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THE NEW BRUNSWICK

ANGLICAN



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APRIL 2024

SERVING THE DIOCESE OF FREDERICTON



Celebrating 150 years

TRINITY CHURCH, in the Parish of Sussex, celebrated 150 years in their building on Feb. 24, with Archbishop David Edwards attending. Pictured here are Diane McKay and Lydia Janes during the recessional. See the story and more photos on page 4.

MCKNIGHT PHOTO

Easter Poem

We want the war horse.
Jesus rides a donkey.
We want the bird of prey.
The Holy Spirit descends as a dove.

We want the militia.
Jesus calls fishermen, tax collectors, women, and children.
We want the courtroom.
Jesus sets a table.

We want the gavel.
Jesus washes feet.
We want to take up swords.
Jesus takes up a cross.

We want the empire.
Jesus brings the Kingdom of God.
We want the nation.
Jesus calls the church.

We want the roaring lion.
God comes as a slaughtered lamb.

We keep trying to arm God.
God keeps trying to disarm us.

The Rev. Benjamin Cremer
(h/t *The Englewood Review of Books*)

DIOCESAN NEWS



MICHAEL CORBIN PHOTOS

St. John the Baptist and **St. Paul's United Combined Church** hosted Archbishop David Edwards and Debbie Edwards for his episcopal visit on Feb. 18. After they worshipped together, the Rev. Canon Fran Bedell presented the Edwards with a beautiful handmade quilt as a remembrance of their visit. This was followed by a roast beef dinner and warm, friendly fellowship, pictured at top right.

Letters
to the editor

We welcome them!
Send yours to
gmcknight@diofton.ca

DEADLINE for news and photos for the May edition of the **New Brunswick Anglican** is **April 1**. Send submissions to gmcknight@diofton.ca

Letter to the editor

Dear Editor,
I am sorry I am a little late with this letter, but I wanted to comment on the Rev. Chris Hayes' article in the January issue, "A different kind of Christmas song."
He wrote about a new rendition of the old hymn, *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*. This more recent setting of the song has become my favourite since we sang it four or five years ago in our Linthutine Community Choir in Oromocto.
I take issue with his choice of favourite renditions as his choice is by Jars of Clay, a great name for any group. But the Jars cannot hold a candle to the version by Casting Crowns.
Chris describes Longfellow's setting very well. He is in a pit of

despair, having lost his wife in a fire and now his son is badly wounded in the American Civil War.
Longfellow has cause to lament, but then he hears the bells on Christmas Day and rises from his despair to claim the victory.
"God is not dead, nor does he sleep, The wrong shall fail, the right prevail" are some of the words of the fourth and final verse.
In the Jars of Clay version, they provide a very mellow sombre presentation of the song.
They miss the chance to emphasize the triumph of the last verse as there is no change from the piano level to fortissimo that is appropriate for this last verse.

When I read or sing this song I can see Longfellow writing that last verse with a flourish of his quill and looking up to the all-conquering God and Father of us all.
The Casting Crowns version I like best is the one with the children's choir accompaniment, as it captures the essence of the message by emphasizing the last verse.
May we all live the victorious life in 2024 blest by our loving Heavenly Father, who sent his only Son that we might have life and have it more abundantly.
Thank you, Chris, for this interesting article about a new and different kind of Christmas song that can inspire us all.
Paul Mills
Parish of Gagetown

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Things my dog has taught me

A happy and blessed Easter to all of you!

As many of you know, Debbie and I adopted a puppy back in August. She is an Australian shepherd, and we call her Tilley.

As neither of us have had to look after a dog before, it has been quite a learning curve, though I think we are getting the hang of it now.

Most of the time she is a sweet little dog and does as she is told, but there are times when she is very wilful and demands her own way. She is also very clever and can work out how to do things like escaping from where she has been put.

Recently, the Rev. Chris Ketch gave me a little book by the late Rev. John Pearce about the things his dog taught him. I can truly say that Tilley has taught me several things.

The first is that no matter how much love and care she receives,



Archbishop David Edwards

there will be times when she snaps back at me because she wants something that I don't want her to have.

It is often a paper product, such as a tissue. Her heart's desire is to eat the tissue, which is not necessarily good for her.

It reminds me of me. God lavishes love on me, but there are times when I want what I want.

It is not the best thing for me, and it might even do me some



DAVID EDWARDS PHOTO

Debbie Edwards with Tilley and grandson, Isaiah.

harm, but I want it. I imagine that most of us find ourselves in that situation from time to time.

Another thing which sends Tilley into a decline is when we try to use the broom or even draw the curtains.

She does not seem to trust us — with these activities, or if

we introduce anything new into the house. Her experience of us should tell her that we will not do anything to harm her, but apparently it does not.

Again, I am sure God feels as I do with Tilley. God tells us that we will not be tested beyond what we can bear, but still there is mistrust on our part.

These are just two things I have learned from Tilley. I expect I will learn many more things as time goes by and may come back to this topic.

David Edwards is
Diocesan Bishop of Fredericton.

Some thoughts on the Resurrection

I have always believed that Jesus rose from the dead. I suppose that's because I grew up in the church and accepted what I was taught, though I didn't really understand it all.

Reciting the creed each Sunday reinforced my belief in the major doctrines of the church, including the resurrection. Still, I tended to view Jesus as a figure from ancient history, like Alexander the Great, a real person but totally irrelevant to my life.

I'm not sure I would have continued going to church as an adult, given my failure to appreciate its importance. However, that changed when someone, a fellow Anglican, shared with me how knowing Jesus had changed his life.

Really? How is that possible? I was intrigued, so I prayed, "God, if there's anything to this, I want to know."

God graciously answered my prayer by opening my mind to understand the significance of Jesus' resurrection. Since He rose from the dead, that means he is alive today. From that realization came the heart-felt conviction that everything I'd learned in Sunday School was true!

Jesus really is who the Bible says he is — the son of God, the saviour of the world. And because he is alive, it really



is possible to know him and experience his presence in my life. That's when my dry religion turned into a life-changing faith.

