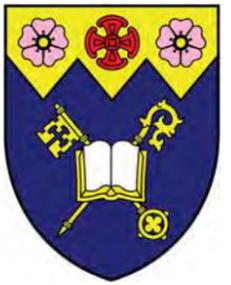


THE MESSENGER

OCTOBER 2016

www.edmonton.anglican.org



Members of Habitat for Humanity and Edmonton faith communities raise the Interfaith Works Project banner in celebration of the more than 100 volunteers from a wide variety of faith traditions who supported the initiative by building affordable homes and providing lunches for construction teams. The annual event ran from July 7 to August 25, 2016.

Theology of the Hammer - Edmonton interfaith community comes together for affordable housing

SHELLY KING
Synod Office Staff

All Saints' Anglican Cathedral sent a small but eager band of workers to Habitat's Pre-Fab shop on August 20. Doreen Abbott coordinated the crew from ASAC,

Application is everything. As the book of James tells us, we want to be doers, not hearers only.
Craig Kalvin, Evangel Assembly

This summer the Edmonton faith community once again demonstrated strength in unity by joining forces in the Habitat for Interfaith-Habitat Works Project, helping to build affordable homes for hard-working families.

Angela Southwark, Volunteer Coordinator for HFH, says more than 100 volunteers came out in the eight weeks between the kick-off on July 7 and the wrap-up on August 25. Some wielded hammers and staple guns. Others provided lunches. Some worked at the new multi-home project at Neufeld Landing; many more at Habitat's Pre-Fab shop.



"My Mom passed away before we moved in, but she knew we had been approved for a house. She knew that her daughter and her granddaughters had new hope for a stable future." Pam White speaking at the Interfaith-Habitat Works wind-up lunch, with daughters Rebecca and Hannah, a Habitat Partner Family.

which included Sharon Pasula, Oskapewis/ Aboriginal Cultural and Educational Helper for the Edmonton diocese.

"I feel so empowered!" said Pasula. "This kind of volunteer work not only supports people in their housing situation, but it's good for the self esteem. Our

team leader Stephen is an excellent coach and he made me feel welcome and appreciated. I learned how to use a nail gun, stapler, nail-puller, and saws."

Fourteen groups took part in the annual Interfaith Works Project on 22 dates. Plus, individuals were also encouraged to come out, so there may have been even more IWP volunteers. Southwark says they saw new faces this year, and were thankful to see many return participants.

Continued on page 11.



Bittersweet celebration p. 3



Fringe at Holy Trinity p. 11



AveFest p. 12

Anglican and Catholic youth step out in faith to Taizé

The Rev. CHERYL BOULET
All Saints' Cathedral, Edmonton

On a very hot summer day this July, a small but determined group of Christians boarded a plane for Taizé, France. A trio of travellers including myself, the Rev. Cheryl Boulet, one of the organizers of the trip and a deacon at All Saints' Cathedral, Sarah Skinner from St. Andrew's Anglican Church in Camrose and Daniel Purcell from St. Dominic Savio Roman Catholic Church in Edmonton arrived at the Edmonton International Airport full of excitement with passports in hand.

This youth ecumenical pilgrimage was partly inspired by my own life-changing experiences at Taizé. After many months of planning, which included opinion surveys to gauge interest, invitations, and information evenings held in parishes in the Anglican diocese and Roman Catholic Archdiocese, our ecumenical pilgrimage took flight. This would be our group's first time travelling together and we knew that God had wonderful things in store for us.

Considering that we did not know one another prior to the pilgrimage, we bonded very quickly and shared lots of laughs. There were a few missteps - one of us booked a flight to Paris through Toronto instead of Montreal, arriving in Paris ahead of the others - and a few misplaced bags along the journey. At least by the time we reached the train in Mâcon Loché (final stop before Taizé), we were able chalk at least one incident up to jet leg.

Arriving at Taizé we were met by a wonderful sight: approximately 3,000 fellow pilgrims, from close to 40 different countries, coming and going by car and bus. Being part of this group - young people and families from all over the world who had come to explore their faith - was an amazing witness to the diversity of our faith. I have fond memories of young children sleeping on the floor during the services as if God had lulled them to sleep with the sound of beautiful music.

As adults and young adults we ventured forward on slightly different paths, but arranged to check in with one another part-way through our week. At that point, it was evident that all was well with the younger members of our group. Aside from being slightly deprived of sleep, they had met wonderful people and were having a good time. We came together at worship, where Sarah



Daniel Purcell (front row, left) from the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton was one of 3,000 pilgrims from 40 countries on an ecumenical pilgrimage to Taizé.

had been assigned the task of keeping people quiet. This turned out to prove more difficult than one might think! Yet, she always had a joyful smile on her face. Daniel and his teammates had the arduous job of cleaning dishes after tea time and dinner. In spite of the heat, they met their responsibility with great gusto.

At the end of our stay, I asked my travel companions to reflect on their Taizé experience - good, bad or indifferent. They agree it was a wonderful trip, and they would both like to return: Sarah with her family and Daniel with a group from his parish. Here are their thoughts:

Daniel Purcell:

I was disappointed at not being able to attend World Youth Day and Taizé offered a similarly excellent opportunity to unite with young people and experience my faith. Through my decision to join the pilgrimage I realized that I was embracing an opportunity to not only venture into the unknown, but also disconnect from the chaos of daily life. Upon arriving at Taizé I was surprised by the solidarity amongst the many nations present at Taizé. The Taizé community is a rarity, as people of all races live together and share in the wellspring of their faith.

Taizé has given me a renewed sense of clarity. By spending some time in solidarity with the scriptures I have been able to reconnect with my life. I went there seeking healing from my burdens and I was able to offer these up to God. This opportunity has changed me for the better.

My favourite part of Taizé was the opportunity to experience solidarity with God through silence. I had the unique experience of spending a night in the Taizé Crypt to reflect upon the readings of the New Testament and search for divine meaning.

I would definitely recommend Taizé to other young adults searching for meaning in their lives.

Taizé transforms your faith into a personal experience, enabling you to reflect on the simplicity of how you are called by God to make a difference in the world. **Sarah Skinner:**

My time at Taizé was an incredible life-giving experience. Amidst the beautiful music, prayer and surroundings, the busy pace of everyday life faded away. I was able to find moments of rest and be truly still in the presence of God, while surrounded by thousands of fellow seekers of the Divine.

At Taizé I experienced unity in diversity. This ever-changing community of people from around the world is a wonderful manifestation of ecumenism: the coming



Thousands of Christian pilgrims fell silent to begin each worship service in the Taizé church.



