



The Rev'd Gerry Poirier and The Rev'd Stella Mills ordained priests

At St. Martin's Cathedral in Gander, on the 19th of June 2024, The Rt. Rev'd John E. Watton ordained The Rev'd Gerry Poirier and The Rev'd Stella Mills to the the priesthood. Both clergy have served as deacons in the Diocese of Central Newfoundland prior to their ordinations to the priesthood. Rev'd Gerry and Rev'd Stella will continue their ministries in the joint Parishes of Twillingate – Gander Bay. -submitted with photographs by Archdeacon Terry Caines



Confirmation at The Holy Cross

On June 23, 2024, the Parish of The Holy Cross welcomed Bishop Sam Rose for a service of confirmation. Pictured above is Bishop Sam, The Rev'd Jason Haggstrom (rector), and the newly confirmed. - submitted by The Rev'd Jason Haggstrom

Sowing Seeds



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“Flowers in May Cafe”

St. Peter’s Anglican Church, CBS

Article and photographs by
Ruth Carew

In the month of May, when our weather can often be cold and dreary, our ACW wanted to get the message out that “spring is on the way.” We made plans to sponsor a “Flowers in May Cafe” and baked goods sale. The cafe took place on May 4th. It was a time for people to sit back, relax, and enjoy a fancy tea party, some entertainment, and the company of good friends. The seating was arranged so that people could reserve a table for those in their group. All of the tables displayed the cafe’s flower theme.

Reverend Bill opened the event with a welcome and devotions, while Lori Bonnell-King set the mood for the afternoon by providing background piano music. Reverend



Bonnie Morgan earned lots of laughs by singing her “mustard pickle song,” which she composed when the famous Zest mustard pickles were taken off the market. The event turned out to be very relaxing for our elderly ACW seniors, who typically do all the leg work for events like this.

We extend a special thanks to the younger generation who stepped up to the plate by serving

and cleaning up after while us older folks settled in to enjoy the afternoon with our friends. The party was a huge success, with about 70 people in attendance. As people headed home from the event, many eagerly expressed their interest in when our next cafe would take place. We expect it will happen in early December when we traditionally hold our “Candy Cane Cafe.”



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ANGLICAN LIFE
NEWSPAPER FOR THE THREE ANGLICAN DIOCESES IN
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR



The Rev'd Michael Li
Columnist

What Does Matthew 18:20 Mean?

In 1990, I met the late Ron Clarke in Gander. The writings of Canon Frank Cluett, the Rev. Everett Hobbs and Ron Clarke had inspired me to follow their footsteps. On May 19, 2024, I celebrated my golden ordination anniversary to the priesthood. Now is the time to say good-bye to all Anglican Life readers. I thank God for the opportunity of writing 221 articles since September 1990. All interested persons are welcome to contact me (rev.li.wing.bew@hotmail.com), if they would like to receive my "Personal Reflections" by email.

Confession is good for the soul. I do not have answers to many questions including the following: What is the origin of life? What is the relationship between divine sovereignty and quantum indeterminism? Why does

God allow evil? Why are there so many different Christian interpretations? Why is loving others often so difficult? Do we have any dating advice for hermaphrodites? What is the cosmos expanding into?, etc.

In this article, I would like to answer just one question: "What does Matthew 18:20 mean?"

The Bible is a gift to us from God. Understanding the cultural, historical, and grammatical issues that go into biblical interpretation can be challenging at times. "Ignoring the Context" is perhaps the most common mistake when it comes to misused or misinterpreted Bible passages.

Matthew 18: 15-20 prescribes confrontational process for dealing with conflict within the church. Most of us do not want to deal with any church conflicts. Matthew 18:19-

20 seem to say that God will do anything that two or more believers agree should be done. But that is not true. In Matthew 18:20, Jesus said: "For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:20 seems to tell us that Jesus will be wherever two or three believers gather in his name.

I wish we could understand Matthew 18:20 at face value—that Jesus will be there when two or more believers get together. Many people have used this Bible verse out of context. For a long time, I myself have taken Matthew 18:20 out of context by saying that, "Jesus will be spiritually present wherever two or three believers gather in his name." We often hear Matthew 18:20 used in churches in this way: "God, we thank you that when two or more are gathered

in your name you are with us. Our congregation is small, but we can thank you for your presence".

It sounds very nice. But consider this: If God is only with us when two or more believers are gathered, what about when I pray alone? We know that whenever the church worships God, Jesus is there. We also know that anytime a believer prays privately Jesus is there too. So that brings the question: is this Bible verse even about prayer?

In order to understand exactly what Jesus means in Matthew 18:20 we have to look at the context. The surrounding verses are about sin and discipline in the church (Matthew 18:15-17). Matthew 18:18 gives assurance that, when the process of church discipline is followed, God is working in it. And then, Matthew 18:19-20 gives a final assurance.

The context of "where two or three come together in my name" has to do with church discipline and the confrontation of the sinning Christian brother. According to Matthew 18:16, we need "two or three witnesses" to make an accusation. It seems that the mention of "two or three" in Matthew 18:20 echoes that principle; the "two or three" are confronting sin in the church. In other words, the two or three who gather in Jesus' name are not coming together in a prayer meeting or a worship service but in a matter of church discipline. Jesus is with us in the whole process of church discipline.

In conclusion, we must not use Matthew 18:20 to comfort ourselves when our church attendance is low. Also, we must not forget that Jesus is present with us always.

A big THANK YOU to The Rev'd Michael Li as he finishes his time as a columnist for Anglican Life. 221 columns is no small accomplishment, and his contributions have been a staple of Anglican Life for many years. His Biblical focused columns have been a pleasure, and we wish him all the very best for the future!



Important Facts About Meaningful Funerals

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Sowing Seeds—Growing Community—A Match Made in Heaven

Article and photographs by
The Rev'd Fred Marshall

This is a follow-up to an article in the May 2023 edition of Anglican Life (which can be found online at: <https://anglicanlife.ca/sowing-seeds-growing-community/>)

All things happen in God's time. In the article in May of 2023, we were hoping to have seeds planted by that spring. You may recall that last spring was very wet and farmers were late getting their own land prepared and crops planted, and as a result, we could not get a tractor!

Bishop Sam sent the following:
Praying for a TRACTOR

This may seem outrageous to some, but I am praying right now for a TRACTOR!

Our Diocese is working to feed the hungry through an initiative called Sowing Seeds—Growing Community. We have set aside an acre of farmable land we own to plant food which will go directly to local Food Banks to provide free fresh produce to be distributed to those who need it. But we need a tractor and someone to help us! So, my prayer is:

Creator God, I know there is someone who might read this post and think, "I might be able to help." If someone is thinking that right now, that is You speaking to them to help, so please move them to reach out. May you bless our efforts to serve those who will benefit from your Creation by being fed by the food you will produce. Help us Creator God, to help others. Amen."

