

ANGLICAN LIFE

NEWSPAPER FOR THE THREE ANGLICAN DIOCESES IN
NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR • A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL

FEBRUARY 2023



Fogo Island Outreach Mission

Article and photographs by
The Rev'd Beverly Buffett

The Rev'd Neal Buffett spearheaded a mission project for the parishes of Fogo Island East and Fogo Island West. After Hurricane Fiona's destruction, he announced that the parish hall in centre island would be available to drop off items for those in need in Port Aux Basques. Not knowing the outcome of his mission plan, he stayed at the hall for those who wanted to drop off items. The following day the ACW were present at the hall for drop off, and the third day the Rev'd Neil Coffin was available at the hall for drop off. Step one was accomplished, and the donations were over

and above what had been anticipated.

The next step was sorting the items. Rev'd Neal spread the word that a sorting party was needed. A fine crew showed up for this sorting party, and they did an excellent job—even to the extent of sorting clothing into sizes. Now to get the items to Port Aux Basques! He had a truck, but the mission continued with trying to find a trailer large enough to accommodate all of the donations. God's blessings continued because a couple of people offered their trailers.

See *FOGO OUTREACH*,
page 5



At the stop in Pasadena, collecting more for Port aux Basques

A Colourful Lent

The Rt. Rev'd Samuel Rose
Bishop
Anglican East NL



One of the most intimidating moments for a painter is staring at a blank canvas. Devoid of colour, line, or shape, the blank canvas represents fear and possibility for the artist. Where do I start? What is the first colour to choose? Where will the first brush stroke be placed? Will this painting become what I intend?

Lent can be like staring at a blank canvas and wondering what these next 40 days will look like. Where should I start? What should I take away or add to my life? Will my faith be any different in the end?

For many, the first mark

on the canvas of our lives is the smudge of black ash on our foreheads. Ash Wednesday reminds us that despite how we behave sometimes, our life on earth is finite – we have a beginning and an ending, both of which are in God's hands. Ashes to ashes; dust to dust. We come from God, and we return to God.

It's the "in-between" time of birth and death that we can be creative and intentional in our relationship with God and one another. Lent allows a particular time to let God colour our lives with love, forgiveness, mercy, and grace. In doing so, our

lives can become beautiful displays of God's artistry.

They say that a piece of artwork is subjective. Different people can respond to a work of art in different ways. A painting might be beautiful to one person and offensive to another, but the actual image remains unchanged. Lent is our opportunity to make changes in areas of our lives that need attention. Yes, parts of our lives are beautiful and attractive, but what are the other areas that can cause hurt and offence to another?

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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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Colourful Lent

from page 1

Where in our lives needs a little bright colour to highlight God's love and grace?

Take some time to enjoy God's artwork in creation. Spend time in awe of the beauty of a sunrise or sunset. Instead of cursing at a snowstorm, see it as an opportunity to be inside spending time with loved ones or a good book. Journey around your neighbourhood and notice things and people you hadn't before. Like an artist stepping back to admire their creation, take time to see where God's handiwork is revealed right in front of you.

A painting can inspire others to see things differently, including ourselves and others. Art

gives meaning and helps us understand our world. It allows us to have a deeper understanding of who we are; it increases our self-awareness and enables us to be open to new ideas and experiences.

So too does our relationship with God. Lent reminds us that we are made in God's image. Can we recognize the image of God within us? Do others see God in us? When we look at ourselves as made in God's image, do we see the human potential for good? Where is the image of God not so clear and radiant? What needs more colour on the canvas of our lives?

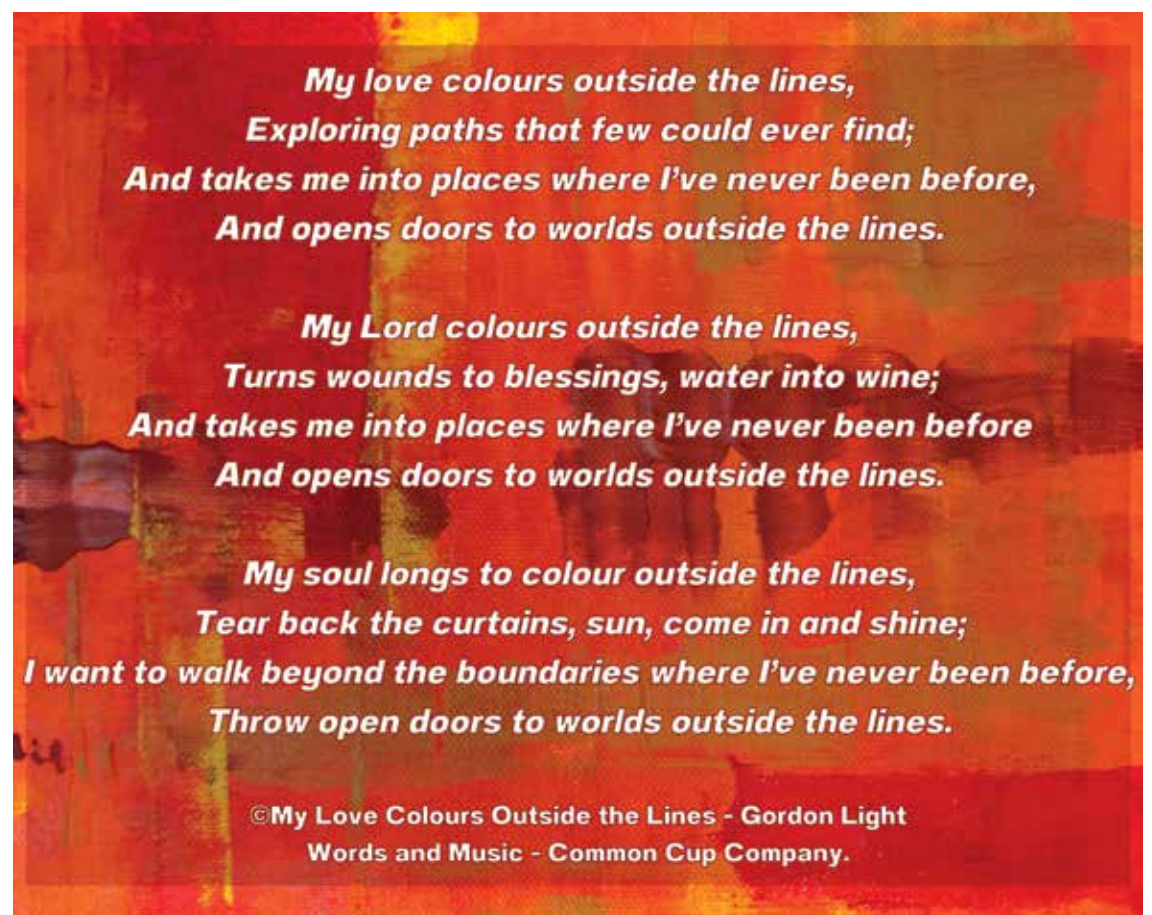
This Lent, don't be intimidated by your blank canvas. Make a mark! Lent

is a time to be honest with ourselves and God about who we are, what we've done, what we have failed to do, and what we plan to do about it. Let our lives be the canvas placed in the hands of the master artist. Let God create in you a colourful heart filled with love and grace for others.