Sarah Skinner

together of people from diverse places, faiths and backgrounds, unified in song, prayer, fellowship, solidarity, and a desire to seek God and His will in our lives and in the world. Through the celebration of our differences as well as our common ground, we are able to live together in communion with one another. By recognizing that we are all made in the image of God and we are all part of the one body of Christ, we can all reflect and share His Divine light and love.

The autobiography of Canadian singer-songwriter Bruce Cockburn, which I read

while I was in France, offered a serendipitous convergence of meaning. This quote from his book spoke perfectly to my experience at Taizé: "I had a glimpse of humanity poised to experience a spiritual coalescence, open enough to invest ourselves in nurturing relationships with each other and with the beautiful creatures of this planet, with the cosmos, with God."

This was a wonderful experience and I thank God for the opportunity to step out in faith with other young adults. I look forward to the next pilgrimage to Taizé, whenever that may be.

For more information, visit: www.taize.fr/en

CHRISTIAN-MUSLIM DIALOGUE:
living mercifully together

refugees | Allah | settlers
The All Merciful
Creator | God
indigenous

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Church an instrument of reconciliation and healing



BISHOP JANE ALEXANDER
Diocese of Edmonton

The Rt. Rev. Anthony Poggo, Bishop of the Diocese of Kajo Keji in South Sudan, visited our diocese recently. He updated the Sudanese community about the situation in South Sudan, and spoke about the role of the Church

In situations of unrest, he said, the church is called upon to remain with people in their home communities and mediate conflict. The church plays a pivotal role in peacemaking by showing people how to shun revenge. Bishop Poggo spoke particularly of the Anglican Church and its work, since 1983, as a member of the Sudan Council of churches. It is important to remember, he said, that the church is called to be different from other types of leadership, and should not take sides in a conflict unless it is to side with the peace of God. In spite of human temptation to spoil peace with disharmony and disunity, the nature of God, which we reflect, is to build up peace, not break it down.



During a recent visit to the Edmonton diocese, the Rt. Rev. Anthony Poggo, Bishop of the Diocese of Kajo Keji in South Sudan, spoke about the Church's role as an instrument of reconciliation and healing.

persistent in its peacebuilding efforts even when such efforts do not make the headlines. It is the guidance of the gospel that changes our community response to violence and hatred, encouraging us to speak out against revenge which leads to a cycle of vengeance.

Through the power of Christ working in us, the church finds a common purpose. As members of a community, each of us is called in our daily lives to promote harmony, peace building, reconciliation and unity. Bishop Poggo asks that we pray here in Canada for God's intervention in South Sudan; for a lasting peace, for a spirit of reconciliation and for rains to come so that food will be sufficient for the people. May it be so. AMEN.

Bishop Poggo urged the community to be

as an instrument of reconciliation and healing. For years, the church has helped welcome, feed, accommodate and equip tens of thousands of displaced people seeking refuge. Bishop Poggo sees the need, through action and prayer, for Christians to be united as ambassadors of peace: "let us all be peace makers and not peace spoilers – this shows that we are God's children."

Peace River Cathedral Hosts Bittersweet Farewell Celebration



St. James' Cathedral, Peace River hosted a farewell celebration for Iain Luke, former Dean of Athabasca, and his family this summer. Luke became principal of the College of Emmanuel & St. Chad in Saskatoon on August 1. Former director of the Institute for Anglican Ministry at St. John's College, Winnipeg, Luke said in an Anglican Journal story ("Appointment Marks New Beginning for College") that he was attracted to another chance to provide theological education in the context of the prairies.

Photos: Peter Clarke



St. John the Divine Onoway Inducts Rector



Bishop Jane Alexander inducted the Rev. Barry Rose (front row, second from right) as rector of St. John the Divine, Onoway on July 20, 2016.



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DEADLINE for November ISSUE: **OCTOBER 1**

submissions

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

send to

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Diverse parish reaches out to seniors and newcomers

The Rev. KEVIN KRAGLUND
JULIE McARTHUR
St. Patrick's, Edmonton

“Out of our diversity, as children of God; we share the love of Jesus Christ and seek our oneness in Christ.”

In living out our mission statement and through our focus for the Reach Campaign, St. Patrick's, Edmonton has discerned that God is calling us to serve as a centre for greater support to newcomers to Canada.

Out of this vision, and out of its diversity, we have entered into a relationship with the Welcome Centre for Immigrants (WCI) and the Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers (EMCN) to offer free English and computer literacy classes for senior newcomers to Canada.

Thanks to a generous grant from the Anglican Foundation of Canada to further the work of their Reach program, our parish has been able to fund three



A field trip to Fort Edmonton and a camping trip have been part of fun for seniors new to Mill Woods who are learning English and cultural awareness through St. Patrick's Reach project.

mornings of instruction per week between July 19 and October 27. Those attending have come from several regions of India: Punjab, Gujarat, Pakistan, as well as a few from Africa.

The participants identified their learning priorities as language development and becoming more culturally aware. Presentations and fieldtrips by Julie McArthur working alongside Chand Khan, a

community connector from EMCN, and other volunteers are designed to help the group realize its goals.

Some of the topics covered by the group thus far have included an overview of Canadian history, Aboriginal history, the Olympics, camping, recycling and waste management, preparing for a visit to the doctor, Canadian provinces and capital cities, and even a special field trip

to Fort Edmonton Park.

In bringing an element of fun to their learning, the seniors have enjoyed such activities as baton races, tent-pitching, and making S'mores. As the course has progressed, there has been much laughter, talking, community building, and a breaking down of language and cultural barriers.

During the computer classes, held at WCI in Millbourne Mall, the seniors

have become more familiar with basic computer literacy and operating skills. They have learned to set-up an email account, save and download files, and navigate the internet using search engines.

With Reach project contributions, St. Patrick's also continues to host job fairs in cooperation with WCI and EMCN. It is a great joy to see our prayers for the unemployed and newcomers to Canada being put into action.

When reflecting on St. Patrick's Reach ministry, the hymn “Jesus Calls Us Here to Meet Him” comes to mind:

Jesus calls us to each other: found in him are no divides. Race and class and sex and language – such are barriers he derides.

Join the hand of friend and stranger; join the hand of age and youth; join the faithful and the doubter in their common search for truth.

Invitation to draw closer to God and others

CATHY PONECH
Communications
Edmonton Cursillo
Secretariat

Greetings my brothers and sisters in Christ! With our 2016 Ultreya gatherings coming to a close we are focusing our prayer and attention on the November 10 to 13, 2016 Cursillo Co-Ed Weekend.

