

THE MESSENGER

DECEMBER 2016

www.edmonton.anglican.org



May the God of hope fill
you with all joy and peace
in believing, so that you
may abound in hope by the
power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13



CHOATphotographer/Shutterstock



Country Thanksgiving P. 5



Creation Stewardship P. 6



St. Thomas Turns 60 P. 7

New Canadians express gratitude for smalltown generosity

The following letter was published in the October 12, 2016 issue of the Jasper Fitzhugh.

Dear Editor,

When I was reading about the history of Thanksgiving, the first thing I learned was that it is a day to celebrate everything we are grateful for. Thanksgiving was established over 400 years ago when Martin Frobisher, an English explorer, arrived in the far north of Canada in what is now Nunavut. His crew wanted to give thanks to God for their safe arrival after a long, difficult voyage.

This story drew my attention to our trip from war-torn Syria to Canada, and our first Thanksgiving in our new home. It reminded me of how many Canadians helped us to make this trip happen.



Reham Al Azem, her father Hassan Al Azem and mother Omayea El Marrawi on Omayea's birthday. "Nancy (Addison) made this cake and surprised us on my mother's birthday. She wanted to make her first Canadian birthday special," says Reham. "That meant a lot for us."



Omar Al Homosh, his wife Rola Al Dakhil and their three boys: Zein, 14, Beshar, 12 and Abdullah, 8, were welcomed by the Jasper community in July.

This small, generous community is a new family for us.
Reham Al Azem

This Thanksgiving we want to express our gratitude to God for the many blessings we have. The most recent blessings in our lives are the honest and helpful people we are surrounded by in Jasper.

In July, we helped them welcome a second Syrian family to Jasper. Both our families would like to dedicate this special day to the people of Jasper who helped us escape the horrible war in Syria and find safety in Canada. Despite all the hard times we have been through in our country, it was still difficult to leave our lives and our roots and start all over again on a far-away continent, with a different culture, different traditions and a different lifestyle.

Jasperites helped make our move as easy as possible. They treated us kindly and generously, so we did not feel like strangers. They involved us in their activities and celebrations. Lots of people volunteered with open hearts to teach us and to help us find jobs. They have supported us in so many ways since our arrival, and they continue to support us.

This small, generous community is a new family for us. They deserve all the happiness in the world, and we look forward to the day that we, too, become Canadian citizens.

Lots of love and appreciation goes to Nancy Addison, the true hero behind this story. Her support and hard work helped to bring us here. She believes in the law of Karma: you get what you give, whether bad or good. We hope that all the good will continue to be reflected in her life.

Much appreciation to Suha Saleh, the Anglican Diocese of Edmonton and Gail Millard, the diocese's refugee coordinator, the Anglican Church in Jasper, the Tower family, Ismaeil, Hamdi, Neilson, Marsh, Wall, Mills, Hilmi families, and to so many others who can't all be named here. Because of your efforts we are here now, and we thank all of you.

Your new Syrian brothers and sisters, Reham Al Azem, Hassan Al Azem and Omayea El Marrawi Omar Al Homosh and Rola Al Dakhil

Sponsorship transforms Jasper community

"This has been one of the most fulfilling and positive experiences of my life," says St. Mary and St. George, Jasper Rector's Warden Nancy Addison, commenting on a church and community effort to bring two Syrian refugee families to Jasper.

"My husband is a saint. He puts up with all my bright ideas," says Addison, a mother of four and retired school teacher. She shares her perspective with Messenger readers:

When our church discussed the potential sponsorship of a refugee family it first seemed like a monumental task of proportions well beyond our capabilities. There were too many hurdles! We are a small congregation, we are of an older demographic and our finances are limited.

The final, and most difficult challenge for us, was the unlikelihood we would be able to secure housing for a refugee family. Jasper has always had a chronic shortage of places to live. As luck would have it, I ran into a member of the Jasper Lions Club, Dave Neilson. He was equally shaken by the horrific televised images of suffering coming out of the Middle East. Civilians were, and are, being targeted during the biggest refugee crisis in the history of mankind. How could we, lucky winners of the birthplace-lottery, sit back in our comfortable homes and do nothing? We put our heads together. Dave told me that if our church would begin the sponsorship process, he would take care of finding an apartment.

With the biggest barrier out of the way, our vestry unanimously threw caution to the wind and we dove off the cliff! Gail Millard, the Edmonton diocese's "guru" of sponsorship would lead us through the process. If you haven't met Gail, you should. She is a powerhouse individual who dedicates her life to helping refugees.

We picked our family out of a pile of profiles scattered around Gail's living room. It was difficult to choose just one when there are so many. Ultimately, ours would be a family of three: a 65-year-old civil engineer and his 62-year-old wife, a

high school teacher. Their daughter, age 30, is a lawyer.

Word spread like wildfire in our community. Everyone wanted to know what the Anglican church of St. Mary and St. George was up to. We quickly called a meeting, putting out a last-minute call over Facebook. That night, 35 people representative of the wide diversity that is Jasper, crammed into my living room. We were a gathering of many nationalities and religions (atheists, too). All of us shared the desire to somehow alleviate the suffering of the people fleeing conflict. Our church was able to give them a chance to do something concrete. Fundraising began. Donations poured in. The town was buzzing. More volunteers joined the fray.

A woman personally connected to a Syrian family in equally dire circumstances was present for our second meeting. Before we knew it, our small church had signed for them, too. Now we were looking for two apartments and needed double the funds. Just like that, we had taken on the sponsorship of eight individuals – oh, yikes!

We began the sponsorships in October and December, respectively. Our first family arrived at the end of February and our second arrived at the end of July. Meeting them at the airport was the ultimate answer to all our prayers. Since then, so much has happened. I could write a long epistle about the settling-in process: the English lessons, the job searches, the potluck dinners, the first day at school, the first snowfall, the struggles, the victories, the smiles, the hugs...Our two families would claim they are the big winners in this scenario. I would dispute that claim. We have gained so much through this opportunity to help them. Existing bonds of friendship have deepened and the community circle has widened to include many others.

With absolute certainty I can tell you that this has been life-changing for our church, for our community and for each of us as individuals.

If you would like to explore the potential of sponsoring a refugee family, I would love to hear from you. Please contact me by email at

In the middle of all the questions, there is Mary



BISHOP JANE ALEXANDER
Diocese of Edmonton

At home I have a copy of an icon of the Nativity Scene. The original is, I believe, in Stavronikita Monastery on Mount Athos, and it was written by Theophanis the Cretan, probably in the middle of the 16th Century.



She is the first thing my eyes are drawn to each morning. She reminds me that, in the middle of the noise of the world, God waits for our 'yes.' 'Yes, Lord, I am willing. I am ready.' And each day I pray that my own, 'yes,' can be a reflection of Mary's faith and certainty. Mary kneels at the manger in prayer as she will later kneel at the cross. The faithfulness that led her to say, 'yes,' to bear Jesus, keeps her there through thick and thin. I give myself each morning to Christ, praying for the strength to be faithful come what may. I give myself over to adoration of Christ and amazement at the gift of God to each one of us in this mystery of incarnation.

