

THE NEW BRUNSWICK ANGLICAN



A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL

MAY 2008

SERVING THE DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON

Parish perseveres despite yet another stumbling block

Construction of new church underway despite dispute with town of Grand Bay-Westfield

BY ANA WATTS

It takes faith and determination to persevere when stumbling blocks keep springing up on the road to an important goal. Clearly the people of the Parish of the Nerepis and St. John have that kind of faith and determination, because they are going ahead with construction despite yet another large stumbling block in their way.

In February the Town of Grand Bay-Westfield informed the church that in addition to building its own access road, it must also pay 30 per cent of the cost of reconfiguring a problematic nearby intersection. The access road is included in the church's construction plans and budget; the \$51,000 share of the intersection configuration is neither in the plans nor the budget.

"We are tapped-out," says Andrew Logan, church warden and chair of the building committee. Construction delays have already drastically

increased costs for our original plans, so we had to scale back to an absolutely bare-bones facility. Our people have been generous to the point of sacrifice, we have accessed as many grants and low-interest loans as possible. If we have to give the town another \$51,000 we will have to ask parishioners to bring lawn-chairs to the service, because we won't have any furnishings. As it happens, our furnishings budget is about \$50,000."

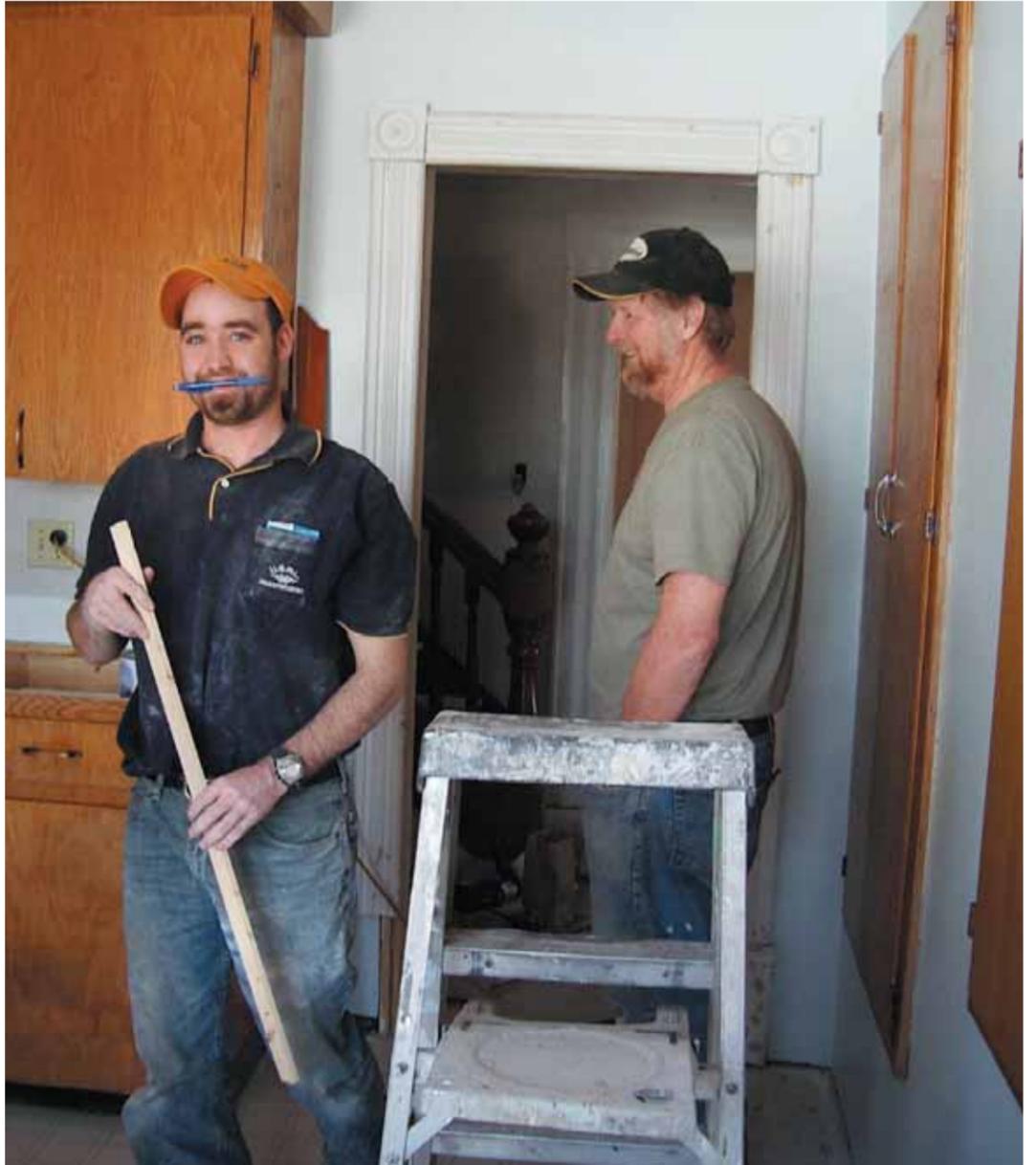
Whether the church remains empty of furniture for a while or not, it will be built. Mr. Logan delivered the performance bond to the town to cover the \$51,000 amount and in return was given the go-ahead that enabled construction to begin. Work on the intersection is not scheduled until 2009; the church hopes by then a new council might have a new opinion on the matter.

"We're not like regular developers. We can't sell an extra couple of lots to raise more money," said Logan.

He also argues that the impact of church traffic on the intersection in questions is very

See Traffic on page 2

MINISTRY OF THE SAW AND HAMMER



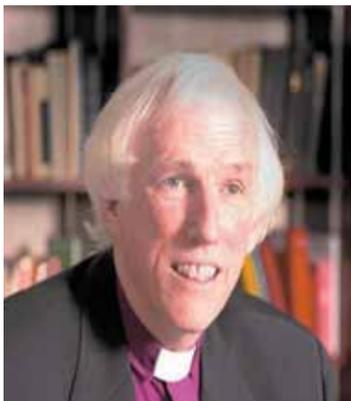
Ronnie McDonald, left, and project manager Gordon Allaby were among the many skilled volunteers who restored the neglected and water-damaged rector's office in Upham in order to accommodate the Rev. Marian Lucas Jefferies. Story and more photos on page 5.

