

Crosstalk

THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF OTTAWA | SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL | MAY 2024

PHOTOS: THE REV. GILLIAN HOYER AND THE REV. MATTHEW BROWN



Lily's enthusiasm for tree planting is a hopeful example for all in this era of rising temperatures and spreading fires. Coached by her mother the Rev. Gillian Hoyer and brother Thomas, she learns how to tend the new tree growing in Pembroke. Read about the PWRDF initiative Branches of Hope and the opportunity to plant your own tree and make a difference globally on p. 8.

Diocese celebrates success creating more than 150 affordable housing units

BY DAVID HUMPHREYS

The Anglican Diocese of Ottawa is celebrating the success of its 125th anniversary campaign to create 125 new deeply affordable housing units.

Three projects scheduled to open officially in April – Hollyer House at Christ Church Bells Corners, Cornerstone Housing for Women's Eccles Street residence and Carebridge Community Support's residence in Smiths Falls – represent 109 units.

When combined with the 42 units at Cornerstone's Princeton Avenue residence which opened in 2018 a total of 151 units have been completed. And many more are in various stages of development.

In a related cause for celebration, Cornerstone, an Anglican Community Ministry, announced that it was moving its crowded and challenging emergency shelter on O'Connor Street to Carling Avenue at the end of April. The new accessible location increases capacity 145 per cent, from 61 to 150 beds.

Other projects in the 125th anniversary campaign are progressing well. The extension at Ellwood House, affiliated with St. Thomas the Apostle in Alta Vista, Julian of Norwich's Anchor project in Nepean and the proposed residence in Perth supported by St. James the Apostle are expected to add more than 100 units, for a grand total in

the neighbourhood of 260. Bishop Shane Parker said that, having reached the initial goal, "we need to restate our commitment to doing our part to increase the stock of affordable housing."

He said the Homelessness and Affordable Housing Working Group (HAHWG) is working with him to define a new affordable housing strategy, to be adopted by Synod this fall. In the meantime, he said, parishes continue to seek out opportunities to support new affordable housing initiatives in their local communities.

The bishop pointed out that in our baptismal covenant we vow to seek and serve Christ in all persons, to strive for justice and peace among

all people, and to respect the dignity of every human being.

"This is clearly intended to be accompanied by meaningful action. We know about the intensification of need and danger on the streets of our diocese. The opioid crisis is a very real part of the distress on our streets, and the housing crisis is a major contributing factor."

Sue Garvey, HAHWG chair, expressed the hope that the strong support and energy displayed to date will carry forward into the future.

"It is truly inspiring to have been part of this incredibly ambitious goal, through the collective efforts of people and parishes all across our diocese," she said.

► **Housing projects, p. 4**

FROM OUR BISHOP

The path forward as we change, learn and thrive

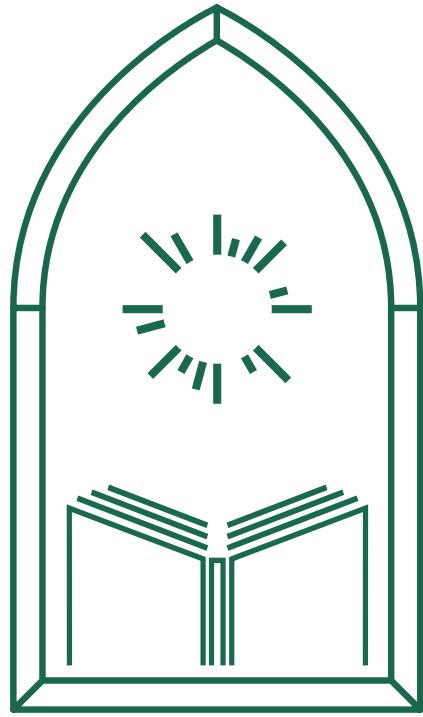


BY THE RIGHT REVEREND SHANE PARKER

I have written before of how the people and clergy of our diocesan church joined me in a three-year long journey of honestly assessing where we are at, and of carefully and collaboratively discerning what God is calling us to do. The infographic accompanying this column on page 3 summarizes where that journey has led us.

