

Anglican Registers Project

4

Chandras win AST award

5

Want to go to camp? We've got you covered!

8

MU's Kathleen Snow in Canterbury

10



THE NEW BRUNSWICK

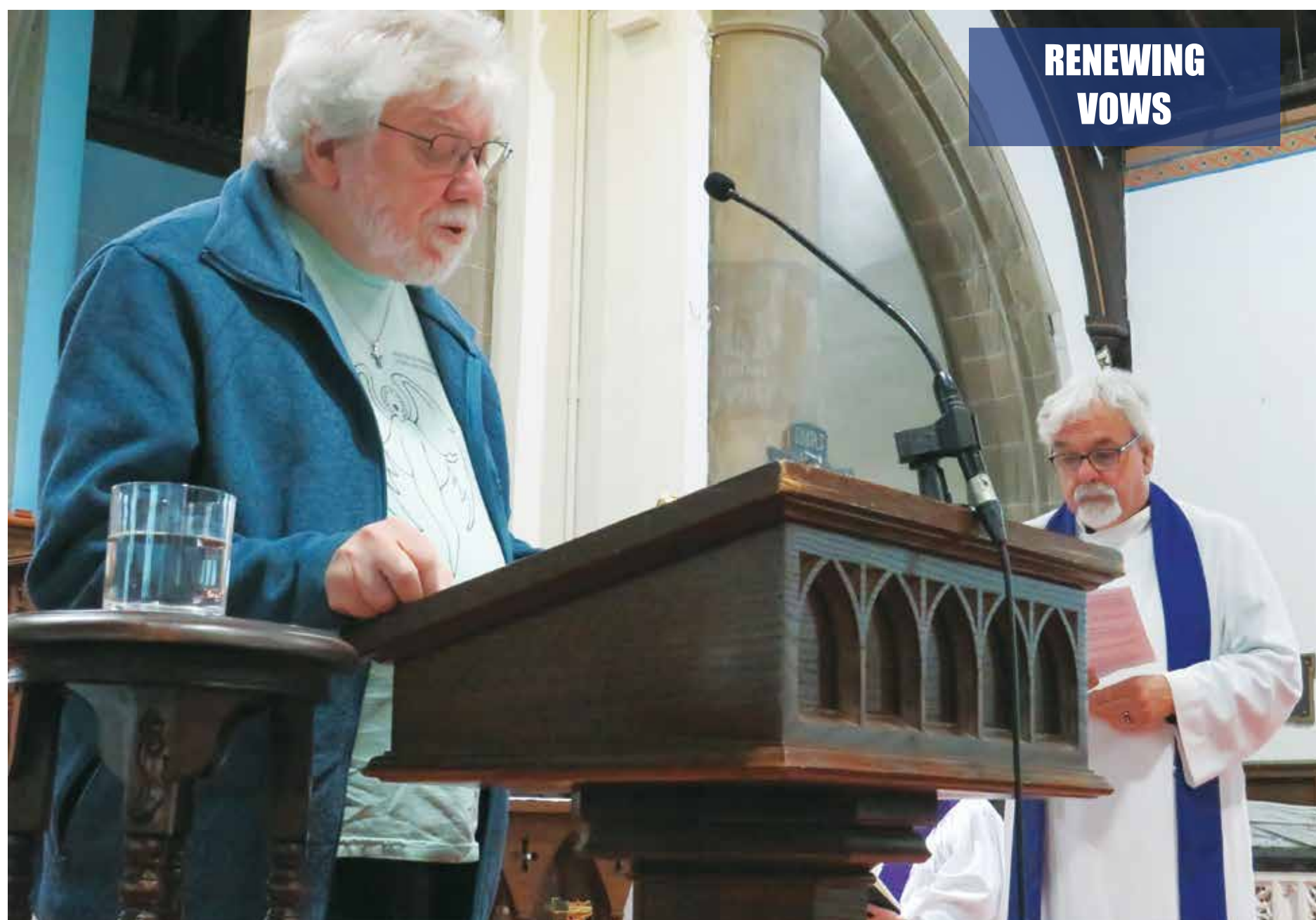
ANGLICAN



A SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL

MAY 2026

SERVING THE DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON



MCKNIGHT PHOTO

**PARISH OF THE SIX SAINTS** layreader Mike Briggs leads Archbishop David Edwards in his renewal of vows as Bishop of Fredericton during the annual Blessing of Oils and Renewal of Vows of Ministry service, held March 26 at Christ Church Cathedral. David was elected bishop in 2014. Read the story on page 6.

## Quote of the month

*Despite these children attending a non-denominational Christian daycare, the Rev. Dan McMullen is schooling them in Anglican protocol.*

*"The Lord be with you," he says, and the answer is a resounding chorus of little voices responding, "And also with you."*

See the story on page 7.

**Watch for coverage of the April 18th special session of synod to discuss the future of Christ Church Cathedral in the June edition of the NB Anglican.**



# Jesus promises living water

**Alongside Hope — Anglicans and Partners working for change in Canada and around the world**

“On the last day, the climax of the festival, Jesus stood and shouted to the crowds, ‘anyone who is thirsty may come to me! Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, ‘Rivers of living water will flow from his heart’” (John 7:37-38 NRSV)

Water. In the passage quoted above, Jesus declares himself to be living water, spiritually necessary to life. However, we also know that without physical water all living things will perish.

Over the past several summers, as wildfires have blazed and drought has become our reality, the need for water has increased throughout Canada. There is a sad reality, however, which has existed for many years — that not all people across Canada have equal access to water.

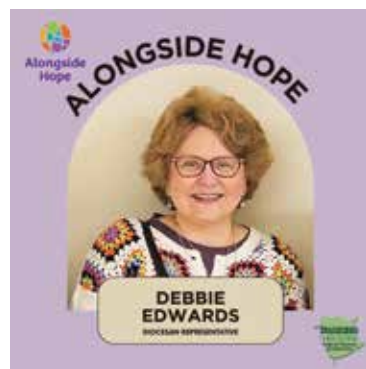
For 14 years, a network of concerned Anglicans and friends have been partnering with First Nation communities to secure clean, running water in indigenous homes across Canada.

Lack of clean, running water impacts physical and mental health, hygiene and access to education. This group is called Pimatizwin Nipi (Living Waters



ALONGSIDE HOPE PHOTO

**THIS YEAR'S FUNDRAISING PROJECT** of Alongside Hope and partners aims to provide running water for Big Beaver House Bible Camp, seen here, and several other water projects.



Group).

The following excerpts speak of the partnership Alongside Hope has with the Living Waters Group:

“Alongside Hope works in developing partnerships, receiving donations, and implementing these projects following the best partnership-led practices which allow these developing relation-

ships and our donations to be as impactful as possible. Our partnership work has:

- Secured clean running water in approximately 60-75 homes in Pikangikum First Nation.
- Been part of developing a model between Alongside Hope and First Nations' communities across Canada that allows our fundraising to be directed to responsive Indigenous-led grants.
- Raised \$150,000 toward a Water Truck in Kingfisher Lake, First Nation, a need identified by First Nations' leaders of Mishamikoweesh.<sup>1</sup>

This year sees the expansion of this partnership to include the Diocese of the Arctic. This year's fundraising hopes to provide running water for Big Beaver House Bible Camp (Kingfisher Lake First Nation), and to install

washroom facilities in many churches in that diocese.

Hopefully, running water will be available for this year's camping season.

Understandably, it will be a multi-year project to install washrooms in 58 churches; however, as each one is completed it will make that church a greater hub within its community.

The 2023 Annual Report of the Mishamikoweesh Partnership began with these words: “Water is life. Water is dignity. Water is opportunity. Water is justice.”

Let us remember both the gift and the source of all water.

As always there are many ways to give to support the projects and partners of Alongside Hope; on-line, e-transfer, phone, cheque, as a monthly donor, in tribute or memorial, through

your will, offerings through your church and so on.

When donating, should you choose to give to a particular cause, for example to the Pimatizwin Nipi Mishamikoweesh water partnership, simply indicate that is where you wish your gift to go.

Thank you for your ongoing support of the work worldwide of Alongside Hope. Please remember that I would love to hear about fundraising projects. I am available to come to your parish and share current information about the work of this wonderful Anglican organization. Contact me at [deborahcollicott@gmail.com](mailto:deborahcollicott@gmail.com).