Clergy college experts explore religion, culture and spirituality

BY ANA WATTS

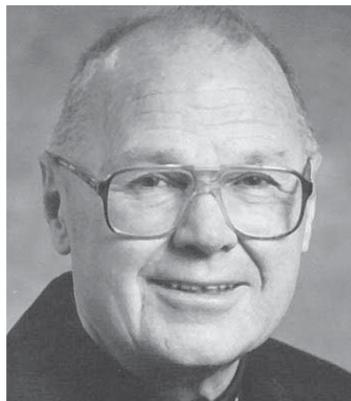
The 2008 Clergy College offers a wide view of the church and the world through preaching, healing, and exploring religion, culture and spirituality. Like its predecessors, this eighth annual diocesan clergy college is unashamedly academic in tone and presented by highly regarded teachers, writers and thinkers.

Bishop Bill Hockin, retired from his episcopal duties in this diocese but with a popular and on-going preaching ministry, gets this year's college off to a positive start. All day Monday,



BISHOP BILL HOCKIN

June 9 and half of Tuesday, June 10, he will share his gift for preaching that also informs his



THE REV. DONALD E. BAUSTIAN

writing. He is author of three books: *God for a Monday Morning* (1987), *Twelve Stories*



DR. MICHAEL HIGGINS

You and Your Children Need to Know (1994), and *The Habit of Hope* (2001). His weekly Advent

and Lenten talks in Fredericton are popular with Christians of several denominations. Diocesan clergy are well acquainted with his engaging style and presence and are anxious to share his insight.

The Rev. Donald E. Baustian is a retired priest in the Diocese of Arkansas, a former North American Warden of the International Order of St. Luke the Physician, and he and his wife now make their home in the Arkansas pine forests. "The ministry of healing is not an option for Christians,"

See College on page 2

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FROM THE FRONT

Kingston to host Montessori education workshop

The Anglican Parish of Kingston will host a Christian Education Workshop entitled "An Introduction to the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd" to be facilitated by Jane Moginot.

This curriculum follows the principles of Montessori schooling and is focused around assisting the involvement of adults and children in a common religious experience.

Learn more about how it works at the Kingston Parish Hall on Saturday, June 29 from 9:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$15, which includes materials, lunch, and refreshments.

All are welcome. Register by June 23 with:

Glenda Clark, 763-2639.

glenda.clark@3web.net.

Further information is available from:

the Rev. Bonita LeBlanc, 763-3976
bjoyful@nb.aibn.com.

Download a brochure from <http://www.kingstonparish.net>.

DOG MATTICKS

by Doug Patstone



Traffic study conducted during busy commuter hours rather than on Sunday

Traffic: continued from page 1

different from that of a new subdivision or retail development.

"Our heaviest traffic is on Sunday, when other traffic is light." The town's engineering consultants conducted a traffic study on a busy Thursday in

February when commuter traffic is heavy.

He also says the church offered the town a compromise. "I wrote to council and said the congregation would give them \$27,000 we have set aside as a contingency fund. It would be our contribution to the intersection

project. To be honest, we offered them everything we have, but we got no reply."

The road to construction of a new church is long and difficult at the best of times, but the road to a new church in Grand Bay-Westfield is exponentially longer than most. In 2003, after several years of prayer and community building, the people in the struggling parishes of Ketepec, Grand Bay, Westfield and Greenwich agreed to divest themselves of their many expensive to heat and maintain buildings, and become one large parish.

In essence, they put a legal stamp on the community relationship they had already

built, and began to work toward the construction of one efficient and useful building.

It took time to procure land, develop plans and raise money – long enough to have to go back to the drawing board to reduce the scale of the church in order to cope with inflated construction prices.

Over the years there have been a few false starts, mirrored by enthusiastic headlines and

photos in this newspaper, but a building permit in hand makes this start look like the real thing. In the absence of any other major stumbling blocks, the congregation hopes to worship in the new Church of the Resurrection by Christmas.

When the intersection will be reconfigured and how much financial input the church will have on that project only time will tell.

Scholar calls Henri Nouwen, Donald Nicholl and Thomas Merton 'Pilgrims of Peace'

College – continued from page 1

according to Mr. Baustian. It is part — an essential part — of our call and commission. If our life and ministry are to be true to the life and ministry of Jesus, then we must be about the business of ministering healing and wholeness in his name." His presentations begin Tuesday evening, June 10 and continue until 4 o'clock on June 11.

Dr. Michael Higgins, who will discuss religion, culture and spirituality in a presentation called *Pilgrims of Peace and Wisdom: Henri Nouwen, Donald Nicholl and Thomas Merton* all day Thursday, June 12 and Friday, June 13 until noon, holds an impressive list of titles and accomplishments.

He is president and vice-chancellor of St. Thomas University, a full professor of English and religious studies, past president of St. Jerome's University in Waterloo, Ontario, and the author and co-author of several books including *Thomas Merton: Pilgrim in Process*; *Women and the Church: a*

Sourcebook; Portraits of Canadian Catholicism; My Father's Business: The Biography of Gerald Emmett Cardinal Carter: The Jesuit Mystique; Heretic Blood: the Spiritual Geography of Thomas Merton; The Muted Voice: Religion and the media; and Stalking the Holy: In Pursuit of Saint-Making.

Dr. Higgins has also published many articles and reviews in scholarly publications, enjoyed a long career as a documentarist and writer for CBC Radio One's *Ideas*, as a script writer for programs like *Testament and Celebration*, was a regular contributor to the *Globe And Mail* as well as the *Literary Review of Canada*, and is a former columnist for the *Toronto Star*.

The Eighth Annual Clergy College takes place at the Hugh John Flemming Forestry Complex off Regent Street in Fredericton.

Ana Watts is communications officer for the Diocese of Fredericton.



