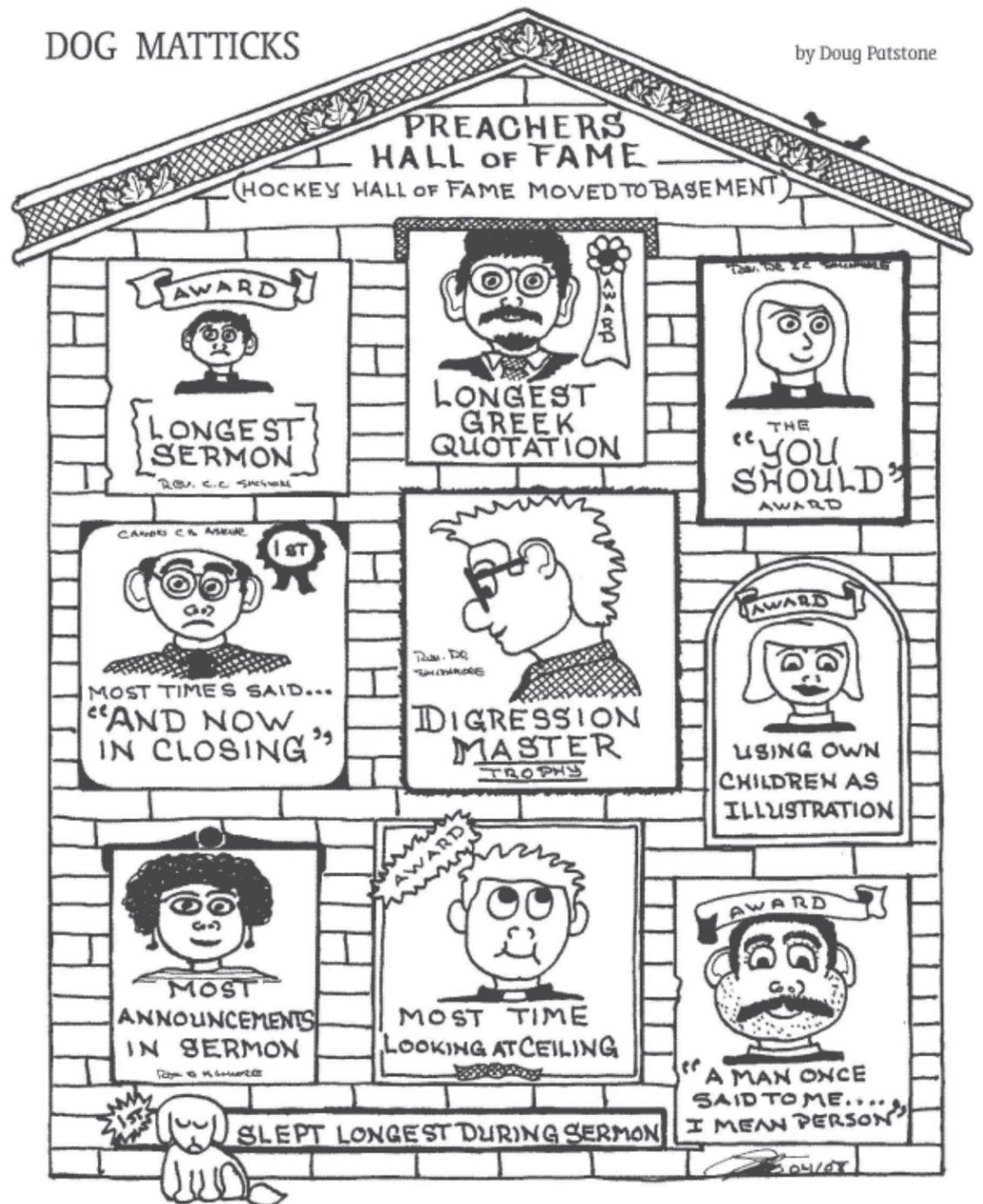
she came to realize the importance of the support of her sisters in SSJD, as well as her other friends and associates. She even came to the realization that she was allowed, that it was even necessary, to take time for herself. "I needed to give myself permission to enjoy life; to build-in times of leisure and enjoyment, to nurture friendships, and have fun, rather than feeling that I must fill every second with something I could justify as useful. Though I could spend a whole day happily in my room, I needed the social dimension for a balanced life." (p. 92.)

The "Suggestions for Reflection/Discussion" she provides at the end of each chapter are an important component of the book. The questions provide an opportunity for all of us -- individuals, care partners, families and small groups -- to wrestle with the increasingly pervasive social and spiritual issues raised in her book. It offers valuable insight, and I recommend it highly to clergy, parish visitors, parish nurses and anyone else involved in pastoral care.

The Rev. Canon Neville Cheeseman is a retired priest of this diocese and a former member of the Society of St. John the Evangelist (SSJE).