I'm thankful that happened while I was still young, during my first year at UNB in Fredericton. I see that as God's mercy. He spared me from years of going my own way that might have led to many problems, hurts and scars for me and my loved ones.

I'm also sure that it was God's mercy to my mother, as he answered her prayers for a daughter who was headed down the wrong path.

By the time this issue is published, we'll have just celebrated Easter. I hope we've done so not just because it's a tradition of the church, but because we really believe Jesus is alive.

Though Jesus told his disciples multiple times that he would rise from the dead, I

think it's safe to say that none of them believed he would. His crucifixion was so shocking, they fled in horror and sought safety behind locked doors.

After his resurrection, Jesus appeared to his disciples in the upper room. They were stunned and found it hard to grasp that he was alive.

In fact, Thomas, who was absent the first time Jesus appeared, refused to believe the testimony of his fellow disciples. But when Jesus appeared again and invited Thomas to put his hands in his wounds, Thomas finally was convinced and said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus responded, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." (John 20:29)

I like to think Jesus was referring to all the Christians down through the ages who would accept the witness of the New Testament writers and believe that he really did rise from the dead.

At the end of Matthew's Gospel, when Jesus was about to ascend into heaven, it says: "Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they wor-

shipped him; but some doubted." (Matthew 28:16-17)

We're not told what they doubted, but perhaps they felt as if they were in a dream and just imagining things. If some of the disciples doubted their eyes back then, it's not surprising if people doubt today.

There may be readers of this column who have doubts about the truth of Jesus' resurrection. If so, I suggest they investigate the evidence for it.

One way to do that is to read books written by people who set out to disprove it, i.e. *The Case for Easter* by Lee Strobel and *Who Moved the Stone?* by Frank Morison. Both men found the evidence so compelling that they went from being atheists to being Christians!

Believing in the resurrection was a turning point in my life, as I realized that Jesus was not just a historical figure, but a living Saviour. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

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

April 6
Diocesan Vocations Day,
Cathedral

April 7
Parishes of New Mary-
land and Fredericton
Junction

April 8-12
House of Bishops

April 14
* Parish of Kingston

April 20
Diocesan Layreaders'
Day, Cathedral

April 21
* Parish of Portland

April 27
Diocesan Mothers' Union
Rally, Riverview

April 28
* Parish of Oromocto and
Maugerville

May 2-4
Clergy Spouses Retreat,
Villa Madonna

* confirmation



EPISCOPAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Michael Caines has been appointed regional dean of the Deanery of Saint John for a three-year term to Feb. 28, 2027.

The Rev. Ann Fairweather has been appointed Bishop's chaplain to retired clergy, including spouses, widows and widowers.

Archbishop David has authorized the Rev. Virginia Wilmhoff, canonically resident in the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, to officiate in this diocese, particularly with the Parish of Rothesay.

Phil Shepherdson has joined the synod staff as comptroller, with a view to his being appointed treasurer of the Synod by Diocesan Council. He fills the vacancy left by Heather Harris-Jones.

Trinity celebrates 150 years in its building

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

While the congregation has been meeting for 230 years, the building, Trinity Church, in the Parish of Sussex, is 150 years old, which meant a celebration was in order.

It was held Feb. 24, with Archbishop David and wife Debbie Edwards in attendance, along with 96 others.

The Rev. Dan McMullen welcomed everyone, noting many from the partner parishes of Waterford and St. Mark's in attendance, as were several past clergy. The Rev. Mike Caines attended, as Trinity is his home church. Many of the special guests offered readings during the service of Holy Eucharist.

As part of the service, Dan, David, the Rev. Canon Allen Tapley and crucifer Michael Dunfield travelled to the font, lectern and pulpit for prayers of blessing.

"Don't get too excited," said Dan as he climbed to the pulpit. "You'll never see me up here again!"

David surprised Gil Carter by awarding him a certificate of merit for the years Gil had served on the Diocesan Finance Committee, many of them as chair.

In his sermon, David spoke at length about the building and how and why it was designed as is.

The neo-gothic style was a favourite of Bishop John Medley, with the soaring arches and a ceiling that resembles an upturned hull of a boat. Medley's son, Charles, was rector here when it was built.

"Bishop Medley was a Tractarian, also called the Oxford Movement," said David.

They believed the Anglican Church had lost a lot of its rituals and what they called "the mystery of God" had been removed. They built churches to recapture that mystery, thus the dark and deep ceilings.

"He was the first Tractarian to become a bishop," he said, adding he had the power to bring those beliefs into reality with church design.

The same design can be seen at the Church of the Ascension in nearby Apohaqui, and, of course, at Christ Church Cathedral, he said.

"With that high, dark ceil-



MCKNIGHT PHOTOS



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Canon Allen Tapley (right), the Rev. Dan McMullen and Archbishop David Edwards during the recessional; food and fellowship; former rector the Rev. Wally Corey had the job of cutting the anniversary cake; Archbishop David presents Gil Carter with a certificate of merit from the Diocese; Michael Dunfield, Dan and Allen during the blessing of the font.

ing, we lose the ability to see to the top," he said. "The idea was we're going up into the mystery of God.

"The windows and arches point us that way as well. The purpose of the gothic revival was to do that."

A century and a half ago, Trinity church was also a gath-

ering place, with a tall spire that stood out on the landscape, he said.

"I'm reminded of the church being a gathering place," he said. "Even the early church, the idea was to gather, worship God, then go out to declare the Good News of God.

"We need to remember that.

It's not just about the gathering. It's about the going out to take the message of peace and healing to others so they, too, can have an encounter with the mystery of God."

After the service, everyone gathered in the hall for fellowship and refreshments. The Rev. Wally Corey, who was

rector here from 1985-90, cut the cake.

"It was a wonderful day to celebrate 150 years of this building, and acknowledging a congregation over the past 230 years," said Dan. "We're thankful to the archbishop for the great message drawing our attention upwards."