I leave you with words from a beautiful song by retired Bishop Gordon Light called My Love Colours Outside the Lines. You can listen to it on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/YtmMb5ByX4Y>

Wishing you a 'colourful' Lent.

+Sam



UPCOMING DEADLINES:

March's print issue: 1 February

April's print issue: 1 March

May's print issue: 30 March

email submissions to: anglicanlifennl@gmail.com

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3 Carpasian Road
St. John's, NL A1C 3T9

ANGLICAN  LIFE



Special Presentations at St. Alban's Anglican Church, Grand Bank

Article and photographs by
Carl Rose

The Rev'd Charlie Cox ended the second Sunday in Advent service at St. Alban's in Grand Bank with presentations to two members of the congregation.

Elvina Brushett, a long-time member of St. Alban's, received her license to serve as a Eucharistic Minister in the Diocese of Central Newfoundland. Ben Wiseman, a warden, and the rector, the Rev'd Charlie Cox, made the presentation. Elvina had been referred earlier by St. Alban's vestry, and was then approved by the Rt. Rev'd John Watton, Bishop of Central Newfoundland.

Elvina received a warm welcome from the congregation.

Attention then moved from the newest Eucharist Minister to one that has served in that capacity for many years. Warden Wiseman presented Hazel Caines with a certificate of appreciation for a lifetime of devoted service and faith as a Eucharist Minister at St. Alban's, which she has done for thirty years.

Members of the congregation expressed their appreciation to Hazel for her devotion to her church family.



Rev'd Charlie looks on with approval as Warden Ben Wiseman presents Elvina Brushett with her Eucharist Minister's license.



Warden Ben Wiseman presents Hazel Caines with her certificate of appreciation for her long-time service to the church as Eucharist Minister. A smiling Rev'd Cox joins in the presentation.



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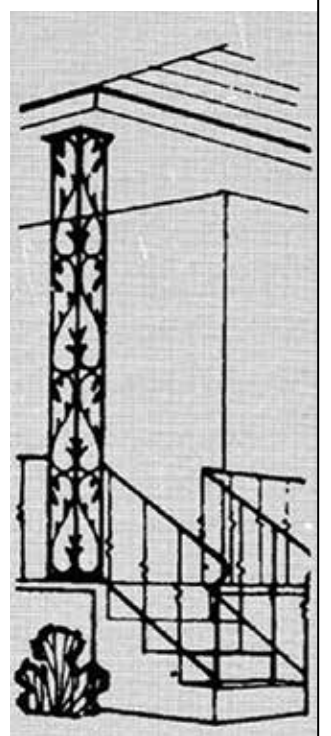
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Let's ignorE Negative Thinking

The Rev'd Canon Jeffrey Petten
Columnist

A number of years ago, while in the days of searching and seeking other Christian denominational traditions, one of the things that I used to watch was the American Televangelist Dr. Robert Schuller from The Crystal Cathedral, and the program *The Hour of Power*. Schuller was a Dutch Reform pastor who practised a lot of the psychological works of Norman Vincent Peale and the power of positive thinking. The episode that I remember the most from that time was during the season of Lent when, from the pulpit, Schuller said that Lent was an acronym for "Let's ignorE Negative Thinking." Today as I look back and as I prepare for



Photo by oneinchpunch from shutterstock.com

the Season of Lent, both for my own spiritual needs and that of a parish, I think that is the one thing that we could give up for Lent—negative thinking!

For some reason or another, thinking negatively about something is a thing that Anglicans are very good at

doing. We are the first to say "no" when the word "change" is involved. When something occurs the first thoughts we have had have been negative thoughts. We do not take the time to step back from things and think about the positive effects that change could have, or the

positive outcomes that something might have. In the life of the Church, we always encourage people to give up something for Lent and to replace that something that they give up with more of our spiritual practises of prayer, Bible study, and the ever-so-famous mid-week Lenten worship.

So, if you are wondering what you are going to give up this year for Lent, may I be so bold as to suggest to you to give up negative thinking. Think about saying yes to God. Think about the positives that a newcomer into our communities can bring to us. Think about the positives that your parish priest would like to bring to your parish. Think

about the positive ways in which you can be involved in parish life. Think about the positive ways that you can impact a person's life, just by the simple fact that you smile and say hello to a stranger in the supermarket or other places you meet people. As simple positive act and change a person's day. Who knows, you may just change a person's life. So this Lent, "Let's ignorE Negative Thinking."



Southwest Coast Ministerial Eccumenical Carol Service

Submitted with photographs by
Lisa Brown



On December 2nd, 2022, the Southwest Coast Ministerial Association held an Ecumenical Carol Service at St. James' Church in Port aux Basques. Six churches took part with a fine selection of Christmas songs/carols, and with members of the clergy from each church providing scripture readings. The night ended with a lunch at the Memorial Centre.

Fogo Outreach

from page 1

Then on October 10th with a trailer in tow, the round trip was made to Port Aux Basques. On the way, he picked up items from the crew in Pasadena. When he arrived in Port Aux Basques, the people were expecting him, and they were so thankful for the items which had been donated.

The next Sunday at church, Rev'd Neal shared his experience with the parishes of Fogo East and West. He said, a truck pulled up to take the bed, and the person said, "Now I will not have to sleep on the floor tonight." Another person took the washer and dryer in the same manner, with grateful hearts that they could now do laundry. Then the bags and boxes were



Sorting through the donated goods



Arriving in Port aux Basques, ready to distribute the collected items to those in need

carried into the building. The volunteers were so thankful that everything was already labeled with what was inside. A box full of work gloves was opened, and the lady told the men to go get a pair since they were helping with unloading.

There is much loss and hurt amongst the people, however, they showed gratitude for the items which had been donated. Rev'd Neal said, "This Thanksgiving, I did not get turkey dinner, however this was the most fulfilling Thanksgiving I have ever

experienced." He also said, "Just because I am the one in the pictures does not mean I am more important—someone had to drive the truck. God helped us do this together. It took all of us to make this happen. Without your help and support, and

God's guidance it would not have happened." Upon returning, both parishes shared the expenses incurred for gas for this worthwhile outreach. With God all things come to fruition.



A Visit To the Extended Care Unit

Submitted by Lisa Brown
Photographs by
Claudine Matthews

On December 8th, the ACW Ladies of St. James' Church in Port aux Basques, NL, visited the Extended Care Unit at the Dr. Charles L. Legrow Hospital. The residents enjoyed a game of bingo, receiving treats, and the music that was played for them. It was a wonderful evening.

