



THE MESSENGER

NOVEMBER 2019

www.edmonton.anglican.org



Messy Church Celebrates Season of Creation



St. Luke's Messy Church celebrated the theme "Love Your World" as part of the Season of Creation. Crafts included sock caterpillars and bird feeders, rock insects and flower painting. A popular activity was creating dirt cups with worms (the dirt being made of Oreo cookies and chocolate pudding; the worms being multi-coloured gummy worms). Pictured from left: Andrea, Cole and Gail get messy. Photo: Tony Saloway

See story on page 10.



"We're all God's gift to the church" - Canon for Reconciliation and Healing to 66th Edmonton Synod

MARGARET GLIDDEN
Edmonton Editor

Members of the 66th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton were called together on October 4 and 5, 2019 to share and celebrate efforts as individuals, parishes and as a diocese to shape communities of belonging through God's love.

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Jane Alexander, Bishop of Edmonton, returning from a personal leave of absence, presided over the Opening Eucharist on Friday evening, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. The service was held at All Saints' Cathedral, Edmonton on Treaty 6 land, the traditional meeting ground and home of Indigenous Peoples, including Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Nakota Sioux and the Métis Nation.

Looking upward to scarlet red dresses which were hung throughout the sanctuary, Bishop Jane called for a moment of silence to honour the lives of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. Every October 4th Sisters in Spirit

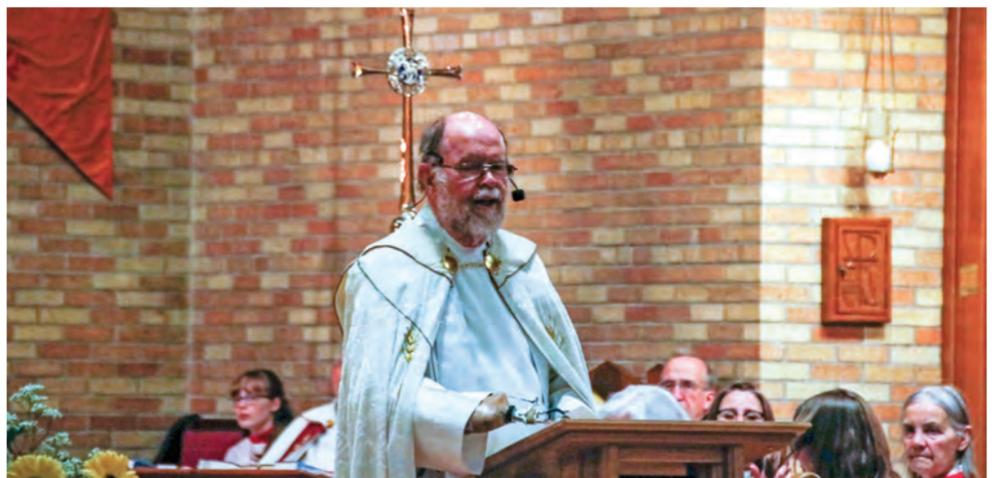
vigils are held across Canada to support grieving families, provide opportunities for healing and motivate change. Just days earlier, National Anglican Indigenous Archbishop Mark MacDonald called for prayer as the names of 2,800 children who died attending residential school were shared in a public ceremony, and members of the diocese wore orange shirts as a sign of their commitment to help heal the wounds caused by the Residential School system.

Bishop Jane prayed for the "healing of our souls"; that we may strive to be a place of belonging for all people; a sharing and loving community that participates fully in God's dream for Mother Earth; in God's dream for humanity.

Fr. Michael Lapsley, SSM, who was installed as Canon for Healing and Reconciliation at the 65th Synod, brought "a loving embrace" from the people of St. George's Cathedral in Cape Town, South Africa, where he holds a similar title.

"This is my vision for our churches: that they become places of belonging, places of sharing, places of love."

Jean Vanier, *Befriending the Stranger*



Fr. Michael Lapsley, SSM preaches the homily during the opening eucharist of the 66th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton at All Saints' Cathedral on October 4, 2019.

"Indeed, we are all God's gift to the Church," he said in his sermon to the congregation of 201 registered lay and clergy synod delegates, and guests. "But do we believe it in our heart of hearts?"

"How many of us have unhealed wounds?" he asked. "Often such wounds have affected our sense of

self-value and our ability to believe we are God's children. With God's help, we can become healers of one another so that we experience ourselves in the innermost part of our being as God's children."

Continued on page 7.



Induction Service p. 2



Community Mural p. 3



66th Synod p.s. 2, 6 & 7

God's Gift to the Church is YOU 66th Synod members inspired to step out "courageously and outrageously" in mission

MARGARET GLIDDEN
Edmonton Editor

The 66th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton was a manifestation of the resourceful, creative, often unexpected ways God is empowering us to use our gifts to respond to the needs of others and, in so doing, grow communities that are places of belonging, places of sharing and places of love.

The Rt. Rev. Dr. Jane Alexander, Bishop of Edmonton, interrupted a six-week personal leave of absence to convene synod on the evening of October 4, 2019 at All Saints' Cathedral. In a break from tradition she invited a guest preacher, Fr. Michael Lapsley, Canon of Reconciliation and Healing at All Saints' Cathedral and St. George's Cathedral in Cape Town, South Africa, who was accompanied by his colleague Philani Dlamini, to give the sermon for the Opening Eucharist Service.

Synod began on the last day of the Season of Creation (that we have been

called to support by both our own General Synod and the Anglican Communion) and the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of ecology. At the 63rd Synod, Bishop Jane asked parishes to help uphold the Fifth Mark of Mission and safeguard the integrity of creation by eliminating single-use plastics, Styrofoam and plastic cutlery; and use only recycled paper products in offices, washrooms and kitchens. She challenged parishes to live, both "personally and corporately, in such a way that shows our stewardship of creation," and to use only sustainable and renewable supplies by December 31, 2019.

Several parishes have already

started taking significant steps toward becoming a green church. Synod heard presentations on eco-friendly initiatives such as collecting recyclable bottles and cans to finance a green audit; switching to LED lighting; applying for grants to finance a solar energy system; and creating a parish environmental policy.

Continued on
page 6.



Archdeacon Travis Enright lights the smudge and leads members of the 66th Synod in prayer in four directions.



From left: diocesan officers, Vice-chancellor Lois MacLean; Bishop Jane Alexander and Chancellor Ken Holmstrom, call the 66th Synod to order at All Saints' Cathedral.

66th Synod of the Diocese of Edmonton Election Results

Diocesan Executive Council

Battle River - Clergy: Stephen London (Elected)

Battle River - Laity: Brian Jolly (Acclaimed); Sheila Clifford Mackay (A)

Cold Lake - Clergy: Colleen Sanderson (E)

Cold Lake - Laity: Cathy Armstrong (A); Mary-Lou Cleveland (A)

Edmonton West - Clergy: Cheryl Boulet (E)

Edmonton West - Laity: David Heritage (A); Patricia Francis (A)

Whitemud - Clergy: Danielle Lepine (A)

Whitemud - Laity: John de Haan (A); Lynne Reckhow (A)

Yellowhead - Clergy: Billy Isenor (A)

Yellowhead - Laity: Ian Bowden (A); Rita Stagman (A)

Diocesan Court

Clergy: Lee Bezanson (E); Robyn Walker (E)

Laity: Lois MacLean, Law Society Member (A); Lynda Phillips (A)

General Synod

Clergy: Stephen London (E); Alan Perry (E)

Danielle Lepine (1st alternate)
Jordan Haynie Ware (2nd alternate)
Laity: Cathy Armstrong (E); Ian Bowden (E)

Matthew Mercer-Deadman (1st Alternate)

Rita Stagman (2nd Alternate)
Youth: Shelby Cook (E)
Leah Marshall (1st Alternate)

Provincial Synod

Clergy: Chelsy Bouwman (E); Richard King (E); Chris Pappas (1st alternate)
Stephen London (2nd alternate)
Laity: Cathy Armstrong (E); Ian Bowden (E)

Matthew Mercer-Deadman (1st alternate)

Rita Stagman (2nd alternate)
Youth: Shelby Cook (E)
Leah Marshall (1st alternate)

Synod Recorder (67th Synod)

Clergy: Rebecca Harris (A)

Laity: Dorothy Marshall (A)

St. Paul's encouraged to 'build a well' at induction service

SHELLY KING
Messenger Staff

Family, friends, parishioners, and clergy colleagues (with several falling into more than one category), all descended on St. Paul's Anglican Church on the evening of Tuesday, September 24, for the induction service of the Rev. Myron Penner.

