

# ANGLICAN LIFE

NEWSPAPER OF THE THREE ANGLICAN DIOCESES IN  
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

A Section of the ANGLICAN JOURNAL

September, 2018

## Bishop John Organ Consecrated Bishop And Installed In Western Newfoundland

### An interview with the new Bishop

Interview by Emily F. Rowe

Photographs from Bishop John Organ

*Following his ordination on June 25th, as the editor of Anglican Life, I reached out to Bishop John Organ for an article about that night. What I was offered was a chance to interview him about his impressions from that night, about our church, and about the church's future here in Newfoundland and Labrador.*

*On the night of your consecration, what was your first impression upon entering the Cathedral? Is there any one memory that you will always hold with you from the night of your episcopal ordination?*

sacred space. Prior to the Episcopal election, Irene and I spent time alone in the cathedral and I must have said "amazing" a dozen times as I noticed all the exquisite woodwork and the extraordinary stained-glass window of Christ the King. I could easily envision all those who came before us in faith who first thought of building such a beautiful church, dedicated to the Glory of God and for the good of God's people.

On the evening of the consecration all this beauty enveloped and enfolded the hundreds of faithful from all parts of the diocese who gathered

impression overall has been the grace and goodness of God and the love and support of God's people.

*When you were ordained a deacon, and then a priest, you were responding to a call that you felt directly from God. How is it different to be called to be a bishop, knowing that you were elected by the whole diocese?*

Yes, that is true. Ordination to the diaconate and priesthood is a calling one feels directly, at least initially, from God. It too, though, must be supported by the local parish, the diocese, and the formation process along the way. That being said, the call to be a bishop has the unique element of an Episcopal election. In my case, I was first approached by a member of a parish I once served asking me to allow my name to be put forward. Their encouragement was followed by that of several others. I spent some time in prayer and reflection and then allowed my name to be presented. I responded as best I could to the questions and requirements of the search committee and I then waited for the actual day of the election. I had no idea how it would go. I had no speech prepared in the event that I should be elected. In fact, I had made plans to take my summer holidays on a pilgrimage to the Island of Patmos. I imagined leaving the election, satisfied that I had offered myself to serve



Archbishop Ron Cutler (Nova Scotia), on the right, installs Bishop Organ as Bishop of Western Newfoundland

*Has being called to be a Bishop changed your faith in any way?*

Interestingly, everything I have gone through, the highs and lows, now seem to have been all part of the preparation for this new ministry. Even those things

that were tremendously painful and difficult now seem to have had their proper place in equipping and shaping me for Episcopal ministry. My faith has not changed so much as I am even more convinced that God is very much at work in our lives and we can trust God to have our best good at heart.

*What do you see the role of the Diocesan Bishop to be, and how has it changed from the role of the Bishop who ordained you to the priesthood?*

I think there are certain aspects of the role that are common to all diocesan bishops. I especially like the saying in the service of ordination that says, 'a bishop is to be one with the Apostles in proclaiming Christ's resurrection.' I very much love that sense of being a bishop and I want to

...continued on pages 2 and 3



First, let me say thank you to you, Emily, and to Anglican Life for giving me this opportunity to share my thoughts with you and with each person reading this tri-diocesan church paper.

The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist here in Corner Brook, the See City, in and of itself is a beautiful

with the Primate, the Metropolitan, archbishops, bishops, priests, deacons, lay-readers, lay eucharistic administrators, choir members, and servers. It was all very moving and I felt such a spirit of joyfulness. It was wonderful having so many members of my family present as well.

The first and lasting



# ANGLICAN LIFE

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NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

ANGLICAN LIFE in Newfoundland and Labrador is the newspaper of the Anglican Church of Canada in the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador. A co-operative effort of the three Dioceses in Newfoundland and Labrador, it publishes ten issues each year with an independent editorial policy.

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## ...Bishop Organ

...continued from page 1

always keep it upper most in my mind and heart. I can say what my top priority is—it is the health and wellbeing of the diocesan clergy. With the clergy being at their best, then our parishes will be well led and cared for. With strong and healthy parishes, the diocese will be strong and healthy as well.

*How long has it been since you last lived in the province of Newfoundland and Labrador, and what made you decide to be open to coming back here?*

I joined the Canadian Forces Chaplaincy in 1992 from St. Anthony parish on the Northern Peninsula, some 25 years ago or so. Irene and I would visit on holiday with our children when they were younger and in recent years, just the two of us. I don't know if I identify totally with the notion of leaving and returning. I have always felt very much part of the whole of Canada since I was a kid growing up in Isle aux Morts and I still feel that way. Being in Newfoundland and Labrador, or in Alberta, or in Manitoba, or in Ontario, or elsewhere in Canada, is still for me being in the country of my birth and origin.

I have served outside Canada, including three years in Jerusalem. Being in Corner Brook, I still feel the same as if I was in the office of St. Martin's in Ottawa. I am the same person. Each region of Canada has its unique characteristics. We celebrate our country's diversity and especially its unity. I don't feel I have returned because I don't feel I ever left in the deepest truest sense. I felt at home living in Ottawa. I feel at home living now in Corner Brook.

*The Anglican Church in this province sometimes struggles with a lack of clergy. What do you see as the future of theological education, and how can we in the parishes encourage people to consider a call to*

*the ordained ministry as a viable option?*

Yes, perhaps this is the greatest change I see since my time of serving officially in the Diocese of Western Newfoundland. The Canadian Forces Chaplaincy has lots of clergy and pastoral associates applying to serve. The Diocese of Ottawa has quite a strong group of clergy, and many of them younger people. My approach will be to encourage Anglican young people finishing high school and entering college to consider whether God may be calling them to ordained ministry. Should they feel open to exploring

*You have spent a number of years working in the military as a chaplain. How has that experience influenced your style of ministry?*

I would like to start with my training at Queen's College in St. John's. With Canon Cluett, our provost, and all the members of the staff at the college during my time, I was trained and equipped to serve well as an Anglican priest anywhere. Therefore, I would say, that it was my formation at Queen's that influenced my style of ministry in the Canadian Forces, in the Diocese of Jerusalem, and in the Diocese of Ottawa. That being said, the chaplaincy and the Canadian Forces community significantly shaped my ministry to respond meaningfully to very different contexts. Serving on a United Nations peacekeeping mission, for example, taught me a lot about humanity's best and worse behaviour. It also confirmed for me the importance to any society of the Biblical principles of human dignity, justice, and compassion. As well, Canada's democracy and social policies were shown to be such powerful models when in other parts of the

world that lacked basic governance and social safety nets. Canada has so many values and services that would improve the lives of millions of people all over the world if adopted and implemented. Also, through the Canadian Forces I received specialized training at St. Paul University in Ottawa in the field of Clinical Pastoral Counselling, which greatly enhanced my ability to work with individuals who experience trauma. And of course, with the passing years, like everyone, and with God's grace, we mature and become more Christ-like hopefully. All of this leaves me with a style of ministry that is informed, inclusive, collaborative, and optimistic.