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ANGLICAN LIFE Newfoundland&Labrador



A Donation of Candles

Article and photographs by
Karen Simon

At St. Augustine's in Margaree-Fox Roost we had donations of flameless candles, in memory of brothers William and Peter Ingram, who spent years dedicated to their church in numerous roles on vestry.

The candles for the Advent wreath were dedicated in memory of William Ingram, who passed away in 2022; the white altar candles were donated in memory of

Peter Ingram, who passed in 2021. The Ingrams have been involved in our church for years, and their families still continue this tradition. They were both "salt of the earth" men with great senses of humour, who helped everyone and took such pride in their church.

Thank you to their families for the donation. Their light will continue.

Thanksgiving Cold Plate in Rocky Harbour

Submitted with photographs by
Dale Decker



It was a little past Thanksgiving, but St. Matthew's, Rocky Harbour, did get its Thanksgiving dinner in on Thursday, November 3rd with 54 people enjoying a tasty cold plate dinner, delicious desserts, tea, and coffee. Plus there were approximately 40 takeouts of cold plates. In addition we had live music, cutting of a birthday cake for two of the musicians—Colleen Rose and her brother Horace Welsh. It was a wonderful evening of fellowship.

JOY Group in Codroy

Submitted with photographs by
Linda Kendell



On October 26th, 2022 Holy Trinity Church in Codroy hosted a free meal for our seniors. This meal marked the first gathering of our "Just Older Youth" group (J.O.Y.). Volunteers graciously prepared and served a lovely meal of soup, sandwiches, and dessert. A short devotion was shared. It was all well received, and we are excited about the prospect of continuing with such success at future gatherings of JOY.

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Reasonable and Probable Grounds to Believe

A Kosovo tour

Ford Matchim
Columnist

In the aftermath of the Kosovo war, involving the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and the former federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro), the United Nations' Mission in Kosovo was tasked with the selection and training of new police officers. The objective was to establish an indigenous multi-ethnic police force for Kosovo.

In July 2000, under Canada's peace keeping umbrella, I commenced duties at the Kosovo Police Service School. At the time of my departure in December, 2021, more than 4100 newly trained cadets had graduated. We had over 180 international police trainers, seconded from 23 UN member countries, assisting. The new cadets were assigned positions throughout Kosovo and worked under the guidance and control of UN Police Officers.

My first night's lodging in Pristina, Kosovo's capital, was a restless one, mainly because of the oppressive sultry temperature. Towards dawn I was awakened by a pleasant and distant cascading chant: *Allahu Akbar (God is great)* that could be heard across the quiet of the morning. It was the Islamic call to prayer.

Working with Kosovar Albanians, all predominantly Muslims (Sunni Islam), resulted in developing many close friendships. We had highly qualified translators at the school and they were not only anxious to perform stellar work as translators, but were very friendly and eager to share and compare our many cultural differences. Central to the faith of Islam is the belief that Mohammed was God's last prophet on earth and that the Koran constitutes God's final revelation of

truth. Their faith implies there is no God but Allah. Ritual daily prayers are performed facing the Kaaba, in Mecca, and is intended to focus the mind on Allah, and in essence prayer is a Muslim's direct communication with Allah.

Living in the midst of Muslims and making numerous friendships, I became aware of my own Christian values clashing with Islam values, and the challenges it presented in trying to square-up my beliefs with that of Islam. Certainly, the differing views were many and I soon came to realize anew that in my home and native land of Canada, even amongst Christians, we had lots of variances in our spiritual beliefs, and for me to get on a high spiritual horse and rail against those who happened to have religious beliefs different than mine simply made no sense at all.

Eastern Orthodox Christianity predominates most of all Serbia, as well as in the northern parts of Kosovo that were mainly Serbian. We still had many Serbs living in enclaves, in southern rural areas of Kosovo, who were receiving special UN police protection. At the Police Training School, some 12% of police cadets were Serbs, and the remainder were Kosovars of Albanian origin. In the early aftermath of the war, the horrors of conflict and especially the hideous practices of ethnic cleansing by the oppressors, were still quite fresh in the minds of many. At the school we were fairly successful in maintaining the peace, and enforced a strict adherence to control measures without fear, favour, or affection.

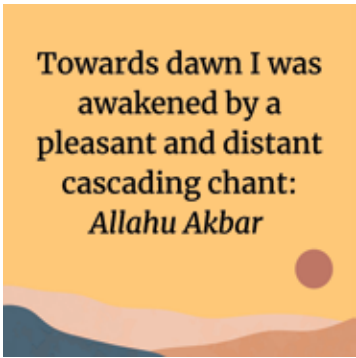
A humorous aside to the rule of "no war chant songs" on school grounds, involved me.

On one Friday afternoon, in a light hearted effort to introduce cadets to some Canadian music (in this instance, "I'se the B'y...") the translator phonetically wrote the lyrics on the blackboard. And yours truly led the singing. In fits and starts and lots of repeats, and with everyone standing pumping their fists to the beat, we made surprising progress, resulting in loud, boisterous singing. The sound of music transcended classroom walls. Unbeknownst to us, school security was alerted, and quickly descended on our classroom. I had to hurriedly explain that in no shape or form were we singing Albanian or Serbian war chants. Needless to say, I saw



fit to not become further engaged in such artistic endeavours. Interestingly though, many cadets later expressed their appreciation for having had the opportunity of participating in the Newfoundland rendition of "I'se the B'y."

During my year-and-a-half Kosovo tour, being able to leave that ravaged, war-torn land and return to Newfoundland for periods of rest and relaxation was so rejuvenating,



and so necessary. And to just sit in a pew at my home Anglican church on a Sunday morning, and listen to the choir sing ...*by many deeds of shame / we learn that love grows cold...* aroused in me such melancholy wonder as to why so many of us have it so good while so many have it so bad.

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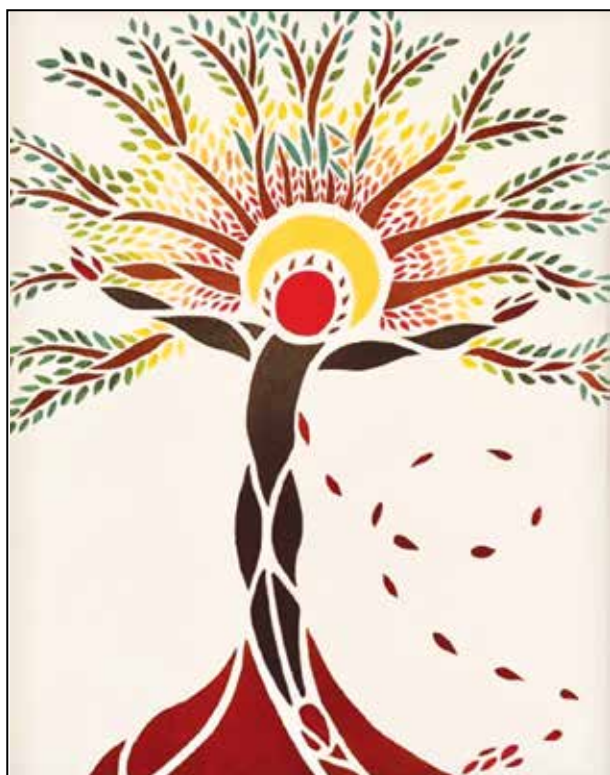
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Queen's College 2023 Appeal—Growing in Faith