CAMPING MINISTRY

Summer camps gearing up for busy season

Camp Medley has lots of new toys

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

If fun is what you're looking for, a week at summer camp is the place you ought to be.

Camp director (and the Rev.) John Galbraith outlined plans for Camp Brookwood and Camp Medley recently, and there's lots of news.

NEW TOYS

John has been on a shopping spree this past winter, and the payoff will be happy campers.

"We've gotten a new water toy, a new piece to go with what we have," he said. A series of inflatable toys stay in the St. John River during the camping season.

He purchased 70 new mattresses to replace the ones that are more than 30 years old.

"And I bought 10 peddle carts," he said. "The hope is to build a track behind the pool. They'll be a lot of fun."

But that's not all. He found fair attractions for sale and scooped up quite a few: bouncy horses; football, soccer and hockey target games; and a tire changing race where you change out a tire while on the clock.

Then there's the giant feet, where three people strap their feet onto the two large flat feet and try to race in unison.

There's also popcorn and cotton candy machines, all great for their evening fair programs.

And finally, there's a blow up race track that measures 30 by 50 feet, with remote control cars.

Some of the new toys will work both indoors and outdoors, meaning rainy days just got a lot more fun. And even more important, much of what he's purchased is portable.

"If I want to transport them up to Camp Brookwood, I can," he said. "If I want to take them to a church picnic, I can. It has some flexibility for youth in the diocese."

Another game is called "9-square in the air," a game with elements of volleyball but requiring no skill. There's a tall apparatus divided into nine squares where players hit the ball when it comes to them.

Players rotate as one gets out. It glows in the dark and is portable, and very popular.

John sees the value in having equipment that can be used at a parish picnic.

"We can help with the event by bringing camp to them," he said. "There is potential around that."

STAFF, CAMPER & RENTALS

John has interviewed 31 potential people so far and was impressed with the calibre.

"I was really pleased with the quality of applicants," he said, adding Emma Burke will return as assistant director.

He is still looking for more staff for Camp Brookwood, and he's hoping despite the deadline, that more applications will come in soon.

"The program is set at Brookwood, but we're still looking for staff and a director," he said.

Camper registrations are coming in, though slowly, he said, adding there's lot of space at both camps.

Rentals are a great source of revenue and are growing, with lots of school kids coming back this June for field trips.

Last year, Camp Medley projected \$23,000 in rentals and earned \$30K. John is hoping for a similar season this year.

One loss this year is St. Michael's Youth Conference, which, for the past two years post-pandemic, found a home at Camp Medley. This year they will return to Camp Wildwood near Bouctouche.

HEAT PUMPS

The provincial government was generous in helping fund new heat pumps for the dining hall, said John. He reached out to MLA Ross Wetmore, who came for a tour. They will be in operation this summer, and will provide a cool respite when the heat is intense.

It's shaping up to be a fun summer at camp, but John cautioned that to get your first choice of camps, you should register early.

campmedley.ca
campbrookwood.ca



MCKNIGHT PHOTO



ABOVE: Camp director John Galbraith shows off one of the 10 peddle-powered go carts purchased for Camp Medley.

LEFT: Children playing 9-square in the air. Photo compilation courtesy of 9squareintheair.com

BELOW: The old dining room has a new wood-burning fireplace for warmth on chilly evenings, rainy days, and off-season events.



JOHN GALBRAITH PHOTO

HERITAGE BUILDINGS

Heritage building workshop held at historic Stone Church

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

During New Brunswick Heritage Week, 45 people from all three Maritime provinces gathered at Stone Church in Saint John for a workshop called “Practical Building Conservation for Difficult Problems.”

The event was organized by Heritage Standing Inc. of Fredericton, which specializes in engineering for old structures.

Dr. Tom Morrison of Heritage Standing was the presenter. His company is involved in Stone Church’s exterior restoration project.

“Pre-COVID, I tried to do a workshop once a year,” said Tom. “This is the first public one since. I like education and like to continue that in some form.”

“We’ve been working with Stone so much, so we thought, let’s do it here.”

He invited everyone to take in the architecture, the stained glass and the flexibility of the space at Stone.

Those gathered included architects, archeologists, consultants, engineers, heritage restoration professionals, museum volunteers and representatives from Kings Landing and Parks Canada.

Many issues came up over the course of the afternoon, including insurance, weather, accessibility, funding, energy efficiency, housing shortages, traditional methods, and finding the right people for the restoration.

Tom told the crowd that globally, new construction has a carbon footprint five times higher than that of a restoration.

“On any new buildings that already exist, you’re halfway there,” he said. “We need to use the buildings we have.”

But restoration of old buildings can be complex.

“Old buildings built with old technology, old equipment and old materials don’t always work well with modern rules,” said Tom, referring to the building codes of every municipality.

He noted codes apply foremost to new builds, and following codes and making your building safe are not necessarily the same thing. As well, there is a bit of wiggle room for restoration of older buildings.

Tom cited studies that show in small cities, people need a bit of ‘oddness’ in their surroundings to be happier.

“People thrive on old buildings, even though they don’t necessarily realize it,” he said.

STONE CHURCH

In discussing Stone’s project, Tom said there were two ways to approach the job.

“We could have closed down the church and did it all at once,” he said. “Instead, when we worked with [the Rev.] Jasmine [Chandra], we knew closure was not acceptable. We needed to keep the building open and work on it over an extended period.”



SOPHIA PETROVICH PHOTO



MCKNIGHT PHOTO

STONE CHURCH in Saint John hosted a heritage building workshop Feb. 14 called “Practical Building Conservation for Difficult Problems.” About 45 people from all three maritime provinces participated. At left is Dr. Tom Morrison, who led the workshop.



That allowed time for fundraising as well as keeping their ministry going, he said.

One of the things his company does on such a project is to “instrument” the building with devices to measure its movement, temperature, humidity, wind and so on. This data helps form the plan of what needs to be done and how to accomplish it.

He said finding documentation on previous upgrades, how and when they were done, are invaluable in making decisions today.