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

For more information on the Parish of the Nerepis and St. John in the lower St. John River Valley, log on to <http://www.churchoftheresurrection.ca/>

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www.anglican.nb.ca

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON
A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL

The Rt. Rev. Claude Miller Bishop and Publisher

Ana Watts Editor

Published 10 times per year. Price of subscription \$10.00

Please send news and photo submissions to
Ana Watts, 773 Glengarry Place, Fredericton, NB E3B 5Z8
Phone: 506-459-5358; E-mail: awatts@nbnet.nb.ca

Please send subscription renewals and changes of address to:
The New Brunswick Anglican
c/o Anglican Journal Circulation Dept., 80 Hayden St, Toronto,
ON M4Y 3G2

Printed & mailed by Signal Star Publishing, Goderich, Ontario

DIOCESAN NEWS

LAYREADER NEWS



The Archdeaconry Wardens of Layreaders met recently with Bishop Claude Miller to discuss the layreader ministry across the diocese and how best to encourage the continuing spiritual formation that enables them to move toward a diocesan license. The wardens of layreaders group is also updating the training guidelines. Seen above, following the meeting are, left to right, front row the Rev. Peter Gillies, Bishop Miller, the Rev. Chris Hayes; back row, the Rev. Canon Howard Anningson, the Rev. Capt. David Edwards, the Rev. Canon John Cathcart, the Rev. Rod Black, and the Rev. Alan Tapley. Missing from photo is the Rev. Chris Vanbuskirk.

Retreat day with bishop scheduled

The layreaders' annual retreat day with Bishop Claude Miller is set for Saturday, June 7, at St. George's Church on Watson Street in West Saint John.

Each year the bishop invites layreaders in the

diocese to spend a day with him as they reflect on the layreader ministry.

Last year's retreat attracted more than 100 participants who found the day helpful and inspiring.

Those not familiar with Saint John geography will find a map to the venue on the layreaders' website:

<<http://personal.nbnet.nb.ca/jc8/layreader.html>>.

Community responds to Camp Brookwood's needs

BY CHRIS HAYES

Wow! When our Lord chooses to act through his people, he really goes all out.

The hastily called April 15 meeting to address some very serious Camp Brookwood concerns resulted in a 14-member board with a full executive and some new members as well as several committees struck, populated and ready to get to work on site this month. We also made plans for a new concrete slab and foundation wall for Howlett Hall to be installed after the 2008 camping season.

Everything Camp Brookwood needs was made available through prayer, discussion, discernment and

great generosity.

More than 30 willing people turned-out for the meeting, including Archdeacon Geoffrey Hall, the bishop's executive assistant. A further 20 willing souls unable to attend the meeting pledged their time, talents and energy to the cause. We also welcomed half a dozen young people, all of whom are presently connected to the camp. They were active in the meeting and it was important for us to hear their voices.

This wonderful Saturday meeting at Trinity Church in the Parish of Andover made for a huge leap forward for Camp Brookwood's present and future. The response from committed people means Camp

Brookwood can be what it was always meant to be — a solid, stable ministry outreach to children everywhere.

Looking around the room on that Saturday I saw many people who believe strongly that Camp Brookwood's mission must continue and be strengthened to provide the kind of ministry that youth deserve. I also saw and felt humility, grace, conviction, love, joy, generosity, and discernment. Speaking personally, the day was the most wonderful Easter gift. God can really overwhelm a person sometimes.

The Rev. Chris Hayes is rector of the Parish of Richmond and Regional Dean of Woodstock.

RECEIVED IN KINGSTON

Faye Clark and Michelle Stevens reiterated their baptismal vows and were received into the Anglican Church at a service of reception at Trinity Church, Kingston, on Jan. 31. Left to right are Sharon Arbeau, Ms. Clark, Bishop Claude Miller, Ms. Stevens, and the Rev. Bonita LeBlanc, rector of the parish.



APPOINTMENTS

The Rev. Marian Lucas Jefferies was appointed priest-in-charge of the Parish of Upham on March 17.

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

Mr. Robert Brittain of Saint John was appointed to a three-year term as Ecumenical Officer in the Diocese of Fredericton on April 1. Bishop Claude Miller has identified enormous potential for ministry regarding ecumenical relationships. The Ecumenical Officer is also a member of the Synod Planning Hospitality Committee.

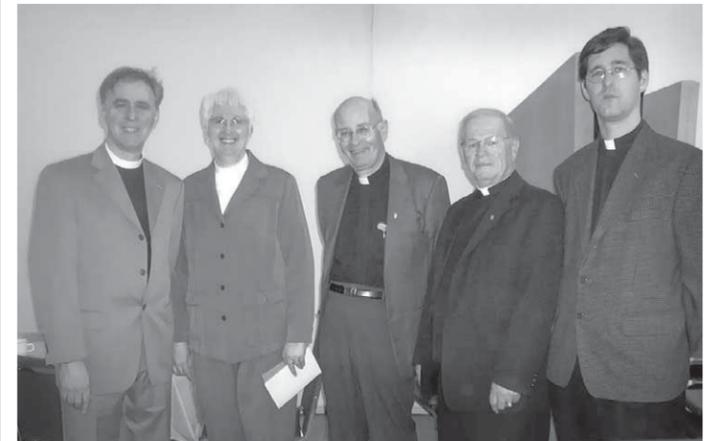
Capt. Rob Marsh of Church Army was appointed to ministry and pastoral oversight as interim officer-in-charge in the Parish of Musquash, effective April 7 to May 31, 2008.

The Rev. Canon George Akerley was appointed interim priest-in-charge of the Parish of Upper Kennebecasis on April 16.

The Rev. Canon Robert Smith was appointed interim priest-in-charge in the Parish of McAdam on April 25.

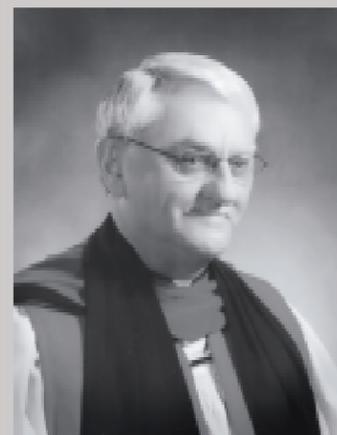
The Rev. Ellen Curtis is appointed rector of the Parish of Lakewood, effective July 1. She leaves the parishes of The Tobique and Denmark.

Unique team ministry in Gagetown and Cambridge/Waterborough



The Revs. Karman and Valerie Hunt were recently welcomed to the Parishes of Gagetown and Cambridge & Waterborough with a Celebration of New Ministry service in the Church of the Good Shepherd in Cambridge-Narrows. The husband and wife team, unique in the diocese, is licensed to ministry in both parishes for two years. The Church was filled to capacity and everyone enjoyed the lovely little choir under the direction of Lynn Mills, organist. A reception followed in the Municipal Building. Left to right above are the Rev. Canon Albert Snelgrove (preacher), Mrs. Hunt, Mr. Hunt, the Ven. John Sharpe (celebrant) and the Rev. Brent Ham who read the Holy Gospel.