Cursillo is a short course in Christian Living founded in Spain. The movement offers opportunities to live more deeply in the Life, really know the Truth and actively walk in the Way, while giving thanks for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

While myself and other Cursillistas have found the weekend itself to be life-giving and life-changing in very positive and gentle ways, the blessings, strength

and courage gained from the Cursillo community in following the path of God are truly remarkable. God promised Abraham, “I will bless you so that you may be a blessing to others.” As a fellow Cursillista wrote, the strength of Cursillo is not only to bring people to a weekend to experience and draw closer to God, but to walk in Christ with others, supporting one another throughout life.

The Edmonton Cursillo Secretariat encourages all, young or old, who wish to find a closer relationship with Christ and with others to attend a Cursillo weekend. For more information, please chat with your pastor or a fellow congregant who is wearing a wooden cross on a thin, coloured cord; visit www.edmontoncursillo.ca or email clponech@shaw.ca

Support for Buyé women and youth

New Maternity Ward

The project to expand the maternity ward at Buyé Hospital is now complete.

Every year, approximately 5,400 women from three surrounding municipalities give birth in the hospital, located just down the road from All Saints' Anglican Cathedral. Funding from the Edmonton diocese's REACH Campaign and PWRDF was used to expand the severely overcrowded ward from three rooms to six.

Conditions for expectant mothers will be vastly improved by a second delivery room and separate rooms for women who have had C-sections and complications of pregnancy.

In addition, the walls and ceiling of the existing building have been repaired, modern windows installed and the roof and sidewalk replaced.

A fundraising campaign



led by the Edmonton diocesan ACW will equip the ward with beds and mattresses, sheets and blankets.

Watch next month's Messenger for information and pictures from the official opening of the maternity ward.

Diocesan Youth Camp

The Rev. Dominique Ciza of the Diocese of Buyé sends news of a very successful youth camp hosted by the diocese August 8-14.

In total, 260 young people attended the camp; 112 boys and 148 girls. At

camp, youth took part in a number of fun activities, Bible teachings and discussions on responsible sexuality.

The youth also worked together on three community enhancement projects. They helped build a new house for a local widow, constructed a community water spring and repainted their youth center.

The Rev. Dominique says, “Really, the camp was very helpful for our youth and they went back very renewed. They requested to hold such an event every summer.”

Locally raised-up priest consecrated at St. John's, Manning

PETER CLARKE
Athabasca Editor

God has blessed His people by sending priests from all over the world to minister to Christians in the Diocese of Athabasca.

Therefore, it was with great joy that on August 24, the Feast Day of St. Bartholomew, people came from far and wide to celebrate the Ordination to the Priesthood of a locally raised-up man.

It was with great joy that I and others travelled to St. John's Church in Manning for the ordination of the Rev. Robert Terrance (Terry) Francis. The little church swelled to overflowing as we joined members of the local United-Anglican Church congregation.

In his journey toward

this evening, deacon Francis had been a member of several parishes in the diocese. Serving as a lay reader and an executive council member, he was involved in a myriad of activities, one of which included the project to build a new church in Colinton.

The processional hymn "Part of the Family" set the tone for the service. The reading, Deuteronomy 18:15-18: "The Lord your God will raise up from you a prophet like me from among your own people..." was fitting for the occasion.

The Rev. Michael McGee, longtime friend of the ordinand and a former priest in the Athabasca diocese, began his sermon by mentioning that a 6.2 magnitude earthquake had struck Italy that day; the



The Rev. Terry Francis, pictured above with his wife Patricia, was ordained to the priesthood on August 24, 2016. At right, from left: Canon Hermann Dittrich, Clive Scheepers, Canon Terry Leer, Wayne Putman, Bishop Fraser Lawton, Deborah Scheepers, Terry Francis, Rose Howell, Chris Boyce, Michael McGee and Leon Cadsap.



Photos: Peter Clarke

same day in history that Mt. Vesuvius erupted.

Responding to disaster is one way the Church is called to BE the sign of life and hope for all, via the power of the Gospel, said McGee. We are all called to transform God's world, by

our words and our deeds. He noted some of the ordinand's gifts as husband, father, grandfather, coach and teacher. As Francis himself said, he would use those gifts as a priest: "to serve and love is what we are called to do."

The Rev. Terry Francis was consecrated by the Rt. Rev. Fraser Lawton, Bishop of Athabasca. He has been appointed rector of St. John's, Manning, where he serves with his wife Patricia and their family.

McLennan community marks church's 85th birthday

PETER CLARKE
Athabasca Editor

If you have been surprised by the sudden realization that someone in your family is about to celebrate a birthday or anniversary, you might well understand the surprise of the people of St. Paul's Anglican Church in McLennan. In late July, the parish discovered that August marked the 85th year of existence of their church.

Not to worry, McLennan

is a small community. Phone calls were made, word got out and plans were put in place for a community celebration. On August 21, 20 people gathered for a service of Holy Communion led by the Rev. (Padi) Leon Cadsap from High Prairie. Members of several local church communities made up the congregation and took part in the service.

Jeannette Clarke played favourite hymns such as "The Church in the

Wildwood," "Just a Closer Walk with Thee," and "To God be the Glory" on the church's antique pump organ. Outside, a passer-by stopped to enjoy the music pouring out of the church. There was a true sense of celebration and prayers that this church can continue spreading God's Word in this community.

In his sermon, Cadsap shared several stories from the McLennan history book. For example, during construction of the church building in 1931, a young man climbed the scaffolding to announce to the town through a bull horn when a certain radio show was about to be broadcast.

At the conclusion of the service, the congregation made its way next door to the cozy 1930s style rectory, lovingly restored by people in the parish a few years ago and now an historical site. There was enough space in St. Paul's Heritage House for all the people to enjoy tea and cake and, as the song says, "come in, come in and sit down," and be part of



The beautifully restored St. Paul's Heritage House and Anglican Church in McLennan. Photo: Roy Glidden



The congregation of St. Paul's, McLennan with (far left) the Rev. Padi Cadsap, from High Prairie, and (far right) Peter Clarke, who helped lead the 85th Anniversary service. Photo: Mac Olsen, South Peace News

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The act of church - Team Jesus missionaries build Kingdom in Wabamun



When pancakes and sausages or Eggs Benedict are being served up in Wabamun, you are sure to find Jack Burgess or another member of St. Saviour's Mission holding a flipper.

MICHELLE SQUANCE-SLADE
Mission of St. Saviour's, Wabamun

“Church” is commonly used as a noun throughout the world. It is usually used to describe a public building for Christian worship. At St. Saviour's Mission in Wabamun, however, “church” is very much a verb; an action word. We have found our unique little groove just doing what we do and spreading the love of God as we go!