*<sup>1</sup>The Mishamikoweesh & Arctic Water Partnership Annual Report 2025  
Debbie Edwards is the diocesan rep for Alongside Hope.*

## Letters to the editor

We welcome them!  
Send yours to  
[gmcknight@diofton.ca](mailto:gmcknight@diofton.ca)



DEADLINE for news and photos for the June edition of the New Brunswick Anglican is May 1. Send submissions to [gmcknight@diofton.ca](mailto:gmcknight@diofton.ca)



## THE NEW BRUNSWICK ANGLICAN

[www.anglican.nb.ca](http://www.anglican.nb.ca)

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The Most Rev. David Edwards	Archbishop and Publisher
Gisele McKnight	Editor
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## Letter to the editor

**The issue with hymns...**

On March 26, I participated in two very different experiences of worship.

In the morning I was at the Cathedral for the Service of Blessing of Oils and Renewal of Vows of Ministry, and in the afternoon, the Anglican service of Holy Communion at York Care Centre nursing home.

One thing about services at the Cathedral I look forward to is the opportunity to sing hymns with gusto, because there are usually plenty of people and we can really raise the roof.

This may not seem particularly special to everyone, but when one's experience in parish

worship is often one where the hymn singing is hesitant or a cappella, it's a treat to be able to bellow the grand old hymns of the faith.

On Thursday morning, of the three hymns we sang, I only knew the tune to one, and was grateful to have music in front of me so I could follow along without embarrassing myself, but was disappointed not to be able to really enter into the worship because I was concentrating on following the notes.

In the afternoon we sang two old favourites, a cappella, and the ladies beside me, in their 90s, sang their hearts out and I was happy to do so as well.

They sang mostly from memory. I was actually able to sing wholeheartedly with them, as I was unable to do at the Cathedral earlier that day.

It got me to thinking. Sing-

ing has always been a significant component of worship for me.

Don't get me wrong. I myself have despaired at the lack of imagination sometimes, when the same old hymns appear again and again. I like new music as well as anyone, especially if there is competent leadership, and I love learning new worship music.

I also like the challenge of mastering a hymn tune I haven't heard before.

But this particular day, the two different worship experiences have prompted me to wonder if we sometimes diminish our worship when we make it more of a work out than a heartfelt lifting of our hearts to God.

Just wondering.

*Eva Morton  
Fredericton*

PS. And why don't we sing Schubert or Merbeck anymore?

# Pentecost and the internet

As I sit here writing, I am aware that buzzing around me are many electronic messages. I cannot see them, I do not even know where they are, but they are there.

They include texts, emails, photographs and videos. The only way I can have access to them is having the right equipment to capture them, and ideally that they are addressed to me.

I remember back in the mid 1990s when the internet was a new idea to the general public.

In my parish was a de-commissioned nuclear bunker. It was very big because it was the regional control centre.

The farmer who owned the field in which it was set bought the building, and it is now a tourist attraction. He told us that there was a communication system which linked similar bunkers worldwide.

He said, 'think of it like invisible chicken wire. Messages can go in any direction, and



if there is a break, they can go by a different route.'

He went on to say it is the basis of this new thing called the internet.

The internet has become much more sophisticated in the 30 years since then. I can send greetings to Bishop Matthias in Ho and he responds within minutes.

There are few places in the world where it cannot reach, though some governments cut it off.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of this month we



ROLF KRANZ/ WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

**THE STAINED-GLASS WINDOW number 64 in the Sint Janskerk at Gouda/Netherlands: "Descent of the Holy Ghost" (detail Thomas Hermansz.) Artist: Dirk Crabeth (circa 1520–circa 1576**

will celebrate the Feast of Pentecost — our annual reminder of God pouring out the Holy Spirit on all flesh. The emphasis is that there is nowhere in creation where God is not.

God is even more present to us than the internet. God is a person — not just a series of zeros and ones flashing past us. God's desire is that we seek to make contact.

We do not need a sophisticated piece of electronics to do so. We humans are spiritual beings, and our spirit can reach out to God's Spirit as God's Spirit reaches out to us.

It is in doing this that we begin to discover the place of peace which passes all understanding. It is there that we begin to discover the fullness that God intend for us.

This Pentecost, let's intentionally seek to be in tune with the Holy Spirit.

David Edwards is  
Diocesan Bishop of Fredericton.

## Some thoughts on peace

During the 1960s, the peace sign became a prominent symbol in protests against the Vietnam War, as students chanted, "Make love, not war."

I was alive then, but a little too young to be demonstrating on a college campus!

But I do remember it as a turbulent decade and about as far from "peace" as you could get.

Perhaps the same could be said about our world today, as hostility between nations increases.

When I think about the world situation, my thoughts turn to Jesus' words, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14:27)

The peace that Jesus offers us is not like the peace the world offers. Peace talks between nations are important, but the peace they seek is about the end of hostility, rather than actual reconciliation.

It seems OK for nations to remain enemies, as long as they don't have open warfare. Measured by that standard, peace



simply means the absence of conflict.

The peace Jesus offers is radically different. It corresponds to the Hebrew concept of "shalom" which means "to be complete or whole" and represents a state of well-being and harmony.

This is the deep, inner peace that Jesus gives.

However, before we can experience the peace "of" God, we must first have peace "with" God.

In other words, we must be reconciled to God. As the Apostle Paul said, "Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained

access by faith into this grace in which we now stand." (Romans 5:1-2)

When we repent and surrender our lives to Jesus, his peace comes into our hearts.

Paul also listed "peace" as one of the fruits of the Spirit. That means it is the Holy Spirit who works to produce it in our lives.

But we have a part to play in that, too, as we learn to cooperate with the Holy Spirit.

I think Jesus showed us how to cooperate when he said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

The key to that is to keep believing in him and trusting him to help us in our time of need. We can fret and fume over things, or we can give them over to Jesus — again and again, if necessary!

The choice is ours.

People sometimes think that if we believe in Jesus, then he will protect us from everything bad.

On the contrary, he said, "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." (John

16:33)

That tells me that no matter what happens to us or around us, we can still have his peace in our hearts.

I like what the missionary statesman and author J. Oswald Sanders said: "Peace is not the absence of trouble, but the presence of God."

It is Jesus' presence in our lives that enables us to experience his peace in every circumstance of our lives.

May we take the Apostle Paul's words to heart: "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:6 & 7)

*Nancy Stephens, originally from Blackville, served with OMF International for over 30 years, including 12 years as a missionary in Thailand. Now retired, she resides in Fredericton and worships in the Parish of Douglas and Nashwaaksis.*

## PRINCIPAL ENGAGEMENTS

**2 May  
Layreaders' Day,  
Cathedral  
Memorial Hall**

**3 May  
Parish of Westmorland,  
St. Mark, Mount Whatley \***

**5 May  
Diocesan ACW annual  
meeting, Petitcodiac**

**6 May  
Clergy Day, St Margaret's,  
Fredericton**

**7 May  
Clergy Spouses' Retreat,  
Villa Madonna**

**10 May  
Parish of Bathurst**

**13 May  
Bishop's Counsel**

**17 May  
Parish of Madawaska**

**24 May  
Parish of Kingston, Trinity**

**27 May  
Clergy Day, Camp Medley**

**30 May  
Diocesan Council**

**31 May  
Parish of Rothesay,  
150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the  
Consecration of the  
Church of St. Paul**

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# Diocesan Council highlights

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Diocesan Council met via Zoom Feb. 26, with 30 present. Archbishop David Edwards began the meeting with Evening Prayer, with Laura McNulty, Harold Boomer and Mike Briggs assisting.

## BUSINESS

Members learned that the Anglican Foundation of Canada has awarded Camp Brookwood a \$12,000 grant for upgrades to the main lodge.

The Finance Committee, in its report, recommended Archbishop David approve the extension of the lease to Outflow Ministries of 116 Princess Street for six years at \$1 per year.

The committee also recommended that Archbishop David approve the extension of the lease of Centre for Youth Care for 50 Broad Street (Beacon Cove) for three years at \$1 per year.

The committee has appointed Susan Jack as the vice-chair of the Finance Committee and chair of the Property Committee.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Synod treasurer Philip Shepherdson gave an update on the budget year 2025, saying, "We've done exceedingly over our forecast. We are in significant positive territory."

The initial reports show a positive operating surplus of \$515k compared to a budget deficit of \$217k, due mainly to higher investment income.

Because of this, the Finance Committee approved a bonus 1.5 per cent distribution to parishes and Diocesan funds.