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

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Part 2: Further updates on recipients of the Mabel. C. Dean Bursary

*The Thompson Family**Jason Barry*

Kara and Keith Thompson, children of the Rev. Gordon and Bell Thompson are both recipients of the Mabel Dean Bursary.

*Keith and Wendy Thompson*

Kara was awarded the bursary as a student of St. Stephen's University in St. Stephen in 1992. In 1996, with a Bachelor of Arts in Ministry, she became a full-time missionary serving the South American Missionary Society of Canada. She taught English as a second language in Paraguay then moved on to Honduras to work at St. Mary's Episcopal Church with Fr. Lloyd Allen, who later became bishop. In 2002 she married Nelson Mejia and they are now both ordained priests in the Episcopal Church and serve the Bay Island of Roatan, just off the coast of mainland Honduras. They have two children, Stephen (5) and Kelly (6 months).

Keith was awarded the bursary as a student at St. Thomas University in 1997.

The following year he was granted a Bachelor of Arts with a major in religious studies and a minor in English. He married nursing student Wendy McFadgen in 1998. They moved to Edmonton in 2004 where Keith earned a Master of Divinity degree at Taylor Seminary. He is a guest preacher at several churches and is waiting for a placement in a church.

*Kara (nee Thompson), Kelly, Stephen and Nelson Mejia.*

Jason Barry, son of the Rev. Robert and Marguerite Barry was a 1991 recipient of the Mabel Dean Bursary as a student at the University of New Brunswick. It helped him to complete his BA in archaeology. Today he and his wife Felicity live and work in Sydney Australia in the survey section of the Roads and Traffic Authority of New South Wales. As a member of the RAT Site Locations Unit, he is sent into the field to identify possible heritage (both indigenous and non-indigenous), environmental and hazardous sites in areas where the government decides to construct or widen roads. The surveyors receive copies of the reports indicating such sites so they can be included on survey plans before construction starts. His unit is also involved in a flashing lights in school zones project designed to get motorists to slow down in these areas during active school times. This work has required him to travel extensively and he has seen about 80 per cent of the state of New South Wales. In his spare time Jason enjoys time with his wife and scuba diving.

PARISHONER HONOURED



Harry Clift, long-serving layreader and choir member in the Parish of St. Andrews, was recently honoured for his faithful service. He was presented with a "talking book" machine and his wife, Mary Janet, was presented with flowers. Left to right above are the Clifts — Vinton, Mary Ann, Mary Janet, Troy, Tiffany and Harry with the Rev. Canon John Matheson, rector of St. Andrews.

NEW BEGINNINGS — PASTORAL CARE

BY TED QUANN

My job as a hospital pastoral care worker is to feed the spiritual wellness of the soul of the patient and help combat any anxiety or loneliness/he may feel. This also allows me to take some of the workload off our minister and it is a good opportunity for me as a layreader to get more involved with the spiritual needs and wants of the people. This is what pastoral care is all about.



I applied for a pastoral care position through the pastoral care committee. Before I could be accepted I had to be checked out by the police. For further information or details about becoming involved in pastoral care in your church, please contact me at tquann@rogers.com.

HOLY JOES COMMUNION & BREAKFAST



On Saturday, March 29, the members of the Guilds of St. Joseph from throughout the province met at Christ Church Cathedral in Fredericton for their annual Communion service, and went on to enjoy breakfast at the Diplomat Restaurant (above). The Rev. Canon Neville Cheeseman and the Rev. Ian Wetmore celebrated Communion for 41 guild members and guests. The service is usually held the Saturday nearest St. Joseph's day on March 19, but was moved this year to accommodate Holy Week. The Holy Joes, as members of the guild call themselves, are groups of men who attempt to lead good lives and contribute to their parishes by performing maintenance and repair work to their church properties, assisting wherever and whenever they can and by other good works and charity. The guilds' annual meeting this year was hosted by the Parish of Minto and Chipman branch. On that occasion the Rev. Canon John Cathcart celebrated Communion and spoke on what makes a Holy Joe holy. At the business meeting Charles Davies talked about Hubie Drillen, founder of the guild concept. Activity reports were received from guilds in New Brunswick, Ontario and California. There were 32 in attendance, including observers from other parishes interested in forming new guilds.

INSPIRATION

Heroic efforts transform rectory

Stately home blessed and ministry of the saw and hammer celebrated at open house

BY MARIAN LUCAS JEFFERIES

The rectory in Upham, aka The Parsonage, is a grand and elegant home once again, thanks to the faith, skills and determination of the people of this wonderful parish and community. In thanksgiving for the ministry of the saw and hammer, we gathered there on Sunday afternoon, April 6, to bless this stately white home that has watched over the community for 162 years. It was also an open house occasion, with lots of food, fun and fellowship.

When I was appointed to the Parish of Upham as one of two priests-in-charge of three parishes last August, the rectory had been vacant for a while and let's say "she was no longer in her prime." The plaster cracked and bulged in spots, the wallpaper was old and faded and a single bare bulb hung from the ceiling of the main hall. The cushion floor was worn and cracked and I suspect the 25-year-old carpets were hiding a multitude of moldy sins because one of the parishioners showing me around suffered an asthma attack when she had been inside the house for a while.

The parish decided to put the grand dame up for sale, all that was required was to obtain permission from the diocese to put it on the market.

Just days before last Christmas, one of the parishioners conducting a regular inspection of the empty property discovered a pipe on the second floor had burst. That night, with flash lights in hand, the wardens, a vestry member and I assessed the damage. The kitchen ceiling was on the floor, the hardwood in the dining room was warped and all the ceilings and walls on the main floor were covered in frost. The basement and furnace were flooded. None of the damage was covered by insurance.

Upgrades to the property over the past 20 years — roof, full basement, main floor windows, siding, and oil tank — were about the only assets the property could boast after the flood.

Although the decision to sell the rectory was unanimous, there were also some sad second thoughts about losing a property that at one time was at the centre of the community. A property where the rector often had a cow in the barn out back ... people learned to skate and play hockey on the pond ... there



were sliding parties in the winter and church picnics in the summer ... there were dinner parties, flower gardens and veggie gardens too.

The day we received approval from the diocese to put the house on the market, the shared ministry of the parish was discontinued. Soon after, I was appointed to the parish as priest-in-charge on a two-thirds time basis. The people of Upham were given four weeks notice and instructions to have the house in order for my arrival March 16.