The top of the infographic shows the path we took during the 2020-23 Shape of Parish Ministry Consultation (SPMC)—from hearing how our parishes are challenged by volunteer fatigue, property and administrative responsibilities, finances, aging congregations, and evangelism. We worked hard together as the people, clergy, and bishop of our diocese to listen, respond, discern, shape, revise, and propose what we believe God is calling us to do at this time. We drafted three action-oriented proposals designed to strengthen and nurture parish ministry, and to find a better way to engage with the world—in rural areas, villages, towns, and cities.

We gave overwhelming support to these proposals. We said we



ADO Learning Commons

are ready to step away from being changed to guiding change, so we can share the Gospel of Christ's love and healing power from a place of strength and hope. We said we want to consolidate our overall parish ministry structure and the operations that support it in order to have well-resourced churches. We said we want lay leaders across our diocese to be well-supported and well-equipped to share in robust parish ministries. We said we want to learn how to share the love of God in an age where many are very wary of religion.

We said we want to change and thrive.

As we move forward, we will

reframe our three-year budget cycle as a triennium period within which we seek to achieve certain planned results. As you can see on the infographic, we are in year one of the Triennium 2024-2026—and the SPMC and its Eleven Actions have led us to spell out 6 Results we want to achieve. We have budgeted to do this and we have expressed our will to do this: now we will do it!

The infographic shows each of the 6 Results and who is responsible for setting up the means to achieve them. Results 1, 2 and 3 are largely the responsibility of myself and the staff of Ascension House. Result 1 will involve focusing on developing our central resources so we can continue to offset or cover the costs of our shared operations and staffing—leaving more money in parishes. Just as every one of our parishes must seek to engage in effective financial stewardship and develop three streams of revenue from offerings, property, and investments, we, as a diocesan church, must do the same.

Result 2 is already manifest in the ready and able service provided to parish leaders by the directors and staff of our communications & development, financial ministry, human resources, and property & asset management departments. We are blessed with very capable people serving our parish lay leaders and clergy from Ascension House.

Result 3 is also happening in the number of conversations I have with parishes facing major changes. I am always ready to meet with parish leaders to discuss options. Soon we will hear more about the work of the Innovation & Collaboration Panel as they consider specific ways for us to work together in order to

serve with greater impact.

You can see in the infographic that Results 4, 5, and 6 will be addressed by the new ADO Learning Commons—which will be managed by the Education Committee of Diocesan Council. The Learning Commons (LC) will be a critical driver of change during the next triennium—and long afterwards, as we must keep informed and always ensure that successive generations of clergy and lay leaders learn how to do the work of parish ministry.

The LC will achieve Results 4, 5 and 6 through four distinct thrusts: a) parish leaders and clergy will receive training and learning opportunities in order to effectively administer their parishes; b) parish councils will receive development modules that will provide practical instruction on all essential aspects of parish ministry; c) resource hubs and knowledge networks will gather and share resources, expertise and knowledge for parish clergy and laity; and d) we will learn how to practice contextual mission as we engage with the world.

This triennium will be significant in the life of our diocesan church as we seek to implement and firmly embed all we carefully discerned and overwhelmingly agreed to during the last three years. We listened to one another and sought the guidance of the Holy Spirit, and we have done our best to bring it all into clear actions and desired results. We must continue to be disciplined and focused and encourage everyone to engage in the Learning Commons activities. God has shown us what we need to do to guide change and thrive, so let's do it together!

CLERGY NEWS



Le révérend chanoine Kevin Flynn a été nommé titulaire (mi-temps) de la paroisse de St-Bernard de Clairvaux, à compter du 1er mai 2024.



Liana Gallant has been appointed as Pastoral Associate (diaconal) at St. James Perth, effective May 30, 2024. She will be ordained on May 26 at Christ Church Cathedral.



The Rev. John Holgate has been appointed Incumbent of the parish of St. James Manotick, effective July 30, 2024.