A service of induction rarely happens at the very beginning of a priest's ministry in a new parish. Often minister and congregation have had a chance to get to know each other and set a trajectory for their work together before this ceremony takes place. Such is the case at St. Paul's. Rev. Myron was first appointed as priest-in-charge at St. Paul's on September 1, 2018, and then confirmed as rector on June 23, 2019. Of his first year in this parish,

Rev. Myron says he has rarely known such freedom in ministry and such support from members of the church family.

The Rev. Sue Oliver, rector of Christ Church Edmonton and long-time friend of the Penner family, began her sermon saying how thrilled she was to hear that Rev. Myron would be rector of St. Paul's.

"In the days following Myron's appointment," she said, "I would shake my head and think, 'what a great match! What a perfect complementing of gifts and skills: love of God and desire to learn. Imagine what they can do together not just for each other but for the world and for their community.'" Sharing a story she first heard from Bishop Victoria

Matthews, Rev. Sue encouraged St. Paul's to use the same approach in their community as sheep farmers do in New Zealand, where farms are sometimes 3,000 or 5,000 acres!

"There are two ways to keep the flock together on farms that size," she explained. "You can build

fences, but that's expensive and if the sheep get scared enough, they'll run right through those fences anyway. Or... you can build a well, because the sheep will never stray far from the source of life-giving water."

Continued on Page 4.



Bishop Victoria Matthews presides; the Rev. Sue Oliver preaches at the induction service of the Rev. Myron Penner to the position of rector at the Anglican Parish of St. Paul in Edmonton.

St. Augustine of Canterbury collaborates on art project

SHELLY KING
Messenger Staff

It's bright, it's beautiful, and it's a symbol of church and community working together.

A collection of new, larger-than-life murals adorn the outside walls of St. Augustine of Canterbury Anglican Church in Edmonton. They are the work of local artist Theo Harasymiw, who has a number of art installations around the city, including a mosaic on the outside of the downtown Italian Centre and more than 90 school projects, the most recent being a series of murals installed last year at Hardisty School.

It was after the school murals went up that the idea for a project at the church began to form and discussions got underway between Harasymiw, St. Augustine's rector, the Rev. Jonathan Crane, and the organizer of the Sunshine Community Garden, Jocelyn Crocker. The church has provided the land for the Sunshine Garden for the past five years, but Rev. Crane had been looking for ways to further the connection between the gardeners from the community and members of the church family. Harasymiw lives in the neighbourhood – across the alley, in fact, from a parishioner – and wanted to bring more art to her community. Her typical process is to



St. Augustine's new mural as viewed from the corner of 60th Street and Fulton Road, Edmonton.

work collaboratively with a group of people; to invite their drawings, ideas and concepts; then pull them together in murals that can be seen regularly and enjoyed by the participants. That's the approach she took in Fulton Place, holding two workshops to consult with St. Augustine's, the Sunshine Garden folks and the wider community through February and March this year. Then they all waited for the funding to come in through a special grant from the City of Edmonton Arts Council, which is offered specifically to an artist working with an existing community group. It couldn't have been a better

fit, and the grant covered the costs completely.

Harasymiw then set to work in her local studio, assisted by another artist, Annie Teveniuk, and it all came together for installation September 5.

The colourful pieces depict flowers, birds, and even rabbits that flourish in the Sunshine Garden. And from the church's input, there are flowers that represent children's music in the church, as well as a bubbling stream in a rocky bed. The latter is a reminder of a rock waterfall St. Augustine's has often built inside the church during Lent

to show the way God's grace is always flowing through our lives. There is an older couple on a bench, showing the church as a resting place and a place of connection, and one sunflower with its head down beside another with its head up, representing the church as a place of healing. The backdrop of the mural is the starry cosmos reminding the viewer of the mystery we engage in life.

The Rev. Jonathan Crane says the mural isn't overtly spiritual, but provides a visual "language of invitation."

"A challenge we all have," he says, "is that people outside the church really have no idea what church is about. So this is a visual way of turning the church inside-out so the community around sees we are about vibrancy, welcome, improving our neighbourhoods, and that we have something to say about beauty and mystery. And practically speaking, it's been a chance for the church and the garden community to work together on a project to blend the two groups."

At the time of printing all involved were planning an official ceremony to welcome and bless the mural.

St. Augustine's Parkland celebrates beginnings

The Rev. BILLY ISENER
Rector, St. Augustine's Parkland
Spruce Grove

Forty-four people created a sidewalk rainbow together to kick-off Messy Church at St. Augustine's Parkland in Spruce Grove on September 14. The theme of new beginnings (God's promise in Noah's ark) guided our worship and activities that included blessings of the backpacks (by associate priest the Rev. Aaron Parsall-Myler), journal-making, planting seeds for new growth and making prayer cards of blessings to leave in church pews.

There was sunshine, laughter, joy, wonderful food and music. We built new friendships and praised God.

A new season of Messy Church is one of many ministries in bloom at St. Augustine's. To accommodate early-risers and people travelling on Sundays, the parish has added an early morning said Holy Eucharist at 8 am. Little Disciples Sunday school is offered every Sunday at 9:40 am, with the regular BAS service beginning at 10 am. For those who can't make church in the morning, the parish holds evening prayer, at 7 pm, the second Sunday each month.



Aaron Parsall-Myler presides at communion.

**St. Stephen the Martyr
ACW**

Annual St. Nicholas Tea

**Saturday, December 7, 2019
PrayerWorks Hall
11723 93 Street, Edmonton
1:30-3:30pm**

**Door prizes, Lunch, Baking,
Crafts**

**Estate Sale and
White Elephant Table**

**Admission:
Adults - \$5
Children (6-12) - \$2
Children (under 6) - Free**

SUBMISSIONS DUE 1 MONTH
PRIOR to PRINTING DATE

Submissions:

DEADLINE for December, 2019
Issue: **NOVEMBER 1**

We welcome letters to the editor, news, stories and book reviews (max 500 words), event notices and high resolution photos (min 300 dpi).

Send to:

Margaret Glidden (Edmonton)
anglicanmessenger@gmail.com

or

Peter Clarke (Athabasca)
seens@telus.net

Read Online:

www.edmonton.anglican.ca/blog/
the-messenger

**Note: All print subscribers
must renew subscription by
October 31, 2019 at:
yes@national.anglican.ca**

MESSENGER TEAM

EDITORS

Margaret Glidden (Edmonton)
Peter Clarke (Athabasca)

LAYOUT & DESIGN

Margaret Glidden
Shelly King

PROOF READING

Jennifer Wirun

REPORTING

Peter Clarke
Margaret Glidden
Shelly King

A \$15 annual donation is suggested. Please send donations to the Dioceses of Athabasca or Edmonton, c/o The Messenger.