If you are able to SHARE this post, please do so! - Bishop Sam

Lo and behold, a local farmer, Bobby Searle, from Goulds, came forward with a tractor. The land did not get turned until the fall, however, this may have been a blessing as now the turned sod would rot over the winter. This spring, the weather was more wet than last year. Bobby showed up in June and prepared our land for planting.

In the meantime, we had applied for and received a grant of \$5000 from the Anglican Foundation of Canada. Thank you, Lord.

We were ready to "Sow Seeds," but that is only half of our project. We want to also "Grow Community."

At that time, we did not know that there were several groups



in our local community who were wanting to plant a garden help feed the less fortunate—the same idea we had. Another group had funding, including a \$5000 donation from the Goulds Lions Club. The group also included a young lady, Amy Williams, who is an Ocean Wise alumni, and through that program had she drafted a community garden project that would educate people about farming and food sustainability, while also providing healthy food for those in need. Amy had obtained funding for a community garden which would enable the construction of 12 planter boxes. But this group had an issue: they had no land.

There is a common thread in all of this. Suzanne McCormack, part-time parish secretary at

St. Paul's, is also a part-time worker at the Gould's Recreation Association. Suzanne was aware of both groups and brought us together. Thank you again, Lord.

In May of this year, the Goulds Recreation Association, Goulds Lions Club, Kilbride to Ferryland Family Resource Centre, Goulds Community Food Bank, St. Kevin's Roman Catholic Parish, and St. Paul's Anglican Church came together. This was a match made in heaven. Thank you, Lord.

As soon as the weather permitted, we planted 12 x 50lb bags of seed potatoes, carrots, and turnip.

However, we encountered another issue. This being the wettest spring in over 100 years, the lower part of the acre of land we had prepared last fall was too

wet to trench for planting. We only had enough room for the potatoes. After a little looking around, one of St. Paul's parishioners, Lena Ruby, offered four 90-foot prepared drills in her backyard which gave us space for carrots. St. Paul's has planter boxes behind the church and we have planted turnip in those. Thank you, Lord.

On a sunny summer evening in July, Bishop Sam blessed the gardens. Over 50 members of the local community, including members of all our partner groups, showed up to take part in the beautiful service of blessing. We look forward with positive anticipation in providing fresh produce to the less fortunate this fall. Amen!



Bishop John Watton
Central Newfoundland

Time To Get Connected

Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed.” (Mark 1:35)

Remember back in time with me. Every September, English teachers made you write an essay: “What I did on my summer vacation.” Here’s mine, sort of. Actually, it is a reflection, and a few questions from what I focused on and learned during my summer holidays.

In July, for the first time in years I was very intentional about shifting my focus and energies. I knew it was time for a break. One of my shifts was to leave social media behind for the whole month and stay away from the cell phone as much as possible.

I discovered that I was actually set free to pay attention to what my heart has been saying for quite a while: “You need to be faithful in seeking balance for your life and vocation.”

I have been faithful in withdrawing three times every day for quiet time and reflection. Many people meet me in the results of this daily process, as I have also been faithful, twice a day, in sharing prayers that come from this time aside.

On my break, I chose to come aside in a different way. It was my intent to focus on music, exercise, conversation, good food, getting back to nature, and a bit of romance too. I am here now to share some observations and a few questions with you.

My wife and I were enjoying a sunset walk around the boardwalk at Cobbs Pond in Gander. By the time we reached the final stretch, eventide’s still, magical, holy time of fading light had descended. We were walking and holding hands. It was a tender moment for sure. Just to our left, I noticed a couple sitting in a park Gazebo. They were across from each other. The lady was looking at the man. He was looking at his cell phone. She was in shadow. His face was illuminated by the light from his screen.

The next morning, while out for a stroll I noticed a man walking a dog. Doggie was pretty happy; you could tell by the wagging tail, and energetically doing what dogs do. Guy was on his cell phone, oblivious to both sidewalk and



Photo by David Griffiths on unsplash.com

his pet. A little later on, I saw a teenager on a pedal bike heading up the road with no helmet—on a cell phone.

We went to a nice restaurant. Across from our table there was another couple. Their menus were in front of them, unread. Both were engaged with their cell phones.

It gets better.

We left Walmart one evening and headed for the exit in our vehicle. A woman was walking in. She was in the middle of the parking lot road, taking her sweet time browsing on her cell phone. She was completely oblivious as to where she was, or the fact that a line of cars was trying to get through. I was at the lead of that line. I crawled along patiently right behind her, not wanting to startle. I’ll be honest with you: I really wanted to blow my horn.

I am pretty sure that you have a tablet, laptop, home computer, or a smartphone. You are probably using Facebook and/or other social media accounts. Assuming this is so, let me ask you my first challenging question: *Have you ever found yourself ignoring someone who is trying to hold a conversation with you, a friend or family member who may even be in the same room as you, because you are totally engrossed or distracted by something on your device?*

Another question: *What’s up with that? Or: What on earth are we allowing to happen with the relationships that may be ours, because we are constantly gravitating toward a totally different energy and space?*

We live in a time when people are really feeling alone. Part of the growth of that phenomena has come from relationships with “virtual reality.” Throughout society, folks are being bombarded by constant possibilities of meaningful contact through making and reading social media posts, really short videos, memes, rant and roar groups, and by posting every symptom or opinion that affects us in the hope that someone will think that what we have to say (or our life experience, wealth and vacations) is awesome enough to share with the whole world. The other side of that, of course, is that we hope someone out there will care and understand our hurts and worries and desire to be wealthy, and on vacation anywhere but here.

You can find pictures of sumptuous meals alongside of posts expressing deep concern over not being able to buy food for the kids. Folks showing off their awesome travels alongside of people who cannot pay rent or find a place to live. *What kind of community is that?*

Either way, the reward is most likely not mutual conversation, but you just might get a “like”, a heart, or a thumbs up. Or get an “I feel for you” or “I’m Jealous!” We are searching for something to show that someone is paying attention. At least these responses are “something.”

More and more I am convinced that we all need authenticity in relationship, and solitude. See if this fits for you: We live in a time when people are really feeling alone.

We live in a time when people are desperate not to be alone.

We live in a time when people need more time alone.

Let me unpack this:

It seems to me that most of us feel that if we are not constantly trying to engage, respond and comment quickly online, something is wrong with us.

Think of the examples I just shared with you. I watch people at stop signs, in supermarkets, watching television, and while walking and talking to others. In several provinces I have watched people at checkouts engaged with their phones while the cashier was ringing in their purchases. Here are real people, interacting with trade and commerce: a great opportunity to be real. I have seen one or both intentionally ignoring each other in favour of getting this done while engaging with cell phone posts and messages. Give most of us a few free seconds, and we will grab up the phone or tablet and “check something.” No one wants to be alone it seems.