## SAFE CHURCH & MISCONDUCT POLICIES

Chancellor David Bell outlined changes to the Safe Church policy.

Work on Safe Church policy has been ongoing. A few years ago the Council of General Synod asked all dioceses to review their safeguarding and misconduct-type legislation.

David Bell noted that in this diocese, we have done so:

- at the Diocesan Synod of November 2024 the concept of a Safe Church policy — which had long existed here — was embed-

ded into Canon Four-Diocesan Governance.

- in May 2025 Diocesan Council approved a greatly revised Misconduct Policy (Policy B-3).
- In September 2025 Council approved a revised Safe Church Regulation (Regulation 4-4).

Neither the new version of the Regulation nor the new version of the Policy was brought into force.

At Council's February meeting, there were "relatively minor" housekeeping amendments that needed to be dealt with, said the chancellor.

One matter was the age at which Safe Church training must be taken for employees. A proposed amendment to the policy added "16 years and over," but many members noted that 15-year-olds are hired by our camps and by some parishes.

After much discussion, secretary of synod Cheryl Jacobs suggested removing from the policy any mention of a minimum age for required training, and that we look at creating age-appropriate training for younger employees.

The amended motion was passed, as was the motion to put the policy into place as of June 1.

One housekeeping change to the Misconduct Policy, making a definition consistent with the Safe Church Regulation, was approved by Council, including updated wording.

Though not a change this time around, there was a question regarding the phrase "clear and convincing evidence" when determining the validity of a complaint.

The outdated verbiage is "the balance of probability," while in criminal court, the standard is "beyond a reasonable doubt," explained David Bell.

By approved motion, the amended policy will come into effect June 1.

## POLICE CHECKS

Council approved an updated policy on police record checks.

The term "police record check" has been changed to "criminal record check."

The updated policy requires all clergy and lay employees, plus volunteers who have authority over, or work with, children, youth or vulnerable adults, to complete a Police Vulnerable

Sector Check.

The renewal for this check has been changed from every three years to every five years.

This led to a discussion on pardons, and how that might affect this issue. No one could give a definitive answer on under what circumstances pardons are granted. The chancellor suggested getting legal advice on this question.

## PRIVACY POLICY

Amendments to the diocesan privacy policy were approved, many of which were changes to definitions.

All Anglican records are stored and managed by the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick. Records for births and baptisms are held in private for 95 years; records of burials and marriages are held for 50 years.

Anglican records from the 1800s, late 1700s and since are available online through the Anglican Registers Project, a joint venture of the Diocesan Synod, the New Brunswick Genealogical Society and the Provincial Archives.

One must be a member of the Genealogical Society of New Brunswick to do searches, said David Bell.

Discussion on privacy during livestreamed church services centred on viewers seeing adults fleeing intimate partner violence or children whose guardians and parents had not signed a waiver allowing use of their images. Cheryl noted there must be signed waivers in order for children to be photographed or recorded.

Archdeacon Maria Shepherdson offered an additional solution. During communion, have the camera pan away to show just the stained glass or other aspect that does not include people.

The next meeting of council will be May 30 at Camp Medley.



## About the Anglican Registers Project

The Anglican Church has had a presence in New Brunswick since 1768 when the Rev. John Eagleson was sent by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts to minister to the people living in the Tantramar area of present-day New Brunswick.

Many more priests arrived in 1783 along with the United Empire Loyalists and as they established new congregations they started recording many of the events of church life - baptisms, confirmations, marriages, burials and others.

Beginning in the 1960s the Anglican Diocese of Fredericton attempted to gather and preserve these records and, while the process is not complete, there are now more than 2,000 registers of various types being held by the Diocesan Archives. ( You can read more about the history of the Diocesan Archives at this link: <https://nb.anglican.ca/resources/archives--207> )

In May 2018 the New Brunswick Genealogical Society (NBGS) and the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick (PANB), which now manages the Anglican records on behalf of the Diocesan Archives, agreed to scan and transcribe the many registers and then to make them available to the public on the NBGS website.

Recruitment of a technical team and a large group of transcribers started in August 2018 and, following a pilot

phase, the Anglican Registers Project (ARP) got under way in January 2019.

Many of the registers are very fragile and require delicate handling. Scanning these registers and then enhancing the images takes a lot of human resources and some expensive equipment.

Currently, 2,430 registers in the Archives have been scanned and sent to NBGS. These registers have 57,088 individual page images. Of these, 52,787 have been transcribed.

Some pages will never be transcribed as they contain administrative and other "non-event" information. However, they will still be available for viewing.

There are now 570,835 records in the ARP database which describe events such as baptisms, burials, marriages and confirmations. These events involved some 1,387,277 people.

Subject to PANB privacy rules, NBGS members can view and search these records by name, location, event type and date.

If you are not an NBGS member, you can search and view the Register images by location and date by registering as a "guest" on this site. If you would like full access to this site, you can join NBGS on-line by visiting their website: <https://www.nbgs.ca/membership>

## MISSION &amp; OUTREACH AWARD

# Chandras chosen for AST award

Halifax, N.S. — Pennies and Sparrows is a special place.

With operations based out of Stone Church in Saint John, N.B., this community care organization seeks to serve the downtown core of Saint John with a drop-in program, adult English language classes for newcomers, summer day camps for newcomer children, a cooking class, a seniors' social group, and other, similar relationship-focused programs.

It is this dedication to "faith in action" for those in unstable circumstances and on the margins of society that has earned founders Terence and Jasmine Chandra the 2026 Honourable Mayann Francis Faith in Action Award, presented by Atlantic School of Theology (AST).

"Most recently, we watched as one of our staff members (Jennifer) held a guest at our drop-in program tightly in her arms, hugging her for ten minutes straight as if she were a small, hurting child," shared Terence Chandra, who makes up one half of the husband and wife clergy team.

"I knew that, for at least a

few minutes on a Thursday afternoon, our guest—a woman to whom the world had been unspeakably cruel—felt safe, loved, and valued. I'm convinced that Jesus himself was involved in that hug."

Faith in Action. That is the simple yet powerful premise behind The Honourable Mayann Francis Faith in Action Award.

This award recognizes individuals across Atlantic Canada whose religious commitments have been translated into tangible, positive change, significantly benefiting the wider community and improving the quality of life for those they serve.

"We are both deeply honoured to receive the Faith in Action Award from Atlantic School of Theology," shared Chandra.

"We hope that this award will bring attention — not to us — but to ministries like Pennies and Sparrows, thereby inspiring others to step out in faith and launch similar initiatives of their own."

Terence and Jasmine met while studying theology at Wycliffe College. During their time in seminary, the Chandras

became involved in Sanctuary — a Christian ministry based in Toronto and committed to serving the most hurting and vulnerable people of the city.

Their involvement with Sanctuary would serve as an inspiration for the kind of work they would later do in N.B.

After serving in various parishes throughout the Diocese of Fredericton independently of one another for a while, in the summer of 2014, with the support of the ninth diocesan bishop of Fredericton, the Late Archbishop Claude Miller, the Chandras launched Pennies and Sparrows.

The Chandras were nominated for the Faith in Action award by Canon Shawn C. Branch of the Diocese of Fredericton, with the full support of their current bishop, Archbishop David Edwards.

In Archbishop David Edwards' own words, "Pennies and Sparrows is demonstrably not a ministry focused on quick results but on being a faithful presence and building long-term relationships. Jasmine and Terence lead with humility, courage,



SUBMITTED PHOTO

**THE REV. TERENCE CHANDRA and the Rev. Jasmine Chandra are the recipients of the 2026 Honourable Mayann Francis Faith in Action Award, presented by Atlantic School of Theology (AST).**

and perseverance, remaining committed even when the work is challenging or costly.

"Their ministry reflects a lived theology—one that seeks empowerment over dependency and long-term commitment over short-term answers."

AST President Rev. Dr. Heather McCance, commenting on the recognition, said, "The Christian faith is often judged by its misuses, but the example of Jasmine and Terence Chandra reminds us of its enduring power to inspire compassion,

service, and profound good in the world.

"We are grateful to them for their work and to Dr. Mayann Francis, whose founding of this award allows AST to be part of recognizing such inspirational people every year."

The award will be formally presented during the 2026 AST Convocation on May 9, to be held at Cathedral Church of All Saints in Halifax.

The event will also be available for public viewing via a live stream.