The Messenger is published under the authority of the Dioceses of Athabasca and Edmonton. Opinions expressed in The Messenger are not necessarily those of the editor or publisher.

The Messenger is a section of the Anglican Journal, printed 10 times a year (no issues July and August) by Webnews Printing Inc. North York, ON.

'Jesus-shaped' means reflecting all aspects of his ministry



The Ven. RICHARD KING
Archdeacon for
Mission and Discipleship
Diocese of Edmonton

Welcome back! We have spent the previous five articles exploring components of what a Jesus-shaped life looks like, so we know what it might mean for us. To do this we have looked afresh at how Jesus describes his ministry.

We have seen that Jesus defines himself in much broader terms than just the 'Good Shepherd,' that image of Jesus we most often fix upon. We have seen he also teaches about the kingdom and invites others to join in. We have seen Jesus speaking, unsparingly and with great force at times, about what faithfulness means if we are to be followers of the Living God. Finally, we have seen that Jesus was very aware of the mission given to him by his Father; the mission he was sent to do and into which he has called us (John 20:21).

In these articles, I used the following words to describe the way we see Jesus working: he is pastoral (Good Shepherd), a good teacher (Rabbi), evangelistic

(inviting), prophetic (Mark 6:4; Luke 24:19), and apostolic (Hebrews 3:1).

These five aspects or expressions of Jesus, then, must all be present if our life is to be truly Jesus-shaped. This is an imperative, not just for us personally, but for the Church corporately. At the Ascension and through Pentecost, Jesus hands over his mission to his Body, the Church. He continues his mission still, but now it is through us by the power of the Holy Spirit! Through his Spirit, we are guided, equipped and led by Jesus. We are called upon to abide in him and to bear fruit for him. "I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

(John 15:5)

In the light of all the above, we see more clearly what Paul is getting at in Colossians 4:11-13:

"So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."

We in the Church have got into such a mess with this passage. We have tended to see the words 'pastors and teachers' in terms of an office, i.e. the job of priests and leaders, whom we pay

to do the ministry of the Church. Am I saying we may well have misinterpreted that passage? Yes I am. We have read it through the eyes of Christendom and equated the phrase 'pastors and teachers' with the priests of the Church. We tend to attach our understanding of apostles, prophets, and evangelists to other specific people as well, and not as expressions of Jesus, given to the whole Church that we might 'attain to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.' I suggest we need to rethink that. How? I'll explain next time.

May God bless you richly as you live your Jesus-shaped life.

Richard

Trust: choices based on identity, character of God



The Ven. TERRY LEER
Archdeacon for
Mission Development
Diocese of Athabasca

In our diocese nearly every disciple knows that Christian faith is a relationship with God as he is revealed in Jesus through

the power of the Holy Spirit. We know that faith is characterized by love, trust, self-sacrifice and surrender.

We all have an idea about what it means to love God with all that we are and to love our neighbours as ourselves.

I suspect trust, self-sacrifice and surrender remain a bit of a mystery to most of us.

Trust has to come before the other two. Without trust, one would be unwilling to sacrifice and likely unable to surrender. You know, that old fall backwards into the arms of a campmate trick? You have to trust that the other camper will catch

you or you won't make the choice to fall backwards.

But what does it mean to trust God?

It clearly can't mean to believe that you'll get everything you want. Sometimes life doesn't work out. Sometimes you can't get a job or can't find healing for your cancer. Sometimes the person you just asked to marry you says, "No." Trust doesn't mean everything will work out the way you want it to.

Trust does mean trusting God to be God. It does mean acting as if you expected God to do God-things. It means choosing to believe that God is faithful to his

promises—even when we can't see how he is going to do that in any given circumstance. To trust God is to believe and proclaim the best about God, despite the evidence and despite the pressure of others.

As we choose trust, we have to return to knowing the genuine identity of God. Our God is redemptive. Our God is active in the real world. Our God limits his power in the world, so that we might freely choose to trust him. We have to trust the God who is and not a god as we would like him to be. Thus, we must know God for who he actually is—redemptive,

self-sacrificing, loving, generous, righteous and just. We can only trust God insofar as we know God.

Such identity-based faith—the choice to act on the identity of God—will prove to be crucial in this time of change and upheaval. It is central to our evangelism and even to our survival as congregations. It is central in our discipleship development and leadership recruitment. We disciples can only trust the God who is and it is only that faith which we can share with the world.

St. Paul's encouraged at induction service, continued

Continued from page 2.

The service of induction itself followed its usual, beautiful pattern. Bishop Victoria, Commissary to Bishop Jane during her sabbatical, led Rev. Myron and the congregation in the Covenant in Ministry. Then members of the church family presented Rev. Myron with the symbols of ministry.

Of course, no church service would be complete

without a chance to chat afterward, and the comfortable hum of friends visiting carried on long after the formalities were ended.

Rev. Myron says of the service of induction, "I was very encouraged and found it to be an incredibly significant way to celebrate my new ministry here. Of course, I have been here for a year, but now I can settle into the future that God has for this parish. My dear

friend and colleague, the Rev. Sue Oliver, delivered an outstanding sermon that included me personally, my family, and focused on Jesus at our forefront as St. Paul's moves forward into the good things God has prepared for us to do. I thoroughly enjoyed meeting Bishop Victoria, and her grace and warmth set the tone for the evening, which was rich and full with the presence of Christ. I am

greatly honoured, and humbled, to have received this call as Rector of The Anglican Parish of St Paul, Edmonton, and the service of induction was an incredible platform from which to launch the work that God has for us in this community."



David Heritage presents Rev. Myron with the diocesan canons. The congregation chuckles at the words "Be among us in... good humor."

All we have is Yours and of Your own do we give You...

The Very Rev. JASON HAGGSTROM
St. James' Cathedral
Diocese of Athabasca



What in this world do we really possess? Cars? Homes? Clothes? Food, perhaps? In recent days I have realised there are a lot of things I call my own but, in reality, they are not mine. Over the years, I have worked and received money in compensation for my work. In turn, with that money I bought things like food, clothes, and cars and shared them with wife and family. But none of these

things have ever truly been mine.

Jesus challenges us to give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to give to God what belongs to God. This statement has meaning beyond how to use our money. It is a call to set our priorities straight; to give to the world through government while remaining faithful to God in all God calls us to. Each of us must determine what is of real value. We value that which we hold dear – the very things I have already described. What do you have that was not given to you by God? We have forgotten, to

some extent, that God knows what we need and what we are going to need. That is why we so often pray, “give us this day, our daily bread.” It is not just to make sure the deepfreeze is full of the multigrain substance we like to have with a cup of coffee or tea in the morning. It is to stop and acknowledge that everything we have is there by grace and we are thankful for it.

Moreover, everything we see that is not ours seems to hold better value than whatever we have in our grasp. A movie-screen-size projector television may look great in the store,

but what does it really do at home? And it’s not just the physical things like homes, cars and the like. It is also relationships, like marriages, or with children and neighbours, and with important people in the community, like political leaders and even Caesar. If we let it, life becomes a constant race to one-up each other. But don’t such ways and life pull us away from what really matters?

Remembering the following can help us be better stewards of what we have, because we know all belongs to God:

- Remember we will not be forsaken and forgotten; we are promised this in scripture over and over again;
- Remember we always belong to God and, because we belong to God, we have each other;
- Remember to surrender ourselves to God because we are his that his power and grace would be evident in our lives and in the world;

Let us go and let us render, in Jesus’ name.