When was the last time you listened to a full song, read a poem from a book, drew a picture, or even had an awesome daydream? When was the last time you created something that came from you? Why not take a pencil and paper and just draw something? Even stick people have character!

When was the last time you looked into your heart, or the heart of someone you love? When was the last time we looked inward instead of outward?

These are the places where God is waiting to have conversations with you.

Jesus reminded us that we need quiet, refreshment, and solitude.

Throughout the Biblical narrative quiet surrender of body, heart, and mind brought closeness to the Holy. Psalm 46 is a call to reflect on the works of God in History and in the lives of each person. “Be still and know that I am God.”

Jesus’ taking times to be alone is constant in the Gospels. In the wilderness he prepared to begin ministry. In remote places he prepared for difficult situations.

⇒ see *Watton* page 6

Updates from Western Newfoundland

Photographs and captions by
Dr. Doreen Helen Klassen



The Venerable Charlene Laing was installed as an Archdeacon of the Diocese of Western NL by The Rt. Rev'd John Organ at The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Corner Brook on Sunday, May 5th. She is shown here with clergy and Eucharistic Assistants from the diocese.



The Primate, The Most Rev'd Linda Nichols, is shown here with several Diocese of Western NL clergy. The Primate and several PWRDF (Primate's World Relief and Development Fund) Board members participated in the June 9th service of Holy Eucharist at The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Corner Brook following the annual in-person PWRDF Board meetings held June 6-8. Pictured are: The Rt. Rev'd Adam Halkett (PWRDF Board), the Primate, The Very Rev'd Catherine Short, and The Rt. Rev'd John Organ; back row: The Rev'd Canon Terrance Coates, The Rev'd Canon Paulette Bugden, The Rev'd Nicole Critch, The Venerable Charlene Laing, and The Most Rev'd Percy Coffin.



Michael Barrett was ordained to the Diaconate by Bishop John Organ at The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Corner Brook on Sunday, July 14th. Shown with Dean Catherine Short and the Bishop, Rev'd Michael Barrett will serve at the Cathedral.

Watton

from page 5

It's how he cared for his soul while receiving strength and clarity. It is how he taught his disciples to live. Are we not followers or at least students of Jesus?

I have been reminded of these things and I wish to share them with you.

Solitude is essential for having conversations with yourself. In solitude, the Spirit is able to help us rediscover the joy of (and challenge) of simply being with ourselves, and discover that we are real and important.

Perhaps then we might even become more attentive to the people who are actually part of our lives. With the Creator's help

we may be amazed at a fresh journey where people are able to tell the story of their lives to others who actually listen with the intention to understand and know the joy and sorrow, success and loss. wealth and poverty that our lives are made of. Surely loving conversation and generosity around these things can be more than two sentence comments or loads of pictures about how good or bad we have it shared on Facebook or Instagram.

If you have questions about how society is being affected by "online life" or Artificial intelligence, please take time to contact Queen's College and have

a chat with Dr. Joanne Mercer or Rob Cooke. They are leading the college through some important discussions in this area, and would be glad to have a conversation with you.

There is much more that I want to write about this. For now, I promise myself and you that I will continue to withdraw daily for prayer, that I will pray for people, and be present for others. When I meet you, I'll put away my phone, look into your eyes, and breathe along with you.

Let me leave you with this:

As we move into another fall season, I pray that we will make a commitment to creating and

visiting sacred spaces. These spaces, should be wherever you are with someone else. A dinner or lunch table, supermarket checkout lines, while watching a movie with a loved one, the car, the garden, or while you are out for a walk.

May these become holy places of conversation, friendship, attentiveness and healing.

Creator, give us each an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. Amen

Honoring Our Earthly Home: A Call To Stewardship and Action

Article by Kelsey Fifield
Submitted with introduction and photograph
by Archdeacon Christine Lynch

In 2024, the Parish of Bay Roberts Coley's Point adopted renewing our baptismal covenant each month as one of our Set Sail strategic goals. We are asked, "Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain, and renew the life of the Earth?" This is an important promise in light of the current climate crises. I asked Kelsey Fifield, a member of our congregation, youth band, and choir, if she would speak to the congregation on April 21st, the day before Earth Day. Below is Kelsey's message to our parish which she has given permission to share with you.

So recently I'm sure you've all heard talk of Earth Day, when this wonderful planet that we are living on gets celebrated once a year. The earth took six days to become what it is; we all know the story of creation. God created light on day 1; the sky on day 2; the earth, seas, and vegetation on day 3; the sun and moon on day 4; animals of the air and sea on day 5; and land animals and humans on day 6. As it says in Genesis 2:15 "the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work and take care of it." And for many years we did in many ways, and earth was healthy—there was no pollution and there were bountiful resources. But then came overhunting and overfishing; then the industrial era with fossil fuels, and wars with bombs, polluting our atmosphere with greenhouse gases, and starting global warming. Now, what happened to caring for God's creation?

Some people's opinions are that if God is so good, then he can fix global warming and just make it disappear. But we must remember this is the same God that gave his



son so freely to die for our sins. When Jesus was being taken to die on the cross, God didn't stop it, because he had a plan, he had a plan for Jesus' resurrection to demonstrate the power of God. God has a plan for everything, and I believe that he wants us to realize what we are doing to this beautiful world he gave us and know we can turn it around if we try.

So now you might say, "How can I help with glaciers melting, water levels rising and warming, and the earth heating up rapidly? What can I do?" I know you've heard everything already, cause so have I. The number of presentations I've had as a high school student on climate change is mind blowing. Make sure you recycle, and turn off lights, don't leave the tap running, or don't let

your car idle, and I'm sure we've all been told not to litter. But how many of us really do it? Because I know for a fact that I leave the tap running until the water is just the right temperature. I like a good long shower at the end of the day, and I do forget every now and then to turn off the lights when I leave a room. I know it can be hard to keep everything in mind all the time, but even if you just pick one thing a year to try to help, or even by picking up litter on Earth Day: every bit counts.


So throughout the year, try adding some wildflowers to your garden, or plant a tree in your backyard. There are treaties that you can sign against plastics. This year a group called "Youth vs Plastics" has a treaty that is asking for a 60% reduction in plastics by the year 2040. The usage of plastic has been cut down drastically but it's still not where it needs to be. Using things like Tupperware containers instead of plastic bags cuts down on plastic usage, and all these things work toward a healthier planet and us taking care of God's creation. So on the 22nd of this month, tomorrow, we celebrate Earth Day, but today we are celebrating the baptism of Beau and in these baptismal vows there are many important questions that ask of faith and character but more specifically there is a question that asks: "Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect sustain and renew the life of the earth?" Then the response is: "I will with God's help." How true, we do everything with God's help. God is truly our backbone.