BUILDING TRIAGE

When faced with a building that needs a great deal of restoration work that must be delayed, perhaps due to fund-

ing, the three-step approach can help:

- Keep it standing
- Keep water out because water drives a great deal of damage
- Start on the things that need to be done first.

When starting a restoration, you must consider the right materials for the job, because some repairs can cause harm. He cited spray foam insulation as an example. It can trap moisture where it can’t be seen, leading to more problems in years to come.

“Don’t just grab the first thing at Home Depot,” he said. “All sorts of problems can result.”

Peter Gillies was one Anglican who attended the event. A member of the N.B. Historical

Society, he was there to learn, since the society owns Loyalist House in Saint John.

Sonya Burrill, who works at Heritage Standing Inc., organized the event and is familiar with Stone Church.

“I’ve been helping manage the construction project,” she said. “I’m here a lot. This space is inspiring — for all groups using it.”

They were expecting 40 people, but even more showed up, she said, a good indication that heritage buildings are important to many.

Tom said, for some who attended, “they may never hire us, but they could get a few resources today. We’re in a unique position, so why not help?”

FUNDRAISING

ICYM to hold online auction in May

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

What do you do when money is tight? You hold a fundraiser.

That's what Inner City Youth Ministry has planned for early May: an online auction being held on its Facebook page.

"We're predicting a significant deficit this year," said Erin Rideout, administrative assistant and former director. "We want to be able to continue to do what we're doing because more than ever there's a need."

With a fleet of volunteers, what they do is pack thousand of lunches a month for school children in Saint John. The online auction is expected to help alleviate the money crunch and allow the Lunch Connection program to continue.

On May 1, on the Lunch Connection Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/TheLunchConnection>), donated items and services will be uploaded and people will have the chance to bid.

You bid by commenting on an item. On May 10, the bids are finalized and the winning bidder is notified.

"It's a chance to help feed kids and for us to continue to offer the Lunch Connection program," said Erin, adding



MCKNIGHT FILE PHOTO

VOLUNTEERS BAG HOMEMADE snack mix for the hundreds of bagged lunches prepared for school children in Saint John each week. Predicting a deficit, Inner City Youth Ministry is planning an online auction in May to help alleviate the tight budget this year.

MISSION IN MOTION: food security

all monies will go to help feed kids.

From now until the end of April, Erin and Bonnie Hunt, ICYM's director, will be looking for donations of goods and services to make the auction a

robust one.

"We've sent out request letters to retail, businesses, restaurants and individuals," said Erin. "We already have some donations from individuals, from bowling to art,

home-baked cookies to gift cards. There will be something for everyone."

If you have something to donate, contact Erin (icysmj@gmail.com). She suggests readers check the Facebook page

for the items and for instructions on how to bid. A comment serves as a bid.

While this is a Saint John initiative, Erin will do her best to get winning items to buyers one way or another.

"There's no need for it to be only Saint John people," she said.

She's hopeful for a successful auction, and if that comes to fruition, it could become an annual event. She's anticipating both the church community and the schools will get involved to help make it worthwhile.

By the time the auction is held, Lunch Connection will be serving 14 schools in the city three days a week.

With groceries at an all-time high price, delivering bagged lunches that are healthy, peanut-free and Halal has become more of a challenge.

What ICYM really needs is a good number of new monthly donors to sustain their efforts. Grants cannot be counted on, and they usually do not cover the two things at the top of their budget.

"It's hard to find grants that cover salaries," she said. "Often they don't cover salaries and food and those are our two main costs."

What's a fostering closet?

At our February ACW meeting, Lynne Slipp (an active member) gave a presentation about Fostering Closet New Brunswick.

As there are several Fostering Closets in our province. We hope this article may encourage other ACW branches to support them.

The idea of Fostering Closets came about from a foster mom in Woodstock who saw examples in other places, mostly the U.S. When a foster family is called upon to take a child, it could be at any time of the day. As well, sometimes kids leave their homes with only what they're wearing.

And of course, when babies are put into foster care, they need an entire suite of equipment and supplies, and stores

aren't open 24/7.

In Woodstock, foster mom Brittany Porter began collecting items for just these situations. She runs the foster closet out of her house and usually has clothing, shoes, jackets, toys, books, book bags, bottles, cribs, and other baby items. All are given out as needed, without cost.

"The goal is to have items on hand for all sizes — preemie to medium adult," she said.

How can you help? By donating gently used children's clothing and child-based items you no longer need. You can contact Brittany (506-323-2662) for more information. *Submitted by Jill Craig, ACW president, Parish of Woodstock.*



SUBMITTED PHOTO

MISSION IN MOTION: children

Members of the Parish of Woodstock's ACW discovered the ins and outs of a fostering closet during a recent meeting. Foster parents need all kinds of children's clothing and accessories like baby bottles, diapers and formula when a social worker arrives at their door with a child. When that happens after hours when stores are closed, it's vital they still have the needed items, which is where the fostering closet comes in. Items from a local fostering closet are shown on the table above. The Woodstock ACW says it's a concept other ACWs can get behind.

MY JOURNEY HERE



Filip Vanicek

BY GISELE MCKNIGHT

Filip Vanicek grew up in the lap of luxury. He and his family enjoyed a country estate and an ornate, five-storey building in the heart of Prague where they lived, along with much of his extended family.

“Our family were academics and lawyers,” he said. “My childhood was phenomenal, absolutely fantastic — until the Russians came.

“We were perceived as the enemy of the people because my family was wealthy. We were seen as a threat to the communists. When they came, they just took everything.”

The estate, the Prague home, and many other family properties were no longer in the hands of the Vaniceks.

Many people were denied the opportunity to study at universities, but they were permitted to attend community colleges. That’s why both Filip’s parents, Peter and Jana, became engineers.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Czechoslovakia, in central Europe, was a democratic state until it was annexed by Nazi Germany in 1938.

After the war, the Soviet Union was determined to dominate the ring of countries between it and Western Europe, and Czechoslovakia became one of many Soviet-dominated nations.