THE ASSOCIATE IN THEOLOGY (ATh)

program is a course of study designed for people who are interested in increasing their knowledge and appreciation of Christian belief and practice. As well as developing their pastoral skills, this program also provides a theological base for persons assuming leadership and ministry within the life of their faith community. The ATh is a great follow up for anyone who has completed the Diploma Program, and for anyone who might be discerning a call to vocational ministry within the church. Courses completed in this program may also be applied toward the Bachelor of Theology by Distance. Assignments are designed to help students reflect on their own faith journey lived out in community, and how that fits with the bigger story of the church down through the centuries. We offer a variety of courses that explore the biblical, theological, and liturgical foundations of the Christian community. In keeping with technological and social change, ATh course are increasingly exploring ways to use platforms like Google Classroom and Zoom so that students can learn together in community regardless of geographical distance.

DEGREE PROGRAMS - Queen's College offers a variety of degree programs to meet the needs of all those interested in studying theology. For those seeking ordination we have the traditional Master of Divinity (MDiv) and Bachelor of Theology (BTh) Programs. We also offer a Bachelor of Theology by Distance (BTh by Distance) which enables students with official church sponsorship, to build on the ATh and work toward a degree while remaining in their home communities. We also offer a Master of Theological Studies and Master of Theology programs, that focus more on the academic study of theology, both programs offer the option of writing a thesis. Queen's College is a diverse learning community. Our students, faculty, and staff come from a wide variety of faith traditions and cultural backgrounds. Thanks to technology we also gather from across the country, as well as from other parts of the world.

We are very thankful to Jon-Michael Windsor, for permission to use his artwork *The Tree* for our Queen's College Appeal 2023. The work is the perfect accompaniment to our theme "Growing in Faith." The Queen's College Appeal Sunday will be February 12, 2023.

The theme: *Growing in Faith* is rooted in the Epistle reading for February 12, 1 Corinthians 3:1-9. It speaks of growing in faith as a child grows and it also emphasizes that while it is God alone who gives the growth, there are many in the community who feed us and mentor as we grow.

Queen's College is not just a theological college, we are a community of people committed to growing in faith together. Last year we adopted a new vision statement:

Queen's College is an accepting, responsive, affirming, innovating, empowering community of theological learning and spiritual formation sending forth disciples to help transform society through God's redeeming love.

We are dependent on the contributions of students, faculty, board members, and the wider community to foster our growth. We need people committed to growing in faith—people who are willing to learn new things and to be daring in their search for faith. And we need folks to mentor them and teach them—willing to one day be the teacher and the next to be the learner. We need folks who share a common vision of transforming society into the kin(g)dom of God, just as Jesus called us to do.

It is daring work and it is important work;

it is sometimes difficult and painful, but it is always rewarding.

We are committed to keeping our community accessible to others and so we work diligently to keep our tuition affordable so all those who want to grow in faith have the ability to do so. And this is where you play an important role. We need your continued financial support to do this. We are not government funded—our funding comes from our supporting churches and from individual donors like you. Your contribution is vital if we are to continue this work in this place.

We are the only theological college in our province and we have students from multiple denominations and faith traditions. There is nowhere else that provides the educational and faith opportunities that we do.

People often think that we only train clergy, but actually we run a variety of programs and degrees, and the ordination stream is just one part of what we do. We train lay leaders and those who serve our communities in diverse ways. We are *all* called to grow in faith, and we are committed to helping you to do that.

As Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 3:9, "We are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building." And that is who we are. Each one of us called as a servant; called to community—to work together; called to equip ourselves in whatever ways we can to be God's field and God's building.

Please support Queen's College in our upcoming appeal.

- The Rev'd Dr. Joanne Mercer, Provost

THE DIPLOMA IN THEOLOGY AND MINISTRY is a three-year program that is intended for individuals who are beginning their studies in the areas of theology and ministry. The program introduces participants to the language, overall content, and processes used in the various disciplines of scripture, theology, liturgy, Leadership in the Christian community and pastoral ministry. Just as important is the strong emphasis on creating a community of learners who support one another in their studies. This is accomplished through weekly prayer and student discussion throughout the presentations.

There is no required reading outside of class, nor are there written assignments or exams. Many of those participating are already involved in a variety of roles in their faith communities. Many are also searching—some for a new understanding of their faith, some for discernment of what they are being called to in these communities, and some for personal interest.

A WORD FROM SOME CURRENT STUDENTS...

"Through Queen's Diploma Program of Theology and Ministry, I have found answers to my initial ministry questions as well as more questions. The concept of a rolling admission to the program, the knowledgeable guest professors/speakers, and the use of technology to have us in a virtual classroom are supported by Dr. Carmel Doyle's energy, wisdom, and dedication to the program.

Although all of my classmates are in Newfoundland and I live in New Brunswick, we are together each week through Zoom. Moreover, I was delighted when Nancy H. reached out to say she was coming to New Brunswick one summer. We were able to meet face to face, and plan to do so again.

Queens Diploma Program...is the time/place where I became part of a family that offers support for one another by messaging one another between sessions, sharing information on religion/spirituality, and expressing our needs for prayer. The program offers a safe place to question, to explore, and to share in the way."

-Lynda

"Student life at Queens College is rich and fulfilling. The Queen's environment is such that students develop a love and loyalty towards the college that continues long after student life has finished.

Faculty and staff are dedicated to the Christian values of loving, supportive community and all who enter are accepted for who they are and wherever they are on life's journey. Christian values are modelled and students work together in a caring, nonjudgmental environment. They share meals, laughter, troubles, conversation, and debate. They participate in social justice activities outside the college and work to create a fairer world.

There is a personal transformation that occurs while attending Queen's that enriches the lives of all. Students generally leave as more loving, caring, and perceptive inhabitants of our world. What more can you ask? Queen's College rocks! Go Queens, go!"

-Karen

FROM THE THREE BISHOPS OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR...

When I tuck myself away in the chapel at Synod Office, or wherever I seek a quiet refuge to pray, I am never able to “disconnect” as my spiritual director often tells me I should, completely, from what is happening in the world in relation to society, environment, science, human dignity, and religion. I cannot disconnect, nor do I have any wish to do so. This has been reinforced for me by my recent involvement with Lambeth Conference, where I believe the Holy Spirit spoke rather clearly into the Anglican Communion. That is the topic for another series of reflections. (See you in Lent this year)

When I was a student of Queens college back in the mid 80’s I was introduced to the transforming power of a community that mentored, challenged, taught, and attempted to equip me for parish ministry. In retrospect, over the years, I have heard many diverse voices saying that there is no way that Queen’s

College could completely prepare anyone for life in a parish. Most of these voices offered that impression not as a harsh criticism, but as a reflection of concern and commitment to the ongoing life and development of Queen’s College.