Karen McBride has been appointed Deacon-in-Charge of the parish of Julian of Norwich, effective May 30, 2024. She will be ordained on May 26 at Christ Church Cathedral.



The Rev. Dr. Alana McCord has been appointed Regional Dean of West Ottawa, effective March 20, 2024.



PRIORITIES for the TRIENNIUM 2024 - 2026

Results we aim to reach to guide change & thrive

RESULT 1

Less reliance on parish revenues to fund operating budget of our diocese.

Communications & Development Financial Ministry | Bishop's Office

RESULT 2

Diocesan staff will provide increased assistance & support to parish leaders.

Ascension House Directors & Staff

RESULT 3

Our Bishop will provide guidance to parishes facing major changes & will promote innovation & collaboration.

Bishop and Innovation & Collaboration Panel



RESULT 4

Parish leaders will receive more training & learning opportunities & there will be a clear understanding of how parishes operate.

Ascension House Directors & Staff

RESULT 6

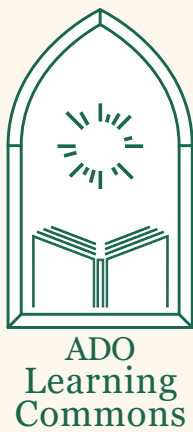
We will learn how to practice contextual mission as we engage with the world & establish new worshipping communities.