DOG MATTICKS

by Doug Patstone



LETTER

February issue filled with positive news

Dear Ana,
What a wonderful Archives page in the February issue of The New Brunswick Anglican. The combination of pictures and text is quite the most beautiful and meaningful story I have seen in the paper. Congratulations and thank you to Twila Buttmer and Frank Morehouse.

I will make it a point to get over to the Archives soon and have a more complete look at the marvelous photographic and historical work Frank Morehouse has done.

Really, the entire February issue is filled with positive news; even -- if one may use that currently overused term -- love. I really enjoyed reading it.

At a time that the Anglican Church is tearing itself apart with ideological conflict, it was so refreshing, even old fashioned, to read about Anglicans doing a great many things that still mean a great deal to them.

I judge a newspaper by the amount of locally written news in it and the balance of text

and illustration. Your February issue of The New Brunswick Anglican succeeds on both accounts. I want to congratulate you and the people who worked on the issue with you. And I want to thank you, too, for confirming love and faith when there is so little of both in the world today.

Cheers,
Harvey Malmberg
Fredericton

Mr. Malmberg is a former diocesan archivist.

APPOINTMENTS

The Rev. Bob LeBlanc was appointed priest-in-charge of the Parish of Central Kings on March 17.

The Rev. Marian Lucas Jeffries was appointed priest-in-charge of the Parish of Upham on March 17. Most recently Mr. LeBlanc and Ms. Lucas Jeffries were both

priests-in-charge of the parishes of Upper Kennebecis, Central Kings and Upham.

On April 1, **Mr. Robert (Bob) Brittain** of Saint John was appointed to a three-year term as Ecumenical Officer in the Diocese of Fredericton. The annual meeting of the Atlantic Ecumenical Council takes

place in May. Each member body is represented directly through one or more representatives.

The Rev. Ellen Curtis is appointed priest and rector of the Parish of Lakewood in Saint John on July 1. She is now priest in charge of the parishes of Denmark and The Tobique.

SABBATICAL LEAVE



Bishop Claude Miller is on sabbatical retreat outside the diocese until May 15. In his absence, direct inquiries and concerns to his executive assistant, Archdeacon Geoffrey Hall, at the Synod Office in Fredericton, 506/459-1801.

DIOCESAN NEWS

Archives Corner

Christ Church Cathedral . . . then and now

This month's column is a postscript to an earlier Archives Corner article — "Pulpit Exchange with a Difference" (June 2006).

The two postcards pictured are from the Christ Church Cathedral collection in the Archives. They are interior views of the cathedral from the west entrance, which were obviously taken at different times (notice the Christmas greenery in one) but certainly in the same era. Originally photographed in black and white, the colour was added later by tinting. Exactly when the photographs were taken was not noted, but we do know that they pre-date the fire of July 1911. In fact, this is what makes them so interesting — i.e. they depict the cathedral's original furnishings and a very different sort of lighting system.

Clearly shown are the baptism font with its original cover, the original pulpit and the original reredos. Like the pews, these furnishings were made of butternut and designed by William Butterfield, one of the cathedral architects. The font cover did not survive the cathedral fire while the wooden pulpit was given to Trinity Church in Sussex after it was replaced by the present cement pulpit. The present reredos, designed by Wippells and Company in England, was presented to the cathedral by the clergy and laity of the diocese as a memorial to Bishop Richardson. When it was installed in the late 1940s, the original reredos was given to St. Mark's Church in St. George where it was in use until it was lost in the New Year's Eve fire (2001) that destroyed the church.

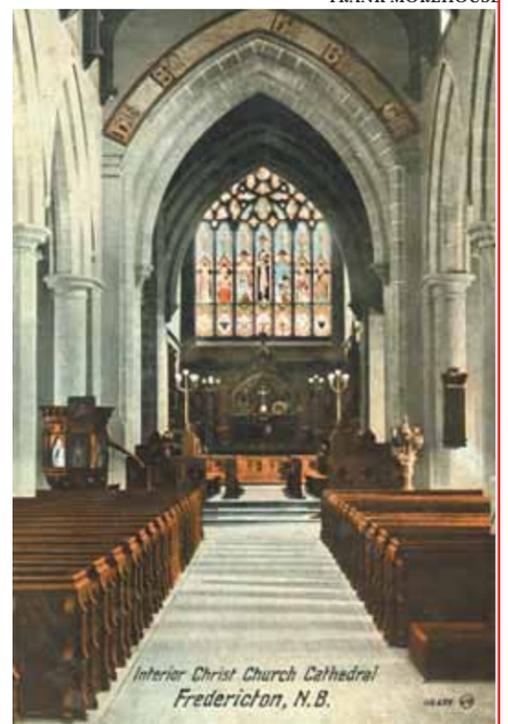
The third picture, taken by Frank Morehouse in 2007, depicts the cathedral as it looks now and is part of the Church Photography Project. It clearly shows the "new" pulpit and reredos and the familiar ceiling light fixtures.