## Greater Chapter meetings provide engaging discussion on Cathedral's future

BY CHERYL JACOBS

In advance of the April 18th special synod session to look at the future of Christ Church Cathedral, open Greater Chapter meetings were held in each archdeaconry.

Greater Chapters consist of clergy, synod delegates and wardens of the archdeaconry, but Archbishop David Edwards invited all Anglicans to attend these special meetings to have as many interested people as possible in the discussion.

The meetings were held during the three middle weeks of March. There was active engagement at each meeting, with good questions raised and suggestions offered.

In none of the meetings, however, was there full consensus on the various options presented regarding the significant expected costs of necessary and in some cases, urgent, restoration of the cathedral.

Each meeting started with table group discussion on three



CHERYL JACOBS PHOTOS

questions: what do you feel is the purpose of the Cathedral, what is the importance of the Cathedral in our diocese, and what are the more general concerns for us as the Church today?

Archbishop David then gave a presentation that included a history of the appointment of Bishop Medley and his cathedral project, an explanation of the funds required to restore the building, and the options that

have presented themselves for proceeding, or not proceeding, with the restoration.

The issues have been documented in a 2022 report and a 2026 update from Heritage Standing Inc., a Fredericton-based engineering firm which specializes in heritage buildings.

The original report, in fact, won the 2023 Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals Award of Excellence in Con-



**ABOVE:** March 18 at the Church of St. Mark in St. George, in the Archdeaconry of St. Andrews. At left, the March 26 meeting at the Church of St. Paul in Hampton, in the Archdeaconry of Kingston and the Kennebecasis.

servation Documentation and Planning.

These reports identified the emergency issues: replacement of the full roof and mitigation of the movement of the upper clerestory windows on the south side. Though less urgent, the other major cost is masonry work.

After the archbishop's presentation, the table groups discussed and provided feedback on the options presented, their

recommendation for best option, whether they could support that option, and any ideas for additional options.

On behalf of the archbishop and the synod, I offer thanks to the host churches, and all who attended.

Watch for coverage of the special synod in the June edition of the *NB Anglican*.

**Cheryl Jacobs is the Synod executive officer.**

**"SHARING HOPE & HELP"**

## RENEWAL OF VOWS



## BLESSING OF OILS AND RENEWAL OF THE VOWS OF MINISTRY SERVICE

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Dean Geoffrey Hall and Archbishop David Edwards led the annual Blessing of Oils and Renewal of the Vows of Ministry service at Christ Church Cathedral on March 26.

The readers were Cindy Derksen, Eva Morton, the Rev. Eddie Quann and Paul Kaye. Archbishop David preached.

“The question I ask myself, and all of us, is ‘do we know who we proclaim?’

“Each year we come to renew our vows and remember what we promised. These are vows we took because we and the Church recognized within us the call of God.

“Thinking back to that day we took our vows, I’m sure we were full of different emotions: hope, maybe trepidation,” he said.

This is the perfect occasion to look back on our different ministries, the roads we’ve travelled, the turns along the way and the changes to our call, said the archbishop.

“For some, it’s been a long journey, for old people like me. For others, it’s just begun,” he said.

The archbishop talked about knowing the faces of Christ, beginning with his face while on the cross.

“The wounded face, the eyes closed, praying for the world and

suffering for it,” he said. “Christ was praying for us and suffering for us. Part of the glory of God is the suffering — that God is with us in our sorrow.”

The second face of Christ is the beautiful face.

“Maybe it’s in gold leaf. As we stare into that face, we can become lost in its beauty.”

The third face is that of victory.

“He is the victorious general, leading us in triumph for he has achieved freedom for us,” he said. “We need to contemplate these faces. We must recognize that face, know that face, and see that face in us.”

Archbishop David recalled that 30 years ago, he was part of the Springboard Team in the UK, set up by Archbishop George Carey. Among the team were two bishops, both called Michael.

One of the Michaels travelled to India and met Mother Theresa. While there, she was called away to minister to a dying man, and she invited Michael to join her.

As she spoke to the dying man, Michael noticed her face was luminescent. That continued as a priest came to say mass — her face was aglow when she looked at the dying man.

“The face of Christ was very real in her, yet she saw the face of Christ in the dying man, in



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



**TOP:** Priests and deacons stand to renew their vows of ministry.

**MIDDLE:** Paul Kaye, Parish of Minto & Chipman, was one of the readers; Donna Beek and Cheryl Jacobs, staff of the diocesan synod, serve lunch.

**BOTTOM:** The Ven. Perry Cooper, the Ven. Rob Marsh, the Rev. Eddie Quann, the Rev. Teddy Quann, and the Rev. Paul Gwese enjoy lunch and fellowship; Archbishop David Edwards and the Rev. Canon Paul Ranson have a chat during lunch.

the sacrament.

“St. Paul said we are to become agents of light in the darkness. That is our calling,” he said.

During the renewal of vows, priests, deacons and lay leaders stood to reaffirm their solemn promises to renounce evil, bear witness to Christ, carry on Christ’s work of reconciliation in the world, love and serve people, and continue to be faithful in ministry.

Then Mike Briggs, of the Par-

ish of the Six Saints, led Archbishop David in his own renewal of vows.

After the Holy Eucharist, everyone was invited to share lunch and fellowship at Cathedral Memorial Hall.

**MIKE BRIGGS, PARISH OF THE SIX SAINTS:** I’m here to renew my vows as a layreader, and bring oil to be blessed for the Parish of the Six Saints. I feel it’s part of my ministry and

I should renew my vows accordingly.

**CINDY DERKSEN, PARISH OF RICHMOND:** I come to get nourishment for my soul. I do it whenever I can.

**THE REV. IAN BETTS, PARISH OF BLACKVILLE:** I used to do this all the time in New York. I was asked, are you coming? I’m so glad I did. It was enriching for me, a special service.

“SHARING HOPE & HELP”

## KIDS' CHAPEL



## NB Anglican visits daycare chapel

*Trinity Church in Sussex invites 40 kids upstairs each week*

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

It's 9:30 a.m. The Rev. Dan McMullen is in the sanctuary, waiting. Parker Brewer, worship pastor at Encounter Wesleyan Church, is there with his guitar.

And very soon, you cannot mistake the coming tsunami of dozens of kids from ages one to five as they make their way from their daycare in the church basement to the sanctuary.

The daycare, run by Sussex Christian School, opened in Trinity's basement in Sussex last November after an extensive million-dollar retrofit paid for largely by the provincial government in an effort to increase daycare spaces in New Brunswick.

Forty kids call this place — SCS Little Lights Early Learning Centre - Trinity — home five days a week. And each Wednesday morning, Dan provides chapel — a bible lesson, a game, a video and songs led by Parker.

"It's great," says Dan. "It's been wonderful. It's the highlight of the week for me."

Even church volunteers who happen to be in the building often stop in to watch. Dan calls the experience life-giving for some.

The lesson today is a continuation of several recent ones — Jesus's stories about finding something that has been lost — a coin, even a son.

"I had a basket full of Easter eggs a few minutes ago, but they're not here anymore," says Dan to the children. "I've lost

them. Could you help me find them?"

That sets off a massive effort to recover the chocolate eggs — in the choir stalls, the altar, the pews, the pulpit.

All go into the basket, which will make its way downstairs to the kids.

Dan, a father of five young girls, knows just how to keep things interesting. And despite these children attending a non-denominational Christian daycare, he's schooling them in Anglican protocol.

"The Lord be with you," he says, and the answer is a resounding chorus of little voices responding, "And also with you."

After an object lesson, the egg hunt, a short video, a couple of songs and some prayer, Dan leads the kids in *The Grace*. And with that, they follow their leaders out of the sanctuary and back down to their basement space.

While Dan did not expect to grow the church by opening the basement to a daycare, that is exactly what is happening.

Two families of daycare children have started attending Trinity.

"I'm marrying one couple, and baptizing their daughter this Sunday," he said.

Soon, as the resources and infrastructure allow, Dan will take the chapel service to the basement. But until then, every Wednesday, they'll meet in the sanctuary.

"Our weekly chapels are such a great way for the children to connect with others in our

community while learning about Jesus' love," said Naomi MacKay, director of early childhood education at Sussex Christian School.

"Little Lights so appreciates the opportunity of partnering with Trinity."

"Soon after we opened the doors here at Trinity Little Lights, we were thrilled at the opportunity to partner up with Rev. Dan to offer the children chapel," said Janet Bond, Trinity ELC co-ordinator.