Jason+

Buyé grateful for medical cards

SHELLY KING
Messenger Staff

For the second year in a row, parishes in the Diocese of Edmonton have taken up the \$5-5 Ways Challenge. The goal has been to raise funds in support of an initiative by the Buyé Mothers’ Union to help senior citizens and less advantaged families purchase a medical card for \$5. With this card, they receive 80% medical coverage for a full year.

As the total for 2019 giving is still being tallied, Buyé diocese reports how

much the gifts from last year have been appreciated.

Diocesan Secretary, the Rev. Audace Kwizera, says the 2018 donation of \$5,460 has enabled Buyé Mother’s Union to provide medical cards to 1,092 senior citizens in 20 of 28 parishes.

“So we are praying we can help other elderly from the nine remaining parishes,” he says.

Rev. Audace and Bishop Sixbert have sent the following personal testimonies from some who have received medical cards:

Uwimana Charlotte, 59

years old from Mwumba Parish, expressed her joy: “After I got it my husband was admitted at Buyé hospital and we spent 41 days in the hospital for recovering. When I looked at the medical bill, and that I have to pay only 20% that is 9,600 of the bill which was 48,000 Burundi francs I was excited to see such discount and thankful because I could not be able to pay the bill.”

Barengayabo Daphrose, 52 years old from Gashikanwa parish said, “I



Mothers’ Union President Clothilde Muhimpundu with grateful card recipients.

am widow since 10 years ago and I have children to take care of. Frankly speaking when my children get sick, we have to sell some of our food to afford the medical care and this lead us into a shortage of food. So as I get this card, I am hopeful that my family will not have any struggle in paying the medical bill. I do not have anything to pay back this noble assistance but I will serve my Lord up to the end of my life because it is showing me how far God loves us.”

Uwimana Ladegonde, 46 years old from Kayanza said, “I am from a poor family. My appreciations go to the Diocese of Buyé and Edmonton for availing these cards for us who are in critical situation of poverty. This work is taking me into the Bible where Jesus said: “I was sick and you came to see me...” Please let the Bishop of the Diocese of Edmonton know that their work is not in vain because their reward is in heaven. Amen!”



Pictured above: parishioners from St. Thomas’, Wainwright (top) and St. Patrick’s, Edmonton with their \$5 donations; two of the many parishes of Edmonton diocese taking part in the \$5-5 Ways campaign.

Buyé Season of Celebration

Buyé diocese is celebrating its ‘season of confirmation.’ It began Sunday, July 14, when 142 candidates from the parishes of Gashikanwa, Rusengo and Mubanga (pictured here) were confirmed in St. Paul’s parish church. Two weeks later, Bigombo parish hosted a service for the confirmation of 274 candidates from the parishes of Bigombo, Kabanga and Gitobe. At the time of printing, Buyé Diocesan Secretary, the Rev. Audace Kwizera, reported a total of 1,303 confirmations in 25 out of 28 parishes. A final number will be available for the next edition of *The Messenger*.





From left: Leah Marshall, member of St. Andrew's, Camrose and Youth Council representative for the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (www.pwrdf.org), describes PWRDF's programs to shape a just, healthy and peaceful world; "Let's get messy!" - Richard King, St. Luke's, Edmonton; Billy Isenor, St. Augustine's Parkland, Spruce Grove; Susan Oliver, Christ Church, Edmonton; talk about creating safe spaces of play for families to meet God; "Going for growth" - part of Bishop Jane Alexander's dream is that every parish will increase its average Sunday attendance by 10%.

66th Synod members inspired to step out "courageously and outrageously" in mission cont.

Continued from page 2.

During the Opening Eucharist, synod observed a moment of silence to honour of the lives of missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls. The diocesan Indigenous Ministry Initiative (IMI), is described by Bishop Jane as "a recognition of our call to serve and walk with our brothers and sisters, whether in the downtown core or in one of the Treaty Six or Eight First Nations communities in the Diocese of Edmonton. The IMI team continues to grow and now includes local elders, clergy and laity, including Cree, Métis and Mohawk, and settlers, among them the Bishop herself.

The IMI has taught us "a great deal about our approach to reconciliation and healing and what respect and trust look like," she said. "We continue to work closely with Michael Lapsley of the Institute for the Healing of Memories to help us be better listeners one to another."

Bishop Jane welcomed several guests to synod, including the Rev. Matt Gillard, pastor of Heimital Moravian Church; Dr. Faith Nostbakken, northern ecumenical officer who brought greetings on behalf of the Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer, Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, Synod of Alberta and the Territories; and Julien Hammond, ecumenical and interfaith relations coordinator for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton.

Speaking at St. Matthias, Edmonton on Saturday, Bishop Jane gave her Charge in two parts: her reflection on the diocese at present and her vision for the diocese in 2025. She identified four areas of focus for diocesan ministries of support, education and facilitation: Growing Healthy Parishes, Committed Discipleship, a Rural Plan and Exemplary Stewardship

of Our Resources (you can read more about these priorities at www.edmonton.anglican.ca and in the October, 2019 *Messenger*).

She encouraged the 208 registered members of synod (75 clergy and 134 lay members) in attendance to be "courageous and bold." She urged them to look outwards, to taking their faith into the public square into arguments about human dignity and human hope.

"It's the mission of every disciple and lover of Jesus to both receive the love of God and give the love of God," she said. "Each one of us in some mysterious way manifests the presence of Jesus in the world by who we are, the way we are and the way we are present to people. We are gifted so that through our actions we may reveal God to those who are still searching. As the church becomes a family of people that attracts others and challenges others it becomes a place that makes a difference."

It is Jesus, not us, who defines what our discipleship is to be, said Bishop Jane, as she invited the Ven. Richard King, Archdeacon for Mission and Discipleship, to share with synod how he has been helping members of the diocese discover their identity and live Jesus-shaped lives through the I.D. initiative. The I.D. initiative is a discipleship framework, a process modelled on Jesus' example of discipleship found in the Gospel of Luke, chapters 7-9. King has used this framework in his work with ten parishes over the past two years.

"Each person has different gifts given by God for the common good," he said. "But, unless you are being equipped and your particular gifting is deployed for the Mission of God by your church family, maturity and unity will not come. The I.D. framework seeks to encourage people in our churches to discover

their giftedness, to trust that God has put it there and that God will use it... and to step out into the Mission of God to see what He will do."

Michael Harvey, founder of Back to Church Sunday and Unlocking the Growth, reminded parishes via a video presentation that "invitation is the simplest form of mission." The key to helping people overcome their reservations about church is to simply invite them and let God do the rest, he said. "Success is just the invitation as prompted by God. Leave the result to God. The more a church invites, the more it will find people ready to say, 'yes.'"

Synod delegates and guests were invited to share examples of the ways they are using and sharing their gifts to step into God's mission, often by stepping outside their comfort zone, to make a difference in their communities, in their country and in the world. Filling the agenda were inspirational stories of hospitable and welcoming parishes proclaiming the gospel, making disciples and furthering God's kingdom.

Delegates learned about ministries fostering reconciliation and healing through educational events, ceremony and vacation Bible schools in northern communities; ministries reaching out to families through Messy Church and Messy Reconciliation; ministries serving the needs of seniors and low-income residents of downtown Edmonton through the Manna Market; ministries providing support, employment and a creative outlet for at-risk youth through the Trinity Youth Project; ministries building community through school meal programs and festivals; ministries helping neighbours around the world through partnerships with the Diocese of Buyé in Burundi, Africa, and the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF); ministries furthering ecumenical

relations through A Common Word Christian-Muslim dialogue (www.acommonword.com) and Anglican, Lutheran, and Moravian congregational relationships.