We may be a very small congregation in terms of numbers, but we have done some big things to help build our community. Our first year in existence - we celebrated our anniversary with Bishop Jane in September - has been lively. Last fall we invited all animals to attend our annual Blessing of the Animals service and three beautiful large dogs were brought by their families to be blessed. We shared lots of smiles and laughs during that service, as well as on our annual highway clean-



Main Street Presence: Since its dedication in September, 2014, the Mission of St. Saviour has lived the Gospel by being a friendly presence in the community. On Mondays, Rev. Coleen (welcoming Bishop Jane to the “office”) invites one and all to “Come and Ask.” During this informal coffee chat at the mission office, centrally located in the Marketplace building on Main Street, she invites questions about God and faith.

up when we collected 14 bags of garbage along our adopted stretch of highway.

And, Rev. Coleen (Lynch) makes her way around town in her beloved red pick-up, we have affectionately named Rocky the Mission Truck. People notice the

magnetic signs we had installed on the doors, which has generated good exposure for us in the village.

Speaking of exposure, we wear our bright blue “Team Jesus” t-shirts every time we are out and about in the community. People often recognize us at events such as Alberta Culture Days, and the Fall Market, to which members of the congregation each brought 10 homemade items.

We believe that being present when it matters is an important part of growing His Kingdom. Rev. Coleen and Sandy Cornell attend the Senior's Potluck lunch one Tuesday a month. Sandy is a keen helper and friend and Rev. Coleen has been approached by many people seeking prayers and needing to share their story.

One Thursday a month Rev. Coleen and Michelle Squance-Slade put on their Team Jesus shirts to help out at the Senior's Thrift Shop. As they work, they have plenty of

opportunity to visit with everyone who comes through the shop.

Numerous pastoral visits have happened between the clothing racks! After one shift at the Thrift Shop, Michelle was approached by a senior gentleman in an aisle of the local grocery store. He explained that his wife had always done the shopping but

had fallen ill. As they scanned the shelves for the peanut butter a store employee asked if she could be of assistance. The man quickly turned down her offer. Turning to Michelle he said, “she's wearing that shirt so I know she's here to help.”

Since November of 2015, we have been a Main Street presence in Wabamun. Our two-room office in the Country Market building has quickly become a ministry hub. Not unlike the sitcom “The Office,” “Our Office” is a diverse and eclectic mix of personalities and happenings. We share this space with a café and a realty business, providing numerous opportunities for interaction with local people who might not otherwise come near a church.

In her first two weeks in the office, 28 people stopped in to say “hello” to Rev. Coleen, who has now met countless people. These informal coffee chats have also served to make our parish of the Anglican Mission of St. Saviour more widely known in the surrounding community. Though no one from these encounters has yet to attend our regular Sunday worship in the Seniors' Centre, many attended our service of Cowboy Church in the town hall for Dragonfly Festival.

When a local business employee expressed interest in Bible Study, exclaiming “I have lots of questions,” Rev. Coleen replied that “Questions are good!” She launched our Christian education series, “Come and Ask,” which has proven very popular, resulting in a Part II.

In two rooms separated by a door, Rev. Coleen has private space for pastoral visits and with additional room for Bible Study, Christian education and special services like Ash Wednesday. A separate discreet entrance from the sidewalk affords people privacy if they do not wish



Sometimes all it takes to be a blessing in someone's life - “to change hearts and minds” - is to offer a smile and a kind word, Coleen Lynch told the Cowboy Church congregation.



On the morning of Sunday, June 26, the Mission of St. Saviour, Wabamun, together with the parish of St. Aidan and St. Hilda, Rexboro, gathered 70 people together at the town hall in Wabamun for Cowboy Church which began, says St. Saviour's rector Coleen Lynch, as “a user-friendly way for people to try God in a rural worship setting.”

to come through the main café door. We have transformed a tiny space originally intended for storage into a cozy gathering area for sharing the presence of our Lord and serving the people He has placed us among.

If you have ever joined us for Cowboy Church - wow! What a wonderfully uplifting service. For some time, we have been holding a Cowboy Church service in November to mark the Canadian Finals Rodeo and then in June during the Wabamun Dragonfly Festival. Decked out in our boots and hats we sing along to familiar toe-tapping tunes, bringing Country flair to favourite hymns. Before Cowboy Church on Sunday, June 26th, St. Saviour helped welcome the Wabamun community for breakfast. It was our congregation's second opportunity to serve pancakes and sausages to more than 300 people, working alongside members of the Village office; ATCO; Synod Office staff, including Bishop Jane; and the neighbouring parish of St. Aidan and St. Hilda, Rexboro. On Family Day 2016 we also joined Communities in Bloom members in serving an equally delicious breakfast.



It is hard to miss St. Saviour's presence in the village when Rev. Coleen is at the wheel of Rocky the Mission Truck, decorated with dragonflies by local children.

Intercultural Community Barbecue



The Rev. RICK CHAPMAN
Chaplain, ICPM

Summer barbecues are always a great way for community to gather, joining together for fellowship and fun. Mid July, Christ Church Anglican, Inner City Pastoral Ministry (ICPM) and St. Theresa's - Society of Vincent de Paul partnered to host a community festival inviting the Edmonton inner city and city centre communities to a sumptuous feast of burgers and hot dogs.

A well-practiced team of volunteers from St. Theresa's - Society of Vincent de Paul served the lunch. Highlights of the day included Blue Grass Gospel and indigenous singers and dancers from the ICPM Community of Emmanuel. Children's fun included a colouring

book table and ice cream-making led by the Rev. Nick Trussell, associate priest at Christ Church, who bounced a ball to make ice cream. The event ended with a community round dance hosted by Carol Powder and her family - indigenous dancers and singers. Little seven-year-old Noah offered his favourite Cree song, “Little Wolf,” ending it with an unforgettable “Grrrr!”

The Community Barbecue was a great ecumenical, intercultural and community event attended by more than 200 people. Pass me a hotdog!



St. Saviour's grandstand booth serving Vermilion Agricultural Fair for more than 101 years

TRICIA POLOWY
St. Saviour's, Vermilion

Since 1915, St. Saviour's Anglican Church has been serving delicious food, including homemade pies, from the parish's grandstand booth at the Vermilion Agricultural Fair.

This year marked the 110th Anniversary of the fair. From July 28-30 the parish served beef on a bun, smokies, hotdogs, cold and hot refreshments and homemade desserts. People come from far and wide for a slice (or two) of St. Saviour's pie. The most recent parish pie bee, a wonderfully productive time of fellowship, yielded 100 pies and 8 giant pans of rhubarb crisp!