Contextual Mission Subcommittee

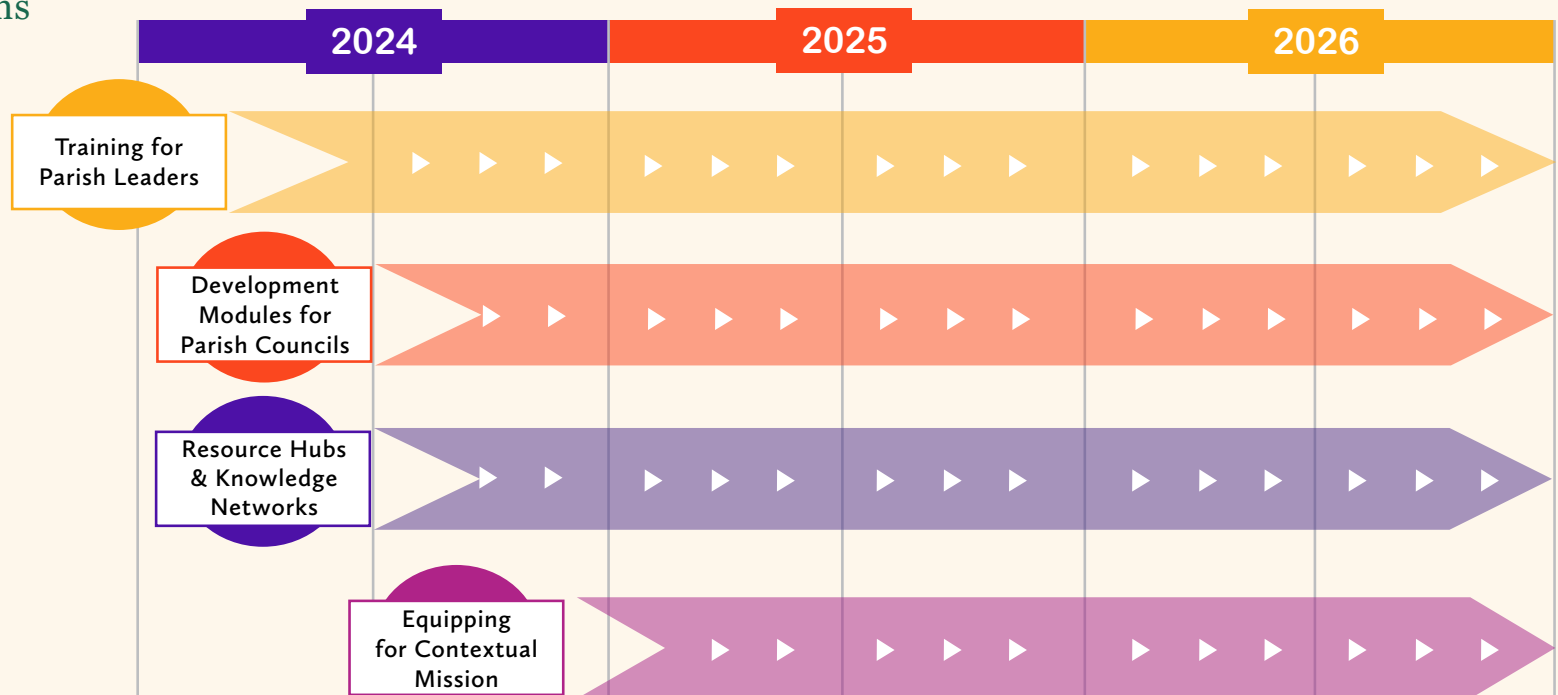
RESULT 5

Resource Hubs, Knowledge Networks, & Program for Parish Development will provide resources & practical instruction on all essential aspects of parish ministry.

Parish Development Subcommittee
Resource Hub Coordinator



Learning Commons Activity Timeline in this Triennium



Three housing projects opening with more to come

► from p.1

Hollyer House

The official opening of Hollyer House at Christ Church Bells Corners (CCBC) was scheduled for April 19. In addition to its 35 housing units, Hollyer is a community hub, the new home of the FAMSAC Food Cupboard and the Western Ottawa Community Resource Centre. The project grew out of the initiative of individuals at CCBC who saw the potential of reimagining its rectory property, and a modest bequest of John Hollyer that became seed funding. Fundraising to complete the financing continues. The campaign has passed the \$1.2 million mark. www.hollyerhouse.ca

The Rev Canon P.J. Hobbs, director general of the Anglican Community Ministries, who worked with the parish for most of the development period, said: "It will be a joy to watch how it contributes to the fabric of the community and to the lives of those who will call it home."

Eccles Street Residence

Cornerstone's 44 Eccles St. residence was scheduled to open on April 22, providing 46 units of supportive affordable housing. Thirty per cent of the units are dedicated for Indigenous use and 12 units will be fully accessible. www.cornerstonewomen.ca

The residence could not have come at a better time, Kate Jackson, interim executive director, said. Cornerstone has been experiencing a negative post-pandemic impact on its shelter and housing services.

"Since 2022 more than 1200 women became homeless, and there aren't enough housing options available for people who need 24-hour staffing support and access to health care and social services."

Cornerstone's fundraising goal is \$1.5 million, with \$350,000 left to go.



Hollyer House, brand new purpose-built affordable housing, seen from the lychgate at Christ Church Bells Corners.

PHOTO: THE REV. MONIQUE STONE

PHOTO: BRAD HAMMOND



FAMSAC Food Cupboard volunteers sort meals at Hollyer House.

Smiths Falls Carebridge

St. John the Evangelist's \$500,000 donation allowed Carebridge Community Support to proceed with its 28-unit project in Smiths Falls. The residence at 44 Chambers Street, opened in April.

Tammy Mulrooney, who is St. John's representative on the

project management team, said the congregation is excited to see the project completed. "We have been fortunate to receive financial gifts to share with the community for this much needed housing initiative. As disciples of Jesus, we hope that we can continue to support the needs of the community." www.carebridge.ca

Ellwood House Extension

The Ellwood House extension at St. Thomas the Apostle has completed the extension planning process required to create 38 more units. Ellwood has made effective use of pre-development funding from the City, CMHC, the Federation of Canadian Municipalities and the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa. The funds allow Ellwood to complete requirements for Site Plan approval and to advance the architectural design toward building permit drawings, bringing the project closer to being "shovel ready." www.ellwoodhouse.ca