Truth is, in all ages, theological training centres have known in theory if not in practice that it is in the effort of connecting what is happening in society, environments, science, human dignity and religion, unsettling, disorienting, demanding as this is, that the explorative journey toward human wholeness continues in hope of finding that which “is not yet but is yet to come.”

Like all of us, Queen’s College has been thrust into a whirlwind of change. We see some parishes and congregations actively and bravely engaging challenges of identity, sustainability, discipleship, and mission. Some because of visionary thinking, others out of

necessity because time and money has run out.

We are learning that no one program, institution, theology, or teaching has THE ANSWER.

Having said that, it is important to remember the central teaching of the 4th chapter of Ephesians. Our creator has given a diversity of gifts to every single person and function of the Church. These gifts are for the good of all and to ensure that the mission of light will continue, and those who are in fellowship will grow together in love, maturity, and wisdom. These are exciting times for us, and we continue to look to Queen’s as part of our gifted community called to be devoted to learning, adapting, and then engaging and teaching our Churches with humility and wisdom.

+John, Central Newfoundland

As a graduate of this historic theological institution, I write to express my support for the Queen’s College 2023 Annual Appeal. As Bishop, I have found Queen’s College to be a valuable resource in the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador in the formation of Anglicans for personal growth and spiritual development, as well as preparation for ordained ministry.

Theological education is essential because it helps individuals better understand the Christian faith and interpret Holy Scripture. It can also deepen an individual’s faith and help them develop the critical thinking and communication skills necessary to engage with complex theological ideas. Additionally, theological education can prepare individuals for careers in religious leadership, education, and ministry. It can also provide a foundation for interfaith dialogue and cooperation.

There are many benefits to attending Queen’s College. Some of the most notable benefits include:

- Queen’s College provides a structured and immersive educational experience focused on religious studies and ministry. Students have the opportunity to learn from experienced scholars and religious leaders and to engage with a community of diverse individuals;
- A theological education can provide a solid foundation for a career in ministry, whether as a pastor, chaplain, missionary, or other religious leader. It can also provide valuable skills and knowledge for those who wish to serve in different capacities within the religious community;
- Attending a theological college like Queen’s can also provide personal and spiritual growth. Students can deepen their faith and gain a better understanding of their beliefs and values

through their studies and interactions with their peers;

- Queen’s College offers practical training and hands-on experience through internships and other opportunities. This can help students develop the skills and experience they need to succeed in their future careers.

Overall, Queen’s College provides a unique and enriching educational experience that can benefit individuals personally and professionally. I ask you to prayerfully consider offering your financial support towards the 2023 Annual Appeal for our beloved Queen’s College. It provides a valuable service and ministry to the Anglican community. I urge you to support Queen’s College in any way you can.

In Christ,

+Samuel, Eastern Newfoundland & Labrador

Queen’s College was founded in 1841 to provide theological studies and spiritual formation for Anglicans throughout Newfoundland and Labrador. For more than 180 years, the Anglican Church in our province has looked to Queen’s College to help form and equip individuals called by God to ordained ministry.

I am greatly thankful that Queen’s College remains available to the three Anglican dioceses of Newfoundland and Labrador. Queen’s College is essential to our raising up faithful Anglicans throughout our province to serve God and God’s people.

In the Diocese of Western Newfoundland (Labrador Straits), we have been able to move forward with providing ordained women and men to our 30 parishes and 80 congregations largely because of the flexibility and creativity of Queen’s College in training and equipping individuals in ongoing theological studies and spiritual formation. Week after week, and month after month, the theological,

spiritual, pastoral, and liturgical growth of these individuals is more and more evident and inspiring.

Queen’s College is enabling us, through study and formation, to grow in our love for God and neighbour, as well as in compassionate service to the world.

For laity and clergy, theological study assists Anglicans to continue life-long learning and formation in discipleship, our daily following of Jesus Christ.

Psalm 119, verse 103, has this beautiful expression of what it means to study God’s Word: “How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!”

Thomas Merton once said about his experience of studying the Bible, “The whole world is charged with the glory of God and I feel music and fire under my feet.”

With today’s technology, we have easy access to biblical and theological courses at Queen’s College. We can nurture our spiritual growth and Christian discipleship through

on-line courses with fellow students across our province and indeed from other parts of Canada and the world. We can study in-person and on campus as well.

Queen’s College is a vital and ready resource to everyone in our diocese. It is “our” theological college and offers tremendous opportunity for ongoing personal growth in theology and spirituality, enabling our being “God’s Church for God’s World.”

2023 marks 182 years that Queen’s College has been an essential and effective provider of theological education and spiritual formation for thousands of Anglican clergy and laity in our province. We pray that Queen’s College will continue to be a vibrant and inspiring place for nurturing theological learning and Christian discipleship.

During this year’s Queen’s College Appeal, I encourage and thank you for your financial and prayerful support for Queen’s College.

+ John, Western Newfoundland



HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT QUEEN’S COLLEGE?

- You can look at their website at www.queenscollegenl.ca
- Like and follow their Facebook page at facebook.com/queenscollegenl

HOW CAN I SUPPORT THE WORK OF QUEEN’S COLLEGE?

- On Sunday February 12, your local Anglican church in Newfoundland and Labrador will have envelopes for the 2023 Queen’s College appeal for you to use
- Go to the website (see above) and make an online donation
- You can contact Queen’s directly and ask them how you can support them at (709) 753-0116

Maison Dorcas / City of Joy Project

News from PWRDF

Sheila Boutcher
PWRDF Representative
Diocese of Central Newfoundland
Photo by PWRDF

In the Book of Acts, Dorcas was a woman of great charity who helped widows and may have even been a widow herself. In those days, widows were often poor and isolated. When Dorcas died, she was so mourned by her beneficiaries that the Apostle Peter came to where her body was laid out for burial and raised her from the dead. And so it is at the home named for her in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Maison Dorcas, that women recover and find new life after being traumatized by sexual or gender-based violence.

Maison Dorcas was created by Dr. Denis Mukwege after the startling realization that 40% to 60% of women treated at Panzi Hospital were unable to return to their homes after medical treatment, either due to the extent of their injuries, risk of ongoing violence or the deep stigma attached to victims of sexual and gender-based violence. Panzi Hospital is known as the place where women who survive sexual violence go to be treated, and Dr. Mukwege is known as the "Doctor that repairs women." In 2018, Dr. Mukwege received the Nobel Peace Prize for his work in helping victims of gender-based violence recover. "For a woman victim

of sexual assault and violence, the medical care is the first step in a long road to recovery," Dr. Mukwege told PWRDF staff on a visit to the DRC. "We can and should do better by accompanying her until she can stand on her own."