A miracle followed.

More than 20 people jumped to action. A highly skilled volunteer, construction crew, coordinated by Gordon Allaby, worked day and night, Monday to Friday. They installed new drywall and flooring in most of the house, a bathroom upstairs, light fixtures, and countertops. They refinished the hardwood in the living and dining rooms as well as on the stairway, and they refinished the kitchen cupboards too. On Saturdays as many as 15 people appeared on the scene just to paint. Sandwiches and sweets appeared for lunch. Cleaning crews also appeared when they were needed, but most



importantly, a very special energy appeared ... an energy that grew and continues to grow.

Construction wasn't complete on moving day, but there was enough done that I could move in.

The work continued. Scraps of wood, bedsprings, old skis and a mouse graveyard were removed from the basement, which is now clean (I hesitate to say sparkling). As I write this, two more bedrooms are being dry walled, there are plans to move the garage, till a veggie garden and thin the trees to improve the already breath-taking view of the mountain I enjoy from the window of my study. I have dreams of renovating the servant's quarters some day, but perhaps this isn't the time to mention it.



So we held the open house to show the world what the ministry of the saw and hammer can do and how that kind of work can revitalize a parish and a community. That day the light danced on the refinished hardwood floors and on the new walls painted soft, fresh colours. That day the summer kitchen, that once connected the house to the

long-gone barn, emerged as my music room.

Yes, we now suffer the sin of pride, but we also enjoy the gift of confidence. We know there is a lot more our small rural parish can do to survive and thrive!

The Rev. Marian Lucas Jefferies is priest-in-charge of the parish of Upham.

COLUMNS

Good food, good friends, good cause help send kids to Medley

One cold “winter” night in March, Valerie Archibald (who serves on the Camp Medley Program Committee) and I went to the Old Boot Pub in the village of Gagetown for their Great Big Cook-Off. This year chili was on the menu; it’s a different delicacy every time.

Since neither of us eats beef, you might well ask why Valerie and I bothered to go there. Well, the answer is simple. The people of Gagetown and surrounding area have had once a week cook-offs for the past three winters in support of the Betty Hamilton Memorial Scholarship that sends children to Camp Medley. The owners of the pub donate \$2 for every plate sold to the scholarship fund. When we sat down to order in March they had collected more than \$800 and there were three more cook-off weeks to go.



This venture is useful in at least a couple of ways. Not only does it raise money for children to attend one of Camp Medley’s great summer offerings, it also brings the people of the village together in the depths of the winter. The atmosphere in the pub reflected the joy and excitement of good food, good fun and a good cause.

Gagetown resident and former chair of the Camp Medley property and facility committee Clare Box invited me to the cook-off. I found a large table surrounded by

people from the parish of Gagetown who support this venture. All told somewhere between 60-70 people of all ages enjoyed the hot chili and the warm atmosphere that night. People of all ages, enjoyed the wonderful food and the atmosphere that night. Many of them told me these evenings of good food, good company and a good cause help build their community and make the long winters more enjoyable.

The wardens of the parish of Gagetown administer the fund and last year it was able to provide four children with full camp scholarships. This year the fund stands at \$1,152, enough to send five children to Medley.

That night at the Old Boot Pub I invited everyone there to come and visit us at Medley in the summer ... after all, we’re neighbours.

And by the way, Valerie and I didn’t have to order chili and give it away to someone else, the good-hearted people of the Old Boot Pub served us chicken with a smile, plus a \$2 donation.

It was a great way to spend a cold winter night, even if it was March.

Liz Harding is diocesan director of Christian education..

You deserve a Spiritual Retreat Spa!

The Christian Education Committee is pleased to offer its annual
Spiritual Retreat Spa

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sept. 27

At the Dayspring Retreat Centre,
Dayspring Road, Rothesay (just outside Saint John)

The morning is filled with a series of
reflections and meditations aimed at refreshing your spirit.

The afternoon is devoted to your physical well-being with
mini facials, manicures, pedicures, canoeing, fishing (if you have a license)

crafts, massage, makeup application and
relaxation in the beautiful and natural surroundings.

Mark your calendar for this special fall event today,
and watch for information on a

Christian Education Conference and Retreat
planned for the spring of 2009.

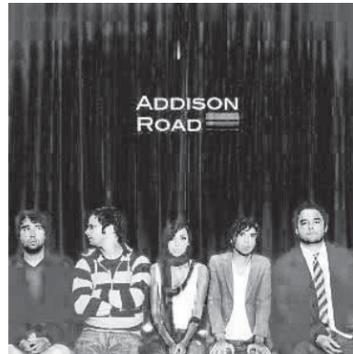
Addison Road ...fresh, energetic, and accessible

Addison Road is one of the many groups — like Fireflight, Wake Up the Nation, and also Casting Crowns — that features a female lead vocalist with a predominantly male band. Having many vocal qualities is just one way for a band to expand its overall sound, or its musical palette. It works well in their self-titled debut album. Addison Road has met with success throughout North America in all kinds of different ways. Sporting a typical line-up of guitars, keyboards, percussion, and vocals, the group has forged a strong album that has many good musical moments, but doesn’t depend on one particular sound, style, or “hook” for its success. Their first single, “All That Matters,” enjoyed strong airplay, and



began strong sales for the album.

However, catchy tunes and popularity are not what make this album great. Good song writing with even better lyrics capture themes of faithful living that are rendered in rather uncreative ways in other places. From the song mentioned above: “This world is like a trampoline/ High and low no in between/ Jumping at the chance to please/ Everyone but that’s not me.” The melody here also moves up and down to reflect the thought in the



words — this technique is sometimes called word painting.

Hailing from Dallas, Texas, Addison Road has been together for about seven years, and has released three other independently recorded albums; this is their first on a major recording label. Their growth, both spiritual and musical, is apparent on this

disc in some really great songs. “This Could Be Our Day” provides a great reason to turn the volume up a bit. Other offerings, like “Hope Now,” show the varied styles of the band; this slower song can grab the listener through its lyrics and a great sense of musicianship.