Among the resolutions passed by synod was a motion to establish a trilateral 'Ecumenical Coordinating Commission' between the Anglican Diocese of Edmonton, the Alberta and the Territories Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and the Canadian District of the Northern Province of the Moravian Church in North America, to explore shared ministry in local congregations between neighbouring Anglican, Lutheran and Moravian congregations.

Synod concluded on a prayerful note with a presentation on a global prayer movement started by the Archbishop of Canterbury called Thy Kingdom Come (www.thykingdomcome.global). Diocesan ecumenical coordinator the Rev. Canon Dr. Scott Sharman and Mary-Lou Cleveland, of All Saints' Cathedral, invite parishes to host a prayer gathering between Ascension and Pentecost (May 21-31, 2020) for more people come to know Jesus Christ.

Bishop Jane prorogued synod, one minute ahead of schedule, by further encouraging members to step out in faith.

"Sisters and brothers, there is no reward without risk," she said. "Be bold, be courageous, be outrageously."



Mary-Lou Cleveland is seeking parish champions to form a Thy Kingdom Come prayer network.

"We're all God's gift to the church" - Canon for Reconciliation and Healing tells synod cont.

Continued from Front Page.

Prior to the current synod, 20 members of the Edmonton diocese participated in Fr. Lapsley's Healing of Memories Residential Workshop - facilitated by his colleague Philani Dlamini, the Ven. Travis Enright, Archdeacon for Indigenous Ministries; the Rev. Stephanie London, priest at St. Thomas, Sherwood Park and St. Columba, Beaumont; and the Rev. Quinn Strikwerda, vicar of All Saints' Cathedral - at Providence Renewal Centre.

"Each of us took a step on the road to healing," he said. "For some of us, it was just a gentle step; some saw more clearly their own unfinished business. For one or two it was a watershed, life-changing moment when we began to let go of our victimhood."

Shortly after joining the Anglican religious order of the Society of the Sacred Mission (SSM) at the age of 17, Lapsley, who was raised in New Zealand, trained to be a priest and, following his ordination in 1973, was sent by the society to serve in South Africa.

As an undergraduate student and chaplain to three campuses (two black and one white) at Durban University, his mission to bring together students of all races was defined by a keen awareness of the relationship between faith and justice.

Fr. Lapsley says belonging to the Anglican Student Federation, the only Christian student organization that had not split racially in 1970's South Africa, "gave us a taste of non-racialism; of being together as

people, as students, as Christians, as Anglicans, which was very different from our experience of everyday life. We were shaped by our common experience of humanity: having fun together, praying together and falling in love together. It was in that context that there was ferment and debate about what was our role in relation to the injustice."

He became active in the liberation movement in the mid-1970s when he witnessed school children being shot and killed in the streets for protesting having to learn in Afrikaans. This grave injustice prompted him to join the African National Congress (ANC) and, in time, he was appointed chaplain to the ANC.

In April, 1990, three months after ANC leader Nelson Mandela's release from prison, Fr. Lapsley was at home in Harare, Zimbabwe, having just returned from a six-week speaking tour across Canada. He opened a package containing two religious magazines and a concealed bomb. He was severely burned by the letter bomb which destroyed both his hands and one eye.

"For the 14 years before the bomb went off, I had lived in the countries of southern Africa and I had travelled the world as part of the struggle against apartheid. During my recovery I received messages of prayer, love and support from people of faith, people of goodwill," he said during a public conversation at St. Faith's, Edmonton on October 2.

"There were many people with me, walking beside me, and that was the vehicle God used to help make my bombing redemptive: to bring life

out of death and good out of evil."

Working alongside other victims of terror, Fr. Lapsley helped create the International Network for Peace to promote effective and nonviolent solutions to terrorism. In 1993, he became Chaplain of the Trauma Centre for Victims of Violence and Torture in Cape Town, which assisted the country's Truth and Reconciliation Commission (1996-1997). This work led to the establishment of the Institute for Healing of Memories in 1998. The organization now works with vulnerable groups; people affected by political violence; infected by HIV and AIDS; refugees and asylum seekers; prisoners and war veterans.

When Bishop Jane met Fr. Lapsley, in 2010, at a conference for peace and reconciliation in Seoul, South Korea, she recalls being amazed by his courage to raise "hot button" issues, such as capital punishment and the church's treatment of LGBTQ2+ people.

"Here we must ask ourselves, 'what is God's dream for the Diocese of Edmonton?'" he told synod.

"While Indigenous people, the



Fr. Michael Lapsley, Canon for Reconciliation and Healing, leads a conversation at St. Faith's, Edmonton on the evening of October 2.

foundation nations of the human family have never lost sight of living in harmony with Mother Earth, in Alberta the politics and culture of the province have been closely tied to the production of fossil energy since the 1940s. One of our challenges is how to talk about environmental justice and the future of our children and grandchildren....to do so will require guidance and wisdom and courage. So often throughout history, God chooses the most unlikely people as messengers. Who could have imagined that Greta, a 16-year-old Swedish girl with Asperger syndrome, would become the world's leading advocate for climate justice?"

"Bishop Jane's visionary leadership has encouraged all of us to share in God's dream of a church in which all God's children are welcome," he said. "And that every parish and every congregation will become safe places where ancient, old and recent wounds can heal."

So let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Amos 5:24

Messy Reconciliation teaches families truth of our history

The Rev. ALEX MEEK
Rector, St. George's, Edmonton

The congregation of St. George's was led by members of the Indigenous Ministry Initiative (IMI) in a Messy Reconciliation event on Saturday, September 28; and marked Orange Shirt Day together the next day.

The truth of our past as a church is hard to look at. Many parents I have talked to desire to teach their children the truth of our history, but struggle with what to say. How do we talk about our participation in residential schools and the spiritual harm and abuse suffered by Indigenous people, both children and adults, at our own hand? How do we have these hard conversations so we can change and live into reconciliation? How can our apologies be true; not just empty words?

Members of the Indigenous Ministry Initiative teach the truth



Nick Trussell, urban reconciliation facilitator, holds up the Treaty Six Flag during Messy Reconciliation which was attended by families and special guests like Fr. Michael Lapsley, canon for reconciliation and healing, and Philani Dlamini, from the Institute for the Healing of Memories (right); every parish in the diocese was gifted with a chokecherry tree, like this one growing at St. George's, which was planted as a symbol of our commitment to walk in right ways with our Indigenous brothers and sisters.

of our history with clarity so that children and adults alike can understand. They teach with love and the hope of Christ for change in our church so that all those present know a new way forward is possible. IMI's ministry is pure gift, and I would strongly encourage each

congregation across the diocese to invite this team to work with them on their own reconciliation events. I am so glad the Diocese of Edmonton has invested in this important ministry. This team offers the grace and the hope for change we need to continue our process of reconciliation.

As we learned in September, seven generations of children suffered in residential schools. We have seven generations, at least, of work ahead of us to be the people of reconciliation Jesus has called us to be. May we begin today and keep going tomorrow.



Messy Reconciliation Orange Shirt display at St. George's, Edmonton

New Parking Lot for St. Paul's



The parish of St. Paul's, Leduc has a newly paved parking lot thanks to City of Leduc and Deford Contracting. For a month, parishioners who drive to church were required to find alternate parking on local streets. As an act of kindness, a younger parishioner offered "valet service" to anyone with difficulty walking. He parked the cars and collected them after the church service.