*What are you really excited about and what are your biggest challenges as the Bishop of Western Newfoundland?*

I am excited about the tremendous opportunities we have as a diocese to share the good news of God's redeeming and transforming love in Jesus Christ. We can witness to God's love for all humanity with little or with much in the way of resources—in fact I would say that this is essential for us to be doing whether we have little or much. And then to spread that out to the wider community in terms of care and compassion. For example, in many communities of Western Newfoundland the parish church is the central gathering place in the community. Every significant event in the lives of our people is marked in the church—birth, marriage, and death. We acknowledge these life passages in such a way as to give them their proper respect and we place them in a faith context of spiritual and eternal significance. At our best, we are 'salt and light' to our communities, and we can legitimately and insightfully speak truth to power. We can do this on a diocesan level as well to all of Western Newfoundland and to our entire province and country and indeed the world. But, it is essential that we have a genuine and effective role for good in our immediate

context. I would say as well we need to be confident in the Gospel's strength and grace to transform individual lives. People who struggle with drugs, or alcohol, or gambling, or with anger and violence, or with depression and despair, are of special concern to God and to the Church. For those who are successful and strong, there is also a need for God. Everything about this life is transient. Nothing is permanent. We are passing through. Our needs are more than physical or social or financial. Each of us has a spiritual need and life can be all the more fulfilling when the spiritual dimension is nurtured and developed.

The immediate challenge is having a sufficient number of well-qualified and committed clergy to serve our parishes. Having fewer parishioners is also a challenge. But this latter challenge is not just one for the local parish and the diocese but for our province too as both are in need of more people. Around the world there are people living in the most deplorable conditions, many without safe water to drink and hundreds dying daily of thirst and hunger and preventable diseases. As Christians, we see the whole world as belonging to God and of concern to God. As Anglicans, we have an understanding of spirituality and religious life as having one foot in the temple and one foot

in the public square. Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, is a tremendous example of Anglican identity and practice. Our parish church and our civic community are our combined mutual dwelling and require our best efforts. Likewise our diocese and all of Western Newfoundland. So too the Anglican Communion and the whole world. In much of Canada we struggle with having too few people while other parts of the world struggle with more people than they can adequately provide for. We are part of the whole. Our rightful place is in the whole world. We have so very much to share with the world. The world needs us and, truth is, we need the world. We belong together. So the challenge is to utilize our specific faith tradition to bring our respective needs together and in the process serve the whole world and to be truly served by it.

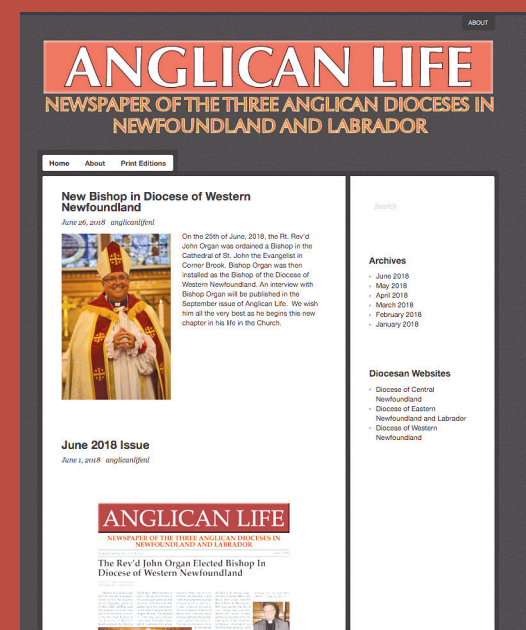
I chose as my motto, Honour the Past, Live the Present, Embrace the Future. For me, all of this is to be done according to the faith tradition I was born and raised in and have come to make my very own. For me, the Anglican Church offers a comprehensive approach to a faith rooted in the person of Jesus Christ—the One who came to serve and not to be served, who overcame hatred with love, and death with unending life. In Him there is a place and welcome for everyone as well as hope for this life and for life beyond this life.

# Announcing The New Website For Anglican Life!

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## Photograph Submissions:

Very large, high resolution photographs (minimum of 300 dpi). JPEG or TIFF format. Please include the photographer's name.





First Eucharist: Deacon Ida Patey, Rev'd Clare, and server Sarah White

## Parish of Port Saunders Excited To Have Their Priest Ordained

Article and photographs by  
Denise White

The Rev'd Clare Stewart joined the Parish of Port Saunders on June 1st, 2017, with anticipation of being ordained to the priesthood before too long. She was joined by two others for her ordination on November 30th, 2017, at St. John the

Evangelist Cathedral in Corner Brook. Rev'd Clare was joined by her parents, Mick & Lilian Stewart, as well as mentor and friend, the Rev'd Canon Kevin George, and wife Catherinanne, from Ontario, as well as other friends and parishioners.

The three ordained were Rev'd Clare, who is now priest-in-charge of the Parish of Port Saunders, Rev'd Nath Larkin, now priest-in-charge of the



Rev'd Mario, Rev'd Clare, and Rev'd Nath



Receiving gifts from the parish

Parish of Forteau, and Rev'd Mario Melendez, now priest-in-charge of the Parish of Cox's Cove/Mcivers.

The day involved a rehearsal, a beautiful service, fellowship & reception downstairs; then finally, one happy priest that could relax!

Back in the parish for the First Sunday in Advent, Rev'd Clare Stewart conducted her first Parish Eucharist Service at St. Peter's in River of Ponds, followed by a celebration potluck lunch, with cake and presentation of a gift from the parish.

Congratulations to all and best wishes in your ministry.

Anglican Life is  
on Twitter:



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## Celebrating Ministry

The Rev'd Jeff Blackwood, Columnist  
Photographs by Victoria Blackwood

There truly is no greater joy than celebrating new beginnings with people, be it a baptism, a wedding, or a confirmation. It's incredible to feel the spiritual energy that comes from celebrating something new.

In November of last year, I was appointed by my Bishop as the Regional Dean for Grand Falls. I'll admit, at first it felt intimidating. Being entrusted with this ministry was something I could not take lightly, but my parish family has been immensely supportive of this ministry and for that I thank them all.

that each parish needed. And as of this time, we have formally inducted two of them into their new ministries (as you will see in the pictures).