Recently I joined a group at my school called Alpha, and at Alpha we talk about faith and watch videos based on certain topics. Recently we watched one about

prayer, and it says that when you feel alone, you are not because God is there, ready and waiting to listen to your prayers and he truly does. Upon taking this vow of stewardship with God's help, you are promising him that you will be a steward of his land, because that was God's intention for us. As I said earlier, in Genesis 2:15 it says, "the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work and take care of it." God wants us to take care of this earth, the beautiful place that we live, so by cutting down on emissions and plastic waste we can slow down climate change and eventually bring it to a stop. That's what we all want: we want to answer God's call to look after the beautiful earth where we live, not only for him but for future generations. I want my children to experience the earth in its beauty. I want them to know what polar bears are and not because they are extinct. Some people may think we are too far gone, but I think that is the farthest from the truth. If we all dedicate ourselves, with God's help, to the way he wants us to treat the earth all will be well.

To finish off, I'd like you all to join me in a prayer that I saw recently, from the Anglican Diocese of Australia. Let us pray.


Holy God, earth and air and water are your creation, and every living thing belongs to you: have mercy on us as climate change confronts us. Give us the will and the courage to simplify the way we live, to reduce the energy we use, to share the resources you provide, and to bear the cost of change. Forgive our past mistakes and send us your Spirit, with wisdom in present controversies and vision for the future to which you call us in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



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Easter in Deer Lake with The Vera Perlin

Article by Canon Jeffrey Petten
 Photographs by Karen Lush

On Friday, 5 April, 2024, the congregation of St. Michael and All Angels', Deer Lake, hosted the Annual Easter Party for the Deer Lake Vera Perlin Association for Community Living. The Vera Perlin (as it is locally known) has been active in Deer Lake for over 50 years under the leadership of "The Hayden Sisters," Louise Beck, Irene Hewitt, and Myra Spence. It has been tradition over the years that we host the Easter Party, and this year was no exception. In sharing a meal, the telling of the Easter Story, a treat from the Easter bunny, and of course a sing-a-long with the Wildwood Singers from Cormack, all who gathered had a very enjoyable time.

Without any doubt, the congregation looks forward to this event every year as not only do we have parishioners who are part of the Vera Perlin, but we love hosting all of them for such an event. All that has to be said a few weeks before the event is that we are doing it, and everyone

will literally bend over backwards to make sure that this event goes off as very successfully as it does ever year. The joy and the happiness that is felt by the clients of the Vera Perlin brings feelings of happiness and satisfaction that words cannot express.

Personally speaking, I have a fondness for the Vera Perlin, as in the 1990's my late sister had employment as a respite worker for those who have intellectual and physical disabilities. Due to this, all that someone has to say in question form is that it is "For the Vera Perlin," and I cannot say the word "no." Although we may look at such people as being "disabled," they have the greatest ability to show to the wider community, and to the Church, the love of God, and the love that we should have for one another. We look forward to other ways in which we can work with the Vera Perlin and without a doubt, next year we will do this again.



Photographs:

At the top of the page, the gathered crowd

Right top: the Hayden sisters with the Easter Bunny

Right middle: the kitchen crew with the Easter Bunny

Right bottom: Canon Petten with the Easter Bunny

Below: The Wildwood Singers



Roy Hillier Celebrated in Bay L'Argent

Submitted with photographs by
The Rev'd Charlie Cox

On Sunday, June 2nd, 2024, a parish service of the Holy Eucharist took place at St. Hilda's, Bay L'Argent. Following the service, a time of thanksgiving and celebration was held, at which a traditional "cup of tea" took place for long time Lay Reader, Mr. Roy Hillier. After 36 years of active leadership, Roy has decided to step back from regular duties. The Rev'd Charlie Cox, Regional Dean of the Burin Deanery, led worship and presented Roy with a certificate of appreciation on behalf of Bishop Watton. In attendance were people from all around the Burin Peninsula which added to the spirit of joy and celebration. We give God thanks for Roy's ministry among us and wish him well. Thanks be to God.



Above: Roy Hillier reads the Gospel; Top right: Rev'd Cox, LLM Roy Hillier, LLM Audrey Barnes, Eucharistic Assistant Shirley Herritt, LLM Daphne Bonnell, LLM Herb Banfield; Near right: Rev'd Cox Regional Dean, presents Roy Hillier with his certificate on behalf of Bishop Watton; Bottom right: Roy Hillier cutting his cake



Fun at the fire department

The above photographs are from a fun night that the confirmation class from Holy Cross parish (Norman's Cove) had with the local fire department. The firefighters talked about volunteering in the community. They played a game that was referred to as "Firefighter Jeopardy," answering firefighters' knowledge questions, and getting prizes for correct answers. Then there was time for putting on the turn out gear and learning about the trucks and how to put out fires of different kinds. A special "Tip of the Hat" to Assistant Chief Mike Hurley who arranged the evening. -article and photographs by The Rev'd Jason Haggstrom



Musician Honoured For Her 70 Years of Service

On Sunday May 5th, the congregation of All Saints' Church in Tilton held a celebration to mark 70 years of musical ministry given to the church by Mrs. Clarice Adams. In appreciation for being a long time dedicated organist, the church held a beautiful service followed by a delicious meal in her honour. She has been a valuable part of the church, its services, and committees all her life. The church wishes her good health and is hoping that her musical ministry will continue for many years to come.

Pictured here on the left is Mrs. Clarice Adams, and on the right is Mrs. Patsy Gosse (who was actually her first music teacher). Mrs. Gosse herself has been a lifetime organist and has served as a dedicated organist for Holy Redeemer Church in Spaniard's Bay for at least 60 years. Sincere gratitude and congratulations to them both for their dedication and commitment to the parish.



Emily F. Rowe
Editor, Anglican Life

A New Year of Anglican Life: Submission Tips and Updates

Welcome back to another year of Anglican Life. While the calendar year starts on January 1st and the Church year begins with Advent Sunday, we align our publishing schedule with the school year, releasing ten issues from September to June.

Before my summer break I attended the Anglican Editors' Association conference in Toronto at the end of May. This annual event, held in different locations across the country, brings together editors of diocesan and multi-diocesan newspapers for workshops, presentations, and fellowship. It was particularly enriching this year, as we had the opportunity to connect with people from the national church, The Anglican Journal, and PWRDF. Post-conference, I've made a few minor changes to our layout, though nothing too drastic.

September's issue is always a big one, incorporating several months' worth of submissions. While I've tried to include everything, some stories may have to wait until the October issue. So I think it's a good time to revisit our submission process for Anglican Life, and how content is chosen for the paper.