Here we are, in Advent of 2016, and this icon helps to shape my daily reflections. Everyone you might expect to find is here. Mary kneels and worships her newborn child. The angels are calling the shepherds. The Magi are on the way. Joseph, it seems, is having a quiet moment. There are midwives here, washing the child.

To close this note with Archbishop Rowan: 'We, watching and waiting for Christ to come more fully to birth in us, are waiting for our lives to become 'iconic,' to show in their colour and line and movement how God acts, Christ-like, in us.' May it be so, this Advent and Christmas season, for each of us.

In Christ, +Jane

Yet, all is not as it seems. There are many layers to the icon which, I think, is why it helps me in my daily devotions. Because, let's face it, life is complicated and challenging.

that I can more clearly hear God's words. I pray for those I meet young and old, who are asking questions of themselves: 'Where am I going?' 'What is God calling me to do?' I pray for the grace of God to encourage and strengthen those I pray with and for.

I have always used icons, but it was not until I read a little book by then Archbishop of Canterbury Rowan Williams, *Ponder these things: Praying with Icons of the Virgin*, that I found a deep peace and place of prayer in them. Archbishop Rowan said: 'Icons show us the way. They help us to cross borders, to enter into a new and transfigured world.'

Jesus is swaddled beyond all imagining and laid in a stone manger that has more of the tomb about it than a cradle. I am reminded of fragility of his young life and of the need for love and care. The mystery of the incarnation is here. God is depicted in Christ as taking on our human form in all its vulnerability. The midwives reinforce this humanity, providing the same service for this, the Son of God, as for any baby and new mother. I pray for the vulnerable children in our society: for those who live in poverty, for those affected by war. I lift up our northern communities here in Canada, Syria and Burundi. I pray for those known to me and those unknown. I pray for a generosity of spirit and hospitality for all God's children.

I am not a scholar of icons, but let me share with you how I use this particular one in my prayer life, and encourage you in your own Advent disciplines.

The Magi riding in on horseback are a reminder of things to come. Yes, of the Epiphany to the Gentiles but, also, of terrible rage and revenge and hatred on Herod's part. I pray for peace in the world for God's reconciling power to transform this world.

The icon is directly in my line of sight when I wake up in the morning. I try to start the day with my devotion before anything else. Depending on the day, I might start in any quadrant of the icon. I find there is so much going on that I am drawn to pray differently by the figures and scenes which the icon depicts.

Joseph is sitting quietly. But who is that old man? Well, according to scholars, he is the devil encouraging doubts and questions: 'what if this child is not the Son of God?' 'Would God's child be born in this utterly human fashion?' 'What if you are wrong Joseph?' 'What if you are being played?' Each day I pray for the strength in my own life to quiet my own self-questioning, so

But, in the middle of all the questions about the future, there is Mary in the center of the icon.

Thanksgiving Service in Celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Ordination of Women in Canada



Celebrant and Preacher
The Rt. Rev. Dr. Jane Alexander
Bishop of Edmonton

All Saints' Cathedral
10035-103 Street, Edmonton
Thursday, December 1, 2016
12:00 noon

Please come and share in this service to kick off a year-long series of activities (TBA), culminating with a final service in November 2017, God willing.

<p>SUBMISSIONS DUE MONTH PRIOR to PRINTING DATE</p> <p>DEADLINE for January, 2017 ISSUE: DECEMBER 1</p> <p>submissions We welcome letters to the editor, news, stories (max 500 words), event notices, book reviews and photos.</p> <p>send to Margaret Glidden (Edmonton) anglicanmessenger@gmail.com or</p>	<p>Peter Clarke (Athabasca) seens@telus.net</p> <p>read online www.edmonton.anglican.org/messenger</p> <p>find us on facebook www.facebook.com/anglican.edmonton</p> <p>subscribe www.anglicanjournal.com/subscribe</p>	<p>THE MESSENGER TEAM</p> <p>EDITORS Margaret Glidden (Edmonton) Peter Clarke (Athabasca)</p> <p>LAYOUT & DESIGN Margaret Glidden Shelly King</p> <p>PROOFREADING Shelly King</p> <p>REPORTING Margaret Glidden Shelly King</p>	<p>A \$15 annual donation is suggested. Please send donations to the Dioceses of Athabasca or Edmonton, c/o The Messenger.</p> <p><i>The Messenger</i> is published under the authority of the Dioceses of Athabasca and Edmonton. Opinions expressed in <i>The Messenger</i> are not necessarily those of the editor or publisher.</p> <p><i>The Messenger</i> is a section of the Anglican Journal, printed 10 times a year (no issues July and August) by Webnews Printing Inc.</p>
--	--	--	--

Retired columnist regains voice through new anthology

NANCY WHISTANCE-SMITH
St. Paul's, Edmonton

The March 2016 issue of the Anglican *Messenger* announced the upcoming publication of Martin Hattersley's book, *The Fifth Column*. This anthology of 100 of my father's articles, sermons and lectures has been compiled by my son, Martin's grandson, Greg Whistance-Smith. The book is now available in print from Edmonton-based PageMaster Publication Services Inc. The articles can also be read online at <https://martinsfifthcolumn.wordpress.com/>.

The preface to the book was written by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Jane Alexander, Bishop of Edmonton, who was mentored by Martin when she was a new deacon at St. Timothy's, Edmonton. In 2014, Bishop Jane presented my father with his Bachelor of Theology degree from Thorneloe University.

An Edmonton lawyer, who was ordained a priest of the Edmonton diocese

in 1974, my father was a long-time regular contributor to *The Messenger*, the newspaper of the dioceses of Athabasca and Edmonton. His "As I See It" column ran from 1989-2012. These short pieces rooted in his deep Christian faith are a treat to read. Through concise and challenging writing, he lends his voice to a number of topics from politics, economics, law and religion, to tragic loss, grief and forgiveness. His writing engages laypersons and theologians alike.

Throughout his life, my dad took great pleasure in singing in church choirs and was often asked to direct them. Martin writes:

"Singing in a choir is to me one of the few things one can do on earth, that we can expect to be able to continue without interruption when we reach heaven. Indeed, but all too rarely, we will find ourselves reaching that heaven in what we sing on earth. That, indeed, is what music in worship can, and should, be for us all." ("As I See It," *The Messenger*,

January 2011.)

In 1988, our family lost my sister Catherine Greeve to a homicide. My father grieved through his writing which, in turn, was a blessing. As Greg notes in a previous *Messenger* article: "He (Martin) suffered through this public tragedy with a great deal of grace, and it brought him the unwanted authority of one that experiences great loss yet continues in faith. It also propelled him into extensive volunteering in the criminal justice world, and he became heavily involved in the Victims of Homicide Support Society, the Alternatives to Violence Project, and served as chairman of the Citizen's Advisory Committee of the Edmonton Institution. All of that while continuing his deep involvement in the church..."