The Anchor at Julian of Norwich

Julian of Norwich is proceeding with plans for The Anchor, a collaborative project with Multifaith Housing Initiative (MHI) and the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa. It envisages redevelopment of a two-and-a-half acre site at Merivale Road and Withrow Avenue for a building with approximately 57 affordable apartments as well as townhouses, a community gathering space and gardens. The hope is to have the project ready for funding by the end of this year. <https://julianofnorwichottawa.ca>

St. James the Apostle Perth

St. James the Apostle Perth, through Community Housing Initiative Perth (CHIP) has filed a proposal to create 10 to 12 units of affordable housing on town-owned land in downtown Perth. The project is in partnership with Carebridge Community Support, with extensive affordable housing experience in Lanark County, as owner and developer. www.stjamesperth.ca

Princeton Avenue

The opening of 42 supportive units at Cornerstone Housing for Women's Princeton Avenue residence provided the first milestone for the 125th anniversary project. (www.cornerstonewomen.ca)



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Crosstalk acknowledges that we publish on traditional Anishinàbeg Algonquin territory. We recognize the Algonquins as the customary keepers and defenders of the Ottawa River Watershed and its tributaries.

Bishop urges federal government to do more

PHOTOS: LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS

BY DAVID HUMPHREYS

Bishop Shane Parker has asked the federal government to do more to combat homelessness and the shortage of affordable housing.

In a letter to Housing Minister Sean Fraser, the bishop commends the government for measures it has already taken but says it is critical to better target individuals and families in greatest need.

He urges the government to implement all 10 recommendations of the National Housing Accord, which has been endorsed by the Diocese's Homelessness and Affordable Housing Working Group and 75 other organizations. These include Cahdco, the Ottawa non-profit developer, with which the Diocese has worked closely.

The Accord was drawn up last year by a group of housing experts from the private and non-profit sectors, including investors, developers, owners and policy specialists. The organizers have established a website— www.nationalhousingaccord.ca —as a means of expanding support.

Replying for the minister, Kris Johnson, director general of the homelessness policy directorate, praised the work of the Diocese and said the government is committed to working with stakeholders to support the most vulnerable.

The bishop's letter links to a report that shows how the Accord's recommendations could benefit projects supported by the Diocese



Cornerstone Housing for Women announced that this building at 2980 Carling Ave. is to be transformed into a 150-bed shelter.



Cornerstone board members Peter Martin and Mary Laidlaw raising awareness and funds in the lobby at IKEA.

that are in various stages of development.

Hollyer House at Christ Church Bells Corners, scheduled to open

officially on April 19, would have benefitted by a saving of \$525,000 if the GST/HST on purpose-built rental housing had been eliminated

as recommended by the Accord.

The federal government did fully remove the Goods and Services Tax (GST), and the Ontario government eliminated the provincial portion of the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST), but both came too late to benefit Hollyer House.

Hollyer's fundraising campaign to raise \$1.6 million is close to the \$1.2 million mark, a shortfall that would have been more than covered if the GST/HST elimination had been in place.

Cornerstone Housing for Women's residence at 44 Eccles Street, scheduled to open on April 22, is described as a prime example of a project that could have benefitted from a property acquisition program as proposed in the Accord.

The building, converted from previous office and school use into 44 affordable studio apartments, received federal funding from the Rapid Housing Initiative. But the Accord points out that Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) promotes new construction rather than acquisition.

The extension to add 38 units at Ellwood House, affiliated with St Thomas the Apostle, could benefit immediately from the Accord's recommendation for increased funding of deeply affordable and seniors housing. The Ellwood project is progressing well, but it will need capital funding of \$12.5 million to become viable.

A TRIBUTE TO MUSICALS

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7:30 PM

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Fundraising for:

HOLLYER
HOUSE

Building
Affordable Housing and
a Community Resource Hub
in Ottawa West End

PARISH NEWS

Jazz fundraiser returns to St. Matthew's on May 11

BY MARGRET BRADY
NANKIVELL

On the afternoon of Saturday, May 11, St. Matthew's Anglican Church in the Glebe will be filled with the sultry sounds of Ottawa jazz singer Diane Nalini as its popular Jazz & Tapas fundraising event returns.