"Since we are a faith-based early learning centre, this was an open door we were thrilled to walk through.

"Each Wednesday we gather as a group and meet upstairs in the sanctuary for approximately half an hour where we sing action songs together and hear a little lesson about Jesus and all the wonderful ways he loves us.

"The children absolutely love chapel and look forward to it each week!"

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** The Rev. Dan McMullen explains to the children that he needs help finding his lost Easter eggs; Parker Brewer, of Encounter Wesleyan Church, leads worship; while kids search for eggs, the younger ones are more enthralled by the video playing; Dan makes a point during the short lesson.



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



**"SHARING HOPE & HELP"**



MCKNIGHT PHOTO

**THE MCMULLEN FAMILY** at Camp Medley's 80th anniversary in 2025: Dan and Sarah, with Mia and Rosalie. Front row: Sophie, Brooklyn and Abby.

**MISSION IN MOTION: children**

**Summer camp fun awaits!**



Five weeks of camping for ages 5-12. Make memories, have fun! [campbrookwood.ca](http://campbrookwood.ca)



Seven weeks of camping for ages 6-16. Fun, food, friendships! [campmedley.ca](http://campmedley.ca)



Diocesan Choir School July 9-12 - singing, fun and friends! Ages 14+ [choirschoolnb.com](http://choirschoolnb.com)



St. Michael's Youth Conference Aug. 17-22 for ages 13-19. Learning, recreation, friendships that last a lifetime! [smyc.ca](http://smyc.ca)



# IT'S CAMPING SEASON AGAIN!

*From Generation to Generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus ... and at Camp Medley!*

BY DAN MCMULLEN

I may be wrong (it's known to happen from time to time), but I believe my father, the Rev. Dr. Chris McMullen, is the longest serving chaplain at Camp Medley. Outside of a sabbatical trip to Scotland, and one of the COVID summers, "Papa" served as chaplain 26 times over the last 28 years.

My goal is now, of course, to top that number! I'm currently at 11, and I'm young enough to be optimistic about beating his streak.

My brother Ian and I first attended Camp Medley in 1997. I was 5 and my brother was only 3. We stayed in the old staff house with our parents, as Papa led us and the whole camp through several silly campfire songs.

Sarah and I feel extremely blessed to continue the family tradition. Two summers ago, all five of our girls attended Camp Medley the same week. Our three oldest girls, Abby, Brooklyn and Rosalie, were traditional campers in cabins, while our youngest two, Sophie and Mia, along with "Nana" and our dog Hattie, stayed with Sarah and I in the new staff house (yes, we were crammed!)

The three older girls had such a great time that week that they all went back for a second week that summer, without Sarah and I. Last summer Sophie, number four, was old enough to go as a camper, and once again, everyone went for two weeks.

I asked Papa why camp minis-

try was important to him. He said that in 1971 he met the Lord at a camp. Since then, he has had a chance to minister at a children's camp in almost every province.

My father said being a chaplain at Camp Medley was extra special, as he got to see his sons enjoy a "fun & full Christian environment."

Ian and I both went on to become counsellors at Medley, and that place and those summers were crucial for our walks with Jesus.

We got to see a different side of discipleship that our local parish could not show us — an intense week together as Christians, surrounded by dozens of other kids, and some wonderful staff whom we looked up to.

In a season where children's and youth ministry is becoming more and more challenging, our summer camps — Medley and Brookwood — offer a unique opportunity that should be seized!

I would like to beat my father's Medley chaplain record, but a more important goal, likely the most important goal of my life now, would be to watch our five girls grow up knowing and following Jesus of Nazareth.

I think Camp Medley will play an important role in this.

I'm optimistic about this too. Why? Because God's power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine!

*The Rev. Dan McMullen serves as rector in the parishes of Sussex, St. Mark's and Waterford.*



Camp Medley fun



**TOP:** "Brooking," exploring the brook, at Camp Brookwood  
**MIDDLE:** Diocesan Choir School  
**BOTTOM:** St. Michael's Youth Conference

**DONATIONS**

Donations to help kids attend any of these camps are welcome.

For Camp Medley the best way to donate is via their website. The link is: <https://medley.campbraingiving.com/>

For the other three, send an e-transfer to [finance@diofton.ca](mailto:finance@diofton.ca). Be sure to specify which camp you wish to support, and include your name and mailing address to ensure a donation receipt is sent to you.

You can also mail a cheque, but be sure to include your name, address and the camp you wish to support: Diocese of Fredericton, 168 Church Street, Fredericton, NB E3B 4C9

For Camp Brookwood, Diocesan Choir School and St. Michael's Youth Conference, make cheques payable to the Diocese of Fredericton. For Camp Medley, make the cheque payable to Camp Medley. All can be mailed to the Diocesan Synod Office.

## WANT TO GO TO CAMP? WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED!

**CAMP BROOKWOOD**

Summer camping programs include swimming in the pool, archery, recreation, hiking, handicrafts, Christian education, worship, games, special events and campfires.

July 5-10, Camp Splashyfun for ages 8 to 10

July 12-17, Waterblast, for ages 10 to 12

July 19-24, Outdoor Oasis, for ages 8 to 10

July 26-31, Nature Escape, for ages 10 to 12

Aug. 2-4, First Step Camp, for ages 5 to 8

Cost is \$250 per person, except \$150 for First Step Camp [Campbrookwood.ca](http://Campbrookwood.ca)  
193 Lockharts Mill Road, Carlow, NB (near Florenceville-Bristol).

•••

**CAMP MEDLEY**

*At all our camps, fun-filled days are spent with new and old friends, and staff help campers grow personally and spiritually.*

Boys & Girls, ages 6-11: June 28-July 3; July 12-17, July 26-31

Girls Camp, ages 6-11: July 19-24

Girl Boss, ages 12-15: July 19-24

Welcome to Girls Camp, ages 6-9: July 19-22

Welcome to Camp, ages 6-9: June 28-July 1; July 12-15; July 26-29

Teen Camp, ages 11-15: July 5-10; Aug. 9-14

Adventure Camp, ages 12-15: July 12-17; July 26-31

Leadership Camp, ages 14-16: June 28-July 3

Drama Camp, ages 12-15: July 5-10

Sports Camp, ages 12-15: Aug. 9-14

Family Camp: Aug. 1-3

Family Destination Day: Aug. 2

Seniors' Retreat: Sept. 27-30

Camp fees range from \$175 (seniors' retreat) to \$425, plus HST; click on the different camps on the website for details.

[Campmedley.ca](http://Campmedley.ca)  
168 Gunter Hill Road, Upper Gagetown, NB

•••

**•••**  
**DIOCESAN CHOIR SCHOOL** — July 9-12

Diocesan Choir School, established in 1957, is a weekend-long summer music camp for those who love to sing! It's for choristers ages 14 to adult, held at Rothesay Netherwood School in Rothesay. Sing, play and create lifelong memories and friendships.

Bursaries are available upon request. More information is found at [www.choirschoolnb.com](http://www.choirschoolnb.com).

•••

**•••**  
**ST. MICHAEL'S YOUTH CONFERENCE** — Aug. 17-22

Held each August at Camp Wildwood, near Bouctouche, NB, a week at St. Michael's combines learning, asking the big life questions, recreation and sports, great meals, great friendships and an opportunity to walk a closer path with God.

Check us out on Facebook: St. Michael's Youth Conference Maritimes  
Visit our website: [www.smyc.ca](http://www.smyc.ca)  
Or email the director: [colin.nicolle@gmail.com](mailto:colin.nicolle@gmail.com)

## MOTHERS' UNION IN CANTERBURY



INTERESTMEDIA/WIKIMEDIA COMMONS



SUBMITTED PHOTOS



**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** Kathleen Snow with three of the six female African bishops attending the installation ceremony: Bishop Rose Obena, Diocese of Butere, Kenya; Bishop Emily Onyango, Diocese of Bondo, Kenya; Kathleen; Bishop Dalcy Badeli Dlamini, Diocese of Eswatini, Southern Africa; and Sheran Harper, worldwide past-president of Mothers' Union.

File photo of the newly installed Archbishop of Canterbury, Dame Sarah Mullally. Kathleen Snow, centre right in navy blue, reacts to the arrival of Their Majesties, the Prince and Princess of Wales, at the installation ceremony.