Hope is the major theme of this album. While that sounds rather typical for a Christian band, this group went through a rough patch a few years ago, their music contained a lot of negativity, they seemed to focus on what’s wrong with the world and what’s wrong with so many people, and yet it didn’t offer a way through that to something better. A friend told them he did not see any hope in their music. Guitarist Ryan Simmons took that to heart, and wrote “Hope now,”

including this lyric — “If everything comes down to love / Then just what am I afraid of? / When I call out your name / Something inside awakes in my soul / How quickly I forget I’m yours ...” It focused the band on its work.

For me, this album arrived just when it was needed. It is fresh, energetic, and accessible, without making the message too preachy or brash. I would not be a bit surprised to hear songs from *Addison Road* on mainstream radio in the next month or so. If you’re looking for something fun to listen to, yet with a little bit of musical “meat,” you would do well to pick up a copy of this disc.

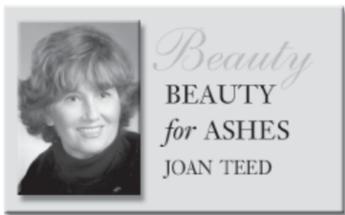
The Rev. Chris Hayes is a musician as well as rector fo the parish of Richmond.

We should share our larger than life, transcendent, religious experiences

Religious experiences are common and real. They are larger than life, self-transcendent moments and feel qualitatively different from ordinary life experiences.

Pioneering American psychologist William James analyzed “the varieties of religious experiences,” including religious conversions. He found them similar among people and believed they revealed deep psychological truths. He said we are torn by conflicting desires in life and experience life as a divided self, but religious experiences make us feel whole and at peace.

Abraham Maslow, who gave us his hierarchy of needs, listed some of the common features of these experiences in



his gem of a book *Religion, Values, and Peak Experiences*. He said the universe is perceived as a unified whole and nothing is ranked, all is accepted; egocentrism and goal striving disappear as one feels merged with the universe and often with God; perceptions of time and space are altered; and the person is flooded with feelings of wonder, joy, love and gratitude.

Maslow’s goal was to show that spiritual life has a natural

meaning and that peak experiences are a basic fact about the human mind in all cultures. All religions are based on the heights of someone’s enriching peak experience.

The goal of religion is to reach the growth stimulated by these peaks, to talk of our own peak experience. The Bible is full of these stories but our churches seem to foster the orthodoxy of rules and doctrine promoted by the accepted creed. All else seems apocryphal, beyond the pale. We are told the priest is the only one to intercede for us with God, to have the personal relationship, not at all what Jesus taught.

Many of us do not acknowledge religious experiences because the

subject is unmentionable. How very sad. How very dead. If we do not discuss these experiences, others will not learn to recognize the truth, or share their own stories. God blew me out of my boots even though I specifically told Him/ Her NOT to give me tongues because I thought it was embarrassing babble. One evening in awe and joy, when many prayers had been answered, I suddenly found myself dancing across the cliff face by my home singing and speaking tongues.

By dividing our world into science and art we “de-sacralize” the world. Logic rules in science, intuition is childish, suspect. We document only what IS, not whether it is

good or beautiful. In this dichotomy we hide our sense of wonder in God’s revelation because it seems illogical, impossible to prove and unscientific. Perhaps that will change now we have quasars, higher math and cosmology and physicists are theorizing that light and God may be the same.

God is revealed all over the world through the peak experiences of the people. If they are stifled by rule-bound religiosity, then so is creativity.

Please share the revelations and language of God in your life with others and with me through lionel@rogers.com. *Joan Teed is a vocational chaplain as well as a social worker and counsellor in private practice.*

The good news of hope fulfilled and recorded

BY JIM IRVINE

Twenty-four thousand moons in penance for one moon long ago, isn't that too much? asked Margarita.

The Master and Margarita

*Now I lay me down to sleep
I pray the Spirit my soul to keep
and if I die before I wake
I pray the Spirit my soul to take.*

When insomnia overtakes us the toll is heavy. Recurring episodes of sleep deprivation begin to approach with alarm and dismay. *The Master and Margarita* by Mikhail Bulgakov is an Easter novel. The fifth procurator of Judaea, the cruel Pontius Pilate, suffered so from the full moon of the 14th day of Nissan, the year Yeshua was brought before him. The morality play written in prose has him malingering from one lunar cycle to another.

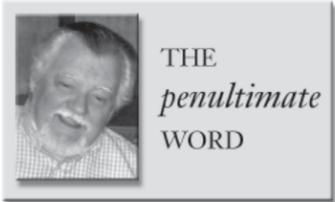
*But if I wake for one more day
I pray the Spirit to show the way
and if I walk this earth for years
I pray the Spirit let wash my tears.*

Bulgakov interposes the unfolding trial and passion with the malignant presence of Woland visiting Moscow. Insightfully, redemption is an ever-present activity in the midst of the shadows and darkness that seem to beset us at every turn. This may well have been set in King Square of Saint John, or along the Cathedral Green in Fredericton. This is not a story of the past. Truths allowed only by fiction find insomniacs waking for one more day, and walking this earth for years.

Guilt and regret reveal a restless inner brokenness. As self-reliant as we are, our attempt at assembling the pieces of our own discord has us burning the midnight oil in futility. Words cannot be retracted, sentences cannot be annulled, and the set jaw turns to cruel granite that cannot be softened.

*And if I lend a helping hand
I pray the Spirit to let it stand
and if I fail to do what's right
I pray the Spirit let shine the light.*

"Pontius Pilate always says the same thing," said Woland. "He is saying that there is no peace for him by moonlight and that his duty is a hard one ... For an occasional change he adds that most of all he detests his immortality and his incredible fame. He claims that he would gladly change places with that vagrant, Matthew the Levite."



More often hands are wrung out in basins filled with water and dripping of blood. Fictional basins, mind you! But their reality is unquestionable and their contents mirror our failures as we glance at the still water only to have guilt disrupt the image and turn a blushing crimson. Failure to do what's right wets pillows and we seek a light to lighten our dark night of the soul.

"Twenty-four thousand moons in penance for one moon long ago, isn't that too much?" asked Margarita. Where lies absolution?

As with a thundering blast of a shofar, Bulgakov has the Master's declaration echo from the bare treeless hills: "You are free! Free! Yeshua is waiting for you!"

And if I find a path that's straight

*I pray the Spirit it's not too late
and if I die still halfway there
I pray the Spirit my soul to care.*

As in an Apocalypse, "the mountains turned the master's voice to thunder and the thunder destroyed them. Only the platform with the procreator's stone chair remained ... Into the garden stretched the procurator's long awaited path of moonlight. The man in the white cloak with the blood-red lining rose from his chair and shouted something in a hoarse, uneven voice. It was impossible to tell if he was laughing or crying, or what he was shouting. He could only be seen hurrying along the moonlight path ..."