I am astounded by the number of people my father has touched with his words, writing and presence over the years. As a true 'Renaissance Man,' his influence in local



The Fifth Column, an anthology of Martin Hattersley's writing, is available through PageMaster Publication Services; a recent photo of Martin and his beloved canine companion Walter.

legal, political and spiritual spheres is felt to this day. At a time in life when Martin's spoken words are limited due to aphasia from recent small strokes, *The Fifth Column* has given him back his voice. We are truly blessed! Martin's mind is still sharp and his love of reading continues.

Please feel free to send Martin personal notes, either by email to: martinsfifthcolumn@gmail.com, or by mail: c/o 7908-148 St. Edmonton, AB



T5R 0Z2. Your comments and thoughts on how his writing have challenged you, or touched your life, are always appreciated and will be passed on to him.

The Fifth Column can be purchased at PageMaster Publications, 11340-120 Street; phone: 780-425-9303, or online at <http://shoppagemaster.ca/the-fifth-column.html>. The price is \$15/copy with discounts on bulk orders (10 or more copies).

Refugee sponsorship a blessing for Drayton Valley

The Rev. EMMA VICKERY
Rector, All Saints'
Drayton Valley

In mid-October, when the first snowfall of the year blanketed east central Alberta, a collective sigh of 'not already' was audible across the province. But in a small town an hour's drive northwest Edmonton, two little girls gazed outside in wonder, their noses pressed against the sliding door of their new apartment. When their mother opened the door, they instinctively scooped little handfuls of pristine white snow into their mouths. It was their first taste of Canada - their first taste of freedom. Recently rescued from the horrors of war, the girls' mother smiled humbly, repeating 'thank you,' the only English words she knew, to every new

person she met. Their father, a surprisingly jovial man, laughed loudly and often as his new Canadian friends translated jokes in his native Arabic.

For the core team that has worked tirelessly to bring the Al Abbas family to Drayton Valley, there could not be a more rewarding sight or sound. A year ago, All Saints' received an incredible blessing when local business people asked the parish to help bring Syrian refugees to Canada. Rector the Emma Vickery was overwhelmed to hear the request from then Priest-in-Charge, the Rev. Miranda Sutherland. Community members had stepped up to support the endeavour financially and invited the church to be their sponsor.

Like many places in Alberta, our community was

hit hard by the downturn in the oil sector. Skeptics wondered why we were not doing more to help those in need closer to home. Some argued that we did not have the finances, time or energy to support a refugee family. Yet in time, and in spite of initial concerns, our project gained supporters. Our parishioners' gifts of finances and time for our Syrian refugees were welcome, but not essential for us to move forward with the sponsorship. There have been many people within the parish and outside who have come forward and given.

Because donors from the community had already pledged financial support for the Syrian family, parishioners were able to find additional ways to help their neighbours who had fallen on hard times.

Through open offerings, All Saints' has supported local services and initiatives such as the food bank and the elementary school breakfast program. We had the gift, luxury, and joy of being able to respond with action to people struggling within our own town and in Syria.

When our parish helped establish the DV Welcomein Group, uniquely gifted people stepped to the forefront to help with issues such as language and cultural sensitivities and health concerns. When the DV Welcomein Group learned it would be welcoming the Al Abbas family - mom, dad and their three little girls - we excitedly shared our plans with the community newspaper and town council. It did not take long for the community to be on board

with the DV Welcomein Group's plans, and we even received a nomination for a humanitarian and new community group award at the annual Mayor's Luncheon.

Then it was 'hurry up and wait' for the family to travel here from a refugee camp in Lebanon. This has been such a rewarding experience for me, personally. I have seen the excitement on team members' faces as we gathered at the condo to choose the gifts we would bring to the girls at the airport. I wonder, though, what I have really done to help, since we have been so graciously gifted with people and funds, I do know, without a doubt, this is exactly what Jesus is calling us to do.

Continued on page 11.

New archdeacon says, 'It's mission, Jim, but not as we know it!'



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

I love *Star Trek*! One of my favourite phrases is Doctor McCoy telling Captain Kirk: "It's life Jim, but not as we know it."

As you can see from the title of this article, it has leant itself to many adaptations.

So, other than being a *Star Trek* fan, who am I and why am I writing? On October 2, 2016 I was collated as Archdeacon for Mission and Discipleship for the Edmonton Diocese. I am excited that our bishop had the wisdom and insight to put Mission and Discipleship together. For too

long we have separated the two. Three things have happened as a direct consequence. First,

separating mission from discipleship has weakened and even dulled what ought to be the most thrilling thing in the world - namely to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. At the same time, separating discipleship from mission has made the job of mission even harder than it already was. Finally, separating the two has created the misunderstanding that the task of being a missional people is somehow an 'optional extra.'

Being missional disciples isn't easy, and it is certainly not easy in Canada. Having moved from the UK in January to start as rector of St. Luke's in Edmonton, I have been amazed at how different Canadian culture is in comparison to the UK. For example, it is more secular

and more liberal. There are neither the opportunities here, nor the invitations to be part of community life that churches have in other countries. So, if you find it's not easy to be a missional disciple, you are quite right to feel so. It is not!

But here is the good news! We have a great God, the Living God, Lord of Lords and King of Kings. Jesus dwells within you by his Holy Spirit and He has given the Church all the tools necessary to be the missional disciples He has called us to be.

I see my job as Archdeacon for Mission and Discipleship this way: I'm not here to 'tell,' but to encourage and support. I am a resource for you and here to serve you. I am happy to come to your church

or vestry to be whatever support I can be in our shared task of making Jesus known in Word and Action. And, yes, I know how big this diocese is and how long some of these journeys might take.

I'll be writing in *The Messenger* each month, with more on what we mean by 'mission,' our missional God, our missional tools, our missional context and how the last several decades have completely altered what it means to be the Church in the world.

I could end with another *Star Trek* phrase: 'Live long and prosper.' But instead, I'll pray that 'God bless you richly as you share His Grace, Love and Truth.'

Until next time,
Yours in His service,
Richard

Country thanksgiving held at St. Aidan and St. Hilda, Rexboro

FRED BRYANT
St. Aidan and St. Hilda
Rexboro

Thanksgiving Sunday, October 9th, concluded another successful season of services at St. Aidan and St. Hilda Anglican Church, Rexboro. A service of Book of Common Prayer (BCP) Holy Communion, including thanksgiving scripture readings and traditional harvest hymns, was conducted by the Rev. Mike Lynch, Priest-in-Charge of Rexboro Parish for 2016.

Resplendent with colourful harvest decorations, the church was warm and welcoming. Pots of gold and bronze chrysanthemums, a cornucopia overflowing with red and green grapes, and a loaf of bread graced the altar. Pews were marked with bunches of yellow mums; the communion rail and window ledges were adorned with colourful leaves, vegetables, grains and a bright



St. Aidan and St. Hilda is a gem of an old country church just off Highway 16 west.

orange pumpkin. All added to the beauty of the harvest season.

A large basket of nonperishable food items was collected for the Parkland County Food Bank, and a delicious lunch, complete with turkey "bunwiches" and pumpkin pie, followed the service.