Kathleen Snow with Bishop Filomena Teta Estevao, Bishop of Bom Pasteur, Angola (IAMA); and Sheran Harper, worldwide past-president of Mothers' Union.

## Joy and wonder in Canterbury!

BY KATHLEEN SNOW

It was a wonder-filled time and a true privilege to attend the installation of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dame Sarah Mullally, at Canterbury Cathedral on March 25.

There was a palpable sense of excitement in the air, accompanied by a spirit of goodwill among all who were present.

A Lord Mayor's Reception was held the evening before the installation, with many bishops and dignitaries in attendance. Bev Jullien, chief executive of the Mothers' Union, and I attended together.

It was wonderful to reconnect with people I had previously met at our Board of Trustees' Com-

missioning Service and during my visit to Rome last year.

Staff from the Anglian Alliance were also present, along with Will Postma from Alongside Hope.

Over the following two days, I had the honour of meeting four members of the "Africa Six" — six pioneering women bishops from across Africa.

Their work focuses on empowering women in ministry while addressing critical issues such as gender-based violence, teenage pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, and climate change within their communities and provinces.

Together, they serve as a united voice advocating for women's representation within the Anglican Communion.

The installation service itself was filled with joy. As primates, archbishops, and bishops processed into the cathedral, there was a powerful sense of celebration and hope.

International and multi-faith clergy and dignitaries were also in attendance.

When Archbishop Sarah knocked on the door and entered the cathedral, it created a moment of awe and wonder.

She took time to engage personally with individuals, including children, which added warmth and humanity to the occasion.

She thoughtfully chose the readings and music, and her message centered on kindness, love, compassion, and inclusive-

ness — that all are welcome in this sacred space.

She reflected on Matthew 19:26: "With God, all things are possible."

The African Women's Choir from Norfolk who sang and danced, brought a joyful and uplifting energy to the ceremony.

Those of us present experienced a deep sense of being part of one Anglican family — united in a holy place despite differences in nationality, culture, and language.

This same spirit is reflected in the Mothers' Union. No matter where we come from, we are united in prayer, faith, and service. There is joy in this connection with one another, joy in the work we do, and joy in building God's Kingdom here on earth.

This moment represents a significant step for the Anglican Communion. It is a time of change, and change can often be challenging and, at times, divisive.

In a recent conversation with an Anglican priest, we reflected on navigating change. He offered three simple but wise principles: listen, do not harm one another, and move slowly.

So let us listen to one another, love one another, and move thoughtfully through this time of change. If we follow Christ's command to love one another, we will indeed be stronger together.

*Kathleen Snow is the worldwide president of Mothers' Union, and a member of Christ Church Cathedral, Fredericton.*

"SHARING HOPE & HELP"

## DEMENTIA WORKSHOP



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** Rob Pitman and others learning about the changes in the field of vision in dementia patients.

Angela King and Paul Ranson demonstrating Hand-under-Hand™. This is a Teepa Snow-developed, gentle, supportive method for assisting people with dementia with daily tasks like eating, grooming, or brushing teeth.

An interactive workshop with lots of people gathered to learn about the 130 different types of dementia diagnoses and how dementia affects the five senses.

# A spirit-centred approach to dementia care

BY IRENE ADAMS

“I have dementia, I’m not stupid.”

This phrase kept resonating with me when I attended a workshop on Saturday, Feb. 21 at Christ the King Church on Loch Lomond Road in Saint John.

Facilitated by Angela King, MTS, ARCT (Pedagogy) who is a dementia care and education specialist, consultant and spiritual care practitioner, the workshop was a collaboration between the Anglican Saint John Hospitals Chaplaincy and the Parish of Fundy and the Lakes through the diocesan shared ministry budget.

The goal of the workshop was to deepen our awareness of the disease, enhance communications between the patient, their caregivers and family members, and learn how to transform everyday interactions.

By focusing on relationships and the role we play in the life

of someone with dementia, we were able to go beyond the clinical diagnosis and understand the disease from the perspective of someone caught up in the unsteady and often messy life with dementia.

Over the course of four hours, Angela led our group through a process of understanding the disease, along with the changes that occur in the brain during the progress of the disease and what these changes mean to the patient and the caregivers.

We learned the difference between normal aging versus atypical aging — and that experiencing aging that is not normal doesn’t necessarily mean dementia: there are often other causes at play.

However, all too often, there is a sense of panic when personality and/or behaviours are different.

People are reluctant to get tested and hear the dreaded diagnosis — “dementia” — and

may miss the opportunity to understand and be prepared for what is to come.

Before the workshop, I associated dementia primarily with a breakdown in mental capacity. How little I really knew about this disease!

There are very real physical manifestations in how the brain processes data: peripheral vision changes along with depth perception; auditory skills are diminished. It may be difficult to identify what sounds actually are and whether or not they are important.

Noise levels can be overwhelming for a person with dementia. Visual contact is important to activate auditory awareness and reduce perceived threat.

We were taught to use a “hand-under-hand” technique to connect with the patient and provide physical support when motor skills are diminished.

Angela challenged us to think about dementia through our re-

lationships with ourselves, with others, with creation, and with the Holy Spirit.

Faith communities may be well equipped to hold and nurture these relationships by using connections familiar to us in our everyday worship: gentle words, poetry, prayer, scripture, stories, hymns, and rhythms.

We don’t need more — we need to understand how to use what we already have.

Most of all, we need to understand that the person we love is not stupid, they have dementia. They are still there and they need our comfort, our love and our support.

We need to understand that along with everything else happening to them, they are also frightened by what is going on — within themselves and the environment around them that is changing and fading in their world.

“Practice the pause” is what Angela told us — take a deep

breath before reacting. Be spirit-centred.

Three of us from the Parish of St. Stephen attended the workshop, with an early morning start for a 9 a.m. workshop. I think we all agreed that we learned a lot, understood more than we did before and were ready to think about the disease in terms of relationships and a spirit-centred approach.

Angela is a dynamic speaker and has a passion for her subject matter. If the opportunity to attend one of her workshops arises, I strongly encourage you to do so.

Understanding the disease is important, but how we approach it might make all the difference.

Two more similar workshops have been planned:

- The Parish of St. Stephen at Christ Church Hall on Saturday, May 30 – 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- The Parish of Hammond River at Holy Trinity on Saturday, Oct. 3 – 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

**“SHARING HOPE & HELP”**

# New office is a collection of spiritual memories

BY HAROLD BOOMER

It's a funny thing, that my new office was born of the need for space. Trinity Church has a beautiful office that I have used for the past five years, however as people dropped off bags of books, clothing, household items, I began to run out of room.

It is a space that I share with vestry, with our treasurer and secretary, a space that, at the end of my week, I put all of my books and laptop into my briefcase and pack away so that there is room for Sunday bookkeeping rituals.

Now I need to go back to 2012. The Parish of Andover had a major issue. During the spring freshet, the municipal sanitary sewers backed up when they were overwhelmed with flood water.

As a result, Trinity Church and many other buildings on the street had their basements filled with undesirable material. During the clean-up, it was decided that the best thing to do was gut the basement, strip it back to concrete walls and leave it alone.

All of the downstairs plumbing was removed and capped off. It was forgotten and became home to artificial Christmas trees, old light fixtures and spare chairs for the church hall.

To paraphrase a saying, you can take the boy off of the construction site, but you can't take the construction site out of the boy.

Last year I decided the best idea was to build shelving in the basement. Measuring above the high water mark from 2012, I built them high enough for the spare chairs to fit underneath, and provided ample storage for clothing, household appliances, church files, and a collection of items from throughout the Upper Valley Mission Field that were given to me in my travels.

It seems funny, that for the past five years I have been bragging about how the Spirit is alive and well in the Upper Valley, and this is never more obvious then when you get the opportunity to sit at the kitchen table and talk about the way things used to be.

Junior choirs that were filled with kids from the community, Sunday fellowship that filled those halls, people travelling from Wapske across the frozen Tobique River because in the



**THE REV. HAROLD BOOMER**, top right, with shots from his new office: a prayer stool from St. Bartholomew's, a bookshelf made from salvaged parts of a pulpit in All Saints in Grand Falls, a desk made from an old church pew, and the reception corner.

winter St. Machutus, in Arthurette was closer than St. Helen's in Lickford or St. Georges in Plaster Rock.

Stories about how Canon Fairweather served the Parish of Denmark for 40 years and how he loved the people as much as they loved him.

As I have travelled, I have acquired things from people who for some reason feel that I can be entrusted with them. And so, begins the story of my office.