Nalini began singing at age three and will perform with her husband and bassist Adrian Cho, who is the founder and artistic director of the Ottawa Jazz Orchestra (OJO). A teacher with Carleton University's Learning in Retirement/Lifelong Learning program since 2011, Cho has been dubbed a "cool guide to hot jazz" by the *Ottawa Citizen*. He is also an accomplished wildlife photographer.

Singing and writing in four languages, Nalini has performed at the Montreal Jazz Festival and released several acclaimed albums. In Ottawa, she sometimes sings at the National Arts Centre's Fourth Stage with the OJO. She has also given gala performances for former U.S. President Bill Clinton and Sir Paul McCartney.

Joining Nalini and Cho for the church event will be Mike Tremblay, a superb saxophonist



Ottawa jazz singer Diane Nalini and bassist Adrian Cho have performed at the Montreal Jazz Festival.

who often performs with the National Arts Centre Orchestra and is co-founder and director of the Carleton University Jazz Camp. His performance credits include Natalie Cole, Alanis Morissette and Lou Rawls.

The intimate Jazz & Tapas event will be held at the back of the church from 4 pm to 6 pm, a space with excellent acoustics. It is sponsored by Amica The Glebe which will also provide some tapas

such as marinated lobster caps, duck confit spring rolls and caramelized brie and pear.

A delicious range of nibblies will be served including donations from local restaurants and food merchants. The last event received contributions from Flipper's Seafood Restaurant, Von's Bistro, Café Morala (now Happy Goat Coffee Co.), Erling's, Irene's Pub and Light of India.

Tickets will include food,

entertainment and non-alcoholic beverages. A complimentary glass of wine or beer is included in the adult ticket price. There will also be a small silent-auction table.

After the last event in 2018, many guests offered enthusiastic compliments on the food and the décor, noting the nightclub ambiance with black table cloths, red napkins and candles. "A resounding success all round, music, food, community and ambience," one of them said.

Half of the proceeds will go to the Black Canadian Scholarship Fund (BCSF) administered by the Ottawa Community Foundation. Since 1998, the fund has provided bursaries for first-year university students who have graduated from Ottawa area high schools. Last year four scholarships of \$6,000 each were awarded.

Tickets can be purchased through St. Matthew's online boutique. (auctria.events/stmatthewsboutique.com) Adults: \$60, Students, (not including alcoholic beverages): \$40. Saturday, May 11, 4 to 6 pm, St. Matthew's, 130 Glebe Ave. entrance, just west of Bank St.



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If you or a loved one are concerned about spending the colder months at home, consider a winter stay at Amica The Glebe. Here, you won't have to worry about the challenges that come with winter. Instead, you'll enjoy the comfort and connection of a caring community of seniors, while staying in a private suite with access to premium amenities and professional, personalized care.

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To learn more about a winter stay or to book a private tour, call LA or Luisa at 613-233-6363

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St. Helen's Fine Art Fair supports local artists and an international cause on June 1

BY BRIAN GLENN

For its fourth annual Fine Art Fair on June 1, St. Helen's parish is once again giving local artists a venue to show and sell their art and donating a portion of the proceeds to people in need.

St. Helen's Fine Art Fair originated in 2020 as a spring counterpoint to the church's very successful fall craft sale. The aim was to showcase local artists from the east end of Ottawa to the wider Orleans community. That first year's effort was, unfortunately, cancelled at the last moment, with 15 guest artists planning to participate, due to the onset of COVID-19. Undeterred, the 2021 fair successfully ran as an online sales event and the following two years continued that success with full in-person sales events. Among the contributing artists, there has always been a contingent of three or four parishioners showcasing their captivating artwork.