Easter tide stretches for the Great Forty Days. Thomas was late in learning the news, but not too late. For the rest of us, we share the good news of hope fulfilled and recorded by the Muscovite's pen – so influential and powerful that Stalin banned its publication. Our laughter, our tears of joy and relief, our shouts of Alleluia demonstrate our peace on learning that Jesus is waiting for us! We join our voices with Pilate as we run along his path to a holy peace and rest at last.

"On the night of Sunday, the day of the resurrection, pardon had been granted to the astrologer's son, fifth procurator of Judaea, the cruel Pontius Pilate."

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Canon Jim Irvine makes his home in Fredericton

INTERCESSIONS

May

¶ 19: Parish of St. James, Moncton, the Rev. Donald Hamilton, priest-in-charge. The Rev. Terry Doncaster (on leave).
¶ 20: Parish of Saint John, the Ven. Stuart Allen, the Rev. George Trentowsky, honorary assistant, the Rev. Constance Soulikas-Whittaker, deacon.
¶ 21: Parish of St. Margaret's, Canon Jon Lownds, the Rev. John Harvey, honorary assistant, Major John Organ, chaplain, St. Luke's Chapel, CFB Gagetown.
¶ 22: Parish of St. Mark (Stone) Church, the Rev. Capt. David Edwards.
¶ 23: Parish of St. Martin's & Black River, the Rev. Gerald Laskey, priest-in-charge. Michael Caines, Wycliffe.
¶ 24: Parish of St. Mary's (York), the Rev. Ian Wetmore.
25: Pray for the Anglican Church of Korea, the Most Rev. Francis Kyung Jo Park, Presiding Bishop of the Anglican Church of Korea & Bishop of Seoul. Diocese of Ho, Bishop Matthias Medadues-Badohu. Diocese of Yukon, Pelly Crossing - St. James the Lord's Brother, Deacon Walter Majola & Olga Majola, Betty Joe (licensed lay minister), Archbishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family. Claude, our bishop, William, George and Harold, retired bishops, and their families.
¶ 26: Parish of St. Peter, the Rev. Dr. Ross Hebb. The Rev. Ernie Eldridge (retired).
¶ 27: Parish of St. Philip's, the Rev. Kevin Borthwick.
¶ 28: Parish of St. Stephen, the Rev. William Morton. The Rev. Roy Embley (retired).
¶ 29: Parish of Salisbury & Havelock (open incumbency).
¶ 30: Parish of Shediak, the Ven. Richard McConnell. Jen Bourque, Montreal Diocesan.
¶ 31: Parish of Simonds, (open incumbency), the Rev. Alan Reynolds, priest-in-charge.

JUNE

¶ 1: Pray for the Church of the Province of Melanesia, the Most Rev. Sir Ellison Leslie Pogo, Archbishop of Melanesia and Bishop of Central Melanesia. Diocese of Ho, Bishop Matthias Medadues-Badohu. Council of the North, Diocese of Moosonee, the Most Rev. Caleb Lawrence, people and clergy. Diocese of Yukon, Dawson City - St. Paul's, Moosehide - St. Barnabas, the Klondike Creeks, the Dempster Highway, the Rev. Dr. Lee Titterington, the Rev. Deacon Percy Henry, the Ven. Ken Snider honorary assistant, and Aldene Snider, Mabel Henry, Shirley Pennell, and Betty Davidson licensed lay ministers, Archbishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family. Claude, our bishop, William, George and Harold, retired bishops, and their families.
¶ 2: Parish of Stanley, the Rev. Dr. Ranall Ingalls. The Rev. Greg Frazer, chaplain, Dorchester Correctional Centre.
¶ 3: Parish of Sussex, the Ven. David Barrett.
¶ 4: Parish of the Tobique, the Rev. Ellen Curtis. Canon Charles Ferris, Chancellor to the Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada.
¶ 5: Parish of Upham, the Rev. Marian Lucas-Jefferies, priest-in-charge.
¶ 6: Parish of Upper Kennebecasis and Johnston, (open incumbency). Kevin Frankland, Atlantic School of Theology.
¶ 7: Parish of Victoria, the Rev. Canon David Kierstead.
8: Pray for La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico the Most Rev. Carlos Touche-Porter, Presiding Bishop of La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico and Bishop of Mexico. Diocese of Ho, Bishop Matthias Medadues-Badohu. Diocese of Yukon, Old Crow - St. Luke's, the Rev. Susan Titterington, the Rev. Deacon Marion Schafer, Esau Schafer and family, lay ministry

team, Archbishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family. Claude, our bishop, William, George and Harold, retired bishops, and their families.

¶ 9: Parish of Waterford & St. Mark, the Rev. Allen Tapley. The Rev. Royden Ferris (retired).

¶ 10: Parish of Westmorland, the Rev. Kevin Stockall, priest-in-charge.

11: Parish of Wicklow, Wilmott, Peel & Aberdeen, the Rev. Douglas Painter. Lt. Col. John Fletcher, (on leave) chaplain to the military.

¶ 12: Parish of Woodstock, the Ven. Walter Williams.

¶ 13: Parish of Andover, the Rev. Terence Chandra, priest-in-charge. Michael Caines, Wycliffe.

¶ 14: Parish of Bathurst, the Rev. Roderick Black.

¶ 15: Pray for The Church of the Province of Myanmar, the Most Rev. Samuel San Si Htay, Archbishop of Myanmar and Bishop of Yangon. Diocese of Ho, Bishop Matthias Medadues-Badohu. Diocese of Yukon, the Rev. Deacon Sarah Usher, diocesan administrative officer, members of the diocesan executive committee, Archbishop Terry Buckle, Blanche and family. Claude, our bishop, William, George and Harold, retired bishops, and their families.

¶ 16: Parish of Bright, (open incumbency). The Rev. William Forgrave (retired).

¶ 17: Parish of Cambridge & Waterborough, the Rev. Valerie Hunt & the Rev. Karman Hunt, priests-in-charge.

¶ 18: Parish of Campbellton, the Rev. Arnold Godsoe. The Rev. Canon David Genge (retired).