Not only did we celebrate new ministries, but we honoured the continuing ministries of our retired clergy. Their years of continued service and guidance are a treasure to all of us in the Grand Falls Deanery.

As is says so very well in the ordinal of the BAS: We praise and glorify you that by His death he has overcome death; and that, having

ascended into heaven, He has given his gifts abundantly to your people, making some, apostles; some, prophets; some,



However, this came at a time of quite the clergy turnover. It had been announced prior to this that my Deanery parishes of Lewisporte, Botwood, and Grand Falls would be vacant, and filled in the New Year. I spoke with any number of people who were curious as to who would be coming to their parishes, and I could only be honest and let them know I was equally anxious.

Here I am (at the time

evangelists; some, pastors and teachers; to equip them for the work of ministry and to build up His Body. And now we give you thanks that you have called this your servant to share this ministry entrusted to your Church.

New ministry can be scary both for us as clergy and for the parishioners we come to call family. Yet, it is incredibly rewarding and humbling. It brings us into the full circle of the early



of writing this column), seven months into 2018, and all three vacancies have been filled. And each time an appointment was announced, my heart leapt with joy. Three clergy that I knew would bring the gifts

calling of Jesus—to go out into the world and tell the good news. It's a calling that we all share together, so why not celebrate that ministry with everyone?

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The Rev'd Eli Evans addresses the room

# Trinity Placentia Conception Archdeaconry Leadership Workshop Held

Article and photographs by  
The Ven. William Strong

Seventy volunteers, representing the vestries and parishes throughout the Archdeaconry of Trinity Conception Placentia, gathered at the Parish of

the Epiphany on May 5th for a leadership workshop. The Rev'd Eli Evans spoke on how the constitution relates to the running of each parish. Mr. Fred Dinham,

Diocesan Finance Officer, reviewed best practices for financial management. The event was well received and considered to be worthwhile.



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# Saying Hello And Thank You

## Harbour Grace welcomes new rector and thanks previous rector all in one special night

Submitted with photographs by  
Sonia Williams

On June 5th, the parish of Harbour Grace, in the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador, welcomed their new rector, the Rev'd John Nicolle. At the same time, they also took the time to thank their

former rector, the Rev'd Linda Budden. The gathering took place in the church hall at St. Paul's with members of both congregations, St. Peter's and St. Paul's, taking part in the evening's celebrations.



Rev'd Linda and Rev'd John with their cakes



Left to right: Linda Mercer (warden St. Peter's), Rev'd Linda, Viola Noel (warden St. Peter's), and Roy Janes (warden St. Paul's); missing is Bill Peddle (warden St. Paul's)



# News From PWRDF

## I Care: postcards to our Prime Minister

Article by The Ven. Charlene Taylor  
PWRDF Representative,  
Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador  
Image by PWRDF

The mission statement of Primate's World Relief and Development Fund reminds us that *as an instrument of faith, PWRDF connects Anglicans in Canada to communities around the world in dynamic partnerships to advance development, to respond to emergencies, to assist refugees, and to act for positive change.*

*campaign asks you to sign a postcard addressed to the Prime Minister. The message is that you care about Canada's role in ending global hunger and poverty, and you support Canada contributing generously toward these goals. (pwrdf.org)*

This campaign is easy—it only takes our time and a trip to the post office!

**Dear Prime Minister,**

Canadian aid plays a key role in making the world a better place for everyone. It's what we aspire to be as Canadians—compassionate and generous.

Let's demonstrate these values and increase our support for the things we care about, such as ensuring everyone has enough food, helping those displaced by conflict, creating opportunities for women and girls to flourish, and enabling farmers and their communities to adapt to a changing climate.

I am proud that Canadian aid is making a difference, and I believe we can do more for the 815 million people who go to bed hungry.

As you decide how much Canada contributes toward ending global poverty, please remember that **I care.**

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As Anglicans in Newfoundland and Labrador we have the opportunity to be advocates for positive change in a real and tangible way. PWRDF and Canadian Foodgrains Bank are partners in the I Care Campaign. The overall goal of this campaign is to increase Canada's contribution to ending global hunger and poverty.

*The I Care postcard*

If you want your voice to be heard and to act for positive change order 20 free postcards by emailing your name and your church's name to [pwrdf@pwrdf.org](mailto:pwrdf@pwrdf.org). Remember all mail sent to Prime Minister Trudeau is postage free.

This simple but important act for positive change has the potential to change the lives of our global brothers and sisters.

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Rowena Laing, Gertie Hynes for Killdevil, Irene Grandy, Katie Watton, Jason Hayes (owner of the Corner Brook Canadian Tire), Valerie Pretty, Connie Lamswood, and Effie Humber.

## Funds Raised For Killdevil Camp In Western Diocese

Article and photographs  
by Patty George

On June 14th, 2018, six volunteers from the ACW of the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, Corner Brook, held a BBQ fundraiser at the Canadian Tire parking lot in aid of the Killdevil Camp and Conference Centre.

The proceeds of \$1,000 raised at the BBQ will go towards the cost of refurbishing and improving the oldest and smallest cabin on site, which is used primarily for special needs children, adults, and their caregivers.

Killdevil Camp is located at Lomond in the Gros Morne National Park, and it provides a unique summer camping experience for children and youth who are interested in spending a week of the summer camping with activities in a beautiful pristine setting. Families from any Anglican church in the Western Diocese with earnings less than \$40,000 may have their children attend the camp for free if they cannot afford the cost. The camp

also serves as a site and accommodation for student,

those who contributed so generously, especially to



adult and senior programs, and for conferences during the rest of the year. The school district uses it as a venue for its outdoor classroom program in the autumn and spring.

Many thanks go to

the Corner Brook Canadian Tire Store which provided us with the water and tent set-up for the event, and to Harvey & Company, NL Kubota, for providing the BBQ and propane.

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# Tax Implications Of The Summer Cabin

Kevin Smith  
Columnist

The fall season is about to arrive and people have started drifting back from their summer cabins to the routines of school and work. The cabin (or as they say on the mainland, the cottage) has been the subject of a couple of my articles in recent years. A major source of my information has been Tim Cestnick, an author and co-founder and CEO of Our Family Office Inc. Tim has written a series of blogs regarding the tax considerations about the



summer cottage.