Communism was hard on the bourgeois Vanicek family. Filip’s grandfather ran his own law firm and was a generous patron of the arts, but under communist rule, he was sent to a concentration camp, and after he was freed, was put to work in a brick factory.

While it remained under the thumb of Moscow, its leader, a reformer named Alexander Dubček, permitted a few freedoms. This brief period of liberalization in 1968 became known as the Prague Spring.

PRAGUE SPRING

“We had our own version of perestroika, the loosening up of the political system,” said Filip. “People were allowed for a very short time to come and go, to publish and travel.”

And it was his father, Peter, sensing the new freedoms would not last, who chose to travel to find a place the family could thrive outside Moscow’s grip.

Filip’s great uncle was the president of Sorbonne University in France, and invited his nephew to join him there.

“My dad didn’t want to go to France. He wanted to go to England. He went there and got a job.”

Jana and the children remained in Czechoslovakia for the time being, but while they still could, the family joined Peter in England with the promise that if it didn’t work out, they’d return home.

Just a few weeks later, in August, Soviet tanks rolled into the country and put a stop to it all. It would be another 20 years under unrelenting Moscow rule until the Berlin Wall fell.

“In England, we watched the Russian tanks roll into Prague,” said Filip. “We didn’t have to escape. We were already gone.”

FROM ENGLAND TO CANADA

Filip laughs at the memory of his 18 months in England — a proper little boy wearing short pants, a tie, blazer and duffle coat to school.

“By then we were good little English school boys,” he said of he and his brother, Stephen.

Peter got a job at the Brighton Observatory. He happened to meet Angus Hamilton, who was head of surveying and mapping with the Canadian government’s Department of Natural Resources. (Angus was also a warden in the Parish of Douglas and Nashwaaksis during his long life.)

“He offered my dad a job in Ottawa. We came to Canada in 1969.”



MCKNIGHT PHOTO

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Marianne and Filip Vanicek in their house in Fredericton. Filip is in the real estate business, while Marianne is a middle school teacher.

The Vanicek family’s country estate outside Prague. The rounded part of the building is a consecrated church for the family. This and all other Vanicek properties were confiscated by the state when the Russians invaded in 1968. Filip worked tirelessly to get them back after communism fell in 1989. They still enjoy the country estate, though due to a lack of maintenance during the communist years, several properties had to be disposed of.

The Vanicek family home in Prague, where Filip grew up surrounded by his immediate and extended family, who all lived in the building. He and Marianne lived there while in Prague.

Filip and Marianne became engaged on this boat trip on the Vltava River in Prague.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS



GOOGLE MAPS

The family arrived in the fall, enchanted by the blazing glory of autumn leaves, and enjoyed their first Halloween.

“After that, we didn’t want to leave,” he said, though his mother was not convinced it was the place for her. She pined for her family left behind.

While in Ottawa, Jana gave birth to his sister, Anna.

FROM OTTAWA TO FREDERICTON

But the family’s time in Ottawa was limited. In the early 1970s, Angus was offered the prestigious job of setting up the Surveying Engineering department at the University of New Brunswick.

Filip’s father, with a PhD in surveying engineering, was an obvious choice to become a professor.

So the family moved to Frederic-

ton, where they have been ever since. They became Canadian citizens in 1972.

“We loved Ottawa,” said Filip. “But you come to a new community, you make friends. We integrated very quickly.”

Jana found her own career in Fredericton. A structural engineer, she was hired by ADI, and became a bridge designer with the Department of Transportation.

Filip graduated high school and earned a Bachelor of Arts in political science from UNB. From there he moved to Toronto and earned a Masters degree.

It was in Toronto that Filip was taken with the idea of working with his hands.

“I didn’t want to just work with my brain,” he said. “So a friend of mine

and I went into real estate.”

This was the 1980s and the Toronto housing market was on fire. They bought a house, fixed it up, and then sold it. Then they bought another, and another, and many more over several years.

“But my nose was telling me, this bubble’s going to burst,” he said. “I was going to take my money and walk away.”

That’s just what he did, returning to Fredericton, while his friend, a fellow Czech, stayed and lost millions. Filip has continued in real estate here, buying, improving and renting properties.

MARIANNE, ANGLICANISM & THE FALL OF COMMUNISM

Two things vital to Filip’s life happened in the late 1980s: Filip met Marianne, his future wife, and the

Berlin Wall fell.

Marianne attended Christ Church Cathedral, as did Filip. He had been born into the Hussite faith, the first reformation church that preceded Martin Luther by 100 years. It came about as part of the Bohemian Reformation.

“When we came to Canada, the closest thing was the Moravian Church,” said Filip.

He later joined the United church, but seeking a more structured worship, he began attending Christ Church Cathedral in the late 1980s.

At about the same time, Marianne left her Baptist roots for her mother’s family denomination, Anglicanism. Both were confirmed in 1988 by Dean John Wright.

In 1989, communism was all but dead in Eastern Europe.

“The next thing I hear, my partner [from Toronto] is working in President [Václav] Havel’s office — the presidential office! He had 350 people working under him!”

“He said ‘come and see what’s going on,’” said Filip. “When I arrived at the Prague airport, there was a limo waiting for me.”

Filip quickly learned that restitution of former properties was taking place. The process was long and complex, and he was back and forth from Fredericton to Prague many times.

Then Marianne joined him, and with her Bachelor of Education degree, was able to teach for the American State Department at an international school.

“We had a wonderful life there,” said Filip. “Prague in the 1990s was like Paris of the 1920s. We met Bill

Clinton, Romeo LeBlanc, and even saw the pope.”

They found an Anglican church and count some parishioners there as lifelong friends.

“In a different country, the best way to meet people is to attend church,” said Filip. “It’s a wonderful way to find friends.”

After his hard work of reclaiming the Vanicek properties, they were able to live in his childhood home in Prague and enjoy the estate on weekends.

But after 45 years of the communists holding the family properties, with no maintenance done on them, he had to let some go. Several, though, remain in the family.