On behalf of the congregation, rector's warden Bill Sommer

presented Rev. Mike with a framed print of the church as a memento of his dedicated service to the parish this summer. Also included in the presentation was a special symbol of Mike's childhood - which he had fondly recalled during one of his Sunday sermons - a jar of Kraft sandwich spread.

Built in 1909-1910, St. Aidan and St. Hilda is now in its 106th year of operation. Originally incorporated as part of the Anglican Diocese of Calgary, it became part of the Diocese of Edmonton in 1913. The church currently operates as a seasonal parish

from the third Sunday in May until the second Sunday in October.

Since 1977, a special service of Lessons and Carols for Advent and Christmas has been held in the church. This year the service will be held on Sunday, December 4 at 10:30 am. The Rt. Rev. Dr. Jane Alexander, Bishop of Edmonton, will officiate.

A reception will follow in the Wabamun and District Seniors' Centre. Donations of nonperishable food items and/or new children's toys will be gratefully accepted for the Wabamun Christmas Hamper Committee.



A hearty lunch followed the Thanksgiving service, led by Mike Lynch, at St. Aidan and St. Hilda, Rexboro on October 9th.



Photos: Pearl Nielsen

“Creation Not for Sale” - Anglican/Lutheran Congregation honours 500th Anniversary of Protestant Reformation

JOAN CARTER

St. Catherine's Anglican/Grace Lutheran, Edson

In 2015, we decided as a church that we would focus on being faithful stewards of God's creation. We kicked-off our year-long creation stewardship initiative by asking members of the congregation and community to grow a bean plant. We then encouraged people to grow vegetables in their own gardens.

As a pilot project, we started a “Barrel Garden” in a sheltered area tucked behind St. Catherine's. First, the site needed to be landscaped. We cleared grass and covered the ground with gravel and a weed barrier. The result is a beautiful, low maintenance patio area. Church members salvaged seven large plastic barrels, otherwise headed for the landfill. The barrels were cut in half and drainage holes were drilled in the bases and filled with gravel. Next came the soil and they were ready for planting.

Pastor Ann (Salmon) blessed the garden on Pentecost Sunday. When the growing season was in full swing, flower pots and other containers were added to help beautify the area.

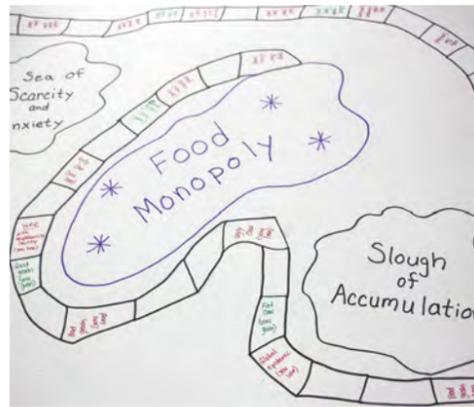
Members of the congregation planted vegetables, herbs and flowers

in this delightful spot. We are all learning from each other. Those with gardening knowledge are sharing their ‘know how’ with the beginners. We look out for each other's plots, and when someone weeds or waters, they tend all the barrels.

During our community vacation bible school (VBS), “Camp Creation,” the children learned about the plants that emerged in July. They loved being part of this growing project, pulling weeds and watering when needed. Our local community is also intrigued by our garden. There have been some interesting comments from people as they pass by the barrels.

The vegetables harvested from church members' home gardens, as well as our church's Barrel Garden, became the ingredients for Creation Stew. The stew served more than 100 people at two community meals in mid-October: Kate's Kitchen, a free monthly lunch on October 20, and a community supper on October 23.

In spite of soggy growing conditions that yielded less than average amount of produce, we still had loads of food! This project has been a great experience for us and we plan to grow our Barrel Garden again next year.



On Reformation Sunday, 2015, leading up to the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation in 2017, Grace Lutheran and St. Catherine's Anglican, Edson, kicked off a year of study and activities highlighting “Creation Not for Sale,” one of three themes offered by the Lutheran World Federation. In January, 2016, the shared ministry of St. Catherine's/Grace offered a Saturday morning bible study called “Food and Faith.” Two board games created for the study, “Food Monopoly” and “God's Food Pot,” were a big hit. In July, 2016, both churches held Camp Creation VBS. Children gathered to learn and sing songs about creation, to care for the barrel garden, to make props for a creation play, to take daily creation walks from one church to the other and to perform a creation musical.

Homegrown Creation Stew

MARGARET GLIDDEN
Edmonton Editor

On October 20 and 23, the shared ministry of St. Catherine's Anglican and Grace Lutheran in Edson welcomed more than 100 people to a feast of Creation Stew. Community members were invited to Thursday lunch at Kate's Kitchen (a monthly community meal program offered at St. Catherine's) and to Sunday

supper at Grace. An abundance of food was distributed as far as the Diocese of Edmonton Synod Office, more than 200 kilometres away.

The wholesome menu featured hearty elk, moose, duck, salmon and vegetable stews, served with home-baked bread and bannock, pickled beets and carrots. The main course was followed by pastor Ann Salmon's carrot cake for dessert. All of the vegetable ingredients were locally grown. The beans, for

instance, were started from “Bean Kits” distributed at the parish's Community Spaghetti Supper in the fall of 2015. People who hunt and/or fish were invited to contribute a bit of meat or fish. And, did they ever!

On Reformation Sunday, 2015, St. Catherine's and Grace began a year of study and activity on the theme of “Creation Not for Sale,” leading up to the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. As members contemplated their spring gardens, they were asked to grow something for Creation Stew. A community garden was planted in barrels in a sheltered space behind St. Catherine's. Blessed by pastor Ann Salmon on Pentecost Sunday, the garden yielded a bounty of tasty ingredients including the versatile carrots, delicious in both stew and cake.

With the help of a Junior Ranger, the congregation planted more than 2,000 trees. They held Saturday morning “Food and Faith” Bible Study (featuring “Food” Monopoly) and hosted “Camp Creation” Vacation Bible School in July. Young campers tended the Barrel Garden and produced the “God Created



Edson resident Leonard L'Hirondelle enjoys a bowl of moose stew.



St. Catherine's/Grace Student Interim Sarah Mowat and Pastor Ann Salmon serve up Creation Stew to member Ruthie Henricksen.

Squash” musical.

“This church gives the gift of hospitality like nobody's business,” said theological student and ministry intern Sarah Mowat, dishing up stew at Kate's Kitchen. “I've experienced that hospitality firsthand.” A student at the Lutheran Theological Seminary in Saskatoon, she came to Edson on a 16-month internship with St. Catherine's/Grace. The parish used proceeds from its REACH Campaign to help fund the position.

Watch the January, 2017 issue of *The Messenger* for an interview with Sarah Mowat about her ministry.

60 years of building community, one neighbour at a time



From left: past and present members of St. Thomas' worship band Tapestry and clergy: Bob Peel, Joanne Chambers, Susan Storey, Judy Purkis, Stephanie London and Steven Wightman, reunite for their pictures in the "60th Anniversary Photo Booth."

MARGARET GLIDDEN
Edmonton Editor

More than 160 members and friends of the parish of St. Thomas celebrated 60 years of Anglican ministry in Sherwood Park on the weekend of October 29 and 30, 2016.