In a recent one (May, 2018), he suggested three ways to keep the cottage in the family and the tax man at bay: The first was to make a gift. He says:

*If you choose to give the cottage to your kids during your lifetime, you'll be deemed to have sold the property at fair market value on the day you make the gift. If the place had appreciated in value, you'll trigger a capital gain at that time. Now, you may be able to shelter the transfer from tax using your principal residence exemption (PRE).....If you do make a gift, you'll generally lose control of the cottage but could still retain the right to use it with an agreement with your heirs.*

Mr. Cestnick's second suggestion was to sell it to the kids:

*Selling to the kids can work if you need the cash for financial support and they have the means to pay*

*you. As with the gift, you'll face tax on any capital gain but can generally shelter that gain from tax using your PRE. A word of caution, don't try to sell the cottage for less than fair market value. You see, you'll be deemed to have sold the cottage for fair market value anyway.... You'd be better off selling it to them for fair market value and take back a promissory note for part of the sales price if you don't want them to have to come up with cash for the full value. You can forgive the note on death with no adverse consequences.*

Mr. Cestnick's final suggestion was to use a family trust.

*Holding the cottage in a trust can allow you to control and use the cottage even while it's not owned by you directly. The trust will also generally shelter the cottage from creditors and probate fees. When transferring your cottage to a trust, you'll have deemed to have sold it at fair market value, which could trigger tax. Again, you may be able to shelter any gain using the PRE.*

However, the bottom line is that he recommends that you should talk to a tax professional about options if you're going to sell. I couldn't agree more.

*Kevin Smith is a gift planning consultant for the Anglican Church of Canada. He can be contacted at 709 739-5667 or by email: kevin.smith709@gmail.com*



## Mother's Day Celebrated in Port Aux Basques

Article by Lisa Brown  
Photographs by Jane Allen

On May 13th, the Godly Play children of St. James' Anglican Church in Port aux Basques held their Mother's Day program at the 10:00 am church service. The children sang songs to all the mothers in the congregation, and all the moms received a special gift. After the program, the children proceeded to the Memorial Hall for a lunch. A thank you to all the Godly Play

teachers and helpers, plus a special thank you going out to Jane Allen and Marina Scott.



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# Can We Overcome Poverty?

The Rev'd Michael Li  
Columnist

Poverty is relative, but "absolute poverty" is an entirely different matter. Almost one out of every four persons on earth live in a state of "absolute poverty." Over three billion people live on less than \$2.50 a day. Many of them die each day of starvation or hunger related illnesses.

What are the causes of



poverty? They are as follow: population explosion, poor home environment, poor living condition, illiteracy, poor health, mental illness, broken families and marriages, lack of low-cost housing, absence of basic health care, expensive medications, lack of food, job discrimination, unemployment, bankruptcy, heavy taxes imposed on citizens, corruption, fraud by others, poor economic management, lawsuits, misuse of resources, unjust economic order, control by foreign countries, unfair distribution of resources, manipulation of prices, manipulation of the terms of trade, manipulation of monetary system, low wages, laziness, voluntary poverty by giving everything away, sinful life-style (such as misuse of drugs and alcohol, gambling, uncontrollable spending, etc.), wars, natural disasters (such as earthquakes, severe floods, plague, famine), and many more.

How can we help the needy? In Canada, should churches help the homeless by turning their basements or meeting rooms into night time shelters for the homeless? Should churches set up banks where poor people can borrow money at no interest? Should churches

be actively involved in family planning? An adage says: "If you give a man a fish, you feed him a day; but if you train him how to fish, you feed him for a lifetime" (Waldron Scott's "The Paterson Paradigm: Some Personal Reflection", Transformation, 8, no 4, October, 1991, p. 18). But, in reality, there are no easy solutions. Otherwise, the problem of poverty would have been solved long time ago.

I believe that there are at least four ways we can try to overcome poverty in industrialized countries like Canada. First, we need to create and support strong and stable families to fight poverty. Good parenting from both parents can do more than anything else to shape and guide the lives of children.

Second, education, training, acquiring skills, and developing good habits and disciplines are the best ways out of poverty. But education requires a lot of money. Do we have the political power to provide an adequate education system for all people?

Third, we need jobs that can support families. To meet this objective, we need to continue to adjust the minimum wage and support pay equity also.

Fourth, we need to support programmes designed to relieve the needs of the aged, the sick, the blind and the disabled. We need to replace welfare with a universal family assistance plan.

To suggest ways to deal with poverty in the world's poorest countries is above my pay grade.



## Quilt Show in Norris Point

### Local talent on display at the Good Shepherd

Article and photographs by  
The Rev'd Kay Short

On Saturday May 19th, the Church of the Good Shepherd, Norris Point, was filled with a colourful display of more than 60 locally crafted quilts. In addition to the beautiful quilts on display, this fundraiser for the church included a lunch and a bake sale. Thank you to all who contributed their talents of quilting, cooking, and baking to make the event a huge success, and thank you to all who took part in the day. A special thank you to the planning and organizing committee.



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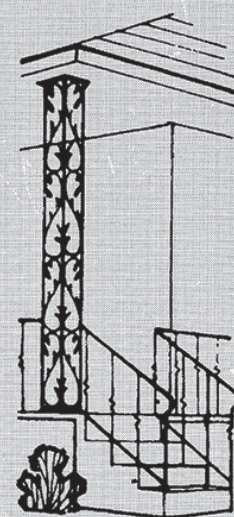
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# Has God Retired?

Ronald Clarke  
Columnist

Some of us “old-fashioned” people still believe in miracles. Yes, we actually believe in miracles!

A miracle, according to the dictionary, is “an event or action that apparently contradicts known scientific laws, and is hence thought to be due to supernatural causes, especially to an act of God.”

Ah, yes, an act of God!

Does God in this 21st century really intervene in human affairs to perform something dramatically good for individuals or groups?

Well, apparently he’s done so before, countless times in previous ages.

Cases in point:

God the Father, according to the Old Testament, performed many miracles: the flood, parting the Red Sea, water from solid rock, manna from heaven, stopping the sun (the earth actually) so Joshua could win a critical battle, etc.

God the Son (Jesus) in the New Testament: changing water into wine, feeding 5000 with a few loaves and fishes, resurrecting three people from the dead (Jairus’ daughter, the son of the widow from Nain, and Lazarus who had been dead for days).

If we don’t believe in these, and the many other recorded miracles, then we don’t really believe in, or accept, a huge chunk of Scripture. And, in reality, we don’t believe in an Almighty (able to do all things) God.

But, people today ask why the scriptural God—of miracles—doesn’t perform some today. “Goodness knows we really need some.” And surely we do.

The answer is that, truly, God does perform miracles today, and frequently. Today, we just fail to recognize God’s miracles.