After the shelves were built, I decided I would go one step far-

ther. The basement was a blank canvas. Last year it started as a stress release.

Archbishop David had spent the day with me, travelling around the back roads between Clearview and St. Andre, from Carlingford to Crombie Settlement. It was a great day.

Having him as a captive audience in my truck gave me the opportunity to tell him my plan to build a Mission Office, and when I showed him the space, he agreed that I had some work cut out for me.



MCKNIGHT FILE PHOTO



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

a story, each one with a new home, each one with its own reason for shedding a tear.

The Crown is a communion set which belonged to Canon Fairweather. It travels with me, it serves those who attend Dinner Church and each time I use it, I know he is present.

My bookshelf is built from the salvaged parts of the pulpit of All Saints in Grand Falls. Across from that, there is a pew that I have put together with bits and piece to form a bench, and padded with a piano seat from Trinity.

The Creedance Table from St. Helen's is fastened to the wall in front of the prayer stool from St. Bartholomew's.

Sitting on the Creedance Table is a tiny handmade chapel cross from St. Machutus, and its covering is the pulpit hanging from St. Albans.

The wall shelf is an old piece of church pew that has been repurposed to hold a braid of Sweetgrass, given to me by a pipe keeper and friend from Elsipogtog, and my medicine bag, that I was fortunate enough to make with the Honorable Graydon Nicholas and Knowledge Keepers at the Kingsclear First Nation.

There is also the moosehide Book of Common Prayer that belonged to my father from his days in Fort George (Chisasibi, PQ).

As I have said many times, the spirit is here, and it is alive and well in our communities. Sitting here surrounded by the artifacts of our churches that are no longer standing, I am reminded of the people who once felt forgotten, not only by their government but by their faith.

As congregations continued to shrink, and buildings were no longer sustainable, the children stopped singing in the choir, fewer people came for fellowship, young men grew old and couldn't repair roofs anymore.

So, as I take a prayer book off the shelf of what used to be a pulpit, walk across the room to the stool from a chapel in the woods, kneel in front of a cross that sat beside the river, I pray, for the families, for the stories, and for the Spirit to remain with us, now and always.

**The Rev. Harold Boomer is the incumbent in the Parishes of Denmark and Andover, and the missionary in the Upper River Valley.**

AROUND THE DIOCESE

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# Inner City Youth Ministry: We need a new home!

Inner City Youth Ministry is currently looking for a new home base in Saint John or the surrounding areas. We are looking for a new location to safely store equipment and food, prepare for programs, and host volunteers.

We anticipate needing to contribute some rent and/or utilities toward a suitable space, though we would not be able to pay full commercial market rates. Creative or shared arrangements are very welcome. We are open to:

- church basements or unused classrooms
- community centres
- shared nonprofit buildings
- unused commercial or warehouse areas
- part of a larger facility
- upgraded garage spaces

**Essential Needs**

- Ground-floor access is strongly preferred, along with wider/ double doors. If located on an upper floor, access via an elevator or ramp would be necessary.
- Approximately 700–1000 square feet. (Can be broken up into different spaces)
- The equipment is not portable, so we're seeking a stable long-term arrangement rather than a space that must be cleared weekly.

- Space for 5–10 volunteers to move and work safely at the same time.
- Access to bathroom facilities for staff and volunteers (can be shared).
- Access to parking for staff and volunteers.
- Reasonably secure: not a space where the public is regularly passing through or at risk of handling equipment.
- Access to shared internet OR permission to set up internet service.
- Have sufficient existing outlets/circuits, OR allow us to do electrical upgrades (by a licensed electrician).

**Space to accommodate:**

- Four large shelving units
- Two industrial freeze dryers (approximately the size of washing machines)
- One commercial two-door refrigerator
- One large chest freezer
- Packing tables and work-space for volunteers
- Two commercial popcorn machines on work tables (each approximately the size of a washing machine)

If you know of a space and would like more details, please reach out to Bonnie Hunt at: [info@icym.ca](mailto:info@icym.ca) or 506-647-9813.

SAVE THE DATE!

ACW'S  
*Quiet Day*

- Sept. 9, 2026
- St. Mary's Anglican Church, Miramichi (former Chatham)
- Theme: Standing on the promises of God
- Registration (with refreshments) at 9 a.m.; service at 10 a.m.
- Tea, coffee, snacks and lunch provided in the church hall
- Easy access - wheelchair accessible

*Seniors' Retreat*

September 27–30

Camp Medley

\$175 plus tax

Come, relax and enjoy camp life. Experience archery, canoeing, specialty art projects, hiking, wellness stretching, work projects, games and campfire (storytime) while living in a Christian community. Great food and lodging provided. Arrival Sunday @ 4; departure Wednesday at 2.

Geared to 50+ but all adults welcome. Register online: [campmedley.ca](http://campmedley.ca)

The Synod Commons

The Synod Commons is a regular, open, online forum for clergy, parish lay officers, staff and others who are interested in meeting with Synod staff on a variety of topics. First and fourth Tuesdays of the month, 12:10-12:55 p.m. Learn more at our website: [nb.anglican.ca/commons](http://nb.anglican.ca/commons)

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# What are we known for?

Reputation is a curious thing. It is rarely shaped by what we intend, and more often by people's lived experience. Over time, patterns form. People begin to associate us with certain qualities: reliability, generosity, impatience, kindness, and sometimes, less desirable ones.

The same is true for communities, including churches.

In many places today, the Church carries a mixed reputation. Some associate it with care, compassion, and a sense of belonging.

Others with judgment, irrelevance, or distance.

Whether fair or not, these impressions are formed, not by mission statements or intentions, but by lived encounters.

This raises an important question for those seeking to live out their faith in daily life:

What are we known for?

In the Gospel of John, Jesus offers a simple and direct answer: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:35)

Not by the clarity of their arguments.

Not by the strength of their programs.

Not by their ability to be



right.

But by love, expressed in ways that are visible and tangible.

This is both a high calling and a very practical one. Because love, in the Christian sense, is not abstract. It is something people experience through actions, tone, consistency, and presence.

In everyday life, this question of reputation plays out in small, cumulative ways.

At work, it may be reflected in how someone handles pressure or conflict. Is this a person who listens well? Who speaks respectfully? Who follows through on commitments?

In neighbourhoods, it may be seen in simple interactions. Does this person acknowledge others? Do they take time for conversation? Are they attentive to what is happening around them?

In families, it is even more complicated. Are we known

for patience? For encouragement? For making space for one another?

These are not dramatic expressions of faith. They are ordinary, but they are powerful. Over time, they shape how others understand what it means to follow Jesus.

Church communities are shaped in similar ways.

A parish may be known as welcoming or difficult to enter. It may be known for its generosity or for its focus inward.

A parish may be known as a place where people are seen and valued, or where only certain voices are heard.

Over time, some become known for being hard on their clergy.

Most churches would say, "All are welcome!" But there can be a gap between what we say and what people experience.

Welcome is not just a statement; it is something people feel, or don't, within the first few moments of walking through the door.

These reputations are rarely formed by a single moment. They are built slowly, through repeated interactions.

A warm greeting at the door.

A willingness to include someone new in conversation.

A decision to listen before

responding.

A commitment to serve beyond the walls of the church.

Individually, these actions may seem small. Collectively, they become a witness.

I once attended a church, and stayed for seven years, because of how I was welcomed at the door.

It is also important to recognize that reputation is not only about how we are perceived, but about alignment between belief and practice.

Most people are not looking for perfection in the Church or in its members. But they are attentive to authenticity. They notice when words and actions do not match. They also notice when they do.

When someone consistently demonstrates integrity, kindness, and humility, it carries weight.

It builds trust. It creates space for deeper conversations about faith.

This does not mean that Christians are called to manage their image or to seek approval. The goal is not to be impressive, but to be faithful.

Faithfulness, in this context, means allowing the character of Christ to shape everyday behaviour. It means asking, in ordinary situations: What does love require here?

Sometimes the answer is patience.

Sometimes it is honesty.

Sometimes it is setting a boundary.

Sometimes it offers help without being asked.

Often, it is choosing grace over reaction.

As the season of Easter continues and leads toward Pentecost, the Church is reminded that it is sent into the world, not as an institution to be maintained, but as a people whose lives point beyond themselves.

This witness does not depend on scale or visibility. It is carried in daily interactions: in workplaces, homes, and communities.