Scott Montgomery, emcee for the Saturday evening program, led the large gathering (comfortably accommodated in a local Roman Catholic church hall) in a rendition of "Praise the Lord! We're 60 years old!" With customized lyrics, the song (sung to the melody of the familiar Hank Williams' song "I Saw the Light") and its chorus 'Great past behind, bright future to unfold...' rejoice in the parish's rich heritage and ever-growing relationship with the community of Sherwood Park.

The seeds of the parish, according to the history of St. Thomas written for the 50th anniversary celebration 10 years ago, were sown by Ralph and Eileen Johnson in 1956. Settling in Sherwood Heights, the first subdivision of the then new hamlet of Sherwood Park in the County of Strathcona, they established a community Sunday school. By the 1980s, more than 160 children were enrolled in St. Thomas' Sunday

School.

Over the last six decades, ideas for countless community-building projects have started with members of St. Thomas. To date, the parish has sponsored 64 refugees from all over the world: Cambodia, El Salvador, Eritrea, Kosovo, Somalia and Syria. The Ecumenical Refugee Sponsorship Committee (ERSC) began with an anonymous \$10,000 donation to St. Thomas.

The 60th anniversary festivities began with a roast turkey dinner with all the trimmings, followed by an evening of musical and theatrical entertainment. Fiddles 'n Stix (three of the band's members attend St. Thomas) got the show going with lively Celtic-tinged music. Anniversary couple "Morty and Della," portrayed by David Holehouse and Agnes Pieracci, performed a hilarious skit looking back fondly on 60 years of marriage and church involvement. The parish choir, directed by organist Rob Curtis, and the Tapestry worship band, led by Ruth Heine, filled the stage, and room, with music. On the eve of All Saints' Day, the crowd sang "When the Saints Go Marching In," forming a conga line to help bring the joy-filled evening to a close.

The next day, St. Thomas' three Sunday morning congregations,



Morty and Della, portrayed by David Holehouse and Agnes Pieracci, look back over 60 years of marriage; Rob, Liam and Connie Curtis.



joined by eight former members, came together for a joint celebration service. Led by rector the Rev. Steve London, associate priest the Rev. Stephanie London and deacon the Rev. Judy Purkis, St. Thomas gave

thanks for six decades of worship-centered community. They also looked ahead to a bright future, celebrating the baptism of three-month-old William (Liam), son of Rob and Connie Curtis.

Six Decades of Neighbourly Love

Prior to St. Thomas' 60th anniversary celebration weekend in October, member David Holehouse noted some of the ways the parish has worked with Sherwood Park to build a peaceable, welcoming community:

- Founding Strathcona County's first women's shelter
- Starting Fusion youth programming
- Sponsoring 64 refugees from all over the world: Cambodia, El Salvador, Eritrea, Kosovo, Somalia and Syria
- Helping construct Millennium inner-city housing
- Implementing Alberta Safety Council's children's programs
- Participating in Santa's Anonymous toy run for bikers
- Answering calls for the 24/7 Distress Hotline
- Transporting patients to appointments
- Preparing and serving meals for

an inner-city community kitchen

- Volunteering with Uncles at Large teen mentorship
- Founding Hospice Society
- Visiting inmates at the Edmonton Institution (the Max)
- Forming County Clothesline
- Helping with Strathcona Schizophrenia Society support group
- Providing support for Lubicon First Nations band
- Participating in Robin Hood Society Friendship Group
- Providing volunteers and bakers for the Common Ground café
- Helping the Strathcona Food Bank
- Helping build water wells in Africa
- Supporting a school and community centre in Africa
- Participating in Run for the Cure
- Volunteering for Habitat for Humanity meals and builds.



Fiddles 'n Stix get the crowd going with their Celtic-tinged tunes.

Local cursillista peregrinos walk El Camino de Santiago

Part One of a two-part series for *The Messenger*:

The Cursillo movement began in the early 1940s with a pilgrimage across Spain. Today, that pilgrimage follows the same 1,100-year-old route called El Camino de Santiago or The Way of St. James. It is a 785-km path that starts in France, crosses two mountain ranges, and ends at the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela. Last fall, as Cursillo members Jim and Deb Phillipchuk walked the Camino for 40 days, they emailed their experiences and reflections to family and friends. These emails have been abridged and will be published in *The Messenger* as a two-part series. The following is part one.



Getting sore feet (or not) depends on the smoothness of the path.



Jim and Deb Phillipchuk started their trek on The Way of St. James from Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port in France.

Day 4 - 47 kms done, 738 kms to go:

Hola. The day before we set out from Saint-Jean-Pied-de-Port, we had a full blown storm: heavy rain, high winds and hail. Not good weather if you're trekking. It was uphill all the way and the views got better each hour.

We stopped for the night half way up the Pyrenees Mountains at Orisson, France. About 40 of us shared a meal where we met other peregrinos (pilgrims). We were from about 20 different countries.

The next day was foggy - 40m visibility. It was eerie. Before we left Canada, Deb and I rented the movie, *The Way*, with Martin Sheen. Martin's son dies on this stretch of the Camino. You can see how it could happen. We crested the mountains and were glad to get into Roncevalles, Spain around 3:00 pm.

We stayed at a new dormitory run by the convent with about 250 others. We showered, paid to have

our clothes washed, and attended mass at the cathedral. The next day, we walked to Zubiri. It was pretty through the forests, but rough terrain. We were tired and footsore when we got in. I found a hotel at the end of town. It was a dive but had a restaurant and a bathroom for each room. God is good.

Today we trekked to Pamplona. We are resting an extra day here so I planned ahead and picked nice hotels. My aching feet tell me we made the right choice.

Things I've learned:

- We peregrinos all look like street people with backpacks.
- When young men grow a beard, they look more rugged. When old men grow a beard, they look more old.
- A hundred or so peregrinos set out each day from each village. When you pass by each other, you say 'buen camino' (have a good walk). You recognize peregrinos you have met before and there's a real sense of community. On one of the Camino signs, someone wrote 'Mi Camino es su camino.' 'My Camino is your Camino.'

Blessings,
Jim & Deb

Day 9 - 162 kms done, 623 kms to go:

Hola. In Pamplona, we walked the streets where the running of the bulls takes place. Pamplona was featured in many of Hemingway's novels and we happened to stay in

ahead (29 kms and 300 metres of elevation), so we started an hour before sunrise today. It was weird walking in the dark, but our tiny headlamps worked great.

We have a rest day in Logroño. We walked too much on our last rest day, so our plans today are more modest: buy snacks for tomorrow and eat an ice cream. Deb slept 10.5 hours last night.

Things I've learned:

- Getting sore feet doesn't seem to depend on distance or elevation. It mostly depends on the smoothness of the path.
- The scenery is very pretty. At high points, you see the path stretched out to the horizon and you are comforted knowing what lies ahead. Then you come over a hill and the path veers away in a whole new direction. Much like life.

Blessings,
Jim & Deb

Continued on next page.