God’s miracles today don’t necessarily come with flashes of lightning and peals of thunder, the way we mistakenly think they would, or should. God often uses human beings, or natural forces to do his mighty deeds. Doctors, for example, save lives,

resuscitate people (bring them back to life), with God’s grace, using medicines and instruments he has inspired. Engineers harness natural powers, rivers especially, all God-created, to light and warm our world. And so it goes.

Yes, God still performs his miracles, but we fail to see his handiwork in them. Instead we look for “natural,” “medical,” or “scientific” principles to explain the dramatic occurrences we often experience.

Is it really possible for individuals like us to access God’s all powerful love in times of trauma? In other words, can you and I really expect miracles from God?

Of course we can! Jesus assures us that Almighty God is our Abba, our Father, who loves each one of us personally. So, if we really believe in him, really trust in him, and ask him in real faith, God will fill our needs, impossible as that may seem sometimes.

Of course, God may not answer immediately. The time may not be right for us. Discouraged, we may think he’s not going to answer. Or he may not give us the kind of miracle we asked for—maybe something better. Again we may feel unanswered. Or, he may say no, because we’ve asked for something bad for us. Again, we may be disappointed. We fail to fully trust.

You and I, in a long lifetime, surely have experienced many miracles. I know I have, and I’m no “special” saint.

The same God, who performed so many miracles in the Old and New Testaments, has not “retired” in the 21st century. He remains “the same yesterday, today and forevermore.” His miraculous powers remain the same, and are just as much available to us as to the ancients.

God’s power is with us today—why don’t we take advantage of it?

Faith, love, prayer, worship—these are the only conduits we need!



## Suppers For Sylvia Parish raises money to help Wototo

Article and photographs by  
Mona Edwards

Every spring, St. George’s ACW in Cormack has a cold plate take-out to raise funds for our sponsored child, Sylvia, whom we have been sponsoring for more than 3 years. We’ve been sponsoring Watoto children for more than ten years in total. This year, loving hands prepared, bought, sold, and ate 165 suppers. If you’re interested in this ministry, please visit:

[www.watoto.com](http://www.watoto.com).

*From the website:*

*Watoto is a family of people from all over the world who are working together to ensure that the forgotten have a place to belong.*

In a time of civil war, we planted Watoto Church in Kampala, Uganda to speak hope and life to the nation.

Since then, Watoto has placed thousands of orphans in families, empowered



Preparing the take-out suppers

vulnerable women to reach their communities, rescued babies and former child soldiers, and sent children’s choirs across six continents.





Front row (left to right): Anne Marie Turpin (second year), Judy Parsons (second year), and Deacon Phyllis Joy (third year).  
Back row (left to right): Walter Wicks (third year), Archbishop Stewart Payne (EFM mentor), and Tom Goulding (third year).

## EFM Group In Corner Brook Finishes Another Successful Year

Article and photograph by  
Walter Wicks

The Education for Ministries (EFM) group in Corner Brook completed another year of studies at the end of May. Besides our studies, we also took part in a number of activities including spending an evening in May cleaning up litter in an area of Corner Brook. We also support Sleeping Children Around the World, and the Open Door program in Corner Brook. Over the years, we have helped out in the kitchen and have brought meals to the Open Door to help feed those in need in our community. We also attended a church service at All Saints' Church in Corner Brook, where

we received our yearly diplomas. The Rev'd Tayna White officiated, and Archbishop Stewart Payne preached the sermon. At the end of the year, we had dinner with members of our family at a local restaurant. We will continue our studies in September.

EFM is a four year program of theological education for lay people. The program is designed to help students learn about scripture, church history, theology, and ethics and to incorporate it into our daily Christian living ministries.

Anglican Life welcomes The Rev'd Mark Nichols, from the parish of St. Mark's in St. John's, as a guest columnist for the next year. Fr. Nichols will write a bi-monthly column examining our baptismal promise to "strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth."

## Creation—A Sublime Gift And Legacy

Article by  
The Rev'd Mark Nichols

As Anglicans, it's our practice to renew our baptismal covenant on a regular basis. In this covenant we not only profess what we believe about God, we also make specific promises about how we're going to live out what we believe. With this in mind, I'd like to take a closer look at how we live out one of those baptismal promises in particular.

Twenty-eight years ago, the Anglican Communion adopted the fifth of the 'Five Marks of Mission'—to *strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth*. In 2013, the Anglican Church of Canada incorporated this mark in our baptismal covenant by adding a ninth question of inquiry: *Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the earth?* Consequently, for the past five years, every time we've renewed our baptismal covenant we've acknowledged care for creation as an integral aspect of the Christian faith.

It should be noted that

the Anglican Communion is not alone in seeing creation care as a matter of faith. In his 2015 encyclical, *Laudato Si'*—On Care for our Common Home, Pope Francis lovingly refers to our planet as "our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us." He then goes on to lament that our...

...sister now cries out to

forms of life.

On the World Day of Prayer for Creation in 2017, Pope Francis and Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew jointly stated that the "earth was entrusted to us as a sublime gift and legacy, for which all of us share responsibility" and that "[o]ur human dignity and welfare are deeply connected to

our care for the whole of creation." They go on to point out that the reality of human history, "reveals a morally decaying scenario where our attitude and behaviour towards creation



image © darkmoon1968 www.pixabay.com

us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her. We have come to see ourselves as her lords and masters, entitled to plunder her at will. The violence present in our hearts, wounded by sin, is also reflected in the symptoms of sickness evident in the soil, in the water, in the air and in all

obscure our calling as God's co-operators." In other words, care for creation is an integral part of our calling as Christians. Indeed, neglecting to do so is to sin against our Creator, be it "by what we have done" or "by what we have left undone."

So, just how intentional are we in honouring the last of our baptismal promises? Do we strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation? Do we strive to respect, sustain and renew the life of the earth? I would point out that "to strive" is to devote serious effort, indeed to struggle, to achieve or attain something. It is not a passive activity. If we're honest with ourselves, most of us know that we need to do better—much better—if we're going to faithfully live out our baptismal promise to *safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth*. In future columns I'll offer some thoughts on how we might go about that.

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# Between The Lessons—Witchy Woman

The Rev'd Jonathan Rowe  
Columnist

A little more than a year ago, in 'The Difficult Story,' (June 2017) we saw a tense confrontation between Samuel and Saul. The prophet berated Saul for not obeying God's instructions, even when they involved morally-questionable commands to commit genocide. The story ended with the line that 'Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death.' In chapter 25, we are told that Samuel died, and all Israel mourned for him. Careful readers might have noticed that we didn't actually see a final meeting



between Samuel and Saul.