I aim to make the submission process accessible to everyone. Each issue includes upcoming deadlines and submission guidelines (you'll find this month's on page 7). Photos should be sent as separate files in the largest format you have available. Arranging stories and photos for the paper is my responsibility, so there's no need to worry about layout.

When writing, simplicity is key. Use plain English and avoid overly complex words. Please double-check your submissions for spelling and grammar, though I do review everything. My goal is for your work to maintain your voice, so the less editing I need to do, the better.

Please keep Anglican Life in mind for parish events. Most

How To Write For



- Take both group photos and candid photos at a Church Event
- Keep the text simple and easy to understand
- Send photos (large format) and articles in separate files
- Email it all to the Editor at: anglicanlifenl@gmail.com

mobile phones can take high-quality photos, which are easy to send. Candid shots are often more engaging, so feel free to send multiple images; I'll select those that best fit in the layout.

Finally, like many publications, we face rising costs in printing and mailing. I organize stories as they arrive, so although the deadline for the October issue is September 1st, we may have a full paper earlier. While I want to include everything, space constraints sometimes mean stories have to be postponed to the following issue. The sooner you submit, the better the chance your story will be featured in the next Anglican Life.

Thank you for your continued support. I look forward to sharing your stories about the wonderful work God is doing in our communities across Newfoundland and Labrador!

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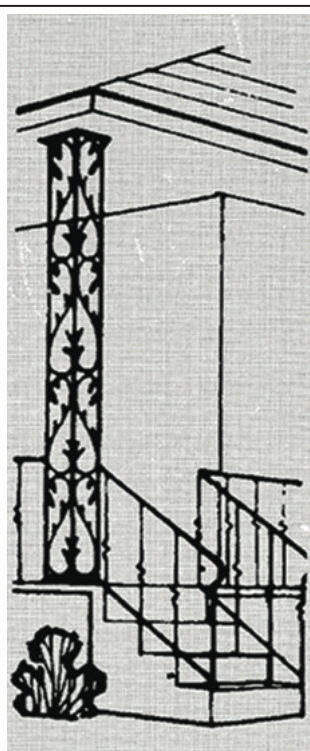
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Confirmation at The Ascension, Mount Pearl

Article and photographs by
Jean Nash

Sunday, June 16th, was a very special Sunday at the Church of the Ascension, as Bishop Samuel Rose was present for the service of confirmation. Let us pray for those six young people that, having received the sacrament of confirmation, the Holy Spirit will ever be with them, and that they will continue to aim to serve God throughout their lives. Amen.



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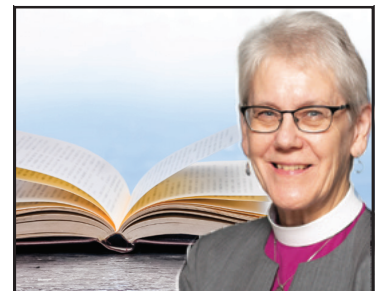
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Chancel Chat: Bishop Sam and Canon Jotie

St. John the Evangelist, Topsail

Article by Louise Smith
Photograph by Pauline Noel

Our journey through life is one unpredictable adventure, where I'm sure there are times when we all face tribulations and the fear of facing apparent defeat.

There is no better example of this period in all our lives than when COVID-19 invaded the world, when four years ago, it even crept into our little corner of the universe. This noteworthy event had a most significant effect on our lives at the time, and recovery to life as we knew it, is still latent in its manifestation.

For those of us who acknowledge church activity as an important aspect of our existence, the deprivation of affiliation at the period when COVID-19 prevailed, still has a lingering effect on our congregations.

At the height of the pandemic wearing masks was mandatory, and churches were actually closed for a period. In the interim, the primary form of worship was conducted online. Apparently, a majority of churchgoers got comfortable with online worship, and were reluctant to resume as formerly when COVID-19 somewhat subsided. We



seemed to be hanging on for dear life and concerned where God was leading us.

At this juncture, the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador realized the importance of sustainability in the Church and their shared responsibility in the preservation of our planet Earth. Thus the emergence or birth of "Creation Care and Stewardship." In May 2023, our Rev'd Jotie Noel was installed as a Canon of this new venture, alongside three other colleagues. At the same time, the congregation was introduced to the program with a distribution of the first edition of its "New Leaf" explanatory letter; it was the initiation of a new vision to broaden the parameters of our present Christian Ministries.

On May 26th, 2024, just a year later, we were blessed with the presence of Bishop Sam for a "Chancel Chat" with Canon Jotie.

The chat or question and answer period was an exchange emphasizing both sustainable planet and spiritual goals, and ambitions for the future. Progress achieved through team cooperation since the first "New Life" issue of Summer 2023 was acknowledged.

The topic for the "Chat" focused on the title, "SET SAIL."

Canon Jotie's first question was, "WHAT IS SET SAIL?"

Bishop Sam's reply was "SET SAIL" is a synonym for "MOVING FORWARD."

In an attempt to instigate a plan for

recovery, the Bishop used the analogy of the rowboat versus the sailboat. In other words, gradually moving forward as a strategy to achieve. In the past, no one missed Sunday morning worship, but that's not the norm today. So we have to learn to both row and sail. The plan may not be firm or flawless but "Set Sail" is a proposed method of survival.

The Bishop didn't say anything about closing congregations, but he did point out that neighbouring parishes may need help, and we should work together as discipleships in action.

In planning to "Set Sail", I will emphasize some important reminders that Bishop Sam mentioned that we should take into serious consideration.

- He stressed the significance of how we look at relationships with God and our promise at baptism, to create awareness of our responsibilities or what is expected of us.
- The importance of how we react to association with each other, and how we welcome new members to our congregation.
- Having a serious reaction

to stewardship in the protection of God's planet.

- Keeping in touch with neighbouring parishes by sharing our activities, such as expanding our various outreach programs.

Most importantly, we must have hope to trust in God in all things, have faith to believe, and courage to act.

Some progress of sustainability expressed in issue 2 of Creation Care and Stewardship offers encouragement to move forward in subsequent stages of the program.

As the most anticipated chat concluded, I'm sure we all became somewhat more cognizant of the expected role we all should play in the sustainability of both the church and the planet.

So at this juncture after expressing appreciation for their most informative conversation, everyone proceeded downstairs for fellowship and lunch, while Amanda's rendition of "Standing on the Wind" echoed special musical waves throughout the church.

*Life without God is like
An unsharpened pencil
It has no point.*

- Author unknown



New Wine Gospel Group's Concert in Codroy

On April 25th, The New Wine Gospel Group along with Willie Parsons (on accordion) entertained an audience at the Codroy Valley Fire Hall for a fundraiser for Holy Trinity Church. It was a wonderful evening with great music. The evening ended with a lunch and great fellowship.