¶ 19: Parish of Campobello, (open incumbency), the Rev. Brenda McKnight, interim priest-in-charge.

¶ 20: Parish of Canterbury, the Ven. Walter Williams, priest-in-charge. Jen Bourque, Montreal Diocesan.

The Parish of Minto and Chipman seeks an Organist and Choir Director

To begin September 2008

Applications and information from:

The Anglican Parish of Minto and Chipman

c/o Rev. Philip Pain

696 Pleasant Drive

Minto, NB E4B 2V1

(506/327-6177 philiphpain@hotmail.com)

Diocese of Fredericton

Cursillo Service of Dedication and Renewal With Holy Eucharist

Everyone welcome, Sunday, June 15, 5 p.m., Christ Church Cathedral

Bishop Claude Miller celebrant

Archdeacon Edward King (formerly of Canadian Anglican Cursillo Secretariat) preacher

Music ministry by New Hope of Miramichi

Service followed by a shared meal (cold/finger foods only) and fellowship in Cathedral Memorial Hall

Information: Marianna Stack mlstack@nbnet.nb.ca/506-696-4357

The Rev. Gordon Thompson (gordon.thompson@anglican.nb.ca)

The Rev. Christopher McMullen (christopher.mcmullen@anglican.nb.ca)

YOUTH



Young people and their chaperones from Trinity and St. Mark's youth groups in Sussex spent their March break on a mission to Mexico. They are, left to right, back row; Adam Reicker, Elizabeth Barrett, Brennan Caines, Allan Tapley, Kevin Ans, Andrew Mercer, Thomas Ans; front row Channen Cripps, Becky Marks, Daran Caines, Marilyn Mercer, Pat McCaig, Brandon Tingely, Nik Irvine.

Life-changing mission to Mexico

BY ELIZABETH BARRETT

March break was an incredible experience for the 15 members of Trinity and St. Mark's youth group, Sussex. Going to Mexico, seeing the extreme poverty and doing what we could to change it, was nothing short of life changing.

As part of Youth With a

Mission (YWAM) and working with Homes of Hope, we built a home for a family in need in Mazatlan.

We lived at the YWAM base and worked with two carpenters. It was humbling to see the poverty that the people of the neighbourhood lived with and yet how happy they were.

Members of our group

gave their sunglasses to two of the girls who we built the house for, and we were all touched and surprised by their reactions. The two girls, who were eight and 13, acted like it was Christmas.

The night we gave the house keys to the family was one of the best moments of my life. The family was so happy it was amazing. When

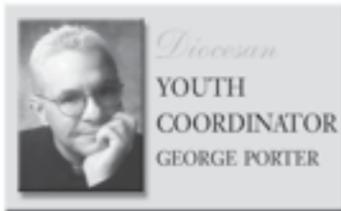
the house was finished, we went to an orphanage to help out, after that we went to the market and the beach.

The members of the Mexico Mission Team would like to thank everybody who helped us to reach our goal. We couldn't have gone to Mexico without your donations, prayers and support of our fundraisers.

I'm curious, George ... How do I read the Bible contextually?

This is a complex question, and my answer might prove somewhat heavy going. It is trite but true to say of our approach to biblical writings that 'text without context is pretext.' Anyone can make passages say just about anything by pulling bits and pieces of scripture out of their contexts. Doing so can lead down roads of misunderstanding. When we support what we already believe by using isolated verses we are proof texting; when we read into a text what we want it to say we can be accused of eisegesis — I call it magical reading, a sort of haphazard reading like some sort of spiritual horoscope. I consider these short cuts — attempts at avoiding the harder work of reading in context.

Contextually is something of a buzzword with multiple shades of meaning, but there are a couple of key senses in which reading our scriptures



contextually is vitally important. The gist of one is the reality of our individual, personal contexts. There is a sense in which the way I read the Bible contextually and the way you read it contextually will differ in varying degrees. That difference will depend on how much the individual contexts our own lives diverge. I hope to talk more about that another time.

There is, however, a prior, more basic, significance. Context essentially refers to that which surrounds a word or passage. This is its environment, and looking at this environment is essential to our understanding.

Take, for example, the simple word bat. Is it a

wooden stick for hitting a ball? the act of hitting something? a small nocturnal creature that flies about eating insects and getting caught in your hair? something you do with your eyelashes; or a crotchety older person? It all depends on the context in which the word is used, doesn't it? It all depends on its environment.

So the first sense of reading the Bible contextually is to take into account the environment of a biblical passage because it shaped what was written, why it was written as it was, and what we are to make of it now. Paying attention to the context allows us to better understand what the writer was trying to communicate and why s/he wanted to say something at all. It also influences how we now apply the passage in our lives.

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



George's Recommended Resources

Changing Lives: Transformational Ministry and Today's Teens
Lisa-Marie Calderone-Stewart
Dayton: Pflaum Publishing Group, 2004

This book is a practical guide to ministry with teens written by a Roman Catholic youth worker and educator. It is concise, readable and exciting. The author will be one of the presenters at Generation 2008, the national gathering of Anglican youth workers at Huron University College in London, ON June 10 through 15, and her book will be one of the free resources provided to participants. Also available at www.tomorrowspresent.org/

More Than a Label: Why What You Wear or Who You're With Doesn't Define Who You Are

Aisha Muharrar
Minneapolis: Free Spirit Publishing, 2002).

A COUPLE of years ago, on a ski trip to New Hampshire with a youth group from our diocese, I presented a study which asked questions about the effects of labelling people. It generated discussions that continue today. This book is written for young people by a young person and deals with the realities of the effects of labels in the lives of young people.

NATIONAL INITIATIVES

Capt. Bonnie Hunt, who was involved in parish and diocesan youth ministries here before she moved to Calgary, and the Rev. Lyle Adams from the Diocese of Caledonia, are part of a Youth Ministry



Initiatives Task Force struck by the Council of General Synod to consider how the national church might be involved in promoting youth ministries in our dioceses and parishes. George Porter, our diocesan Youth Action Director, is also part of this group that met recently at Huron University College in London, Ontario. George is also connected with an ad hoc committee considering a national certification program for those involved in youth ministries.

Ready, Set ... Register!

Summer is only a few short weeks away. The camp shirts are ordered, the staff is hired and preparations are in full swing at Camps Brookwood, Medley (check the new look website linked to <http://anglican.nb.ca>), Choir School and St Michael's Conference. Spaces fill up fast so register today!