FRANK MOREHOUSE



NEW BRUNSWICK ARCHIVES



NEW BRUNSWICK ARCHIVES

Source:

Robert L. Watson's *Christ Church Cathedral, Fredericton, A History* (1984) tells us that William Butterfield also designed the brass eagle-shaped lectern, Bishop Medley's "cathedra" (bishop's throne), some cathedral communion ware and an elaborate alms basin.

The Archives Corner is prepared by Twila Buttimer (twila.buttimer@gnb.ca or 506-453-4306) and Frank Morehouse (frankm@nbnet.nb.ca or 506-4593637).

They welcome your comments or questions.



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Mabel Dean Bursary reaches 20 year milestone

The Diocese of Fredericton in general and 20 young people in particular, celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Mabel C. Dean Bursary this year. Mrs. Dean's family established the \$1,000 bursary in 1988 as a tribute to her many long years of service as recording secretary to the Diocesan Women's Auxiliary/ACW. Children of licensed diocesan clergy, active and retired, are eligible to apply for the bursary in support of their post-secondary education.

Laurie Brown

Laurie Brown, son of the late Rev. Keith Brown and Rosalie Brown now of Woodstock, was the first recipient of the Mabel C. Dean bursary. Now an occupational therapist with River Valley Health in Woodstock, he works with children who have neurodevelopmental diagnoses through the Extra Mural Program. He and his wife Julie worship at St. Luke's, have a house in Grafton and spend a lot of time kayaking, canoeing and hiking. They expect their first child in July.

Christopher Anningson

Christopher Anningson, son of the Rev. Canon Howard Anningson and Carol Anningson of Saint John was awarded the 1993 bursary and attended St. Thomas University. Today he lives in Mississauga, Ontario and is operations manager for Critical Path Express in Toronto. His interests include cross-country skiing, wilderness camping,

gardening, and cooking. He is also drummer for a small group of musicians that plays once a week in his basement.

Christopher has an eight-year-old daughter Sophie, and is engaged to Christina Csumrik. His father will perform the wedding ceremony in Mississauga on June 7.

Teresa Laskey d'Entremont

Teresa Laskey d'Entremont, daughter of the Rev. Gerald Laskey and Siobhan Laskey of St. Martins received the bursary in 1996. She earned a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton. Today she lives in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia with her husband, Kevin and daughter, Eve. Teresa works as an Employment Caseworker with the Nova Scotia Department of Community Services, Employment Support Services division.

Recent Recipients

James Snelgrove, son of the Rev. Canon Albert Snelgrove and Wandlyn Snelgrove of Rothesay was awarded the 2006 bursary. He studies science at Mt. Allison University.

Philip Martin, son of the Rev. Leo Martin and Deborah Martin of Hampton received the 2007 bursary.

For more information on the Mabel C. Dean Memorial Bursary, go to <http://anglican.nb.ca>. Click on the "Administration" button in the top menu and open "Administrative Downloads."



Teresa Laskey d'Entremont, 1996 Mabel Dean Bursary

MABEL C. DEAN BURSARY RECIPIENTS

- 1988 Laurie Brown
- 1989 Angela Beth Mills
- 1990 Stephanie Routledge
- 1991 Jason Barry
- 1992 Kara Thompson
- 1993 Christopher Anningson
- 1994 Nora Jagoe
- 1995 Brandy Hamilton
- 1996 Teresa Laskey
- 1997 Keith Thompson
- 1998 Jonathan Corey
- 1999 Rebekah Sheppard
- 2000 Sarah Tapley
- 2001 David Sheppard
- 2002 Matthew Osborne
- 2003 Richard Lownds
- 2004 Nathan Dean
- 2005 Victoria Martin
- 2006 James Snelgrove
- 2007 Philip Martin



Christopher Anningson, 1993 Mabel Dean Bursary recipient with his fiancé Christina Csumrik, eight-year-old daughter Sophie and dog Diesel. The Mabel C. Dean Memorial bursary of \$1,000 is awarded annually to children of active or retired diocesan clergy pursuing post-secondary education.

For further information on the Mabel C. Dean bursary, go to <http://anglican.nb.ca>. Click on the "Administration" button in the top menu and open "Administrative Downloads."