PWRDF supports Maison Dorcas in providing women with essential skills such as literacy, numeracy, and small business training which supports income-generating activities such as baking, soap-making, basket-weaving, sewing, and farming. The aim of this training is to empower victims of gender-based and sexual violence, to ensure that their livelihoods improve and they have the skills they need to re-integrate into their communities and their families.

Maison Dorcas acts as a transit and safety house for victims of violence and those needing extended medical care. Women at Maison Dorcas continue their healing journey along with other vulnerable women from their communities in a setting where they are safe and heard. They actively participate in their own decision-making, empowering them and building up their self-esteem. Many of the women that are cared for at Maison Dorcas



Residents of Maison Dorcas learn basket weaving

also participated in the City of Joy Project with the goal of turning suffering into power, despair into dignity, pain into power, and fear into joy.

Jeanne, 22, was sexually abused at age 14. After receiving medical and psychosocial care at Panzi Hospital, she arrived at Maison Dorcas for vocational training and to finish her schooling. A psychologist there helped her accept the child she bore from the rape. Today Jeanne

works at the Primate Conservation and Rehabilitation Project as an animal supervisor. Jeanne said, "I have become again a human person. Dr. Mukwege has rehabilitated my life, my dignity. I find myself in a team of men and women and together we discuss and plan. My voice counts in the decision-making."

Support the work of PWRDF by visiting their website at: pwrdf.org

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Until you Collect!

New Wine Gospel Group Performs at Christmas Events

Articles and photographs by
Eileen Keeping



ECUMENICAL SERVICE IN PORT AUX BASQUES - St. Paul's New Wine Gospel group and musicians took part in the Christmas ecumenical service held at St. James' Anglican church in Port aux Basques, on December 2nd. The members of the Southwest coast ministerial association also performed a musical selection.



CHRISTMAS CANTATA - St. Paul's Church of the Grand Bay Parish presented the annual Christmas cantata on December 11th at the church. It told the Christmas story, with members of the congregation taking part as cast members. The New Wine Gospel group singers and musicians performed the musical selections. Thank you to everyone who participated and made this event so special.

Taking A Risk

Emily F. Rowe
Editor, Anglican Life

When I took this job, I decided that it wouldn't be fair to talk about my own parish a lot. It's worth saying though that the Parish of St. Michael and All Angels in St. John's has taken some pretty big chances. At a parish meeting in April (2022), they decided to buck the trend, and rather than cut ministry, sell the building. We all know that money is tight in our churches these days, and tough decisions have to be made. I'm not saying that this is right for every congregation, but the church isn't the

building: it's the people and the ministry.

Is this a risk? Yes it is. Is it scary? 100% yes; I know that I've lost sleep, and so have many others. But what are we, the Church, really here for? We need to prioritize our ministry to the wider community; we need to have the time to attend Bible studies and learning groups in order to increase our understanding and to grow theologically; maybe we need to put money into a music program to enhance our worship; we need to be able to spend

time in the worship of God, and be at peace, not constantly fretting about oil and electric bills (or a mortgage).

Living in a constant state of heightened anxiety is draining emotionally, spiritually, and physically; those of us who have been fighting for these churches for years and years now are tired. How much time to do you take any more for the true worship of God? How much for Christian education? Is your church a place where you find peace, or one that causes you stress and

worry all the time?

I sincerely hope that many of you are reading this from a parish where you are able to focus on all of the good and important things, but if you're not, ask yourself why not.

Things are constantly changing, and God is always challenging us. The pandemic has thrown us all a huge curveball—none of us saw this coming, and it's given us huge challenges to overcome. But these challenges can come with excitement and with new possibilities for growth. One of the truest things



that I have heard in a long time about the Church is that those of us on the inside often don't want things to change because we are the ones that things are working for. But if we really want to spread the Gospel and the love of God to the world, which is what we are all called to do, we shouldn't waste energy maintaining things that we don't need.

Our Archdeacon Buckle Memorial Archive

Article and photographs by
Peter Chalker, Diocesan Archivist

The Archdeacon Buckle Memorial Archive (ABMA) is in the church of St. Mary the Virgin on Craigmillar Avenue in St. John's. It is our mandate, our reason for being, to collect, catalogue, preserve, and make available the records of our church. Only in certain instances are documents restricted. Those documents might contain sensitive and personal information.

The public uses the archive for several reasons. Most people come to an archive to search for members of their family. They may want to find the birth, marriage, or death of a relative. At ABMA we have registers of birth, marriage, and death for most parishes in our diocese. These registers date back in some instances to the late 18th century. You can call the archive to ask the archivist to search for your relative's information. Before you call it is important to have as much information about your family member to tell the archivist as the more information you give the quicker the search will be.

ABMA has other types of documents besides church registers. We also have land deeds that show lands that belong to various parishes.

We have many minutes of church organizations such as parish councils, the



ACW, the GFS, and other church groups. There are many documents related to schools such as Bishop Feild College and Bishop Spencer College. ABMA has all the publications of the church such as the Diocesan Magazine, which became the Churchman, and is now Anglican Life. The SPG (Society for the Propagation of the Gospel) documents are also housed in our archive. These documents tell the history of our church in Newfoundland and Labrador.

As we are a hierarchical church, we have the papers of all the bishops of our diocese beginning with Bishop Spencer, our first bishop to our present bishop, the Rt. Rev'd Samuel Rose. Not only from bishops, but we also have papers and books written by various parish priests.

We have several of the late Archdeacon Buckle's (Archdeacon for Labrador) books about the church in Labrador.

Among our various collections, we have many hundreds of photographs of our clergy and people. Photographs of bishops, priests, church groups, church people at work in their parishes and many pictures of our various churches and communities.

At ABMA we give the care of our documents the greatest priority. As archivist, I have always preached to parish leaders how important it is to care for their documents while being used, and when they have been filled, it is mandatory to get them to the archive. There they can be preserved and catalogued. If stored incorrectly they can deteriorate quickly and then be lost forever.



Top left: a register of marriages

Top right: some of the many files

On the left: a parish minute book

These are just a very few of the things that can be kept safe by ABMA for future generations to enjoy and use for research.



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Stepping Back So That Others Can Step Up

The Rev'd Jonathan Rowe
Columnist

Last year, I wrote about how we need to stop talking about people working for the church as if they were 'volunteers' and start talking about them as 'ministers'. But whether we call it volunteering or ministry, the church often struggles to find people to do the unpaid work that needs to be done. But there's an even bigger problem that we don't talk about as much.

As much as we might talk about wanting to get new people 'involved', many times we're actively working to dissuade people from offering their time or talents to the work of the church. Someone wants to join the Altar Guild, but they're told 'We do the work and cleaning on Friday mornings to get ready for Sunday.'

'Well, I work during the day: is there any chance I could help out in the evening or on Saturday?'

'Not really. Everyone else is retired, and that wouldn't be convenient for *them*.'