Submitted by the Rev. Michael Williamson

Every child deserving of honour

The Rev. JONATHAN CRANE
Rector, St. Augustine of Canterbury
Edmonton

Members of St. Augustine's, Edmonton wore orange on Sunday, September 29 to acknowledge the tragic legacy and intergenerational harm of the Residential School system. Church communities throughout the Edmonton diocese stood in solidarity with the families who suffered, and still do suffer, praying that "every child finds the human honour they deserve."

The names of 2,800 children who died attending residential school, as well as those who became sick and died in a medical facility, or gravely ill children who died after being sent home, were

presented publicly, on September 30, 2019, at the Canadian Museum of History in Gatineau. The creation of the National Student Memorial Register is a response to a call from the Truth and Reconciliation (TRC) Commission. The Memorial list, which was unveiled on a scarlet banner, can be viewed on the www.NCTR.ca website.

The Most Rev. Mark MacDonald, National Anglican Indigenous Archbishop issued a call to prayer for the children who did not return home.



Members of St. Augustine of Canterbury in Edmonton wearing orange on Sunday, September 29.

Holy Trinity Riverbend Children Given Blessed Start to School Year

The Rev. REBECCA HARRIS
Interim Deacon-in-Charge
Holy Trinity Riverbend, Edmonton

Malala Yousafzai, the youngest Nobel Prize laureate in history, and a recognized advocate for girls' education, once stated: "one child, one teacher, one book, and one pen can change the world."

This quote certainly resonated with me as the parish of Holy Trinity Riverbend held its Blessing of Backpacks during our Season of Creation service on September 1. Once again, through the generosity of our parishioners, we were able to donate a large number of backpacks and school supplies, including pens, pencils, crayons, paper, pencil cases, binders, art supplies and other needed items to a deserving school. This year Norwood Elementary School, located in the inner city, was

chosen to receive our gifts. A special 'thank you' for suggesting Norwood goes out to our HTR parishioners, Brian and Carol Graham, whose granddaughter, Hannah, works at the school.

During our service we also blessed the backpacks of our parish children who are starting a new school year. With education critical to bettering our society and the communities in which we live and work, I am reminded of the old Chinese proverb which says: "If you are planning for a year, sow rice; if you are planning for a decade, plant trees; if you are planning for a lifetime, educate people."



Family healing camp opens space for deeper understanding

JENNIFER STEWART
St. Faith's, Edmonton

Healing paths converged over the long weekend in late August when the Burns family came together on the shores of Pigeon Lake for a family healing and cultural camp.

Sisters Irene Nattress and Joanne Jones realized their vision of an intergenerational family healing and cultural camp. Eighty members of their family, from babies to grandparents, travelled from across the prairie provinces, gathering to share three days of storytelling, traditional teaching, Cree language instruction, ceremony, and feasting.

The Burns Family Wapihoo Healing Camp wove together the healing journeys of 11 brothers and sisters who attended Gordon's Residential School in Saskatchewan. Their parents, Rodman and Ruth Burns, also attended residential school.

The purpose of the camp was to "recover our stories and recover our healing ceremonies," Irene and Joanne said. Over the decades, their families have struggled with adversity. Inspired by their mother, Ruth Burns, the sisters envisioned ways the family could heal and pass strength to their children and future generations.



At the three-day camp, where a sacred fire burned, those who attended residential school spoke, many for the first time, with their children about their experiences at residential school.

Irene said that the gathering offered many insights about ways to break the cycle of intergenerational trauma and heal as a family. Healing comes "in being fully present and conscious and able to reclaim what was taken through ceremonies, Indigenous knowledge, and teachings from our Elders."

The Ven. Travis Enright, rector of St. Faith and archdeacon for



At left: sisters Irene Nattress and Joanne Jones realize their vision of an intergenerational family healing and cultural camp; Jim Whittle, member of St. Faith, Edmonton; family members Russel Burns, Irene Nattress, Joanne Jones; Travis Enright, rector of St. Faith and archdeacon for Indigenous ministry; Alex Meek, rector of St. George's, who read the Primate's Apology for Spiritual Harm.

Indigenous ministry, and the Rev. Alex Meek, Rector of St. George's, Edmonton, travelled to the camp on Sunday, September 1 for a Standing Stones service and offering of the Apology for Spiritual Harm from the Anglican Church and prayer bundles to the family. This was an emotional experience for family members.

Irene noted that Elders in the healing circle taught of healing and forgiveness and that this teaching was a powerful message for her in advance of the offering of the Apology, which she accepted as part of her healing. "I can only speak for myself, and not for the rest of my siblings," she said.

Archdeacon Enright described the ways that spiritual relationships

were strengthened even as the painful knot of relationships between family, the Church, and residential schools was loosened, freeing and opening space for healing.

Members of the Burns family have graciously shared their reflections on their healing journeys and the Apology for Spiritual Harm, as well as on the healing that is still left to be done. For the family, the healing camp was the start of a collective acknowledgement of their struggles and their strength.

The Bleeding Heart Arts Space at St. Faith Church will host an exhibit of the Burns family reflections on their healing camp, with photos and art. Details will be shared in the *Synod Scene*.

Every Child Matters: Christ Church kids wear orange, smudge and pray

MARGARET GLIDDEN
Edmonton Editor

Sunday school children wearing t-shirts in beautiful shades of orange formed a circle around Christ Church Associate Priest the Rev. Nick Trussell and special guest Denise Boucher for a Smudging Ceremony - a tradition of the Indigenous peoples of Treaty 6 land: the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Métis and Nakota Sioux - on September 22.

Nick welcomed his friend Denise, a neighbour to Christ Church, and invited her to lead a prayer.

"I'm very honoured to be asked to be here today," she said. "I shall come back. I'm happy to see all these children smudging with us. I'd never seen white children smudge and it's nice to see."

As he lit the smudge, Nick who is urban reconciliation facilitator for the Edmonton diocese, explained that the smoke of the medicines "helps our prayers be lifted to the Creator."



Denise Boucher and Nick Trussell pray and smudge with the Sunday school children at Christ Church in Edmonton.

He showed the children how to bring the smoke to the top of their heads and then use it to cleanse their hearts, eyes, ears and mouth so that they might think, feel, see, hear and speak as children of God.

"Lord, we give you thanks that we are Treaty people," Nick prayed. "That we made a covenant in peace, friendship and in prayer. We acknowledge today the harm in that relationship and we pray today for healing of present wounds

and walking together in a future of hope. We welcome one another here today in this circle, here together in this worship; we welcome all people, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, as Wahkohtowin (Cree word for

kinship) - as all our relations. Help us to lift each other up by your spirit, grace and mercy. All this we pray in Jesus' name. Amen."

"Thank you all for being here in part of our hope for the future and our hope for the relationships we've always prayed for and that God has always called us to; for showing how much you care that every child does matter," he said.

In his sermon Nick shared the story behind Orange Shirt Day,

which many churches are observing early this year as September 30 falls on a Monday. In 1973 an excited 6-year-old girl named Phyllis (Jack) Webstad, from the Dog Creek Reserve in B.C., asked her grandmother to buy her a shiny, orange shirt to wear on her first day of Mission school. But when Phyllis arrived at school, all her clothes, including her beloved orange shirt, were taken away from her. She recounts what happened on the Orange Shirt Day website (www.orangeshirtday.org):

"I never wore it again. I didn't understand why they wouldn't give it back to me, it was mine! The colour orange has always reminded me of that and how my feelings didn't matter, how no one cared and how I felt like I was worth nothing. All of us little children were crying and no one cared," says Phyllis.

Boldly proclaiming "Every Child Matters," Phyllis started the Orange Shirt Society to help heal intergenerational wounds caused by the Residential School system.