SUSSEX CONFIRMATION



On Feb. 3, 10 people were confirmed by Bishop Claude Miller at Trinity Church, Sussex. Shown here following the service are, left to right in front Libby Baskin (who passed away March 2) and Roly Ricketts. In the second row are Ashlyn Briggs, Erika Miller, Matthew Candy and Martina Parks (from the Parish of Upper Kennebecasis). In the third row is Jenna Miller and slightly behind her are Hilary and Tracy Sharp. In back are Archdeacon David Barrett (rector), Andy Carhart and Bishop Miller.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SARAH JACOBS



Sarah Jacobs, of Christ Church in St. Stephen, celebrated her 99th birthday on March 1. On Sunday, March 2 she celebrated again with her church family at a reception in her honour following the morning service. She sang in the choir for nearly 60 years, first at Trinity and then at Christ Church. She retired in 2004. She was also an active quilter. She continues to live in her own home with help from Home Support and her daughters. In the photo above she accepts congratulations from the Rev. Bill Morton, rector of St. Stephen.

COLUMNS

Jesus often left people wondering about the meaning of his stories

The power of a story is an integral part of our Spiritual Formation. Jesus taught using the power of storytelling. We often struggle with the meaning of these stories, but yet we have to wonder whether the whole purpose of the exercise was to stretch our imaginations and consider what might be their true meaning. Is there just one meaning to each story? Or are there many truths held within the one story, any of which can lead us to a greater understanding of what Jesus was trying to teach us? Jesus was the master storyteller who often left people not only wondering but also arguing about the meaning of his teachings.

When teaching both children and young people, it is so important for us to engage their imaginations with each of the stories in the Bible. We need to create an atmosphere



of wonder, excitement and discovery, rather than teach by rote and expect our young people to recite what we perceive as the truth to be found in each story. We do need to learn truth, but that must come through using all of our God-given senses. It is through wonder, experience and imagination that we do our best learning. Children are born with an innate ability to just gaze and wonder.

It was hard to take a walk with my youngest son when he was two and three years old. If we came upon a simple anthill, he would want to spend the rest of the afternoon sitting,

watching and wondering at the amazing work that was being accomplished by these very small insects.

In teaching and exploring the Bible we seem to be in a hurry, even with young children. We are anxious to teach the stories rather than embrace them and wonder about them.

Why are we uncomfortable with not having a story neatly tied up with a definite explanation, like some mathematical equation? If we look at Jesus' life and ministry, he clearly was not worried about nice, neat endings. The stories in the Bible are rich and engaging when we approach them with a sense of wonder and fun. I often tell young people that the stories they watch on TV or in the movies are not new. There are stories in the Bible, particularly in the Old Testament that would make even the most exciting

and entertaining movies seem tame. It is our job as educators to make these stories come alive, and we don't have to use the latest technologies to do it. In fact, sometimes it is the simplicity that is most engaging, because our young people are not accustomed to this kind of storytelling.

One of the best books that I have read on this whole theme of Biblical storytelling is *The God Hungry Imagination* by Sarah Arthur, published by Upper Room Books. In it she even challenges our notions of creativity. She asks questions like:

Are only artists, poets and musicians creative, or are we all creative?

Is scientific experiment creative?

She also breaks down the components of storytelling and even writes about worship as a story. This book challenges our traditional thoughts about

storytelling and yet it is very practical and informative. At the end of each chapter there are questions to help us evaluate our church programs.

Whenever we retell a Biblical story, have fun! Imagine what was going on behind the obvious in the story. Encourage children and young people to express their own thoughts and wonderment, and then be prepared to learn something fresh and new. That's the wonderful thing about the Bible -- God is always showing us new and important truths so we can learn. We just need to come to this holy book with an open spirit and perhaps an expectation that God may surprise us.

Liz Harding is diocesan director of Christian education. Reach her at (506) 459-1801 or elizabeth.harding@anglican.nb.ca.

Leeland is a band well worth talking about, again

If you think there is something significant about a column as young as this one featuring the same artist twice in such a short time (Sept./07), you are not only good with details, but you are really on to something. Leeland is a band well worth talking about, again. Even though these musicians are young and this is only their second album, *Opposite Way* has a lot of good things to say, with a lot of good music featured along the way.

How to describe them? This comes from their website, www.leelandonline.com: "The band's age-range is 19-24 years old, giving them an ability to speak to high school and college age listeners, not to mention adults of all associations interested in artful musical expressions and



a spirit of revitalization. On *Opposite Way*, the gang builds upon the astute musical influences first addressed on 2006's *Sound of Melodies*, including Coldplay, David Gray and U2, while tapping into its original blend of dynamic ebbs and flows. Yet that complexity is merely the initial platform for a more involved message, which centres on witnessing to the world at large." Of course their own website would build them up, but is this true. In my opinion, these words are indeed true. Within two days of



the album's release, *Opposite Ways* held the #15 spot on iTunes top album charts, and was #1 on the Christian album charts. Apparently others are finding something important in this band, too.