-submitted with photographs by Linda Kendell and Eileen Keeping

PWRDF Board Sees Impact of Fiona and Reconciliation in Western Newfoundland

Article by Suzanne Rumsey
Public Engagement Coordination,
PWRDF

When Canada's national housing crisis is in the news, the small coastal town of Port aux Basques, Newfoundland isn't the first place that comes to mind. But almost two years ago, on September 24, 2022, Hurricane Fiona tore through that community of approximately 3,500 residents and destroyed over 130 homes. A further 57 are slated for demolition, since while they are still standing and habitable, they are in the path of the "next big storm." Because with climate change comes warming oceans and with them, evermore powerful storms.

Meeting in Corner Brook, Newfoundland, in the first week of June, the PWRDF Board of Directors and staff travelled south to visit Port aux Basques as well as the community of Burgeo, also on Newfoundland's south shore.

In Port aux Basques the group toured the town with Mayor Brian Button who described what happened during the storm and showed the now empty shoreline where homes once stood. Back at the St. James Anglican Memorial Hall, the Rev. Jane Allen and a number of women whose homes had been lost shared a lunch with board members and spoke about how the devastation and loss has affected their lives, but also about how family and community have sustained and upheld them.

A recurring refrain in the community prior to Hurricane Fiona making landfall was, "It's just another storm, and we've been through storms before," said Mayor Button. But warnings from provincial meteorologists pushed the town council to phone, text and go door to door, urging people to leave their homes. As a result, the loss of life was



Above and on the right: Drummers from Burgeo First Nation celebrated the construction of a gazebo at the Gathering Place with St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church. - photos by PWRDF



limited to one person. But Mayor Button also said that what was lost was more than physical structures and one life. More than 100 years of family histories and way of life were also lost as homes along the shore were washed away, while trauma and psychosocial needs remain.

Both Mayor Button and the women spoke about the generosity of the response from within and beyond Port aux Basques. The mayor noted that they received more toilet paper than they knew what to do with and surplus clothing was given to the Salvation Army for distribution to other communities. What remains is the lack of housing. The struggle with insurance companies and the government for compensation is for some, ongoing. Rebuilding is slow and some have left the community for good. Those who have stayed and rebuilt have relocated well away from the sea, which is both missed and feared.

As our delegation prepared to leave, we were shown two large, mounted photographs, gifted to the parish. They showed St. James, its lights on, shining brightly above the town; a beacon of hope in the days following the storm, responding to a request of community members

needing the assurance that Port aux Basques was still home.

Drummers from Burgeo First Nation celebrated the construction of a gazebo at the Gathering Place, with St. John's the Evangelist Anglican Church.

In Burgeo, a community of approximately 1,100 people, PWRDF board and staff took part in the dedication of the new Community Gathering Place on the site of the former church hall of St. John the Evangelist Anglican Church. The gazebo at the centre of the Gathering Place provided shelter on a rainy day as a group of women drummers from Burgeo First Nation, led by Chief Elaine Ingram, offered The Friendship Song. Bishop John Organ of the Diocese of Western Newfoundland blessed the new space and those gathered to celebrate its opening.

The dedication followed a lunch in the town's firehall with community members, and a service of thanksgiving. Those offering greetings included Chief Elaine, Mayor Sue Ann Peckford-Spencer, Melissa Mills, the Community Project Facilitator for the South Coast Fjords National Marine Conservation Area and National Park Project, and the Rev. Elsie Rose, of St. John the Evangelist.



Above: PWRDF Board members and staff representatives take time off from meetings to tour Port Aux Basques, NL, and learn about the impacts from Hurricane Fiona. - photo by PWRDF

These organizations, along with the Diocese of Western Newfoundland, the Burgeo Lion's Club and PWRDF through an Indigenous Responsive Grant, contributed to the realization of the project.

The Community Gathering Place is still under construction. Benches are to be added along with story boards that will tell the history of those who call this place home. They will be in two languages, English and Mi'kmaq for Burgeo is home to a significant and emerging Mi'kmaq population, constituted in 2016 as the Burgeo First Nation. Thus, the Gathering Place is envisioned by Bishop John and all those involved in the project, as a place for reconciliation.

"Growing up, we were taught that there were no 'Indians' in Newfoundland," said a participant at PWRDF's

Mapping Exercise the day before. In 1984, the Conne River First Nation was recognized and brought under the Indian Act. It wasn't until 2006 however that broader recognition took place. However, of the 110,000 Qalipu (Mi'kmaq) who applied for status in 2006, only 18,000 were recognized.

The Burgeo First Nation women asserted that, although some have received status and others have not, "We know who we are. We know this land is our home." As a part of claiming their Indigenous identity, the women drummers made the drums they played and the regalia they wore to welcome us. "It's the beat that makes me feel warm inside," said one of the drummers. They also praised the community it creates. One woman liked "the way it connects me to my Indigenous heritage."

60 Years of Providing Organ Music at St. James', Pool Island

Article and photographs by
Brenda Lee Goodyear

On February 2nd, 1964, a young girl named Nina Hoyles, walked through the doors of St. James' Anglican Church on Pool's Island. At just 14 years old, Nina was not shy at all to play the large church pump organ, and the years have flown by. Her first service was a very memorable one as it was one of Holy Baptism. Nina has played for many occasions, including weddings, burials, and anniversaries. She has very rarely missed a Sunday in those 60 years, except maybe one or two each year to visit family members who live out of town. We thank you Lord, for her gift and devotion. Nina's strength comes from you, as she plays this instrument to your glory. Since 2020, when St.



James' Church closed, Nina has continued to play the organ at St. Alban's Church in Badger's Quay. Sixty years later, in 2024, on that very same date of February 2nd, Nina gifted the congregation with music she played on the organ there. With deepest appreciation, we thank Nina for her dedication, strong faith, and love of worship.

In the photograph on the left, we see Nina Burry (nee Hoyles) on the right, Bishop John Watton in the middle, and on the left The Rev'd Renee Easton.

The photograph was taken when Nina was presented with her 60th year certificate on behalf of both the congregation and the Diocese of Central Newfoundland.

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The Rev'd Cynthia Haines-Turner
Columnist

Farewell and Thank You For Your Leadership to Archbishop Linda Nicholls

On September 15th, the Most Rev'd Linda Nicholls will retire from her position as Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada. Since she announced her retirement, there have been many opportunities to say goodbye to her, to say thank you to a faithful Anglican, priest, bishop, and primate.

Linda has a lifetime of ministry and service in the Church—ordained a deacon in 1985, priest in 1986, she served as a parish priest for almost twenty years in the Diocese of Toronto, as the Coordinator for Dialogue for Ethics, Interfaith Relations and Congregational Development with the General Synod, Area Bishop of Trent-Durham in the Diocese of Toronto and Bishop of the Diocese of Huron. She participated in ecumenical dialogue with the Anglican Roman Catholic International Commission III and in the Canadian Anglican Roman Catholic Dialogue. She was the first woman to be elected Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada



photo by E. F. Rowe

and only the second woman to be elected primate in the Anglican Communion.