My Journey Here continued on page 10

MY JOURNEY HERE



Filip Vanicek

My Journey Here continued from page 9

BACK TO FREDERICTON

The couple married in 1995 in Fredericton, and it was later that they decided if they wanted children, those kids would probably have a better upbringing in Fredericton.

“Although we had a perfect life in Czechoslovakia, when we had kids, maybe living in a place where the neighbourhoods had no fences and the kids have free rein of everybody’s back yard would be better.”

That’s exactly what they found on Wright Street, tucked between Smythe and York streets. One neighbour would flood his backyard so kids could skate in winter, kids played outside from morning to night, and there was never a threat or an issue.

“There’s a certain beauty in that,” said Filip. “There was a degree of village-ness about it — a village raising our kids.”

THE FAMILY

Filip recalls Bishop Harold Nutter with great fondness.

“He was a very big influence in our lives,” he said, adding he had the perfect personality to be a great bishop.

One time they had the Nutters over for a lamb dinner, and Caroline was a toddler at the time. She was crawling under the table when, all of a sudden, Harold let out a shriek.

“My two-year-old daughter had bitten him on the calf!” he said. “He joked that instead of leg of lamb, we had leg of bishop. He was always full of humour.”

The Vanicek children are pretty much grown up. Sebastian, 22, is in medical school in Scotland. Caroline is 20 and a student at UNB studying math and physics.

Christian is 17, about to graduate from high school and plans to study history at the University of Kings College in Halifax in the fall. Christian is also the Cathedral’s organ scholar under the direction of organist Thomas Gonder, and the organist at St. Peter’s.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

“All the children were servers,” said Filip. “All were in treble choir and choir school too. They all went to Sunday school.”

Marianne teaches at Bliss Carmen Middle School. Her parents are Dalton and Sheila London, who worship at the Cathedral. The children are fortunate to have their Vanicek grandparents nearby in Fredericton as well.

Filip and Marianne have taken their children to Prague nearly every year, and they love it. Christian loves the soccer, Sebastian the old architecture.

Filip’s brother, Stephen, lives on Hornby Island, B.C. and works in movie stage design. His sister, Anna, lives on a 17th century farm in Burgundy, France.

Filip and Marianne attend St. Peter’s to support Christian’s playing, but Filip thinks they’ll return to the Cathedral once he’s in university in the fall.

It’s been almost 56 years since the Vanicek family slipped out of Czechoslovakia just before the Russians stormed in. Knowing what that communist occupation did to his family who remained is proof enough that God’s hand guided them to a better path which has brought them to our diocese.



TOP: Marianne Vanicek rides a horse at the Vanicek country estate in the Czech Republic in the early 1990s.

MIDDLE: The Vanicek family in Fredericton: Marianne, Filip, Christian, Sebastian and Caroline.

LEFT: Filip, foreground, with his siblings, Stephen and Anna.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

A washroom in a sacristy: how did that happen?

A report from the parishioners of Holy Trinity, Hammond River

For the past 100 years, a very cold non-insulated room on the main level of Holy Trinity in the Parish of Hammond River has been used for many things, but most recently as a sacristy and storage area.

That was until 2023, when, through parish planning meetings, and lots of prayer, a desire to “be a blessing to those we meet and to each other” led to the development of more programs and events at the church - especially programs for seniors.

As with most older buildings, running water and a washroom did not exist on the main level of the church, which was seen as a barrier to moving forward.

So... committees were formed, plans were developed, expertise was sought, grants were written, contractors hired, “i’s” were dotted and “t’s” were crossed.

Through the summer of 2023 the storage room was transformed into two rooms — a wheelchair accessible washroom and an anteroom now called a sacristy.

In September a grant was received from the Anglican Foundation of Canada to assist with the construction and on Feb. 4, the new sacristy was



BACK ROW LEFT TO RIGHT: Debbie & Paul Knorr, Nancy Floyd, Gail Eastwood, Cindy Dutton, Jim Eastwood
Front row left to right: Lynn Browne, David & Verla Darling, Kathy Ferguson, Cleo Cyr, Jean Wilson, Margo Mapplebeck, Barb Hill

dedicated by Archbishop David to the Glory of God and in honour of all past and present

Altar Guild members. In addition, we learned our grant application is being used

as a model for other parishes to use when applying to the Foundation.

What did we learn? We learned that when we work together in prayer and action, much can be accomplished and that having a washroom and running water on the main level of the church is a gift that is appreciated every day.

One lady, currently attending a seniors program, commented that she could not believe the care and compassion she felt as a disabled person, including the attention to detail and commitment to meeting the needs of someone in her situation. Who knew?

In 2022-2023 through all the planning sessions, and throughout the period of construction, we decided that we wanted to continue to keep Jesus at the centre of all we do and strengthen our focus on being a blessing to those we meet and to each other.

We also determined that we must always strive to work together to share the load and leadership.

At the dedication service, Archbishop David quoted Emil Brunner: “The Church exists by mission, just as a fire exists by burning. Where there is no mission, there is no Church; and where there is neither Church nor mission, there is no faith.”

We continue to be a work in progress.

Parish news



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

LEFT: ON NOV. 25, Stir-up Sunday, Heather Theriault brought the makings for Christmas cake to her church, St. Peter’s in Fredericton, and everyone in the congregation took their turn to “stir up” the batter. On Dec. 24, she brought in the finished cake to share with the congregation. Here she is serving a piece to Wayne Seeley.

RIGHT: HOLY TRINITY Hammond River in Quispamsis has an active knitting club which meets monthly to make prayer shawls, hats and scarves. After being blessed, the items are donated to hospitals, shelters and individuals. Shown here are HTHR parishioners Lynn Browne, Margo Mapplebeck and Barb Hill presenting a shawl to Marion Mapplebeck in honour of her 100th birthday, on behalf of the Knitting Group. Marion is a long-time member of St. John’s (Stone) Church in uptown Saint John who now lives at the Kings Way Care Center in Quispamsis.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Going green



SUBMITTED PHOTOS



THANKS TO A GIFT from a generous donor, a grant from NB Power, and the Diocesan Finance Committee, Christ Church, Campbellton, has made the transition from an oil-based heating system to a central-ducted electric heat pump system. This not only contributes to cost savings, but also aligns with our commitment to environmental sustainability as laid out in the Fifth Mark of Mission. The installation was carried out by Greenfoot Energy Solutions.