While popularity means very little in our media-congested culture, where the choking of any message down our throats makes something "popular," the texts of the songs, and the music

itself, speak very well. *Opposite Way* carries a strong theme of calling the listener to live their own life under God; that none of us has to cave in to the current trends around us, or do whatever everyone else is doing. Each of us is a free individual, and we can make choices for ourselves. Freedom is a central part of Jesus' message to his followers, and to everyone else with whom he spoke. If we sense that the Lord would disapprove what is going on around us, Leeland tells us, we are encouraged to walk the opposite way, to follow Christ above all else, even if that means leaving a lot behind us. Songs such as "Count Me In," "Let It Out Now," and, of course, the title track itself, all feature this important theme.

Leeland's music has always been about praising God before

anything else, but this album doesn't move like typical praise and worship albums of today. While several of the songs are straight-up worship songs, even when they are telling a story, the music is more complex, less predictable, and features much more elaborate arrangements than average worship songs. The album as a whole finds itself more in the company of Third Day and Jars of Clay than worship recordings from the likes of Lakewood or Hillsong. The songs ebb and flow, grow and reveal themselves in ways that both drive a message home, and enable us to find ourselves in the music. Another great album, well worth a listen -- or 10!

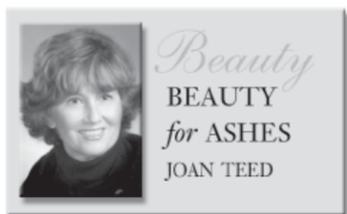
The Rev. Chris Hayes is a musician and rector of the Parish of Richmond.

We are never the same after a conversion experience, we not only believe Jesus lives, we know it

"He that knows the truth, knows what this light is and that it is eternity."
St. Augustine

As a therapist, I think of my work as a conversion process, often including a spiritual and perhaps a religious component. My clients struggle with unproductive beliefs and values, as well as their uncontrolled feelings. They often need a perceptual and emotional shock of awakening to create a whole new stable base.

Saul of Tarsus, a persecutor of early Christians, was struck flat on the road to Damascus, blinded by a fierce light. From then on he was St. Paul, an evangelizer for Christ.



William James, in *The Timeless Varieties of Religious Experience*, describes the psychology of religion as a gradual process similar to the storm and angst of adolescence, hopefully yielding to the clarity of new adult behavior.

Conspicuously missing from his metaphor is awe. There is also the deliberate decision to leave behind what does not work, call it sin if you must. It is more than just a gradual,

natural maturing. There is an "ah, ha" moment or two of intensely getting it, changing the equilibrium, with fireworks.

James also says, "Even late in life some thaw, some release may take place, some bolt be shot back in the barrenest breast, and the man's (sic) hard heart may soften and break into religious feeling. Such cases more than any others suggest the idea that sudden conversion is by miracle."

Malcolm Muggeridge, a famous British agnostic and iconoclast who converted later in life said: "What is conversion? Some, like the apostle Paul, have a Damascus Road experience. No such experience has been vouchsafed me: I have just

stumbled on like Bunyan's pilgrim, falling in the Slough of Despond, locked up in Doubting Castle, terrified of passing through the Valley of the Shadow of Death; from time to time, by God's mercy, relieved of my burden of sin, but only, alas, soon to acquire it again." But then what happened to him? Never say never.

He gradually modified his position on faith belief about the time he met and interviewed Mother Teresa in Calcutta, an unknown until then. He called her "a living conversion" and said "It is impossible to be with her, to observe what she is doing and how she is doing it, without being in some degree converted."

The former accused bully and liar, womanizer, egoist,

drinker and smoker became an influential Christian apologist, nicknamed St. Muggs. He said, "Never forget that only dead fish swim with the stream."

One is never the same after a conversion experience. We then say not only, "I believe," but "I know Jesus lives," as Muggeridge did very clearly for his last 21 years. He wrote, "Clearly Jesus was resurrected since he lives in this century."

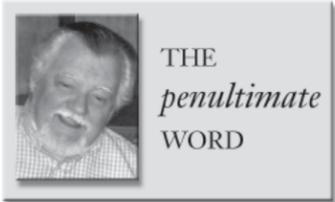
In his very bones he knew that he knew that he knew. I hope you are having a Blessed Eastertide.

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

A vision unshared is its own reward

BY JIM IRVINE

*If God doesn't build the house, the builders only build shacks... Psalms 127:1
The Message*



The wood heat tempered the frosty air. Inside the hall, I unzipped my parka. My trip from the frozen landing field on the lake had been chilly and I welcomed the mug of drip coffee thrust into my hand. Tommy Beardy, the priest at Muskratdam, welcomed me. "You like coffee since you're from the South," he said as he placed the mug in my hand. He sat across from me, his face shining, and went on, "isn't it wonderful we have Jesus!"