St. Saviour's in action: refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle

The Rev. ELIZABETH METCALFE
St. Saviour's, Vermilion

This September, the parish of St. Saviour's in Vermilion celebrated the Season of Creation through worship, study and action.

Focusing on Creation Care was a natural fit for the parish which has been moving toward reducing its ecological footprint for several years. We have been slowly phasing out the use of foam and plastic items in our parish and in the grand stand booth we host at the annual Vermilion Fair. This year, we introduced bamboo forks and spoons, completing the move towards serving our delicious pies from the booth in an eco-friendly manner. Several customers commented favourably on our environmental awareness.

The parish itself ceased using disposable cups and plates many years ago, choosing instead to hand-wash our coffee and lunch dishes. Rather than a chore, this time is a valuable opportunity for fellowship and there is always a lot of laughter coming from the kitchen after each event.

In the fall St. Saviour's holds a parish garage sale. It's a fundraiser but – even more so – a mission

opportunity. It provides a chance for people to recycle their no-longer-needed items, and all funds raised are 'converted into food' as the proceeds are distributed to the school Hot Lunch Program. This year, we raised close to \$2,400 to be split between our two community schools.

All this activity has increased awareness of the huge amount of plastic that has become so ubiquitous in our consumer society. As we have become more aware of the overuse of plastics, we have begun to find ways to decrease the amount of plastic we consume. Most of us have started carrying our own bags with us, and we promote the use of mesh lingerie washing bags for purchasing fruits and vegetables. As time goes on we are seeking ways to reduce the use of plastic zip bags and plastic wrap. We are saving the beeswax ends from our altar candles and plan on making waxed cloth wraps to wrap or cover our leftovers.

Over coffee after church, we often share ways that we can wean ourselves from consumerism. As a result, we began collecting ideas and have put them up on a wall for all to see and share. Some ideas include such things as recipes for homemade dishwasher detergent,

shopping tips, a challenge to take a shopping moratorium for a period of time, and finding new sources for items such as shampoo, so that we can refill our own bottles. When someone arrives at church with a lovely new outfit, the conversation often involves a proud boast, "I found it at the secondhand store."

Celebrating this Season of Creation has given us the opportunity, not only to focus on our created world, but to engage theologically with our already strong focus on environmental care. We have used the resources

from the Anglican Church of Canada and have discovered that scripture has a strong underlying concern with the natural world. Last year, when a visitor to the fair remarked on our use of bamboo forks, our rector jokingly remarked, "Well, it's part of our religion." Celebrating the Season of Creation has helped us understand just how the 5th Mark of Mission (to care for the resources of the earth) is relevant to our lives, and taking the time to consider this subject theologically has truly been transformational.

Now introducing... Ecobricks!

JOANN MONES
St. Saviour's, Vermilion

The concept of Ecobricks was introduced to St. Saviour's in a presentation by the Lakeland College enviro club this spring, around the same time the town of Vermilion announced it would no longer accept plastics in its recycling program.

An Ecobrick is a plastic bottle (2 litre, 710 ml or 500 ml size) packed tightly with clean, dry plastic, cellophane, foil, laminated paper, and/or styrofoam and weighing at least 200 grams. When finished, it creates a reusable building block.

The students giving the presentation encouraged community members to drop the Ecobricks off at Lakeland College and once they gather enough Ecobricks they will create a building project.

"One of the favourite ideas so far has been to build a couch," says enviro club member Jeanette McGlynn, "but we'll hopefully get enough Ecobricks to build many things."

McGlynn's colleague Maria Mejia shared, "We are so excited to know that the parishioners of St. Saviour's are making Ecobricks! We know it takes a lot of time and dedication; their involvement in this project makes us really happy."

To date, our parishioners have completed over a dozen Ecobricks, with many more in progress. We challenge the entire community and beyond to first refuse to buy plastic, but if you must, use it to build Ecobricks. You will be amazed at the amount you can pack into one two-litre bottle!

How to build an Ecobrick:

- Wash and thoroughly dry a plastic bottle and cap
- Stuff bottle with clean, dry plastic, cellophane, Styrofoam, and/or foil
- Compress and firmly pack into the bottle with a dowel
- Close with lid
- Hint: cut hard plastic (straws, bread tags, containers such as yogurt or cottage cheese, and Styrofoam) into small pieces for easier packing

Things to build using Ecobricks:

- Modular items including furniture, tables, chairs, benches
- Garden, flower bed walls
- Developing countries use them for building houses, schools, steps up hillsides and more
- Use your imagination for creative projects!
- See www.ecobricks.org for more information and ideas

St. Luke's Messy Church Gang has "Epic" Time Loving Our World

SHELLY KING
St. Luke's, Edmonton

The Messy Church gang filled the hall at St. Luke's on Saturday, September 14, celebrating the theme "Love Your World" as part of the Season of Creation. Crafts included sock caterpillars and bird feeders, rock insects and flower painting. On the "Caring for Creation Tree" people had a chance to note the things they and their families do to help care for our world. A possible favourite was the creation of dirt cups with

worms (the dirt being made of Oreo cookies and chocolate pudding; the worms being multi-coloured gummy worms!) At the prayer station, those who wished were invited to write a prayer on a flower and let it gently float in a 'pond' of water. And during the celebration, a giant inflatable globe bounced through the crowd reminding us of the world God has put into our care.

The Ven. Richard King, rector of St. Luke's, called this first gathering after the summer break an "epic Messy!" "It was great to see so many 'regulars' back after two months away, and some invited friends along for the first time," he said. "Plus it was enormously gratifying to see new leadership from within the St. Luke's church family stepping up to plan, organize and lead Messy Church, and to find joy in doing it."



St. Luke's Messy Church volunteer Anne and her grandchildren extend loving arms to the world. Photo: Tony Saloway



St. Saviour's parishioners pose with Ecobricks in front of their idea-sharing bulletin board.

Cathedral's 'Manna Market' celebrates first anniversary

MARGARET GLIDDEN
Edmonton Editor

More than 70 people turned out to celebrate the one-year anniversary of the Manna Market at All Saints' Cathedral with ice cream, cake and balloons. On Wednesday afternoon, August 28, people lined up for an opportunity to purchase fresh produce from the market for a cost far less than grocery store prices.

The Rev. Quinn Strikwerda, Vicar of All Saints' Cathedral, and the Rt. Rev. Jane Alexander, Bishop of Edmonton, welcomed special guests including David Duarte-Hui, manager of Fatima's wholesale food and supplier of the market, and David Shepherd, MLA for Edmonton City-Centre.

"We know it's sometimes very difficult to get fresh fruits and vegetables right here in the heart of the city," said Bishop Jane. "It's so great to be able to have this ministry



Pictured left: David Duarte-Hui and MLA David Shepherd join Bishop Jane for the cake cutting; right: customers browse the market produce.



and to have new friends in the community. We give thanks to God and I ask God to continue to bless this ministry and to bless all of you who come every week."

"It's a pleasure to come and celebrate the one-year anniversary of the Manna Market with all of you," said Shepherd. "A big thanks to everybody here at All Saints' and to David and everyone at Fatima's for their support to make this happen. I look forward to work like this

continuing in our community for many years to come," he said.

All Saints' started the Manna Market as a REACH project on August 29, 2018, to help provide food security in downtown Edmonton where, like many areas of the province, wages and income supports do not keep pace with the cost of living. Many of the market's customers are senior citizens living on a fixed income. In addition to affordable food options, the market

is a place for neighbours to meet and share a cup of coffee.

"At the first market, one customer told me how amazing it was not to have to make the choice between vegetables or chicken for supper, because now she can have both," Strikwerda told The Messenger at the market's grand opening celebration in the fall of 2018. "Providing choice and dignity in the context of community is what this initiative is all about."