Or there's some other reason, including 'All our teams are full.'

That's something that I've actually heard, in more than one context: 'We've got enough volunteers to do what we need to do'. A wise friend of mine once pointed out that there's very little incentive for church people to ever change anything, because what's already going on works fine enough for them. Until it doesn't work for them any more.

A 'pillar of the church' suddenly dies, and no one knows how to do what they used to do, without complaining, week in and week out. A pandemic means that for a long stretch of time it's not safe for seniors to gather with other people. The same group of people gets smaller and more burdened with work as people die or move away, and it all becomes unsustainable.

The people who are so devoted to uncomplaining ministry like this usually have all the best motivations. They stay in leadership roles because 'I don't want to see you stuck,' or they have been involved with



something for so long that they couldn't imagine not being in charge next year. There is a legitimate problem when no one else seems willing to step up to the ministry that we're doing. But I would argue that it's an even bigger problem when people want to get involved but can't, because we don't want to upset the people we already have helping out.

If we can't find ways for people who are not yet retired to share their gifts, there will be other organizations that will be only too happy to involve them. When those people retire, doesn't it make sense to think that they'll

want to offer their newfound time to the Red Cross or the United Way, or the groups that have given them opportunities to volunteer in the past? What message does it send if you tell someone that your own comfort or convenience is more important than their willingness to offer themselves for lay ministries in the church?

This is another reason why it's important to think about this as 'ministry' rather than 'volunteering'. As soon as I'm tempted to turn someone away because their help would be inconvenient, I should be asking myself why I'm involved in this ministry. Is it for me, or for Jesus? What right do I have to take away someone else's ministry? If we're going to be serious about our ministries, we need to think about new people like John the Baptist spoke about Jesus: they must increase, and we must decrease. In other words, sometimes we need to step back so that other people can step up.

How Will You Be Remembered?

Kevin Smith
Columnist

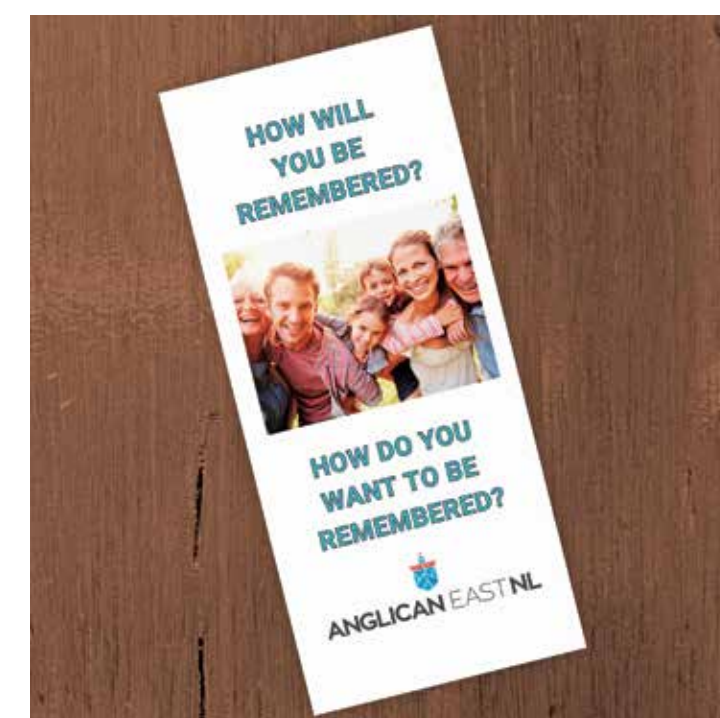
For the last month or so, I have been working on revising the old planned giving brochure, which was called "Introduction to Planned Giving." That brochure was revised in 2003 and released in January of 2004. It is now out of date, and needed to be replaced. So with help from Anglican Life editor, Emily Rowe, we were able to draft the new document and put it a format that it could be printed. These brochures will be distributed to every parish in the the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador.

Copies of these brochures will be shared with Central and Western Newfoundland if they wish to adapt the contents to their particular dioceses.

The purpose of these brochures is to introduce planned giving, and to

encourage our faithful parishioners to get their estates in order and to prayerfully consider leaving a bequest or some other product for their parish, to their diocese or to the national church. It explains what planned giving is and discusses the various ways to give. These include bequests in wills, life insurance, gifts of property and gifts of appreciated securities.

It suggests that writing your will and planning your estate go hand in hand. Through careful planning, you can minimize taxes on your final tax return, and increase the amount that is left for the important things that you hold dear in your life—your family and the Church's ministry. It also points out that planned gifts can be directed to support specific programs in your parish, in the



diocese, or in the national church. Examples of this would be youth ministry, Christian education, Queen's College, an outreach ministry, or the social justice of the Primate's World Relief

and Development Fund (PWRDF).

Copies of this new brochure will be available sometime within the next few months.

"Living is giving. We live life best as we give



our strengths, gifts and competencies in the service of God's mission. We are called to serve, not survive. Our giving makes a difference in our families, our work, our community, our world and our church."
- Kennon L. Callahan, Champion of Christian Stewardship

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

Temptation

Melanie Clarke
Columnist

February is the beginning of Lent. The tradition in my family and many Christian families is to give up something for Lent. As a teenager, my father told me we should give up something we liked, to try and experience a little of the discomfort that Jesus had during his forty days and nights in the desert. Dad said we needed to choose something that we would miss if we didn't have it. Some family members would give up alcohol, for example, during Lent. I was never much of a drinker so that wasn't something I would miss if I gave it up. After much consideration, I decided that french fries would be what I would miss during Lent.

Now, for most people, french fries doesn't seem like much to give up. Usually, people don't have french fries more

than once a week, and that is how often I have french fries too. But the perfect deep fried french fry is one of my favourite things to eat! I know they aren't good for you and my favourite food should be a vegetable, but my preference is for a golden-brown crispy potato!

So, every year, beginning on Ash Wednesday, I stop eating french fries until after Good Friday. Although forty days doesn't seem like a long time, it becomes longer in my mind as I count the days to my french fry fest on Easter weekend! I don't know if it's just me, but when I deny myself something I want it even more. During those forty days, it seems all the people around me choose french fries as their side for most meals. French fries seem to be everywhere, yet I can't have them!



I realize that it's my choice not to have french fries, but I do feel the temptation to have "just one" every time I'm around them.

The temptation of being around something I have chosen *not* to have is in no way comparable to the temptations that Jesus faced while he was in the desert for forty days, but it does remind me of Jesus' plight every time I see french fries during Lent. I can't imagine the courage Jesus had to resist Satan's offerings while he was in the desert. Imagine being offered everything



photo by Hanvao on www.unsplash.com

your heart desired and having the strength to say no to it! During Jesus' forty days, the devil offered him everything the human heart seemed to desire, yet Jesus said no three times. Jesus was being offered everything that the "human" heart desired. The devil forgot or chose to deny Jesus' deity. Jesus is God's son and therefore was more than human.