I sipped from the mug, clasping it with both hands so that my fingers would benefit from warmth. Disarmed by his simplicity and total disregard for cliché I nodded and smiled my agreement. Steam curled above the coffee mug like clouds of fragrant incense bearing up weightless prayers. One priest to another, strangers both, had common ground in Jesus. Paths converged here on the banks of the Severn River in northwestern Ontario. His journey found him in the inaccessible boreal forest north of Sioux Lookout; mine was taken in the salt-air of Maritime Canada.

The morning sun entering by the window where we sat disclosed a joy I have seldom witnessed in this priest. I have seen imitations. But today, as I sipped my coffee and Tommy sipped his tea, I found the joy palpable. So this is what it's like!

That was nearly 23 years ago. I had been invited to teach at a catechist's school in the diocese of Keewatin. And in this northern Cree community I found myself to be the only non-native for hundreds of kilometers -- my ski plane had taken off on its return to Big Trout Lake. I would be part of this community for the next 10 days and I was to discover that the clergy and catechists -- the men and the women, and the children too -- would teach me far more than I presumed to teach them in my daily lecture.

Walking the village I discovered the centre of the community was occupied by a massive log building, unfinished, the staging still in place and tools abandoned on the planks. Freshly fallen snow highlighted the logs and helped define its shape. It was a church. It had a wonderful proportion and was cruciform in shape. The path that tied the village together passed it. Villagers daily witnessed this curious monument frozen in mid-construction.

Muskratdam is not yet without a church. Walking to the end of the community and climbing the path to the hill top, the Anglican community -- for the entire community was Anglican -- approached St Matthew's as the bell tolled, calling the people of God to worship.

Curious, I inquired after the derelict structure. It had been undertaken, I was told, because the previous church, ministered to by Tommy's Dad, had been outgrown and a larger building was needed. One man undertook the project to replace the tarpaper covered church that had served the community and now needed to be replaced. One man had a vision and he arranged for the logs to be felled and dragged to the site in the centre of the village. He gave the daily orders and the work was begun. Logs were brought to the site from a considerable distance, as the local forest could not provide the harvest needed for such a splendid building.

Work continued until one day the man who had the vision for a new church fell ill and died. His vision died with him. No one on the worksite knew what the vision for the new church was. No one in the village knew either. So hammers and saws were left on the staging and the men returned to their homes and to other tasks.

In time, Tommy's Dad became ill and it was necessary that he leave his parish and go to Winnipeg where he would be closer to the medical attention he required. In need of a new priest, the community called Tommy, who had been a catechist. In due course Bishop Jim Allen arrived from Kenora to ordain Tommy and charge him with the care of the people here. But before that service could begin, the bishop first entered the new church the people had built for the occasion -- the church I now approached at the end of the path that ties the community together.

A private vision unshared has its own reward, and a monument to that truth remains as a daily reminder to each one who passes its length and breadth.

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Canon Jim Irvine makes his home in Fredericton.*

INTERCESSIONS

APRIL

¶ 21: Parish of Madawaska. (St. John the Baptist Anglican/St. Paul's United shared ministry) the Rev. Fran Bedell, deacon-in-charge. The Rev. Canon Brian Campion (retired).
¶ 22: Parish of Marysville, the Rev. Canon John CathcaRt..
¶ 23: Parishes of Maugerville & Oromocto, the Rev. Keith Howlett. The Rev. Canon Neville Cheeseman (retired).
¶ 24: Parish of Millidgeville, the Rev. Canon Alvin Westgate, the Rev. Canon Brian Campion, the Rev. Paul McCracken, honorary assistants.
¶ 25: Parish of Minto & Chipman, the Rev. Philip Pain. Kevin Frankland, AST.
¶ 26: Parish of Moncton, the Rev. Chris VanBuskirk.
¶ 27: Pray for the Nippon Sei Ko Kai the Most Rev. Nathaniel Makoto Uematsu, Primate of The Nippon Sei Ko Kai & Bishop of Hokkaido. Diocese of Ho, the Rt. Rev. Matthias Medadues-Badohu. Diocese of Yukon, clergy in secular employment holding Bishop's license for ministry, the Rev. Martin Carroll, Archbishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family. Claude, our Bishop, William, George and Harold, retired bishops, and their families.
¶ 28: Parish of Musquash, (open incumbency). The Rev. Wally Collett (retired).
¶ 29: Parish of the Nerepis and St. John, the Ven. Vicars Hodge.
¶ 30: Parish of New Bandon, the Ven. Patricia Drummond. The Rev. John Cooper (on leave).

MAY

¶ 1: Parishes of Newcastle & Nelson, the Rev. Richard Steeves.
¶ 2: Parish of New Maryland, the

Rev. Bruce McKenna. Michael Caines, Wycliffe.