Unlike other fundraising activities, St. Helen's retains only a 20 percent commission on sales, the rest will go directly to the artists, which, last year resulted them taking home in excess of \$3,600. The balance, together with basic entry fees, has typically allowed St. Helen's ministry to donate about \$1,200 to one of our Diocese's programs. One year the donation was in support of Ukraine refugees, another year in support of Hollyer House, and last year in support of the Diocese's general homeless ministry. For 2024, St. Helen's Community Partnership



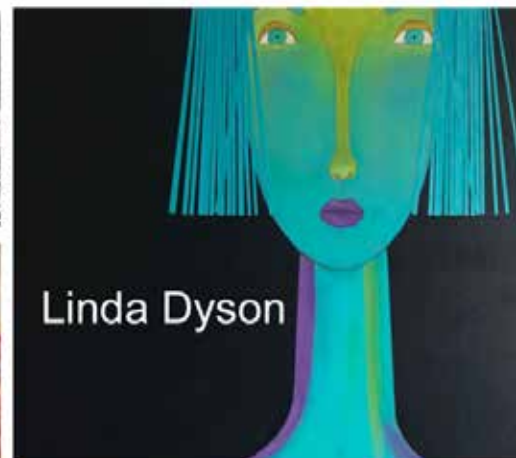
Jane Cass



Hélène Lepage



Peter Lackey



Linda Dyson



Clayton Knowlton



Peter Waddell

Caroline Daevy, an award-winning artist, offering her traditional and abstract oils; Carole Renaud with her bold, rich and dramatic paintings; Elisabeth Baechlin whose creations are inspired by nature; Hélène Lepage, an award-winning painter whose focus is on strong colours on a variety of media; Mary Douglas with her exceptionally colourful watercolours; Andrée Marchessault, presenting her paint studies of some renowned artists; Jane Cass with her very striking landscape photography; Peter Waddell with his innovative wood bowls and trinket boxes; and Clayton Knowlton recognized for his whimsical box sculptures.

You can view the galleries of these artists on our web page (www.sthelensartfair.ca) and follow the progress of the art fair on our Facebook and Instagram pages (www.facebook.com/sthelensartfair and [@sthelens.artfair](https://www.instagram.com/sthelensartfair))

If you are an artist looking to exhibit your work for the first time or an experienced gallery artist, the art fair still has room for you. For more information, please contact Brian Glenn, Art Fair Coordinator, at sthelensartfair@gmail.com.

The fair will be held on Saturday, June 1, between 10 am and 3 pm at St. Helen's Anglican Church, 1234 Prestone Dr., Orleans.

Committee (formerly Outreach) has requested that this year's donation go to support the flood victims in Pakistan.

Two artists who have been very successful the past few years are venturing into new creative endeavours: Brenda Reid is further exploring her Indigenous roots with some traditional animal sculptures, and Joanne Lacroix is venturing beyond her imaginative pyrography

and discovering her talents with fused glass.

Joining us this year is Lynda Dyson who will be enticing us with her abstract figures in mixed media and after two years away, Peter Lackey is returning with his inspired stained-glass art.

Other artists contributing the fair this year are: Jill McKinlay, an RA Camera Club winner with her dazzling flower photography;

Diocesan Canons, Bylaws and Regulations updated and online

BY LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS

Anyone who has a question about the Canons, Bylaws and Regulations (CBR) of the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa should now be able to find the answer by doing a keyword search of a newly consolidated and updated version of the CBRs available online on the diocesan website.

That is thanks to the work of Canon Henry Schultz, who was tasked with preparing an updated and consolidated version when he was appointed Chancellor for the diocese four years ago, and a couple of other key contributors.

One of the challenges of this task was that the last time the CBRs were consolidated and printed was in 2012. That meant that all of the amendments made from 2012 to 2019 were recorded on additional pages but they weren't integrated into the relevant sections of the CBRs.



PHOTO: THE VEN. CHRIS DUNN

Chancellor Henry Schultz

So, the first challenge was to cross-check all of the amendments with the records of the Diocesan Council meetings and Synods in which they were made to make sure they were correct. "I had to .. make sure that the changes that we were putting into the consolidated version were consistent with

the original enactments made in previous years....It's tedious but necessary work," Schultz said.