The fair booth is the parish's largest fund raising activity during



This summer, Bishop Jane (pictured in the grandstand booth with St. Saviour's rector Mark Murray and Tricia Polowy) had the joy of serving with St. Saviour's at the Vermilion Agricultural Fair. In between serving up smokies and beef-on a bun there was much laughter and fellowship and a real chance to see how the people and ministry of St. Saviour's are appreciated in the local community, she says. “Thanks so much for the opportunity to come out and minister alongside you!”

the year. Ladies served 170 people in the fair's inaugural year. In 1932 the booth netted \$51, while not too many years later, in 1943, the profit was \$500. This money was used to install gas in the church. In recent years, profits have reached \$10,000 which helps significantly with the church's operating costs.

The grandstand concession also provides opportunities for outreach and community building. Students enrolled in Lakeland College's fire fighter training program provided up to 100 volunteer hours over the course of the three-day fair.

Food and faith key elements of connection on campus

MARGARET GLIDDEN
Synod Office Staff

It was the “FREE Food” sign outside St. George’s by the U of A that caught the eye of engineering student Kirsti Ann Bell when she moved to Edmonton from Drumheller three years ago.

“I thought this offer was a great opportunity, not only because of the food, but because it would be a bit of a connection to back home,” Bell told supporters of the annual Educational Chaplaincy fundraising dinner and silent auction last spring. Not unlike her close-knit farming community, “Here was a group that eats and worships together. What better way to build community than with food?” she noted. Among the opportunities afforded to her by the chaplaincy has been the ability to experience what it means to live out her faith in a variety of situations, and see how God works in each of these places.

“It is actually amazing to see how well food and faith brings people together,” she said.

For more than 50 years the Diocese of Edmonton’s Educational

Chaplaincy has helped connect students from all over the world with one another, their wider community and God.

“God made us for connection,” said the Rev. Dr. Scott Sharman, educational chaplain.

Chaplaincy programs such as the Worship Room, a Sunday evening supper followed by a service of word, sacrament, prayer and worship, and Pub Theology, which provides a casual atmosphere for mulling over life’s big questions, are rooted in building relationships. Making connections with inner city communities through the PrayerWorks Common ministry at St. Faith’s and St. Stephen’s is also a focus of the chaplaincy, said Sharman.

“Preparing and serving food at community dinners helps humanize need and create a path to right relationship and justice,” he said.

The addition of Ruth Sesink Bott as associate chaplain in early 2016 has helped the Anglican team branch out and find new ways to seek to love and serve others in Christ’s name with chaplains of other



Members of the Worship Room, a Sunday evening supper and service offered by Anglican Student Ministries, enjoy food and conversation at the Educational Chaplaincy Annual Fundraising Dinner in May.

faith denominations including the Lutherans and Roman Catholics.

According to Sharman, “trying to do as much as we can together, both from an ecumenical and interreligious perspective,” is best practice.

“The university is a snapshot of the whole world. As a chaplain, I am part of an interfaith association that advocates for the spiritual needs of all people, and that has been a great opportunity for learning and growth. This year we brought groups

of students from different religious communities together – Muslims, Buddhists, First Nations, Jews, and others – on a monthly basis to share our stories and talk about how our faiths and spiritual practices influence the way we live and act in the world. This kind of connection is absolutely essential today.”

A ministry hub for younger adults within the Edmonton diocese, the chaplaincy now reaches beyond

Continued on next page.

NAIT Chaplaincy enters second year

At the start of the 2015-16 academic year, the Edmonton diocese became partners in a new multi-faith chaplaincy program on the NAIT campus. Invited to be a regular and active presence on campus, chaplains of many faith traditions including Muslim (two denominations), Buddhist, Sikh, and Christian (7 denominations), provided support to students and staff. They organized interfaith events, led social justice work and offered information and resources.

“It was a joy to be a part of the NAIT multi-faith chaplaincy in its inaugural year,” says the Rev. Nick Trussell, former Anglican chaplain to NAIT and associate priest at Christ Church, Edmonton. “As faith leaders from a variety of traditions we weren’t always sure how to pray together, or even if we could or should, but we certainly knew how to pray for one another. Love and fellowship were evident in our interactions and shared work grounded in deep care for the spiritual wellbeing of the students, faculty and staff.”

Special events such as a screening of the locally made movie “Brothers in Buddha” and

the Chaplaincy Breakfast helped foster community spirit and bring awareness to the presence of a volunteer team committed to creating safe and supportive space for conversations about life’s biggest questions and challenges.

“Each week in the halls or common market I would meet students I had never met before who were in need of a conversation and help knowing God in the midst of their situation,” says Trussell. “Most didn’t know what a chaplain was or that NAIT had not one, but several, chaplains of many faiths.”

The amazing gift of the spiritual team at NAIT, he notes, is its shared commitment to offering love and care to the campus community. “It’s a microcosm of what I hope interfaith relationships can be citywide one day.”

Joining the NAIT Chaplaincy program in its second year, the Rev. Sarah Holmström, assistant priest at At Saints’ Cathedral, will endeavour to carry on the mission of the multi-



Sarah Holmstrom is the Anglican chaplain to NAIT. Photo: www.nait.ca

faith team. As the Anglican chaplain to NAIT Holmström will be on campus every Thursday, from 2-4:00 pm, and will also participate in NAIT events. She is looking forward to meeting students for coffee and a chat, and would eventually like to form a student group for fun and support in what, she says, is often a challenging environment for students of faith.

“I know that Rev. Sarah will be welcomed by the team and by the school and pray that she knows as rich a blessing as I have in sharing her faith with others,” says Trussell. “The work of the spiritual team was not to help students find a place in a church or synagogue or mosque (though sometimes we did), but to help them find the place for God in the midst of their own lives, during their studies and long after.”

For more information, email Sarah Holmström at SHolmstrom@NAIT.ca or visit the NAIT website at www.NAIT.ca/chaplaincy.

Keep debate fair - avoid slogans

Dear Editor:

As I read the various comments about the proposed change to the marriage canon, I get very tired of slogans like the word “phobia” being applied to one side.

Don’t dismiss the results of studies by saying the researchers have an “irrational fear.” When slogans like “being on the right side of history,” are applied, are we really having a debate?

The use of slogans and labels puts limits on our thinking. Too easily we think we hold the only correct assumptions. Just maybe, God is not distant and has something to say as a loving father to correct and guide His children.

This debate has been going on for more than 21 centuries. I hope we can hear what God is telling us. I hope we can be humble before a living and holy God who is very close to us. He gives us free will, but there are consequences to our choices. God is not a soft, old, senile teddy bear.

Maybe prayer and fasting are in order? May His will be done in us as it is in Heaven.