¶ 3: Parish of Penfield, the Rev. Keith Osborne.

¶ 4: Anglican Communion Sunday: A hymn of glory let us sing. New songs throughout the world shall ring. Christ, by a road before untrod ascendeth to the throne of God. Alleluia.

Pray for the Diocese of Ho, the Rt. Rev. Matthias Medadues-Badohu. Council of the North Diocese of Caledonia the Rt. Rev. William Anderson, people and clergy, training programs for vocational deacons and aboriginal clergy. Diocese of Yukon, Haines Junction - St. Christopher's, Beaver Creek - St. Columba, Alaska Highway mile 918-1202, the Ven. Dr. Sean Murphy (Whitehorse) & lay ministry team, Archbishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family. Claude, our Bishop, William, George and Harold, retired bishops, and their families.

¶ 5: Parish of Portland, the Rev. Eileen Irish. The Rev. Wally Corey (retired).

¶ 6: Parish of Prince William, the Rev. Canon Elaine Hamilton.

¶ 7: Parish of Quispamsis, the Rev. John Tremblay. The Rev. Dr. Barry Craig (on leave).

¶ 8: Parish of Renforth, the Rev. Eric Phinney, the Rev. Canon Ed Coleman, pastoral assistant.

¶ 9: Parish of Restigouche, the Rev. Arnold Godsoe, priest-in-charge. Jen Bourque, Montreal Diocesan.

¶ 10: Parish of Richmond, the Rev. Christopher Hayes.

11: Pray for the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem & The Middle East the Most Rev. Dr. Mouneer Hanna Anis, President Bishop, Jerusalem & the Middle East & Bishop in Egypt with

North Africa and the Horn of Africa, Egypt - (Middle East) the Rt. Rev. Andrew Proud. Diocese of Ho, the Rt. Rev. Matthias Medadues-Badohu. Diocese of Yukon, Whitehorse - Church of the Northern Apostles, the Ven. Dr Sean Murphy (Archdeacon of Liard), the Rev. Deacon Sarah Usher, Len Usher & family, Archbishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family. Claude, our bishop, William, George and Harold, retired bishops, and their families.

¶ 12: Parish of Riverview, the Rev. Brent Ham. The Rev. Patricia Craig, Saint John Hospitals Chaplain.

¶ 13: Parish of Rothesay, the Rev. Canon Albert Snelgrove.

¶ 14: Parish of St. Andrews, Canon John Matheson. The Ven. Thomas Crowther (retired).

¶ 15: Parish of St. Andrew's, Sunny Brae with Hillsborough & Riverside, the Rev. Robert Salloum.

¶ 16: Parish of St. David & St. Patrick, Canon John Matheson, priest-in-charge. Kevin Frankland, Atlantic School of Theology.

¶ 17: Parish of St. George, the Rev. Mary Anne Langmaid.

¶ 18: Pray for the Anglican Church of Kenya the Most Rev. Benjamin M. P. Nzimbi, Archbishop of Kenya & Bishop of All Saints Cathedral Diocese. Diocese of Ho, the Rt. Rev. Matthias Medadues-Badohu. Diocese of Yukon, Mayo - St. Mary with St. Mark, the Rev. Susan Titterington and the lay ministry team, Archbishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family. Claude, our Bishop, William, George and Harold, retired bishops, and their families.

Spring Musical Events

Choir School Evensong

St Luke's, Saint John
7 p.m. April 20

With presentation of medallions to those who ever participated in Choir School. Our intrepid spiritual leader, Father Chris Hayes, will take the service and jolly us along for another year of great music and worship as we begin the next 50 year journey toward excellence in music in the Anglican tradition with contemporary music that suits the Prayer Book setting.

CDs also available.

Choir School 2008 begins
July 6 at

Rothesay-Netherwood School, watch for application forms or get your medallion at
www.choirschoolsite.com

Over the rainbow -- Music of the 1930s

Saint John Chorale
Spring Concert

Portland United Church
April 21, 7:30 p.m.

A great choir under the direction of Maestro Spencer Belyea

Delicious Desserts
Silent Auction

Tickets \$12 at the door or from choir members

Reserve tickets through
Marje Harrison 832-3033



Billets needed for National Youth Choir

members, university age vocalists from across Canada

Monday, May 12

Saint John

The choir performs at Trinity Church on Monday evening, May 12.

(You will want to enjoy the concert too! Tickets on sale soon.)

Potential billets please contact Spencer Belyea 506-652-8235 or Bev Efthymiadis 506-674-1897

40th anniversary Sixties Gala

at the

The Provincial Archives of NB
(1968-2008)

April 25, 8 p.m. - 1 a.m.

Live music by
the Downtown Blues Band

Dancing
Videos

Hootenanny
Buffet & bar

All with a 60s theme.

Dress is casual or theme.