La Perla, one of the hotels that he mentioned. If you ask, they will show you Room 201, where he stayed.

When we got to Puente la Reina, again all the albergues (hostels) and hotels were booked. We found a place at the municipal albergue. It was grim. I had a pilgrim's meal that smelled like a pig's hind end. I wish I was exaggerating.

Some pilgrims book all accommodation before the trip. The problem with that is, if you have foot or health problems, you can't change all 35 reservations. You take a taxi to the next stop and skip a stage. We started booking a day or two ahead and it seems to be working.

We had a long stage



The views get better, the higher you go.



285 kms into the journey, the scenery changes to rolling land and hayfields.

2016 a wonderful year for local Cursillo community

CATHY PONECH
Communications Director
Edmonton Cursillo Secretariat

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith...

Hebrews 12:1-2

This scripture so beautifully describes the community that has enveloped the newest members of the world-wide Cursillo community, and the impact this community will continue to have on



Deb and Jim Phillipchuk share the story of their Camino pilgrimage at the Cursillo AGM.

each other's lives.

All can attest to how touching it was to see God's hand moving throughout every detail of the 2016 Edmonton Cursillo weekend. A heartfelt thank you to God and to all of you for your prayerful support.

As the secretariat reflects on 2016, we can see how it has been a pretty wonderful year in the Cursillo community. We have been blessed with incredible witness talks, worship and teaching evenings; supported one another as we grow in our own faith; and been witness to many friendships being strengthened and deepened through the love and power of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

As blessed as I was to be part of the monthly Ultreya events last year,

I am even more excited about plans for 2017. Please do keep an eye out for updates in *The Messenger*, *Synod Scene*, your local parish and, of course, www.edmontoncursillo.ca

May the Lord bless you, keep you, and strengthen you in all you do.

Bible study shares stories of northern life and ministry



Lynn De Brabandere's ordination in St. Christopher's Anglican Church, Haines Junction, Yukon.

MARK HAUSER
Communications Officer
Anglican Diocese of Ontario

Northern Canada has an enduring mystique in the minds of southern Canadians. Images arise of vast treeless tundra, polar bears, exotic foods and the North's resilient inhabitants - both indigenous and later explorers. Offsetting that mystique are the reports of grave social problems: youth suicide, hunger and the lack of clean drinking water. But what is day-to-day life really like, and what

is Anglican ministry like in northern communities?

The Council of the North's new five-session study, titled "Northern Witness," aims to share stories of northern communities and ministry with the rest of the Church - and to show how northern ministry, with all of its particular challenges, is a ministry "of the whole Church, by the whole Church."

Comprising 85 percent of Canada's geography and only 15 percent of its population, all of the Council of the North dioceses face isolation, harsh weather, and sometimes unreliable communication networks. Add to that the continuing effects of poverty in many areas and the legacy of the residential school system, and you have a very high level of pastoral needs. The Council of the North includes the dioceses of Caledonia, Yukon, Athabasca, Saskatchewan, Brandon, Moosonee, the Arctic, the Territory of the People and the Indigenous Spiritual Ministry of Mishamikoweesh.

Continued on page 12.

Cursillista peregrinos walk El Camino de Santiago cont.

Continued from previous page.

Day 15 - 285 km done, 500 km to go:

Hola. The scenery has changed to rolling land and hayfields.

Each block on the Camino street in Belorado had a handprint and footprint of all the cast in the movie *The Way*.

Today's trip started with a brisk 40-kph wind. An hour later it

started to rain and the wind picked up to 50 to 100 kph. The rain was painful on exposed skin, our wet glasses distorted our vision, and we stumbled on the rocks for an hour. The trail then changed to a narrow path along a busy single lane road. It was hard to keep the wind from pushing you into traffic. Other peregrinos who had had enough of these conditions decided to take a bus. We slogged seven more km in



Along 'The Way' are reminders of the pilgrims who, over the centuries, have followed the path to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela.



Fellow peregrinos share a strong sense of community along El Camino.

the rain to our hotel. Tell me again why we are doing this?

We have a rest day in Burgos and we really need it.

Things I've learned:

- Camino math: soap bar + shampoo = laundry detergent
- There's very little litter on the Camino. You'd like to think that's because all peregrinos are responsible but I don't think so. It must be because people pick up other people's litter. So I've started to pick up tissues and

gum wrappers and drop them off in the next village. But I'm not touching the TP back in the bushes!

- This Camino business is odd. You walk at your own pace, so that part is solitary. However, we often meet people we've talked to before, ate with together, and shared our stories, so that part is communal.

Blessings,
Jim & Deb

Standing Stones offered as Fresh Expression in Barrhead and Onoway

This fall, two rural parishes in the Edmonton diocese had an opportunity to host a Standing Stones ceremony facilitated by Sharon Pasula, Oskâpêwis/Indigenous Cultural & Educational Helper for the Diocese of Edmonton. The gatherings at St. Mary Abbots parish in Barrhead and St. John the Divine parish in Onoway were part of a “Fresh Expressions” of church series initiated by the Rev. Barry Rose.

At Sunday evening Supper Church in Barrhead, where folks had an opportunity to “relax in the presence of God,” Pasula presented Rose with a smudge kit for his ministry.

After the ceremony, people got to know one another over a delicious lasagna supper. St. Mary Abbots intends to offer the Standing Stones ceremony on a monthly basis.

The indigenous ceremony was equally well received in Onoway, where some people wondered when it would be offered again. Pasula offered a smudge outside, and a dedication of the land for sacred space.

These are a few comments from people who participated in the Standing Stones ceremony:

“I feel like I had church.”

“I like Standing Stones, especially because I’m



Sweet grass, sage, prayer cloths and wine prepared for a Standing Stones ceremony.

Metis.”

“The Lord visited us tonight.”

Next, St. John the Divine will host a Standing Stones liturgy, much like

the one offered at All Saints’ Cathedral and St. Faith’s, Edmonton.

If you would like to experience a Standing Stones Ceremony in your

parish or community, please contact Sharon Pasula by email:

oskapewis@edmonton.anglican.ca

Blanket Exercise Introduced as Tool of Neighbourly Reconciliation in Ponoka

FIONA BROWLEE
Aboriginal and Rural
Communities Liaison

A Blanket Exercise organized by the outreach team of St. Mary’s Anglican Church and Fiona Brownlee, Aboriginal and Rural Churches Liaison for the Diocese of Edmonton, brought the community of Ponoka together to learn more about the shared history of indigenous and settler peoples in Canada.

Developed for use by the ecumenical social justice

organization KAIROS, the Blanket Exercise has been an excellent educational tool for parishes in the Edmonton diocese to continue their walk of neighbourly reconciliation.

Elder Lawrence Standingontheroad, from Montana First Nation, was welcomed to the circle by the Rev. Donna Willer, rector of St. Mary’s. He talked about the connections we all have to the past, present and future, and made special mention of the chokecherry tree planted by every parish

in our diocese as an act and symbol of reconciliation. The chokecherry tree, he said, was a valuable source of food, shelter and much more for the Cree people of this area.