Adrian Crane, St. John the Evangelist, Edmonton

'Church is always young' chaplain looks to year ahead



Lutheran chaplain Richard Reimer, left, and Anglican chaplains Ruth Bott and Scott Sharman, back row center, with students at the annual chaplaincy dinner.

The Rev. Dr. SCOTT SHARMAN
Educational Chaplain

“The Church is always young.” As I look ahead to the 2016-17 academic year, this paraphrased line from a letter written by the Church Father Clement of Alexandria in the late 2nd Century, has particular meaning. What he meant by this, I think, was that the Church was always facing new people, new places, new situations, and new questions, and bringing the timeless message of the Gospel to bear in fresh ways.

As educational chaplain, I have the privilege of continuously experiencing the reality of Clement’s sentiment. It is a blessing to accompany each successive community of students in their journey as disciples of Christ at such a formative time; finding creative and inspiring ways to integrate faith into their studies, while working and living as men and women of faith have been doing for centuries.

In the last four years, I have seen members of our student community graduate and move on, and have welcomed many new people into our midst as they are just beginning their studies at the University of Alberta. As the face of our community changes and stays the same, so do the ministries operating in connection with the chaplaincy.

Season six of The Worship Room, our Sunday evening supper and eucharist service, kicked off in September. This fresh expression of Church seeks to draw on the great beauty and mystery of the ancient tradition while also finding ways to bring that message to life in light of the hopes and needs of people today. To start the year we will wrestle with some of Jesus’ strangest parables

and will seek to let them challenge us in our identities and assumptions. We meet every week at St. George’s parish, 11733-87 Avenue, Edmonton, at 6:00 pm for a simple soup supper. Worship begins at 7:00 pm. This is a community that is not just for U of A students but, increasingly, draws various students and young adults from various parts of the city. Everyone is always welcome!

Last year, upwards of 25-30 young adults came together at a pub on Whyte Ave. to explore the big questions of our time, discovering what happens when theology is added to the discussion mix. The monthly Pub Theology gatherings have touched on topics such as ecology, racial reconciliation, religious violence, sexuality and much more! Please join us the third Wednesday evening of each month in the basement of the Black Dog Freehouse, 10425-82 Avenue, beginning at 7:00 pm. The more the merrier!

In addition to the student ministries closely associated with the U of A community, we welcome opportunities to collaborate with the work of the new Anglican chaplain on the NAIT campus, the Rev. Sarah Holmstrom. We also continue to work on initiatives connecting us to things going on at other university and college campuses in the city.

It is encouraging to see students working collaboratively with the many ministries of our diocese. Young adults from a number of different parishes join us from time to time. Our two intentional Christian communities: Ascension House (based out of the parish of Christ Church, Edmonton) and St. Aidan’s House (associated with the parish of St. George’s by the U of A) provide another exciting avenue

for ministry to students and young adults. This fall we are welcoming a new group of 10-12 people into these houses to live together according to a rule of life and the teachings of Jesus as they study and work. The homes provide space for discernment and formation as young people figure out their direction in life and how to carry their faith with them as they go.

In the spring, PhD candidate Sarah Ficko, our diocese’s new Chaplain to the Environment, started a vegetable garden in the backyard of St. Aidan’s House. The garden grew like wild and the students plan to donate and sell the fruits of their labour to support the food bank and various organizations that feed the hungry.

A particular blessing to both of



Inset: Sarah Ficko and Felix Sharman plant the vegetable garden at St. Aidan’s House.

these communities is the opportunity to provide housing for three young Syrian refugees studying at the U of A. Our plans are in place for the 2016-17 academic term and God always provides a few pleasant surprises as well! Our educational chaplaincy team looks forward to another year in this important ministry of our Church, and we certainly appreciate your prayers.

Campus food and faith continued



Dominic Thompson

Continued from previous page. the U of A campus to NAIT, MacEwan University and other institutions. It includes members of the diocese’s two intentional Christian communities, St. Aidan’s House and Ascension House, as well as youth and young adult groups from the parishes of Holy Trinity, Christ Church and St. John the Evangelist, Edmonton, to name a few.

Prior to his arrival at the U of A in 2014 to pursue a Master of Science Degree in Chemical Engineering, Dominic Thompson studied at Cambridge in the UK. While Canada and the UK have many commonalities and share many traditions, he said adapting to life here was a “surprising” challenge. Limited cooking utensils and skills meant he dined on “the same old beef and vegetable stew and didn’t

eat well for those first few months.” Googling “Anglican churches in Edmonton,” he found St. George’s to be the closest.

“You can imagine my surprise, and my delight, when I realized they host a free, home-cooked meal for students every Sunday,” he said.

“I have found the community at St. George’s to be extremely welcoming, and they have given me the best impression of Canada. I would like to extend my thanks to Scott, Alex (Meek Sharman, rector of St. George’s), Sue (Oliver, former university chaplain), Ruth and the many others who, through their tireless, public-spirited endeavour, have helped new students such as myself settle in.”

This fall, students are invited to explore the mind-bending parables of Jesus at The Worship Room, a simple soup supper and student church, offered every Sunday evening, from 6-8:00 pm, at St. George’s by the U of A. Once a month, students are invited to ponder life’s big questions at The Black Dog Freehouse pub just off Whyte Avenue. Some of the discussion topics slated for the newest season of Pub Theology are: Sin, Corruption, and Redemption in the Church, Change in the Church and Division in the Church.

For more information about the educational chaplaincy and/or to donate online, visit anglicanstudentministry.ca

Missional script continues to unfold at Holy Trinity Anglican Church



SHELLY KING
Synod Office Staff

Every August, around 8,000 people visit Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Edmonton's Strathcona district as part of the Edmonton International Fringe Festival. This year, nine plays ran in three different spaces in the church: two downstairs and one right in the sanctuary.

Not only do members of the congregation work around all this activity, they make it happen. It takes 75-80 volunteers to run the Fringe at Holy Trinity. Ninety per cent are parishioners. The rest are from the community; people who come back every year because they like the atmosphere and appreciate the "family-friendly" plays.

Yet, the Fringe represents only 10 days' worth of a faithful commitment that fuels the mission of Holy Trinity. All year round, the parish props open its large red doors for theatre groups, musicians, poets, and visual artists who are welcome to use the inviting space for their creative endeavours. Some use space occasionally, perhaps for a one-off performance. Others are closely affiliated: rehearsals or performances bring them in on a weekly basis. Then there are those who are 'resident' in the church: a resident playwright, a string quartet, a curator – to name only three.

The result, according to parish administrator, Janette Chambers, is a "space that is alive and vibrant, not just a dead space where something happens only on Sunday."