MISSION IN MOTION: community



DAVID EDWARDS PHOTO

ABOVE: Archbishop David Edwards was among the guests at the consecration of the Rev. Michel Proulx as bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Bathurst on Jan. 25. The celebration was held at Sacré-Coeur Cathedral, Bathurst. The principal consecrator was Archbishop Guy Desrochers, C.Ss.R., Archbishop of Moncton, while the principal co-consecrators were Archbishop Valéry Vienneau, Archbishop Emeritus of Moncton; and Bishop Daniel Jodoin, Bishop of Nicolet, Québec. Bishop Proulx was born in Saint-Lambert, Québec.



MARGARET LAKING PHOTOS



ABOVE & LEFT: Every year for quite some time, except during the pandemic, St. George's Anglican church in McAdam has been hosting Lenten Cafés. For four Mondays in succession St. George's has various parishioners take the role of host. The first café had warden Linda Klassen taking the lead. She made chicken soup while another parishioner made corn chowder, which by all accounts were very tasty. Various sandwiches and homemade blueberry cake (also made by Linda) were enjoyed. Above photo shows St. George's treasurer, Frank Carroll, checking with a couple of ladies at the café. Photo at left shows parishioners Gail Swan and Judy Thomas, who is also the organist at St. George's.

SHROVE TUESDAY

SHROVE TUESDAY IN THE DIOCESE



Clockwise from top left: Just under 300 were served at St. Mark's in Sussex Corner, with \$3,000 raised for the Salvation Army's work in the community; Rosalie Brown, Nancy English, Barb Belyea and Jill Craig served in the Parish of Woodstock; Grand Manan helpers included Carolyn Wilson, Les Morrison, Joan Brown, David Hepditch, Sharon Guptill and Kirk Cheney; In St. Andrews, the hall was decorated for Mardi Gras; Members and helpers of the Guild of St. Joseph at Christ Church Cathedral included Charles Carson, Luke Carson, Greg Young-Morris and Eric Hadley; more Cathedral helpers: Jim Clowater, Thomas Gondor and Harry Palmer; Diners in Grand Manan, where nearly 100 were served and \$800 was raised.



AROUND THE DIOCESE

Save the date!
ACW
ANNUAL MEETING
 Tuesday, May 7
 St. John's Anglican Church, Oromocto
 Find more information in the April edition of *Launching Out*

TWO MINUTE INTERVIEW

Filip Vanicek, featured in this month's My Journey Here

Favourite book of the Bible - Gospel of John
Birthplace - Prague, Czechoslovakia
What you love most about God – Serenity
Favourite place on Earth - Squam Lake, New Hampshire
Farthest you've been from home - Singapore
Favourite meal or dessert - Meal: andive au gratin avec jambon (Belgian endive, ham); dessert: Eton mess
Biggest fear – Failure
Hidden talent – De-staining, doing laundry
Favourite movie or book – Movie: *The Mission*; Book: Evelyn Waugh, *Brideshead Revisited*
Your hobby – I don't have time for a hobby; I'm too busy fixing things.
Three things always in your fridge – Sourdough rye bread, onions, oat milk
Favourite sports team - Arsenal FC

A SACRED CHORAL WEEKEND FOR AGES 16 YEARS AND OLDER

65th Choir School
 JULY 11-14TH, 2024

WITH MUSIC LEADERS:
 DR. JOEL TRANQUILLA
 SPENCER BELYEA

TO REGISTER VISIT:
 ANGLICANCHOIRSCHOOL.ORG

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MAKE MEMORIES TO LAST A LIFETIME!

Discerning Your Ministry?
 Evangelist | Priest
 Deacon | Layreader | Lay Pastoral Visitor
 Parish Nurse ...or not sure?

Join others in exploring your call
 Diocesan Vocations Day
 Saturday, April 6, 2024
 Christ Church Cathedral
 10AM to 3PM
 RSVP: nb.anglican.ca/Vocations2024

Questions?
 Shawn C. Branch, Director of Mission and Ministry
 (506) 459-1101 or sbranch@diofnton.ca

A real dirge of a hymn for Lent

Most Anglicans in New Brunswick will pick up a hymn book at some point (or have in the past). Some may know that the music for each hymn has a name, and it is printed in small upper-case letters at the bottom right of the music.

Some such titles are easy to understand, such as Oxford, while others are rather hard to pronounce, let alone understand where the name came from.

Does anyone know what an aberystwyth is? Wonder no more; now you're going to find out.

In 1841, a person named Joseph Perry was born in Wales. His family was poor, and he was sent to work at the local mill at the age of nine.

He had some musical ability, and when his family emigrated to a Welsh settlement in Pennsylvania, he was enrolled in a music school. He began travelling, performing and composing.

He studied at the Royal Academy of Music at Cambridge, and later taught at the Welsh University College in Aberystwyth (Now we know where the name comes from!).

Sometime after 1873, he wrote a hymn melody and named it after this place.

We likely know this hymn tune best when paired with the words, "Jesus, Lover of My Soul." However, there is a wonderful hymn called, "Man



of Sorrows, Wrap't In Grief," which uses the same tune.

This song is slow, set in a minor key (most often a minor), and drawn out in melodic rhythm. Some think of it as a quite a dirge (dirge: a mournful song, piece of music, or poem).

It might seem that way, though when thinking about the words and the music, the pairing is rather beautiful in a sombre way.

The text of this hymn accompanies this article. It doesn't appear in our most recent hymn book, but the one before that (often called the "old blue book" - the Book of Common Praise, 1938. Don't even get me started on the OLD OLD blue book).