During the Blanket Exercise participants were stunned to realize that while the First Peoples were willing to share what they had, settlers just wanted to take and not to share. Laws that people thought were there to protect indigenous peoples, in fact, kept

them from succeeding and sharing their knowledge with the settlers. Many were unsettled by what they had learned that sunny Saturday in early September.

When the sharing circle was complete, elder Standingontheroad shared with those present another learning about the buffalo. He reminded us that the original blankets for his people were buffalo hides – they were what babies were wrapped in after being born and they were what the dead were wrapped in to be buried. He connected the experience of the Blanket Exercise with the experience of the Cree people, his people, and the buffalo.

As people were leaving they could be heard thanking the organizers and sharing how this event had deepened their understanding of the need for ongoing reconciliation work in our communities. The ministry of neighbourly reconciliation is alive and well in the rural parishes of our diocese. If you would like to learn more, please don’t hesitate to contact Fiona Brownlee at f.brownlee@edmonton.anglican.ca



Elder Lawrence Standingontheroad explains the significance of the buffalo in the lives of indigenous people.

Mixed Blood and Urban Indigenous Identity

Editor’s note: In September, Sharon Pasula, Oskâpêwis/ Indigenous Cultural & Educational Helper for the Diocese of Edmonton, presented on “Mixed Blood and Urban Indigenous Ministry” at the Chester Ronning Centre for the Study of Religion and Public Life, located at the University of Alberta Augustana Campus in Camrose. The following is Pasula’s account of that experience:

They ordered lunch for 20, but 35 showed up. It was a mix of young and old, students and community members who came to listen and engage in conversation with an indigenous person. I began my session by singing the “Water Prayer Song” and said a prayer. I then shared some of my own story and addressed some of the issues I have faced as a woman of mixed blood. I then welcomed my audience to share their stories. A few people did, which greatly enriched our dialogue.

One person was interested in the Lac Ste. Anne pilgrimage, an annual celebration deeply rooted

in indigenous Catholic tradition. First called Wakamne, or God’s Lake by the Nakota First Nations who live on the west end of the Lake, and Manito Sakhahigan, or Spirit Lake by the Cree, the lake was renamed Lac Ste. Anne by the Rev. Jean-Baptiste Thibault, the first Catholic priest to establish a mission on the site. The pilgrimage grounds had been sacred for generations of peoples and had become widely known as a place of healing. Aboriginal peoples camped on the site prior to contact with European fur traders and settlers.

After this discussion, someone asked me, “What is your grandmother’s name?” As it turned out, we were related. Another person spoke up, as well. And, then, there were three of us relatives meeting for the first time - a common occurrence for indigenous folk!

This educational event was a fun and exhilarating gathering of all my relations. You can watch our conversation at: <https://youtu.be/z1ceh1caSBA>

Give a goat and provide nourishment for a family



DOROTHY MARSHALL
Diocesan Representative
PWRDF

Over the last several Christmas seasons, I have been fortunate to receive some rather unusual gifts: chickens, a pig (twice) and some goats. While you may be quick to think this is the norm for country folk – some sort of “red neck” farmer gift-giving idea – it is actually not. The fact is, it was not me who received the actual critters; the gifts were given on my behalf to people in developing countries through the Primate’s World Relief and Development

Fund (PWRDF). I love the idea and appreciate the thoughtfulness and generosity of the givers.

I think we all have people on our Christmas list for whom we struggle to find the “perfect” gift. Sometimes these are people who have the means to purchase whatever they want, and actually do so. Rather than racking our brains to find something unique that they don’t already possess, and could actually use, why not give the gift of helping others who are less fortunate?

You can find a plethora of creative gift choices on the PWRDF website at www.PWRDF.org. Scroll down the page and click on the “Give Through Gifts for Mission” link to open the online catalogue. You will see the perfect gift for everyone on your list!

For the farmer on your list, the gift of livestock is an obvious choice. For the price of \$80, your gift of a dairy goat can make all the

difference in the life of a single mother living with AIDS. A single dairy goat can provide nutritious milk for a whole family with enough left over to generate a small income. PWRDF also works with partners in Rwanda to provide farmers with tools, seed, and even a bicycle to get produce to market and help them support their families. At \$35, this would be a great gift for someone who likes to garden.

For the business person on your list, perhaps you would choose to support a microcredit loan. PWRDF works with partners around the world to provide small business education and microcredit loans that enable women to create businesses like restaurants, rickshaw taxis and tailoring.

If you are giving to a mother or grandmother, support for any of the Maternal and Child Health Care programs is a great idea. Donations are matched by the Federal Government



on a 6:1 basis; every dollar given becomes seven! Of course, all of these gift ideas work equally well for other special occasions: birthdays, anniversaries, Mother’s Day, to name a few.

Another great Christmas idea, also found on the PWRDF website, are “E-cards.” A \$10 donation gives you access to an unlimited number of seasonal messages. You will find a link to these cards on the website under “Seasonal Resources.”

These Christmas gifts are a wonderful way to recognize the message of the Christmas season! With a “Gifts for Mission”

purchase, we are able to remember our family and friends in a meaningful way, while helping our appreciative neighbours across the world improve their lives. While you are on the www.PWRDF.org website, I encourage you to read the stories of the on-going projects which are supported financially by Anglicans from across Canada. If you would like to be involved in the ministry of PWRDF in your parish, please speak to your rector or contact me by email at camfarm@syban.net

May the Lord bless you and yours throughout this blessed season!

Refugee sponsorship a blessing continued

Continued from page 4.

Since arriving safely and with great joy, the family has had lots of help settling into their new life in Drayton Valley. The parish of All Saints’ is abuzz with stories about this sweet family. One of our first priorities has been helping them receive the medical care they missed while living in a refugee camp.

God has richly blessed us and given us everything we need to bring this Syrian refugee family into our midst. People have come forward and donated funds, car seats, bedding, computers and the list continues to grow. The Lebanese and Arabic speaking society has become an integral part of our group, helping us find clothing

and stocking the family’s freezer with familiar foods. We have people willing to be interpreters and help this family adjust to life in Canada.

The oldest daughter has been welcomed by the other students in her grade one class. She is picking up English quickly and keeps surprising the team with new sentences. The father has a job and the whole family will be introduced to their new community: the mayor, MLA and all those who will help with tutoring and care, at a ‘meet-and-greet’ event.

When war seems so far away, we often wonder ‘what can I do?’ As any member of our parish and DV Welcomein Group will tell you, ‘just start with one person, one family.’

Palm Crosses Promote Health and Wellness in Africa

SIMON CHAMBERS
Communications
Coordinator
PWRDF

Anglican parishes in Canada can be involved in helping Tanzanian craftspeople support maternal, newborn and child health in Tanzania through www.AfricanPalms.com.

For more than 20 years, African Palms Canada has worked with people in Tanzania who make palm crosses for parishes to use on Palm Sunday or at other times during the year. All proceeds from the sale of the palm crosses in Canada are donated to PWRDF to support its partnership with the Diocese of Masasi in Tanzania.