Many of the artists who call Holy Trinity "home" echo Chambers' thoughts.

When Grindstone Theatre lost the use of its previous space, artistic director Byron Martin approached the church. He grew up in the area, went to Cubs and Scouts at HTAC and knew its reputation for supporting the arts. Now Grindstone is the church's resident improvisational theatre group, putting on productions throughout the year, as well as classes for adults. Martin says it is "unbelievable support. They've really fostered us and helped us to grow. It's refreshing. You don't get it that often."

Martin attends some services and has gotten to know parishioners.

Another company, Shadow Theatre, worked out of the church for 16 months while their own space, Varscona Theatre, was being rebuilt. It was just a little storage room shared with the choir, but Shadow's accounts manager, Coralie Cairns, loved it. "It was the sense of community," she says. "I worked late a lot and got a feel of what was going on in the church: everything from Girl Guides, to the ladies' knitting group, to bible studies. I would leave my door open just to listen

We felt embraced by this amazing community that sort of encompassed a wide range of different people and interests and brought them close. It's amazing what they've done; their outreach, how they're bringing people into the church.
Coralie Cairns, Shadow Theatre

and feel part of it. There was always music wafting down the hallway and theatre groups of all kinds constantly rehearsing. I tried to get to special services and we helped with the readings before Christmas. Even, personally, if I needed a quiet moment, I could just go into the church and sit."



Fringe-goers can come away from the noise and activity of the Fringe to enjoy a cup of tea and home-made scones in the Green Room Tea House.



Holy Trinity Playwright-in Residence David Belke (right) takes five with assistant curate Heather Liddell and the cast and crew of *The Hesitation Pitch*, one of nine shows performed at the church during the Fringe Festival.



From left: the clergy of Holy Trinity, including rector Chris Pappas, honorary assistant Robin Walker and assistant curate Heather Liddell, serve up free barbecued goodness during the Fringe. The Clergy Grill was initiated four years ago by Fr. Chris as a gesture of hospitality to audiences and performers.

Cairns says everyone in the arts community knows Holy Trinity.

Archdeacon Chris Pappas, Rector of Holy Trinity, sees the fruit of that. "People seek us out," he says. "They may not be people

who come on Sunday, but they consider this their church and often come to other events."

This is mission at work in Holy Trinity. "We have a ministry of hospitality to the arts community and that allows us also to give back to the community at large. It's all about building relationships. And the impact on the church family is a sense that we are growing and vibrant, vital, and having an impact. We know who we are, what we do, and that we matter."

A mutually uplifting relationship with the surrounding community sounds like every parish's dream, but Pappas says impactful mission is within reach of every church. He offers three pieces of advice:

1. When the Archdeacon for Congregational Development (which is Pappas) asks you to take the diocesan congregational assessment tool, do it! In order to get where you're going you need to understand where



you're starting from.

2. Take chances and experiment. Be willing to change what you do and how you do it for the sake of your mission.

3. Raise up and empower lay leaders. It's a group effort.

Pappas cautions that churches can't measure their missional success only on Sunday attendance or finances. Holy Trinity sees its influence reaching out in concentric rings, including those on the edge who are only 'vicariously connected' to the church.*

He also recommends patience. "It's a process - a good three years before you start seeing things happen".

There is encouragement, too, drawn from the experience of HTAC: "Once you start taking chances", Pappas says, "your mission has a way of building on itself."

Mission and ministry have been building through the arts at HTAC since the formation of the Trinity Players, the parish's own theatre group, more than 90 years ago. Look for their coming production of *The Music Man* next March or check the church's website at www.holytrinity.ab.ca to see all that is on offer from their partners in art.

**The Faith Development in Community Model, a visual model and theory developed by the Rt. Rev. Melissa Skelton, Bishop of New Westminster in BC.*

Drought-stricken Ethiopian farmers receive PWRDF aid



DOROTHY MARSHALL
PWRDF Representative

Fall is my favorite time of year, especially living in the country as I do. The air is crisp and the cooler nights have taken a large bite out of the mosquito population. The haying is done (finally!) and my focus turns to harvesting the bounty of the garden and putting it up for the winter. My neighbours, the grain farmers, are all running a marathon against the weatherman and the drone of their combines fills the air long into the night. With all the rain we have had this

year they are hoping for a bumper crop, and praying they will get it off dry.

Harvest is not such a rewarding experience for farmers in many parts of the world, especially those dealing with recent droughts in much of Africa. Amene Ahmed is one such farmer. He and his wife and two daughters live in Adele in the lowlands of Ethiopia. Amene farms one hectare (about 2.5 acres) of land.

While farmers in central Alberta look forward to excellent crops this year, Amene is not as fortunate. During an average growing season with sufficient rainfall he would expect to harvest 2,500 kg of wheat on his one hectare. This year he has harvested a disappointing 150 kg. This meagre yield follows a poor crop last season. For a Canadian farmer, these numbers are difficult to comprehend. (2500 kg of wheat per hectare is equivalent to 40 bushels per acre.) My neighbours

are hoping for close to 60 bushels per acre. The 150 kg of wheat per hectare that he has harvested this season amounts to little more than two bushels. Amene's entire harvest for this year would fit in a large wheelbarrow!

While El Nino weather conditions have produced more than ample precipitation in Alberta, (evidenced by the growing slug population in most gardens), at the same time Ethiopia is experiencing the worst drought in 30 years. According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 10 million people like Amene and his family are at risk of going hungry in Ethiopia this year. Livestock on the farms is also suffering because of a feed shortage due to the drought.

The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund is the outreach ministry of the Anglican Church of Canada. PWRDF is responding to this need



A Study in Contrast: Amene struggling to feed his cattle in drought-stricken Ethiopia; Colby Marshall's cattle foraging in the lush Battle River Valley.



in Ethiopia through its partners in the ACT Alliance with an initial grant of \$40,000 as part of a program to aid over 137,000 people with food, water, health care, agricultural and livestock production and more.

PWRDF will support a six-month program to provide 15 kg of maize per month to over 8,500 people in the Afar region, as well as feed for cattle and smaller livestock owned by the farmers. In addition to this life-saving food, ACT will help these farmers to restart their farming by providing seed, tools, animals and feed, and helping to rehabilitate local ponds to improve the water supply.

You can share some of your bounty and support PWRDF's relief efforts in Ethiopia. Donations can be made online at www.PWRDF.org or through your parish envelopes.

The PWRDF endeavors to be a vital part of the ministry of every Anglican parish in Canada. If you are interested in becoming a part of the network of parish reps. who work to share stories of the wonderful work of the PWRDF throughout the world, please talk to your rector or contact the diocesan Rep Dorothy Marshall by e-mail at camfarm@syban.net.