The text calls to mind a passage from Isaiah 53, part of the "Suffering Servant" section of this book, whom Isaiah describes like this: "...he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide



WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

The painting entitled *Man of Sorrows*, by William Dyce (1806-1864), found in the National Galleries of Scotland.

their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not." (Isaiah 53:2-3, ESV).

In each verse, an aspect of Jesus's path to the cross is mentioned, recalling events from Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

The first is a general reference to his suffering for us; the second, the scene in the Garden of Gethsemane; the third, his crucifixion ("Are you able to drink the cup that I drink." Mark 10:38); and finally, the atonement that His death accomplishes for us.

Beautiful in its tragic lament style, this hymn speaks large meaning to the words as we sing it.

Incidentally, there is a

Canadian connection concerning this hymn. The text's author, Matthew Bridges, had moved to Quebec from England late in his life for a few years, though he returned to his homeland just before his death.

There is so much more that could be said about this hymn, but alas, I will have to let it go for now.

Do you sing this hymn in Lent? What are your impressions of it? Until next time...

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

Man of sorrows, wrap't in grief

Man of sorrows, wrap't in grief,
Bow Thine ear to our relief:
Thou for us the path hast trod
Of the dreadful wrath of God:
Thou the cup of fire hast drained
Till its light alone remained:
Lamb of Love! We look to Thee,
Hear our mournful litany!
By the garden, fraught with woe,
Whither Thou full oft wouldst go:
By Thine agony of prayer
In the desolation there!
By the dire and deep distress
Of that mystery fathomless:
Lord, our tears in mercy see,
Hearken to our litany!
By the chalice, brimming o'er
With disgrace and torment sore;
By those lips which fain would pray
That it might but pass away;
By the heart which drank it dry,
Lest a rebel race would die;
By thy pity, Lord, our plea:
Hear our solemn litany.
Man of sorrows! Let Thy grief
Purchase for us our relief:
Lord of mercy, bow Thine ear,
Slow to anger, swift to hear:
By thy Cross's royal road
Lead us to the throne of God,
There for aye to sing of thee
Heaven's triumphant litany.
Tune "Aberystwyth" by Joseph Perry. Words by Matthew Bridges



MCKNIGHT PHOTO

Parish news

The Rev. David Peer led a service of Holy Eucharist at St. John the Evangelist church in Fredericton on Feb. 21 with 11 people in attendance, including Linda Lou Derrah, left, and diocesan staff member Susan Dickie, right. The significance of the event was the inaugural use of the repurposed altar which came from All Saints in East Saint John. David was the last presiding priest at All Saints, which is itself repurposed into a carpentry lab by Catapult Construction, an arm of Outflow Ministry. The former church is now the site of tiny home construction and training of youths in the carpentry trade.

St. John's recently celebrated the paying off of the mortgage on the building. Archbishop David Edwards was the special guest on Dec. 17, charged with blessing the building.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

Fire Watch Ministries

Meet Peter L.

Peter is from northern New Brunswick. He's been out of prison a short time, and is on parole. An addiction to drugs and alcohol led to criminal behaviour. He is now working full-time and on a positive path. He and Eden talk frequently. Peter has a strong Christian faith and practices native spirituality as well. He feels confident about his future.



Fire Watch Ministries of Moncton (Eden & Carolyn McAuley) is devoted to walking beside ex-offenders who want Christian support in their lives. You can help their mission through prayers and through donations. <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/13778>

MAY 1-10

ONLINE AUCTION

IN SUPPORT OF LUNCH CONNECTION

The auction will be on our Facebook page facebook.com/TheLunchConnection

icym.ca

LUNCH CONNECTION SUPPORTS STUDENTS, SCHOOLS, AND FAMILIES BY PROVIDING 65,000+ LOW-COST AND SUBSIDIZED LUNCHES IN SAINT JOHN SCHOOLS EACH YEAR.



Save the Date

St. Michael's Youth Conference
Maritimes For Youth 13-19

More info: SMYC.CA



August 19 - 24, 2024
@ Camp Wildwood
McKee's Mills, NB (near Bouctouche)

- Prayer
- Learning
- Recreation
- Friendship

GRAND MANAN PILGRIMAGE

DATES
17-20 May 2024

LOCATION
Grand Manan Island, NB

PURPOSE
Journey of Faith

FOR YOUNG ADULTS AGES 19-30

A NON-DENOMINATIONAL CHRISTIAN EVENT WITH ANGLICAN FLAVOUR

ABOUT THE PILGRIMAGE

Join us on a **spiritual expedition** to Grand Manan Island, New Brunswick! Connect with the Divine through the island's breathtaking landscapes & hospitable residents. Strengthen your bonds with fellow pilgrims through shared experiences, reflective conversations, and opportunities for prayer & worship together.

WHY PARTICIPATE?
To discover, explore, & connect

Costs & Logistics
Limited spots available ~ register by Easter Sunday 31 March 2024 ~ \$20 registration fee ~ all travel expenses (including ferry passage), food and lodging will be covered by the diocese.

To Register
Visit nb.anglican.ca/Pilgrimage2024

Questions? Contact Kurt Schmidt, Director of Young Adult Formation 506-259-3711 / kschmidt@diofnton.ca

The Anglican Diocese OF FREDERICTON

Say Yes! to Kids

Join AFC and celebrate Say Yes! to Kids Sunday on June 2nd

Be part of the movement to grow a brighter future for children, youth, and young adults!

Visit anglicanfoundation.org/sytkSunday

2024 SAVE THE DATE JUNE 2

ANGLICAN FOUNDATION OF CANADA

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

LAYREADERS' DAY

Christ Church Cathedral, Fredericton
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Registration: nb.anglican.ca/layreadersday



Theme: Pastoral Care, with Archbishop David and Dr. Ken Neilson

Deadline is noon on Friday, May 3

DIOCESAN SYNOD GRANTS

Get your spring grant application in soon!

The spring deadline for Diocesan Synod grants is noon on May 3. Grant applications MUST be received by the deadline to be considered.

Diocesan Synod grant applications are available here.
nb.anglican.ca/parish-grants