Jesus' temptation in the wilderness required him to deny his weak "human" side and to lean into his godliness. In denying the temptations

offered to him we witness his strength and power! Jesus shows us how to resist earthly offerings and to instead, choose the way of God and his powerful love!

Once again, this year, I have chosen to give up my beloved french fries. Every time I chose not to have them, I remember how strong and powerful Jesus, his Father, and the Holy Spirit are in my life. Maybe this year, you can also give up something for Lent to remind you of Jesus' sacrifice for us all!

God bless you.

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Induction of The Rev'd Josiah Wade Noel as Rector of St. John the Evangelist, Topsail

Article by Louise Smith

Photographs by Pauline Noel

On December 4th, 2022, at St. John the Evangelist Church in Topsail, Bishop Rose, Rev'd Noel, invited guests, and active members of the parish assembled to celebrate an important and long anticipated event—the Induction of Rev'd Josiah Wade Noel to the parish of St. John the Evangelist, Topsail.

I have been a member of the faith community of St. John the Evangelist for over sixty years. During that time, I have had the distinguished opportunity to collaborate with thirteen different rectors, and have witnessed inductions, duly bestowed. However, from 2011 to 2021, our spiritual situation was somewhat altered. Of the seven priests who served our congregation during that period, we were dependent upon five guest ministers. We would never discount the dedication of these very qualified priests, as each had his own special and individual gift of conveyance.

But about a year ago, with no permanent

priest for some time, we welcomed the permanency of Rev'd Noel to our parish. So after several years of hellos and goodbyes, this special induction was long anticipated and celebrated on the second Sunday of Advent.

We were blessed with the presence of several organizations of the town of CBS, where volunteering is reflective of the healthy functioning of its people. Joining us to welcome Rev'd Josiah were representatives from the town of CBS; the Paradise and CBS food bank; the CLB, Upper Gullies company; 1st Topsail Scouts; the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 50; the CBS Chamber of Commerce; and the Society of United Fishermen No. 41, Topsail. Rev'd Josiah thanked them for the welcome and reiterated that together we can build a more secure and vibrant community.

We were especially blessed to have in our midst Rev'd Noel's mother who participated in the service by delivering psalm 100.



Before the induction ceremony, Amanda Dawe graced the congregation with her solo, "You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord."

In compliance with protocol, the wardens and a representative of the parish approached the Bishop with the request to proceed with the induction. The licence was then read by the Bishop on behalf of the people of the parish.

In his address to Rev'd Josiah, Bishop Sam continued by asking if he would commit to this trust and responsibility—with the reply "I do." In like manner, the bishop asked the congregation for their support of Rev'd Noel in his ministry, with

the guarantee, "We do." He concluded by asking the visitors if they would support Rev'd Noel and the parish, with the response, "We will."

Representatives of the congregation then presented symbols of ministry on behalf of the whole people of God.

A Bible: the story of God's Love. A vessel of water: baptism. Oil: anointing of the Holy Spirit. Bread and Wine: the Eucharist. The Liturgical books: lead us in worship. Keys to the church: an open and welcome community. A copy of the canons of the diocese: to work with communities and organizations of the church.



The ceremony concluded with the invitation of all present who are baptized members of their own church to participate in the Eucharist, which was followed by the retrieving of the colours and the Royal Anthem. Then Bishop Sam, Rev'd Josiah, guests, and parishioners were ushered downstairs to the choir's rhythm of "To God Be The Glory," while a delicious lunch was prepared and served by the ACW team.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart In all your ways acknowledge him, And he shall direct your path."
Proverbs 3: 5.

What Keeps Us Motivated?

Allison Billard
Columnist

Where does motivation come from? Are motivation and inspiration the same thing? How do we get it? Does it just happen to us when we are passionate about something, or believe something to be worth doing? Is it a skill we can develop, or the result of a disciplined practice?

These are the questions my tired brain has been asking a lot lately. Where is my motivation?

I have never been a big believer in the concept of burnout, for myself. I can completely see how it happens to other people. Single parents, in my book, are absolute superheroes. Healthcare workers in a pandemic are definitely heroes. But for me? Of course not! I have a 9-5 office job and a partner to share the load

with at home. What do I have to be burned out about?

Then I find myself wondering aloud to a friend, that there must be more to life than just this grind we are in. Cook, clean, go to work, get kids to school, make sure they get their homework done, take them to the activities, clean some more, cook some more, day in and day out. Don't forget to eat well, keep active and get enough rest. How exactly can one actually accomplish all that?

There has to be more to it right? Or less? It just doesn't seem meaningful. What is this feeling?

Yeah, that's burnout, they say. Who me? Can't be!

When you start fantasizing about having any other life than this, I figure it's a safe bet



something is amiss. Turns out even us 9 - 5'ers can get stuck, grinding away at all the daily things, and can no longer see the things that bring us joy, or even find joy in them if we can see them—and that hurts. It is exhausting. It is hard to find the motivation to get up and face yet another day of the grind. My get up and go got up and went.

Which leads me to wonder, how did the disciples do it? How did they go out day in and day out,

face persecution and hate, and almost certain death if discovered by the rulers of the day? That is some kind of insanity. I can't even bear the thought of another weekend spent doing laundry and cleaning bathrooms. No one is threatening my life. I won't end up nailed to the cross for my convictions, or lack thereof.

Is that simply the power of the Holy Spirit? Was that the inspiration they needed to ride it out, to share the gospel—to bring God's love to the people? And can we all have that same motivation, inspiration, and passion for our lives and what we do with them?

If we can, I haven't found it just yet. Or it hasn't found me. Or maybe I'm too stubborn to let it in.

Christmas in Port Aux Basques

Articles and photographs
by Lisa Brown



ACW CHRISTMAS FELLOWSHIP - On December 13th, the ACW Ladies of St. James' Church in Port aux Basques held their annual Christmas Fellowship. Despite the terrible weather that day, 23 ladies attended. The evening started with a potluck cold plate, and was followed by a beautiful worship. There were lots of games, and laughs too. A great evening was had by all.

A VISIT TO MOUNTAIN HOPE MANOR - On December 14th, the Rev'd Jane Allen from St. James' Church in Port aux Basques, and the Rev'd Deacon Herbert Park from St. Augustine's in Margaree visited the Mountain Hope Manor for a beautiful service of Christmas carols and reflection on the season. The residents were presented with cards and treats, and listened to the music provided by Danny Mushrow and Viola Parsons.



OUTREACH GROUP VISIT TO THE SENIORS' COMPLEX - On December 15th, the Outreach Department of St. James' Church in Port aux Basques visited the Seniors' Complex. The residents enjoyed an afternoon of music provided by Viola Parsons and Danny Mushrow. The Rev'd Jane Allen provided beautiful worship, and the members of our outreach group prepared a lunch and presented the residents with a small gift and cards. It was a wonderful afternoon of fellowship.