Red carpet hospitality for new Canadians

For one family of theatregoers, the sights and sounds of the Edmonton International Fringe Festival were especially exciting. Touring the festival grounds with Holy Trinity Anglican Church Assistant Curate the Rev. Heather Liddell was a family who had arrived in Canada from Lebanon at Christmastime.

On Christmas Eve, December 24, 2015, the Canadian Government approved the sponsorship application of Abdou and Anissa, two of their sons, a daughter-in-law and five grandchildren (five adults and five children). Another son and daughter-in-law, the parents of three of the children, are still trapped in Damascus and have not been heard from in many months.

Sponsored by HTAC, members of the family who had been refugees once



Holy Trinity Anglican Church Assistant Curate Heather Liddell takes Syrian refugees on a grand tour of the Edmonton Fringe.

before, having fled Palestine after the creation of Israel, specifically from Nazareth, arrived in Canada in February and moved up to Fort McMurray. When they were displaced by wildfire in May and relocated to north Edmonton, they were met at the airport by members of Holy Trinity.

They have since returned to Fort McMurray, but visit their sponsor parish every chance they get. During the summer, they attended the Messy Fringe Picnic, were given a tour of the main Fringe grounds by Liddell and attended two of the productions at HTAC, *Hairy*

Tale Rock and *Cavalleria Rusticana*.

Holy Trinity's Refugee Committee has since helped the family connect to translators through the university and register the kids for school, says rector the Ven. Chris Pappas. The parish has helped the family

out with a computer, iPad and household furnishings. With the assistance of CBC Edmonton AM Host Mark Connolly, husband of Alyson Connolly, a regular producer at HTAC, they are also helping the adults find employment. Connolly's brother owns a restaurant and hires refugees with little or no English skills.

"We are actively helping them adjust to life here and to acclimate," says Pappas, adding that the parish is trying to keep the family from falling through society's cracks.

"They were not receiving the full amount of their child benefits, some of their Permanent Resident cards were lost because of the fire (mail never arrived) and others did not receive ID cards. It has been a very busy time and we have built a strong relationship with them," he says.

IWP Continued

Continued from front.

The workers came from a wide variety of faith traditions: Christian (Catholic, Orthodox, Protestant), Indigenous, Jewish, Mormon, Muslim, and Unitarian. The Buddhist and Sikh communities were represented at the kick-off and wrap-up as well, where speakers from several faith groups gave their perspective on the work.

Bob McKeon, the former Coordinator of the Capital Region Housing Initiative, reminded the crowd at the wrap-up of the project's origins; how, as the number of homeless in Edmonton started to shoot up around 2007, faith communities were challenged to do something, taking the lead on the development of a 10-year plan to tackle homelessness.

Plans are already underway for an expanded IWP in 2017.

Avenue churches welcome 500 neighbours to 3-day festival

The Rev. Arthur Dyck
St. Faith's, Edmonton

Alberta Avenue was alive with the sound of delighted children and adults on Canada Day weekend. The second annual AveFest, an open crowd community festival, brought together more than 500 children and adults for activities and games intended to introduce neighbours to one another through cooperation and play. The tug-of-war was an example of how people pulling together can accomplish much more than we can do individually.

AveFest continues a legacy of Avenue churches working together to meet the needs of the community and celebrating the simple joy of being together. With the guidance of Fusion Canada, the festival was produced by the Rev. Arthur Dyck, St. Faith's Anglican Church Community Liaison, the Rev. Aaron Au, pastor of the Avenue Church

and Verity Russell of the Edmonton Community Crossroads Church. Volunteers also included members of the Avenue Vineyard Church.

On Sunday, July 3, all came together for a joint worship service. A band comprised of members from each of the churches kicked off worship in the Alberta Avenue

Community Centre. Then, under threatening skies, we moved out into the green space at 118 Avenue and 92 Street to hear a message from Pastor Wayne Thomas, Avenue Vineyard Church. Communion was celebrated by the Rev. Canon Travis Enright, rector of St. Faith's Anglican Church, assisted by the Rev. Dyck.



More than 500 people attended the second annual AveFest, hosted by Alberta Avenue churches on the Canada Day Long Weekend. Above, organizer Arthur Dyck (in red ball cap), community Liaison for St. Faith's Anglican Church, participates in the parachute game, one of many free activities designed to promote community spirit.



Immanuel Heart Garden living memorial to indigenous children

FIONA BROWNLEE
Aboriginal and Rural
Communities Liaison
Diocese of Edmonton

In the spring of 2015, the indigenous ministry reconciliation team at Immanuel, Wetaskiwin planted a garden and placed hearts among the flowers to remember the children who went to Indian Residential Schools, in particular, those who did not return.

This year our team, as well as children and their families, gathered

once more at Immanuel to learn about Indian Residential Schools, decorate rocks and plant the garden which will continue as a living memorial.

As a community committed to the reconciliation of indigenous and settler folk, about 40 of us painted memorial stones to be placed in the church garden and our gardens at home. The Rev. Hugh Matheson gathered the children together and told them a story about Beaver, Coyote and the People of the Land, especially their children.

Later, one youngster told her great-grandmother: "That was a sad story. Some of the children didn't get to come home to their families."

We added to our community garden an art installation: an iron circle comprised of four quadrants, sculpted by Kyle Nicloux. We planted bleeding heart, sage, mint and lavender perennials in the spirit of healing. The plants grow and bloom as a living sign of reconciliation.



Bird's Eye View of Cold Lake Parish

The Ven. Alan Perry, executive archdeacon of the Edmonton diocese, made a memorable visit to the northeastern corner of the diocese on the weekend of August 6-7. While in Cold Lake to conduct a wedding and preside at the Sunday service at St. John the Evangelist Church, the aviation enthusiast was given a bird's-eye view of the region.

The Rev. Donna Gauthier offered to take Perry flying in her private plane, a Piper PA 24 (Comanche). Deacon-in-charge of



St. John's, Gauthier has had her Private Pilot License since January 2008. She shares her passion for flying with her husband Ken, also a private pilot. In fact, the couple met at the Edmonton Flying Club in 1992.



Ordained to the diaconate at All Saints' Anglican Cathedral on May 1, 2016, Gauthier's dream is to obtain her commercial license and aerobatic rating one day. She has loved airplanes from a very young age.

Tea Party



The ladies of St. Philip's Anglican church hosted an Old Fashioned Tea Party in appreciation of church members from the Westlock community who help at the Bissell Centre with the Inner City Pastoral Ministry (ICPM). More than 60 ladies attired in their hats and finery came to the party, raising nearly \$400 in free-will donations for the local food bank.