As we say farewell to a faithful Primate, I want to add my voice

to the many who have expressed their appreciation.

I met Linda when I served on the Partners in Mission Committee and our paths crossed many times since then, including when she came to Pasadena to lead a parish retreat. Most recently, I worked with her as co-chair of the Planning and Agenda Team for the first four years of her primacy. I have found her to be a thoughtful, committed servant of God, passionate about caring for God's people and furthering God's mission.

You can see that in her pastoral response to Anglicans across the country as we struggled with the COVID-19 pandemic, when she wrote "During this difficult time of the pandemic, I want you to be assured that I am committed to supporting our diocesan and parish leadership and would be happy to accept invitations to worship (preach or participate), simply attend a coffee hour, study group, youth group, confirmation class or share in other online

gatherings during our isolation!" I know that she didn't just 'say' she was open to invitations, she accepted those invitations, being present electronically to people when they most needed the encouragement.

I watched her raise money for the Ride for Refuge of the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund as she took requests and played and sang favourite hymns, combining her love for music with her commitment to PWRDF. I have been aware of the many relationships she has cultivated internationally as she has been present and participated in that arena in such a way that makes us Canadian Anglicans proud. As in the time when she visited a PWRDF project in Kenya between other international commitments. It has been an honour for me to have been along for part of Linda's journey, to have been enriched by her ministry and again, I add my voice to the many who wish her joy as she continues in God's service, albeit in a different forum.

Recent Events at The Holy Cross

Submitted with photos by
The Rev'd Jason Haggstrom



Bishop Sam Rose visits shut-ins as part of the "Set Sail" diocesan plan



From a Tea by the Norman's Cove ACW for the residents of Green Mountain Lodge



Selfie by Archdeacon Charlene Taylor from the Induction service for The Rev'd Jason Haggstrom, January 25, 2024



The Rev'd James Spencer
Columnist

Lessons From Weird Al For Today's Christians

When I was in high school the anthem of my generation, the song which stirred the heart and made the energy flow, was "Smells Like Teen Spirit" by Nirvana. I must have listened to it countless times over the years. Even now, far beyond the rebellious years of my youth, when that song happens to show up on my playlist it makes me feel, for a few moments, the same proud, vibrant angst I knew at a time when I didn't really know anything.

There's another song. It's from the same period. It's called "Smells Like Nirvana," and it's by Weird Al Yankovic. Like most of Weird Al's hits, it's a parody. It's a reflection of the original in melody, but with wildly different lyrics giving a wildly different message. While "Smells Like Teen Spirit" is a disjointed expression of teen angst, "Smells Like Nirvana" is a very direct commentary on

Nirvana's loud and often incomprehensible music. It's written specifically to poke fun at this Seattle garage band, mocking them and the way they sing and play.

And I love it. Don't get me wrong. "Smells Like Teen Spirit" has deep personal meaning for me. It symbolizes a particular time in my life: the friends I had, the place I lived, and a bevy of experiences both good and bad. But "Smells Like Nirvana" does absolutely nothing to diminish that meaning. Sure, it's a joke at the expense of the original song and the original artists. In every way, it ridicules something important to me. But that doesn't mean I need to be offended. It doesn't even exclude liking the parody for its humour and its tribute.

Both can exist, and my world is no worse off for it.

And boy, do I wish that was a perspective

shared by more people. We seem to have reached a point in our society wherein "being offended" is somehow a valued state of being. Someone says or does anything which even appears to mock something, and in rushes the crowd, chanting righteous indignation and demanding cancellation of all that offends.

And, sadly, many Christians are right up there on the soap box. Most recently it has been the fiasco surrounding the Paris Olympics opening ceremonies, which included a scene which somewhat resembled Leonardo Da Vinci's "Last Supper," populated by drag queens. Christians all over the world began to steam at the ears. I couldn't touch social media without slamming headfirst into someone expressing how this was an attack on all that is good and holy, and that the Olympic Committee should be ashamed of itself.

And I ask you: what is the point? Christian faith is mocked and derided left, right and centre. Sometimes it is done through jokes and ridicule. Sometimes we're outright insulted. So what? I'm pretty sure our calling is to proclaim the Gospel to all people—not spend every waking minute getting all up in arms about every perceived slight that's out there. People made fun of Jesus too. He endured it and kept doing the good he was sent to do, without distraction.

A few weeks ago I saw a copy of Michelangelo's "Creation of Adam," but God had been replaced with the Flying Spaghetti Monster. Big whoop.

I don't know if the Olympic presentation was intended as a joke at Christian expense or not. It doesn't matter to me if the Da Vinci's "Last Supper" is shown with drag queens, white Europeans, or the cast of "Friends": it's just a picture. It's one artist's


interpretation of a Gospel event. Another artist may show it differently. I can accept the message as presented or reject it. And none of it has any bearing whatsoever on the grace given to me by the sacrifice of my Lord Jesus Christ. Even if, as Monty Python would have it, there was a kangaroo and a mariachi band!

It's idolatry, whenever we move the value of our faith from what God has done into someone's image of it. We can like the image. We can even allow the image to help us to consider and explore our faith. But the moment the image becomes so important that we replace love with outrage, then we've lost sight of what we're meant to be doing.

Believe me, no matter how offended you are, no amount of indignation will silence mockers as much as any amount of love.

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Mother's Day on Fogo Island

Article and photographs by Lisa Snow

The parishes of Fogo Island East and West held an Island-wide service for Mother's Day, which was on May 12th, 2024.

"Jesus said I am the vine; You are the branches, those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit because apart from me you can do nothing." (John 15:5) This was the verse on the bookmark that was passed out to all the ladies who attended the

service.

Rev'd Neal Buffett, with the assistance of Martin, preached on "Mother's love." It was precious. The word "WOW" turned upside down is "MOM."

Luncheon followed the service at Holy Spirit Hall. The youngest mother (who was Rev'd Beverly) and oldest mom (who was Molly Hewitt) cut the cake for us.



Rev'd Neal and Martin



Rev'd Beverly and Molly Hewitt



The Parish of The Holy Innocents



The Parish of St Mark's

PRIDE 2024

Article by Emily Rowe
photographs from parish Facebook pages

On Saturday July 21st, two parishes took part in the 2024 Pride Parade in St. John's. It was a beautiful, hot, sunny day, and everyone who took part had a great time.