Tickets: \$50. (Tax receipt.)

Proceeds to the
Elizabeth Diamond Memorial
Acquisition Trust Fund
at The Archives.

YOUTH

SUMMER PROMISES



The Camp Medley sign was snowbound this winter. Summer might still seem a long way away, but it's really only a few short months. Preparations are already in full swing for our camps and other opportunities. These seem to fill up really fast so register soon for

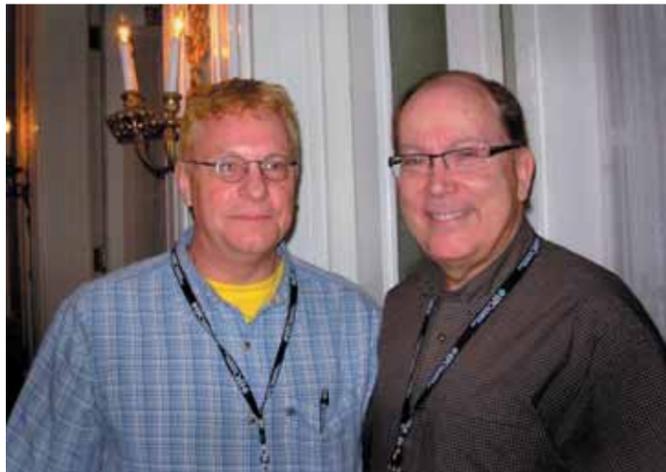
Camp Medley www.campmedley.ca cmmedley@nbnet.nb.ca 488-2874

Camp Brookwood
Choir School

St Michael's Conference.

They are all waiting for you!

YOUTH & Y/A ROUND TABLE



John Wilkinson is no stranger to this diocese, in fact he was part of the consultation process that called for a full-time Youth Action Director. He and George Porter connected recently at a Forum of the Youth and Young Adult Round Table, sponsored by the Evangelical Fellowship of Canada in Calgary. The focus of this time was "the making and retaining young disciples." Some Atlantic Canada plans are brewing!

Mark Your Calendar and watch nbay.ca more news about

TEC Weekend for youth 16-21
May (16)17-19

The reGathering for those confirmed by Bishop Miller
May 17-18

Generation 2008
National gathering of Anglican youth ministry leaders in
London June 10-15

Camp Medley Choir School
Camp Brookwood St. Michael's Conference

And all things summer!

I'm curious, George ...

How do you use the term 'emergent'?

[Part 2]

As we begin to draw our metaphors for change and growth from the science of emergence, there are many ways of looking at being church. One of the things that becomes quickly evident is that this church will have an element of unexpectedness about it.

While natural laws indicate that there is certain predictability about the way our universe works -- a predictability that is important for living our lives -- emergence recognizes that there are also elements of unpredictability in the behaviour of our environment. Things aren't always what we expect.

Likewise in being the church we have long come to expect certain things to be the way they are. We need some of that stability to be able to function, just as we need natural laws.

Along with this, however, we often fall prey to the error of thinking that we have God so figured out that we can say with confidence how, when and what God will and will not do. Our God box gets



secured with many locks of expectation, doctrine, tradition, liturgy and ethics.

The problem is that God cannot be tamed enough to stay in our boxes, no matter how we chain them up. There is always something about God that is unpredictable and surprising. God does things that nobody is expecting: things like forgiving Nineveh, like death on a cross, like resurrection, like sending the gift of the Holy Spirit -- and especially like sending that same Spirit to Gentiles and incorporating them into the people of God. Among the most unexpected things God does is to love us just as we are and unashamedly name us as children of God.

When he was talking to Nicodemus (see John 3), Jesus said that the one born of the Spirit was as free and

uncontrollable as the movement of the wind that blows where and when it will. If that was true of the Christ, it will also be true of the 'little Christs' -- we Christians, those who make up the church.

Our vocation isn't to get God into our religious box, nor is it to build new and improved boxes. In the baptismal sermon we know as I Peter, we find out that our vocation is to become a *living* temple of God -- a temple built of *living* stones'. Central to how we do that is becoming people so in tune with God that we recognise where and how God is working and then get on board -- always aware that our God is a God of surprises.

Our calling is to practice ongoing discernment together so that we, expecting the unexpected, are free to be co-workers with Jesus in his Kingdom-of-God-work.

The Rev. Dr. George Porter is diocesan Canon for Youth and director of youth action.

YOUTH TEAM



Peter Gillies, Patt Warner and Falen McNulty (secretary) of the Diocesan Council Youth Team and their fellow team members Liz Harding, Greg Frazer and Vicars Hodge are always looking for new people with new ideas. You are welcome to join them, just contact team chair and Canon for Youth George Porter <george.porter@angican.nb.ca> or 506-459-1801 (Synod Office).

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

emergent