At the beginning of chapter 28, we are reminded Samuel was dead and buried. Again, the Philistines have come to threaten Israel, and Saul wonders what he should do to protect the people. His attempts to get guidance from the Lord turn up fruitless—it seems that God is no longer taking his calls! With nowhere else to turn, he looks to less orthodox means: to a witch.

This is a significant decision on his part. Saul had already banned all the witches and wizards and folks who claimed to summon the spirits of the dead. Instead, the people of Israel were to look to the Lord alone for advice and guidance. But now Saul commands his staff to find him a black-market medium who has not yet been driven out of the country, and he goes to have her conduct a seance for him under cover of darkness. With no more faith in God, he resorts to the very occult

practices he himself had already forbidden with the death penalty.

At what seems to be the darkest part of his story, Saul will not find that things are going to get any better. The spirit that he wants the witch to summon for him is that of Samuel, his old advisor. Perhaps this request is made out of desperation. Perhaps this is a last-ditch effort to mend his ways, and Saul wants Samuel to tell him how to set things right with God again. Samuel, however, is not having any part of it.

In the one Bible story in which the spirit of a dead person speaks to the living, Samuel's spirit rises up out of the ground, complaining that Saul is disturbing his rest. He reiterates his original warning, that Saul's disobedience has meant that God will take the kingdom from him and give it to David. What Saul has feared all along is going to come to pass, but Samuel adds one more chilling prophecy. 'Tomorrow, you and your sons will be with me.'

It's true! Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but 'his' meant Saul's death, not Samuel's. The coming battle with the Philistines will go poorly. Saul and his sons will fall in battle, and David will become king. Faced with this grim prospect, Saul's strength leaves him, and he falls to the ground in despair. After much protesting, he is finally persuaded to eat something and face his final day.

For all that he had tried to fight the future, there is no escaping Saul's destiny. Things are about to get better for Israel, in that they will soon have a more worthy king. They're going to get a lot worse for Saul, though, in that he is going into a battle that he knows he can't win or even survive. David will soon take control of Saul's kingdom, without having to take up arms against the Lord's anointed. But that's another story, for another time.



Group Shot



Reading the Psalm

## Family Day At St. John The Evangelist, Corner Brook

Article and photographs by  
Patty George

While the calendar said it was late spring, it felt more like late fall earlier in June when the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Corner Brook, NL, held its annual family day church service and BBQ. Despite the bone chilling temperatures, organizers of the event said that the show must go on.

Sunday, June 4th was a day that many in the congregation had been waiting for—especially the children. The children, along with the older youth, were front and centre at the service of the Holy Eucharist, as they took part in reading, singing the psalm, prayers, and even showing off their talents by singing two separate anthems. While two of the children were standing on a raised platform, they were still almost invisible to the congregation with the Lectern being taller than what they were. They read their readings flawlessly



nevertheless. Despite losing her voice, one young girl did an amazing job in the singing of one of the anthems with her older sister. Even the little ones took part in the

service, as two of them brought forward the bread and wine, with an adult walking close behind them to assist.

Down in the Arthur & Eileen Churchill Hall, there

which prizes such as pencil cases and exercise books were wrapped up and marked by a number. When that number was drawn out of a plastic bag, you won the corresponding prize. There



Reading the first lesson

was a large spread of food to be had, including a cake that was specially made for the occasion. After the children had time to eat, it was time to "let the games begin!" When they finally broke the piñata, the lollipops went flying everywhere, while the adults looked on at all that the sugar their children were gathering off the floor! But it

were other games as well that everyone enjoyed.

All in all, it was another amazing event. The cold wet snow, rain, wind, and the -1°C temperature was the farthest thing from everyone's mind in the west coast city on that day. Hopefully next year, they weather gods will be a little nicer to us.

wasn't a lot of sugar for the kids, as one of the games was an 'Up For Grabs' game, in





# Pillows, Blankets, and Slippers Made For Patients In Need

Article and photographs by  
Linda Kendell

The ladies of the ACW at Holy Trinity Church in Codroy were busy making pillows, blankets, and slippers last winter. The pillows were made for mastectomy patients and were taken to the hospital in Corner Brook for their

patients. The blankets and slippers were taken to the Ronald MacDonald House in St. John's for patients there. These items were taken to church and blessed by Rev'd Harvey before being delivered.



The Rev'd Maryrose Colbourne with members of the ACW

## ACW Service And Baptism Held In Gillams

Article and photographs by  
Audrey Park

On Sunday June 10th, a very lovely service of recognition of the Anglican Church Women, led by the Rev'd Mary Rose Colbourne, was held at St. James' in Gillams. The service began with installation of the ACW group members. Ladies in the congregation took part in the service by doing the readings, and two of our youngest ladies (Rebecca and Brygette) collected the offering. This was followed by the baptism of our newest church member, Nash Hunt.



Rev'd Maryrose Colbourne and Nash Hunt's family

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# LeGallias District ACW Meeting In Rose Blanche

Article by Maxine Edwards  
Photograph by Diane Hardy

On Saturday, 2 June, 2018, the LeGallias District of Anglican Church Women in the Diocese of Western Newfoundland held its business meeting at the Church of St. Michael & All Angels, Rose Blanche. The day began with registration in the chapel and a variety of refreshments in

heard from members of our Diocesan Board: Terri Parrell, Ann Keating, and Elaine Fost. Sharon Billard called on Rev'd Petten to conduct the election of the executive in which the executive elected in 2016 were re-elected for another two years. Our executive is comprised of

on the theme of the ACW this year, "I am the vine – you are the branches," from St. John's Gospel. The day concluded with a beautiful cold plate buffet contributed by people from Rose Blanche, Harbour Le Cou, and Diamond Cove. If anyone walked away hungry, it was completely



Left to right: Sharon Billard, Ann Keating, Wilma Lee Taylor, Terri Parrell, Bernice Croucher, Elaine Fost, The Rev'd Jeffrey Petten

the sacristy. The district president welcomed everyone to the gathering and our priest-in-charge, The Rev'd Jeffrey Petten, welcomed everyone by saying that there were 95 people present, "94 women and [him]."

During our time together we heard reports from the seven primary branches which make up our district, inclusive from the communities of Rose Blanche, Burnt Islands, Isle aux Morts, FoxRoost-Margaree, Channel, Grand Bay, and Codroy. We also

Sharon Billard, president, Wilma Lee Taylor, vice-president, Helen Meade, secretary and Bernice Croucher, treasurer. At the Eucharist, presided at by Rev'd Petten, these ladies were installed into their respective offices, inclusive of Helen Meade who was admitted in absentia.