Which brings us back to the question: What are we known for?

It is not a question to answer quickly, but one to return to over time. Because in the end, the credibility of our faith is shaped not only by what we say, but by how we live.

And along the way, those patterns, formed quietly, day by day, become the clearest expression of the Gospel we carry.

**Canon Shawn C. Branch is the diocesan Director of Mission & Ministry, supporting the missional life of the diocese and vocations.**

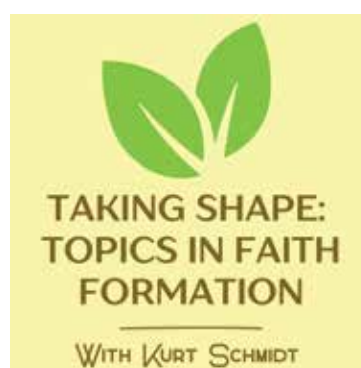
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## Taking Shape: Episode One, Pilgrimage



This month, a group of 16 young adults and four adult companions will undertake the third annual Grand Manan Pilgrimage sponsored by the Diocese of Fredericton.

You might wonder — what do we even mean by the word "pilgrimage?"

Most simply put, pilgrimage

is sacred journey. It is the ancient and contemporary practice of travelling, often but not necessarily *physically*, with spiritual intention and awareness.

It is making ourselves available to the influence and guidance of grace — the movements of the Holy Spirit — while we ourselves are "on the move."

There are numerous helpful websites with excellent information about the history and meaning(s) of pilgrimage, as well as a growing number of platforms that offer "virtual pilgrimage" opportunities.

They are perhaps too many to mention here, though, so if you have an idea (even a vague one!) of a type of pilgrimage that you'd like to make, please contact me and perhaps I can point you in the right direction.

In the meantime, here are two excellent book sources on the themes of pilgrimage, the first one more theological and reflective, and the second one a bit more practical:

*Images of Pilgrimage: Paradise and Wilderness in Christian Spirituality* by Robert Crouse (Darton Longman & Todd, 2023).

*The Soul of a Pilgrim: Eight Practices for the Journey Within* by Christine Valters Paintner (Ave Maria Press, 2015).

Happy reading, and happy considering the place and possibility for pilgrimage in your life. Go well!

**Kurt Schmidt is the missioner for Christian formation in the Diocese. This is the first in his series called Taking Shape: Topics In Faith Formation.**

COMMENTARY

# Peace... in bronze?

**A**uthor's note: This monthly article will be expanding its sights to include ALL forms of Christian art expression, not just through music. Look for visual arts in various mediums, written expressions, and of course, aural ones as well!



I am writing this article in Holy Week, which makes it somewhat of a spiritual and emotional "jump" in considering you, Dear Reader, who is likely reading this in the Easter season.

In thinking ahead, the words Jesus first said to the gathered disciples (minus one — Thomas; I'd love to know why) was "Peace be with you."

It's an often-heard blessing and wish conveyed during liturgies, in correspondence between people, and when we meet together.

Of course, peace is something we take for granted, until we do not have it. How many prayers have been said most recently for the area of the Middle East, or for those who experience severe turmoil in their lives?

Peace is precious, and we



have to remember that. "Peace be with you" is a phrase that inspired Canadian sculptor Timothy Schmaltz, when he heard it used as Pope

Leo's first words to the public.

He is a world-renowned artist whose works are displayed in churches, parks and public buildings in many capital cities and smaller places.

In 2025, he created a piece called simply, "Peace Be With You" — in which the earth is being covered with a blanket by a dove (symbolic of the Holy Spirit, Bringer of Peace). See IMAGE 1 at left.

One very important detail (or lack of it) of this sculpture that we should notice is that there are no political boundaries present on the globe; this is the world together, not countries carving

up land space.

The dove above the globe therefore cares for everyone, without distinction, as it acts to shelter the world with its blanket. (Maybe some will be reminded of the Peanuts character, Linus, and his security blanket, which certainly brought him peace!)

This is not the first time Timothy Schmaltz has used the blanket metaphor to speak for peace. In 2022, he created a piece called, "Sheltering," which featured, once again, a dove with a blanket, covering a person in torment - SEE IMAGE 2 below. He was inspired by the words



of Isaiah 58, and its call to clothe the naked. The blanket, symbolic of peace and comfort, becomes almost an extension of the gift of the Spirit here, as well as in the first sculpture.

In the celebratory nature of the Easter season, which comes with the proclamation of victory over death, we can also find in all of this a measure of peace.

Good has triumphed over evil. Such can be the same for our world today, whether it appears imminent or not.

Peace is an important part of Easter, and everyone deserves a measure of peace, regardless of our circumstance.

We can both feel that peace, and bring that peace to others, regardless of their circumstances.

I hope these sculptures give us pause to remember this, and to ponder it in our situations today.

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Peace be with you.

*The Rev. Canon Chris Hayes is a musician as well as a priest serving in the Parish of Salisbury and Havelock.*

## TWO MINUTE INTERVIEW

**The Rev. Dan McMullen, rector serving in the parishes of Sussex, St. Mark's and Waterford**

**Favourite book of the Bible** - Currently John

**Birthplace** – Charlottetown, PEI

**What you love most about God** – The hope He provides that is completely outside of me and my efforts

**Favourite place on Earth** - Sussex Bluffs

**Farthest you've been from home** - Israel

**Favourite meal or dessert** - Anything from the sea

**Biggest fear** – Asparagus sandwich rolls

**Hidden talent** – I'm slightly above below average at backgammon

**Favourite movie or book** - Anything from the *Narnia* series

**Your hobby** – Biking

**Three things always in your fridge** – Cheese, butter and leftovers

**Favourite sports team** - I have three: the Sussex Christian School girls basketball team; the U7 Sussex Minor Basketball team, and the U9 Sussex Minor Basketball girls!

## Episcopal Announcements

effective June 30, 2026, in order to retire.

**The Rt. Rev. Dr. Stephen Andrews**, of Quispamsis, has transferred his canonical residency to the Diocese of Fredericton from the Diocese of Algoma.

**The Rev. Dr. J-F**, of Grande-Digue, has transferred his canonical residency to the Diocese of Fredericton from the Diocese of Tasmania. He has been appointed deacon in the Parish of Shediac effective immediately.

**The Rev. Debbie Edmondson** has resigned as Deacon at Christ Church Cathedral and as Fredericton Hospital Chaplain,

DIOCESAN

# ACW AGM

St. Andrew's church,  
62 Church St., Petitcodiac

**Theme: Unity in Christ**

**Tuesday, May 5**

- No banquet • Registration begins at 9 a.m.
- Service begins at 10 a.m.
- \$25 registration fee includes cold plate lunch

**AROUND THE DIOCESE**

**PARISH EVENTS**

**RIGHT:** The Youth and Family Ministry Committee at All Saints Church in St. Andrews hosts a popular Trivia Night several times a year. Seven four-person teams were put through their paces on Friday, Feb. 13 by quizmasters Katherine and Howard Streight. The winning team in each of the four rounds always receives gift cards from local coffee shops. The team with the highest points on all 40 questions wins the grand prize and bragging rights! This month's trivia questions concentrated on St. Valentines Day and the Olympics. Of course, there were lots of snacks and refreshments available as well.

**MIDDLE:** A wonderful evening of fellowship and pure fun was held at Holy Trinity Hammond River on Saturday March 14 at the annual mystery auction. The auctioneers were Mark Allaby and Jim Wilson who kept everyone well entertained! All proceeds go toward the many Holy Trinity mission activities. Blessings Abound!

**BOTTOM:** The Rev. Bob LeBlanc was celebrated with a retirement party Feb. 21 in the Parish of Wicklow, Wilmot, Peel and Aberdeen. The parish hosted a party at the community hall in Florenceville-Bristol, and they celebrated again the next day at Bob's final service at the Church of the Good Shepherd. With Bob is Wilma Inman, ACW president, who presented them both gifts. A cutting board was a gift from the parish, handcrafted by parishioner Dave Barcroft. Members of the band were Fred Young, Cecil Pirie, Joan Tremblay, Wanda McFarlane and Jon Brillinger. Hidden behind the two ladies is Kim Goebel. Bob and Canon Bonnie have moved to Sackville to enjoy retirement nearer to their families.



SUBMITTED PHOTO



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

**MISSION IN MOTION: community**



BARB SMITH PHOTOS



**"SHARING HOPE & HELP"**