PWRDF and the Diocese of Masasi, with

support from Global Affairs Canada, are supporting a variety of initiatives aimed at improving the health of mothers and children and their communities in 72 villages. Thanks to the work of the diocese, these villages will have access to health clinics, clean water, improved nutrition, vaccinations, treated bed nets and more.

By supporting African Palms, parishes support both the Tanzanian workers who make the palm crosses



Support PWRDF’s development work in Africa by ordering **palm crosses** through African Palms

Ordering palm crosses has never been easier!
Check out www.africanpalms.com and place your order today!

and the health and food security program PWRDF undertakes with the Diocese of Masasi. It’s a win/win situation.

Your parish can order palm crosses from African Palms and be part of this winning solution!

2016 Christmas Services throughout Edmonton Diocese

The following service times were available at the time of printing. For more information, follow the parish links from www.edmonton.anglican.ca.

Rural Churches

Immanuel, Wetaskiwin
St. Augustine Parkland, Spruce Grove/Stony Plain
St. Catherine, Edson

St. George, Fort Saskatchewan

St. John, Sedgewick
St. John the Baptist, St. Paul
St. John the Evangelist, Cold Lake
St. Mary Abbots, Barrhead
St. Mary the Virgin, Sangudo

St. Mary and St. George, Jasper
St. Paul, Leduc

St. Peter, Lac La Nonne
St. Philip, Westlock
St. Saviour, Vermillion

St. Saviour Mission, Wabamun
St. Thomas, Sherwood Park

Edmonton Churches

All Saints' Cathedral, Edmonton

Christ Church, Edmonton
ICPM Emmanuel - Bissell Ctr, Edmonton
Good Shepherd, Edmonton
Holy Trinity, Edmonton

St. Augustine of Canterbury, Edmonton

St. David, Edmonton

St. George, Edmonton
St. John the Evangelist, Edmonton

St. Luke, Edmonton
St. Margaret, Edmonton

St. Michael and All Angels, Edmonton

St. Paul, Edmonton
St. Stephen the Martyr, Edmonton
St. Timothy, Edmonton

Christmas Eve

5 pm Family Service, 9 pm Holy Communion
4 pm, Family Service, 9 pm Candlelight Service
3 pm Candlelight Service at St. Columba in McLeod Valley, 7 pm Family Worship at Grace Lutheran, 10 pm Eucharist at St. Catherine's
4 pm, Messy Christmas, 7 pm Family Service
10 pm Traditional Service
9:30 pm Service of Holy Eucharist
7 pm Christmas Eve Service
7 pm Christmas Eve Service
10 pm Christmas Eve Midnight Mass
6 pm Christmas Eve Service at Sangudo United Church, the Rev. Chuck Mortimer officiating
7 pm Carols and Communion
6 pm Family Service
8:30 pm Candlelight Service with Communion
3 pm Christmas Eve Service
7 pm Candlelight Service with Holy Eucharist
7 pm Christmas Eve Service
10:30 pm Candlelight Holy Eucharist
6 pm Children's Pageant and Church Service
5 pm Christmas with Little Ones, 7 pm Contemporary Eucharist, 10 pm Choral Eucharist

Christmas Eve

4:30 pm Family Christmas Service, 7 pm Holy Eucharist, 11 pm Choral Eucharist With Brass Quintet, Bishop Jane Alexander presiding
4:30 pm Happy Birthday Jesus!

5 pm Angels in Pajamas Children's Service
4:30 pm Family Service, Pageant and Carols
7 pm Communion, 11 pm Eucharist (choir/organ)
4 pm Kid-Friendly Service, 9 pm Carol Sing,
9:30 pm Holy Communion
7 pm Family Service (crafts & refreshments)
10 pm Traditional Candlelight Choral Eucharist
7:30 pm Candlelight Service
7 pm Family Service with Holy Eucharist
11 pm Midnight Communion
7 pm Carols and Communion
4 pm Children's Program / Family Communion
9:30 pm Holy Communion by Candlelight
7 pm Family Friendly Holy Communion,
11 pm Candlelight Holy Communion
6 pm Family Service
11 pm High Mass
5 pm Pageant followed by Holy Eucharist
9 pm Holy Eucharist followed by hot apple cider

Christmas Day

9:30 am, Christmas Morning Service
8:30 am Said Eucharist, 10 am Christmas Service
10 am Informal Service at Grace Lutheran

9:30 am Said Eucharist

10:30 am Service of Morning Prayer
11:00 am Christmas Day Service
10:30 am Christmas Day Holy Eucharist

10:30 am Holy Communion
10 am Said Eucharist Celebration of Christmas

9:30 am Christmas Day Eucharist

10 am Christmas Day Service
10:30 am Holy Eucharist

Christmas Day

10:30 am Holy Eucharist

10 am Holy Communion
Holy Communion and gift sack distribution
10:30 am Christmas Day Service
10 am Christmas Day Eucharist Service

8 am Said Holy Communion

10 am Christmas Eucharist

10 am Christmas Day Service

10 am Christmas Day Service
10:30 am Holy Communion

10 am Worship Service

10:30 am Family Service
Normal services at 9 am, 9:30 am and 7 pm
10 am Holy Eucharist

Bible study shares stories of northern life and ministry continued

Continued from page 9.

Study Module #2 has a special focus on the work of non-stipendiary priests. Taking as its theme a passage from Paul's letter to the Corinthians, we learn about a husband-and-wife team of non-stipendiary priests on Sagkeeng First Nation in Manitoba. The Reverends Richard and Nancy Bruyere have day jobs, but they also minister tirelessly to the sick and the dying and all those in need in their community. Richard says,

"We get called to Winnipeg and we go pray for people in the hospital and it is challenging...but it's also very rewarding." But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that

the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us (2 Cor. 4:7). As Richard and Nancy travel, they carry with them a treasure - the message of God's love and hope. And they know that God's surpassing power is working through them.

Richard and Nancy's story is just one of many northern stories that have been chosen in order to inspire fellow Anglicans to intensify their prayers and their support for those who serve in the North. But this Bible Study is designed not only to strengthen southern support for the Council, but to enrich the ministry and faith of southern parishes using the study.

Archbishop Fred Hiltz, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, has called the Council of the North a "laboratory of experimentation in mission." At the Council of the North 2015 annual meeting, Archbishop Hiltz commented that looking across the church at changing patterns of ministry, the church as a whole can point to the Council of the North for its leadership.

And indeed, ministry in the Council of the North, in spite of - or perhaps because of - its particular challenges, is marked by: a mission-minded approach, ecumenical co-operation, and a spirit of flexibility and innovation. To help participants

relate their learning to their own lives and parishes, each session includes discussion questions.

The five sessions are titled, "Mission & Service: Standing in solidarity, seeing lives transformed," "Seeking the Kingdom: Trust and treasure," "Removing Barriers: Finding Healing in Jesus," and "Partnership: Deepening our fellowship in Christ."

To download or order colour copies of this free Bible Study resource, please visit: www.anglican.ca/cn/resourcesconmonth/orderform/.
Copyright © 2016 Council of the North; Produced by Hauser Communications; Stories written by Sharon Dewey Hetke.