Also at the Eucharist, Rev'd Petten in presiding and preaching, talked about how we are connected to one another in the bonds of love just as the branches are connected to the vine. Rev'd Petten based this

because it was their own fault, as there was enough food to feed the 5,000 three times over.

The primary branch of St. Michael & All Angels, Rose Blanche, wishes to thank all those who helped to make the district meeting the successful day that it was. We all look forward to going to St. James', Channel, for the 2019 District Meeting.



Photo: The Rev'd David Cook

## Church Of The Resurrection Prepares For An Exterior Face-Lift

Article by  
The Rev'd Canon Dr. Judy Rois

One of five churches in the parish of Salvage, Church of the Resurrection founded in 1963 is like many Newfoundland churches, the heart of the village of Sandringham's 255 people. Where the bounty of the land meets the beauty of the sea, Sandringham is home to Terra Nova National Park where land and sea compete for your attention, and lush boreal forests meet the tranquil sheltered inlets of the Atlantic Ocean. In this magical place sits the Church of the Resurrection whose people have been fund-raising since the fall of 2017 to replace existing

shingles, instal metal fascia to eaves, and install new metal continuous eavestroughs. While this may not sound very exciting, this kind of infrastructure work is essential to maintain a building that has to withstand intense winds and weather. The church is near and dear to the community with open doors to everyone who lives there. It is also one of two gathering places in the community for social events. The Anglican Foundation was pleased to provide a partial grant for this most important work to maintain the exterior work of this church.

### What is the Anglican Foundation of Canada?

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# Combined Vacation Bible School Held In Conception Bay North

Article and photographs by  
The Ven. William Strong

There were busy days in June and July as the Parishes of Port-de-Grave, the Resurrection, Bay Robert's/Coley's Point, and Grace United from Coley's Point came together to run a Vacation Bible School at St. Luke's Hall, Port-de-Grave from July 3-6.

The event was a great success with over 80 children registered who came from the whole region and many denominations. The theme this year was, "Shipwrecked: Rescued by

Jesus." Vacation Bible Schools are run by many denominations in the area, and clergy are pleased to coordinate efforts to avoid overlap and to encourage everyone to participate. Our week was led by Kelly Porter of Port-de-Grave and Lisa Clarke



of Grace United, along with an army of leaders from each parish.

Highlights included the music sessions, crafts, Bible story telling, games, and refreshments. A collection was taken up, and it made \$253 for the Helping Hand Food bank.

This was second year for the partnership of these four parishes, and it speaks well of the spirit of cooperation and mutual support in the area. We had a wonderful time.

## 2018 DAMA Overnight Retreat

Article by Peter Stevenson  
Photograph by The Ven. Sam Rose

The Diocesan Anglican Men's Association (DAMA) held its annual Overnight Retreat for Men at Lavrock from Friday-Saturday, May 4-5, 2018. The event is open to all men of the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador, and this year was attended by approximately forty men from member clubs of DAMA, although not all clubs were represented. The first weekend in May has been set as the standing date for this event as it allows for the snowbirds to return from southern areas in time for the retreat.

Following registration and opening devotions, members were treated to a delicious roast beef dinner prepared by the Lavrock kitchen staff. After the meal we held evening devotions which were followed by an evening of fellowship. There were several tables of cards, 120's and 500's. We were well entertained with music as four members brought their musical instruments and their music books. It was a very relaxing evening and men got the chance to catch up with some of the other members they had not seen since the last DAMA event.

The Saturday portion of the event began with the Eucharist followed by a

delicious breakfast. Our first session of the morning was with Kevin Smith who spoke about "Planned Giving, A Ministry with Possibilities." He spoke about the statistics of donations and noted that money only goes where it is welcome.

The second session was with Home Again Furniture bank. They spoke about

a financial contribution to the respective ministries. After the second session we had a break and enjoyed a cup of coffee and some homemade muffins, warm out of the oven.

The final session of the morning was with our Bishop, Geoff Peddle. In addressing the group, he spoke of the work of the

Bishop Geoff concluded by thanking DAMA for the work of the organization. At the end of this session, the Rev'd Ed Keeping, Chair of DAMA's Lavrock Project, made a presentation to Bishop Geoff of the funds contributed by DAMA members to the Lavrock Project, to be used to enhance Lavrock as determined by the Lavrock

regarding our Lavrock project. He thanked us for our efforts and reiterated the need for us to help maintain Lavrock. The latest efforts are additional chairs and new furniture for the lobby. Archdeacon Sam Rose chaired the election of the incoming executive. The executive for 2018-2019 is as follows: Don Higgins, President; Herb Dowden, Vice-President; Joe O'Quinn, Secretary; Harvey Hiscock, Treasurer, and Peter Stevenson, Public Relations Officer. The presidents of member clubs serve as directors on the DAMA executive.

A delicious soup and sandwich lunch, with dessert of course, followed the AGM. After lunch we thanked the Lavrock staff for their service during our stay and then we headed home to our respective parishes.

The retreat was enjoyed by all in attendance. The 2019 event is booked for May 3-4, 2019. The men of all parishes in the diocese and their clergy are welcome to attend this or any other DAMA event. Men's groups, or parishes wishing to form a men's group, can contact DAMA through any members of the executive, or Synod Office.



their roots in the Anglican Church three years ago, and since then they have furnished more than 675 homes in the north-east Avalon region. They told us we could help by sharing their information, donating either furniture or money, and supporting their church-a-month projects.

Following each presentation, DAMA made

Commission on Parish Renewal and Viability, and that the report on our future would be presented at the upcoming Diocesan Synod in November. The report will cause our church to look different as we move forward. We have assets of people, property, and locations and there may be some things with which DAMA can become involved.

Board of Management.

Bishop Geoff informed the men that today, May 5, is the fortieth anniversary of the commissioning of our chaplain, Rev'd Ed Keeping, in the Church Army. Congratulations Rev'd Ed!

The annual general meeting began with the presentation and adoption of reports. Rev'd Keeping updated the meeting



# St. Augustine's Patronal Festival Week Held

Article by  
Peter Stevenson

In the year 596, Pope Gregory the Great sent Augustine to England to spread the Gospel, the end result being that Augustine became St. Augustine, the first Archbishop of Canterbury, and subsequently the patron

rector, the Rev'd Dr. Rudolph Anthony, decided it was time to really celebrate our patron and with the support of vestry, he organized a mission week in honour of our patron saint.