At the "Out in Faith" event this year, there was a feeling of increased concern with rising hatred and discrimination against the LGBTQ+ community—that the world is once again turning to homophobia, transphobia, biphobia, etc. As a Church, it is essential to stand up against such hate, and to reassure everyone that God loves us, just as we are.



New Red Chasuble For Meadows

In the above photograph, we see the new red chasuble donated to Holy Trinity Church in Meadows by Walter and Sheila Tucker in memory of their son, Shannon. Right to left are The Rev'd George Critchell and lay minister Sheila Tucker. - submitted with photograph by The Rev'd George Critchell.

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Mount Pearl, please email: Capt. Ken Parsons at: kenparsons75@gmail.com

Paradise, please email: Khafre Pike at khafre.pike@gmail.com

Conception Bay North, please email: Major Wayne Lilly at: waynerlilly@yahoo.ca

Membership in the C.L.B. is open to everyone. The C.L.B. is divided into five age groups:

- Little Training Corp (L.T.C.) 5-7-year-olds Kindergarten to Grade 1
- Young Training Corp (Y.T.C.) 7-10-year-olds Grade 2-4
- Junior Training Corp (J.T.C.) 10-13-year-olds Grade 5-7
- Senior Corp (S.C.) 13- 18-year-olds Grade 8-12
- Officers/Leaders 19 and up



The C.L.B. is a historic youth organization that has been inspiring and nurturing young people since 1892. Our mission is to foster personal growth, leadership and camaraderie among our young members while instilling important values such as discipline, teamwork and respect for others.

Our youth members participate in various activities including sports, crafts, outings, and camps while learning valuable life skills that will benefit them in their future endeavours. The C.L.B. is committed to shaping the future generations of leaders and making a positive impact on the lives of young people.

Join our Brigade of weekly programs where we have fun and enhance your skills.

Join our band—weekly evening programs where we practice and perform music of all kinds.

Become a leader with easy and flexible options to help guide and grow our youth in our province.

Come visit us!
We want you to come and grow with us and here is how you can contact us:
Email: info@theclb.ca
Phone: 709-722-1737
Sincerely,
Colonel Sheila Mercer
Governor and Commandant of C.L.B.





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Summer Blessings From Upper Island Cove

Article and photographs by Nancy Lief

The Anglican Parish of Upper Island Cove is comprised of St. Andrew's Church in Bryant's Cove and St. Peter's Church in Upper Island Cove. And as you will soon read, we are blessed to now have re-instated a third official sacred space within the parish.

But first, let us rewind to April of this year. The Church Lad's Brigade (C.L.B.) Upper Island Cove Company #4547 was delighted to host the Annual C.L.B. Spring Parade. What a time it was to take in the lively energy of the Brigade with fellow comrades from both Avalon and Trinity Conception Battalions, as well as the beloved C.L.B. Regimental Band, who treated the congregation to their beautiful music during the church service. There were looks of surprise from the youth when Bishop Sam Rose opened his Sermon by pointing out The C.L.B. logo on his staff. The scripture of the day highlighted by Bishop Rose has been the motto of the C.L.B. for over 130 years and counting: Fight the Good Fight. A vibrant discussion with the youth then took place about the meaning of this timeless invitation, which included many insightful answers. Afterwards, a reception was hosted by The Royal Canadian Legion in Upper Island Cove. It was a heart-warming moment to see such strong community support for The C.L.B.. A group of people representing The Royal Canadian Legion, Loyal Orange Lodge, St. Peter's Church Vestry team, members of the Parish of Upper Island Cove, parents of the C.L.B. youth members, and many community members in attendance worked together to help facilitate

this large-scale event. The C.L.B. Regimental Band provided additional music at the reception for all to enjoy before travelling back to St. John's with members from the Avalon Battalion.

Moving forward to early June, a group of 26 youth were confirmed at St. Peter's Church. Pew by pew, confirmation candles and their brilliant flames carried by the newly confirmed, symbolized the renewal of baptismal vows and the vital energy of The Holy Spirit. A time of fellowship followed the service with Bishop Rose, the parish of Upper Island Cove ministry team, the confirmands, and their families.

Lastly, June 16th was a full and very special day for the Anglican Parish of Upper Island Cove. In the afternoon, the Annual Father's Day Memorial Service took place at St. Peter's Anglican Cemetery, hosted by the A.C.A.A. Branch #7. This service is a special tribute to past and current members of the A.C.A.A. over many generations. In fact, the service itself, is an intergenerational custom, held every year on Father's Day. It is an opportunity to gather together to honour the gift of their lives by singing those beautiful hymns played and passed down over the 200 years of our parish.

Later that evening, we were blessed with a visit from Bishop Rose, who, as we learned, led his first consecration service. The consecration of St. John the Evangelist Chapel was held that evening in the beautiful, newly reconstructed, lower part of St. Peter's Church, and references the third official sacred space in our parish as mentioned above. Equipped with



familiar essentials that travelled from St. John the Evangelist Church in neighbouring Bishop's Cove after its deconsecration only two years ago—also facilitated by Bishop Sam—these sacred items now have new life. They are once more the transitional objects which parishioners from Bishop's Cove use again in their journeys of faith. Much as early June saw a church full of vitality in the flames and faces of candles and confirmands,

it was another blessed evening indeed, as those in attendance witnessed the beloved St. John the Evangelist church “resurrect” in a stunning new form and bring with its transformation, the strength and hope of new life.

While it is true that the Church is not a building, and that God's love certainly exists outside the four walls of the church, many people who attended the packed chapel of this deeply memorable

and moving consecration service can attest that Church and God's love exist within the four walls of a church, too. The appreciation and emotion felt and shared regarding this physical sacred space—once lost and now found—was palpable throughout the service. Many hands and much generosity went into the rebirth and transformation of St. John the Evangelist. Some might say the transformation of this new chapel is quite divine.

News From Grand Bay

Articles and photographs by
Eileen Keeping



A Grand Bay Farewell for Rev'd Faye

June 30th, 2024 was The Rev'd Faye Coffin's last official service in St. Paul's Church in Grand Bay. A huge "thank you" to her for her five years of service to our Parish of Grand Bay. We wish her and Ossie all the best in her retirement. She has, without a doubt, touched many lives in our parish with her ministry, and for that we are very thankful. We shall miss her. The New Wine Gospel Group provided the music for the service, playing some of Rev'd Faye's favourites. There was a potluck lunch served after the service where Rev'd Faye received a gift from our vestry as well as other cards and gifts.



New Wine visits Lark Harbour

On July 21st St. Paul's New Wine Gospel group made a trip to Lark Harbour. They, along with a few members of our congregation, joined Rev'd Effie in the Saint James' Anglican Church service of song and praise on the last night of their "Come Home Year" celebrations. It was a beautiful service with music from our group and some local singers and musicians. It was wonderful to visit Rev'd Effie and her church family.

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