Christ Church Families Learn to Care for the World God Created

Canon CHELSY BOUWMAN
Christ Church, Edmonton

Twenty kids brought their moms and dads to Christ Church, Edmonton for our

parish's Season of Creation Messy Church on Friday, September 13. Canon Chelsy Bouwman brought everyone together for the story of creation and to talk about our responsibility to care for the world

God created for us.

After a delicious supper prepared by the Rev. Nick Trussell, associate priest, the kiddos and their parents got messy with crafts intended to help us reduce our carbon footprint. We planted seeds of Nasturtium in compostable planters, and made beeswax

wraps in the hope that, by making these small changes in our homes, we can begin to reduce our family carbon footprint.

After crafts, everyone gathered outside to make bubbles with bubble-makers made from plastic water bottles and vegetable and fruit mesh bags. Instead of throwing these materials out, Rev. Chelsy showed families how they can be recycled and used for play in our homes.



In the beginning there was NOTHING! Nothing to hear. Nothing to feel. Nothing to see. Only emptiness and darkness. But God was there and he had a wonderful plan. *Jesus Storybook Bible*



imagine
what you could do
with \$2,500 ...

2020 Request for Proposals
to address the
Crisis of Climate Change

20 grants up to \$2,500 each available.
Submission deadline is April 1, 2020.

anglicanfoundation.org/rfp

ANGLICAN
FOUNDATION OF CANADA

St. Patrick's donates more than 300 hours to roadside clean-up

ELISABETH STREBCHUK
St. Patrick's, Whitecourt

St. Patrick's parish, in Whitecourt, joyfully celebrated the Season of Creation with a Sunday morning church service and potluck picnic at our nearby Riverboat Park, where the scenic McLeod and Athabasca Rivers merge to continue their meandering journey to the Mackenzie Delta and Arctic Ocean. It is a beautiful setting where we gave thanks to God for our awesome planet.

We contribute annually to sustainability, and to reducing our local

carbon footprint, by doing roadside clean-up. This year our parish has accumulated 300 hours picking many bags of trash, along with recyclable cans and bottles. It is a great way to enjoy each other's company while getting outdoor exercise and fresh air.



Rainbow above Riverboat Park in Whitecourt where the parish of St. Patrick's held a potluck picnic to celebrate the Season of Creation.

PWRDF making a difference following Hurricane Dorian



DOROTHY MARSHALL
PWRDF Representative
Diocese of Edmonton



permit should have been a clue, but I missed it. What followed was a long learning experience for most of us; a summer of family members working on the project at every available moment... as summer stretched into fall and then winter. We were in by Christmas, but the house was by no means complete. It still isn't, but it is home and we will finish it, gradually. I am thankful, and wiser.

In my comfortable spot I look at news photos of the recent destruction in the Bahamas; the terrible result of Hurricane Dorian. I now know how long it takes to build a house. Apparently, if you happen to be in the path of a hurricane, it can be destroyed in a matter of hours; and not just a house, but entire communities. It is



Devastation left by Hurricane Dorian on the island of Abaco in the Bahamas.

inconceivable.

In early September Hurricane Dorian made its deadly path through the Bahamas, with wind gusts up to 220 mph and storm surges up to 23 feet above sea level. It devastated the islands of Abaco and Grand Bahama and left death and destruction in its wake. Thousands are now homeless, and it will take years to heal, redevelop and rebuild the local economy.

As the relief and development arm of the Anglican Church of Canada, PWRDF has released an

initial \$20,000 (at the time of this writing), to our partner who is working in the area, Episcopal Relief and Development. These funds will be used for emergency relief in the immediate aftermath of the hurricane. Our partner will continue to assess needs and identify the best way to provide support. Working with local partners enables PWRDF to act immediately, providing funds when they are desperately needed.

According to the Anglican Bishop of the Bahamas: "Dorian

was a monster storm, unprecedented, which visited historic tragedy on the islands of Abaco and Grand Bahama: catastrophic devastation such as has never before been seen or imagined in these parts. We could not foresee the extensive damage to homes, businesses, landscape, infrastructure and crops. No amount of preparation can withstand winds in excess of (hurricane) category 5."

The need for financial help will be ongoing and PWRDF continues to accept donations in support of this relief effort. Donations can be made securely at www.pwrdf.org, by mail, or through your church envelope. Information about this relief effort, as well as ongoing PWRDF development projects, can also be found on the website. If you would like more information, please contact me, Dorothy Marshall, the PWRDF rep. for the Diocese of Edmonton at pwrdf@edmonton.anglican.ca

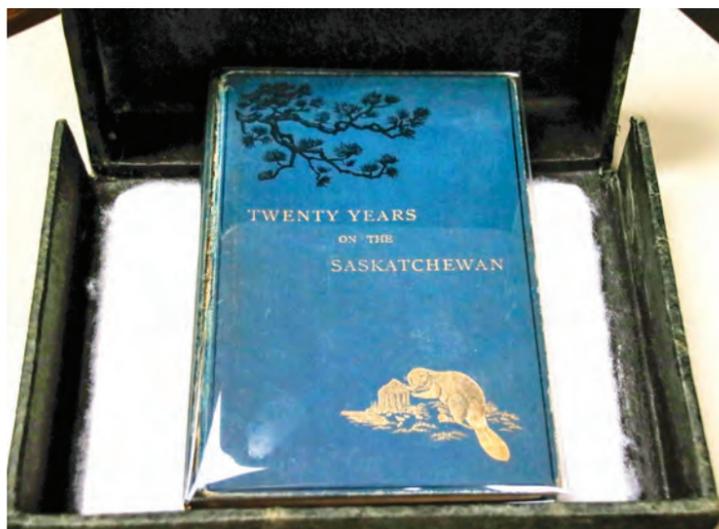
Synod Office receives 1897 copy of *Twenty Years on the Saskatchewan*

MARGARET GLIDDEN
Edmonton Editor

Victoria Flewell and Dale Stewart, great, great granddaughters of the Rev. Canon William Newton, the first known Anglican missionary to the Edmonton area, recently reached out to the Synod Office. They sent an original copy of Canon Newton's book, *Twenty Years on the Saskatchewan*, which he wrote about his experience building a church, home and hospital in the river valley. The area he called the Hermitage, is now the site of Hermitage Park in northeast Edmonton (Clareview Road and 129th Avenue). Canon Newton founded the Parish of All Saints', in 1875; as well as the Christ Church

cemetery and parish at Poplar Lake, which is now in the care of the parish of Good Shepherd.

The book, published in 1897, has been professionally restored and will be available for viewing in the Diocese of Edmonton collection at the Provincial Archives, 8555 Roper Rd NW, Edmonton. You can read more about Canon Newton's story on the RETROactive blog: <https://albertahistoricplaces.com/2018/05/23/newtons-lilacs-edmontons-hermitage-1876-1900/#more-9569>



St. Thomas, Sherwood Park Ladies Come Together for Time of Renewal and Refreshment

SHELLY KING
Messenger Staff

Thirteen ladies from St. Thomas' Anglican Church in Sherwood Park took a break away from their usual routines one weekend in September. From Friday evening, September 13 to Sunday morning, September 15, they came together for a time of renewal, refreshment and fun at the Star of the North Retreat Centre in

St. Albert.

They dug into gospel stories, connecting with other women who knew and loved Jesus, and sat long over meals and snack times, connecting with each other. The weather was beautiful for those who wanted to get outside for walks; the setting comfortable for those who wanted to just sit and visit. The question now... when can we do it again!?