The theme for the mission week was "Unity

from other denominations, where Fr. Anthony is the Anglican chaplain, were the guest preachers. Each evening included a liturgy supported by music. Fr. Anthony led the service with participation from the guest clergy. At each of the weekday services, Fr. Anthony included a brief history of the life of St. Augustine.

The preacher for the first service was Pastor Erika White, Salvation Army Chaplain to MUN. Pastor Erika was accompanied by a ten piece brass band from the St. John's Temple. Their music filled the church with the beautiful tones of the various instruments. In her address, Pastor Erika compared the work of Augustine to that of William and Catherine Booth, founders of the Salvation Army, whose work started out among people in the same area as Augustine, though in 1865 as opposed to 596. She also spoke of

the work of the chaplaincy and of unity in diversity through the love of God.

service, Father Joe Mroz, Roman Catholic chaplain to MUN was the guest speaker.



Newfoundland and Labrador International Gospel Choir

On Wednesday evening, Pastor Steve Grimes, the Pentecostal pastor to MUN, was the guest speaker. Pastor Steve brought with him Jason Normore as a soloist. For some of the selections, Jason included his friend Kevin and Adedayo Ojo from the International Gospel Choir of Newfoundland and Labrador, who also sang. With the theme of Unity in Diversity, Pastor Steve spoke about how we can find something in the scriptures to help with the tensions of the world around us.

At the Thursday evening

He spoke of the unity and diversity of Jews from all over the world at the day of Pentecost. He brought this forward to the diversity of human needs and of human beings around the world. He spoke of the diversity of God's image in every human being, that we should embrace this diversity in the unity of the church and bring us into the life of the Trinity. Music this evening was provided by The Living Waters Band from Conception Bay South who treated us to a selection of county gospel music.

The week culminated in the patronal service on Trinity Sunday. Music for the service was provided by the International Gospel Choir of Newfoundland and Labrador who performed some of their own selections and led the congregation in the singing of other hymns. The parish welcomed Archdeacon Sam Rose as guest preacher for the occasion. He spoke of his own visit to Canterbury and noted that the opportunity of Augustine so many years ago is ours today, to be messengers and missionaries. He noted that our Parish of St. Augustine's is positioned to reintroduce the Gospel to the people around us. Archdeacon Sam referenced some of the activities of St. Augustine's. He said we should take inspiration from our patron saint to show and share our faith by word and action. The morning concluded with a reception in the parish hall. Overall, we had a remarkable patronal festival week with interesting and informative speakers and beautiful music at each of the four services.



The Living Waters Band

saint of St. Augustine's in St. John's. St. Augustine's Day is May 26th. His Saint's Day is at the beginning of our cabin season, and just like St. Augustine, many of our parishioners are travelling to their summer accommodations, making it perpetually difficult to have a significant patronal festival. For 2018, our new

in Diversity," to empathize with the experiences of our Lord's disciples from Pentecost Sunday to Trinity Sunday. Services were conducted Tuesday, May 22nd through Thursday, May 27th, 2018. For the weekday services, the chaplains to Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN)

## Cycling Bishop Visits Port Aux Basques

Article and photograph by  
Karen Simon

On July 22nd, Bishop Rob Hardwick and his wife Lorraine, from the Diocese of Qu'appelle, visited St. James' Church in Port aux Basques to take part in a service encompassing parishioners of the South West Coast. Bishop Rob is cycling across Canada to raise money to support indigenous ministries, and to build a medical centre in Muyinga, Burundi.

It was a lovely service with a lunch to follow. Good wishes are extended to Bishop Rob and Lorraine on their journey.





# Variety Show Held in Burgeo

Article and photographs by  
Linda Pink

Laughter rang out through the Parish Hall, on May the 4th and 5th as the talented Anglican Church Workers of St. John the Evangelist Church, Burgeo (Parish by the Sea), hosted their Variety Concert. These amazing "actors and actresses" put on a show which was enjoyed by all who attended. A big thank you goes out to these ladies and gentlemen who give of their time and talents to bring a smile and chuckle to the hearts of others! This event is a great fundraiser for our church, and we thank them and all who supported them in any way.



Front row: Hilda Hann, Isabel Hann, Sybil Dollimount, Calvil Bowdridge, Travis Durnford, George Anderson.

Back row: Diane Ingram, June Anderson, Doris MacDonald, Brenda Strickland, Wayne Keeping, Queenie Parsons-Osmond, Stan Strickland, Kayla Young

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Confirmation with Bishop Cy Pitman

## "Time And Tide Wait For No Man"

Article by Louise Smith

Photographs by The Rev'd Jolene Peters

It's hard to comprehend that it's been seven months since we started our busy, yet rewarding calendar year here at St. John the Evangelist, Topsail. Already we are winding down to make way for a brief diversion into a summer hiatus, which began with our closing dinner at Swiss Chalet on May 15th, where our Altar Guild and ACW ladies gathered for a relaxing time of food and fellowship.

Subsequent to this event, on May 27th, we were reminded by our parish representative, Maxine Pinhorn, of the many admirable ways in which our contributions to the Primates World Relief and Development Fund are utilized to help with the needs of underdeveloped countries in the world. Emphasis was placed on the program teaching local doctors to care for at risk and premature infants under the program "All mothers and children count." This ministry was recognized with a monetary donation to a rural village in the Diocese of Bujumbura in Burundi, by our confirmation class of 13, who received the laying on of hands on June 3rd, by the Rt. Rev'd Cyrus Pitman.

Again this year, our old Heritage Church was painstakingly prepared for the regular summer services and tours around its environs. We are looking forward to greeting the many visitors as well as local residents who join us in celebration of this annual summer fellowship. Then on June 10th, our congregation gathered

together in chorus for the annual traditional hymn sing in memory of loved ones gone before.

This year, for the first time, the children of our parish were introduced to the Godly Play program. So on Sunday, June 24th, the whole congregation was privileged to hear the Godly Play story and the "World Communion," which was brilliantly portrayed by parishioner, Susan Bonnell. After which, Rev'd Jolene blessed all wheels and offered prayers for a summer of safe travel and fun.



Blessing of all wheels

As I write this, I have just witnessed an estimated two hundred people file past the black wrought iron gate, and out of the cemetery, emerging from the Flower Service.

Rain threatened but held up, and made way for a brilliant sunshine. Music echoed throughout, and loud speakers enabled the multitude to hear the service loud and clear, while Rev'd Jolene delivered a message of encouragement and hope in her usual inspirational way.

*Whatever your hand finds to do,  
Do it with all your might,  
For man does not know his time,  
Ecclesiastes 9: 10, 12*