The next challenge was a technical one. The master digital copy from 2012 was in WordPerfect format, which had to be converted to the now standard format Word document. The technical process for converting one format to the other didn't really work, so Schultz turned to Ed Hicks, a former colleague at the Department of Justice, to clean it up and turn it into a readable format. "It was yeoman's work," Schultz says with much gratitude.

Regina Silva, ADO digital communications coordinator, worked on the final version, producing a table of contents, and searchable HTML and PDF versions to be posted on the website.

The CBRs are ever-changing, said Schultz, but now that the new consolidated version is online, it can

be updated each year after Synod and he hopes no one will be faced with a monumental task of updating cumulative years of amendments again.

"I guess it's a reflection on me that I tend to like things nice and tidy, so ... I feel a tremendous satisfaction that .. our own internal rules are now at least up to date and readable, and that's really important for an organization like ours."

"We do have a couple of CBRs that are a little bit anachronistic," Schultz observed. He noted with his familiar wit that the canon regarding the authority of Incumbents, which states that their responsibilities include the ringing of the bell, should remain. "I've made it clear, that's one change I refuse to make," he quipped.

The CBRs may be viewed online at ottawa.anglican.ca/resources/canons-bylaws-and-regulations-cbr/

Cathedral Labyrinth Guild explores ways to reconnect to the natural world

BY ROXANNE DELMAGE AND DIANE PERAZZO

The Work that Reconnects is an inspiring process developed by Joanna Macy and her colleagues to help empower people and bring them into a stronger relationship with the Earth. Over the past several months, the Cathedral Labyrinth Guild has been working with this model as a resource to build community activism in recognition that we are stronger together.

In November 2023, Guild members attended an in-house workshop to study the process and to facilitate the remembrance of the connection between who we are within the greater body of Earth and our role in an ecosystem of healing. The workshop was led by Robin MacDonald a facilitator, who works within the realms of social justice, earth care, as well as spiritual and mental health.

In March, the Guild delved even deeper during two online book club

sessions to explore Joanna Macy and Molly Brown's book *Coming Back to Life: The Updated Guide to the Work that Reconnects*, which describes the work of reconnecting, or deep ecology, "as a body of work and teachings to move from ecological apathy and grief to social healing and collective thriving."

There is no doubt that the labyrinth can be helpful to provide a framework for working through difficult realities such as climate change. Walking the labyrinth provides time for a releasing, reflecting and gaining new perspectives. Macy and Brown's book could be considered as a guidebook to do the spiritual work of reclaiming our humanity here on Planet Earth. It explores our relationship with the natural world, and indeed how we are part of the natural world. It also asks how one can work through apathy and hopelessness to a place of synergic power. The role of spirituality is explored in terms of our oneness

with the Earth.

Joanna Macy calls upon her five decades of activism to share her experience for this work. Molly Brown's family moved to Los Alamos shortly after the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. She reflects on the banality of evil and the assumptions of scientific and military culture.

The Work that Reconnects is presented as a spiral with four stages: 1) Gratitude; 2) Honoring our pain; 3) Seeing with new and ancient eyes; and 4) Going forth. (see image, above right).

I appreciated the many examples of practices shared in the book which were unique ways to integrate the work in a practical way. For example, the practice of inviting representatives from different life forms such as a bird, a river, and a fish to speak as part of a 'Council of Beings' to humanity, brings a powerful message of interconnectedness. This book is a rich resource which one could



ILLUSTRATION BY DORI MIDNIGHT

potentially use to engage with reconnection on an ongoing basis.

On May 11, 2024, the Labyrinth Guild is working with Robin MacDonald once again to host a public workshop entitled *Stepping Forward for Earth*. This retreat-style half-day workshop is designed to facilitate remembrance of the connection between who we are with the greater body of Earth and help clarify your role in an ecosystem of healing. Space is limited so register early. More information can be found on the Christ Church Cathedral website's listing of upcoming events: <https://www.ottawacathedral.ca/events/stepping-forward-for-earth-a-labyrinth-event/2024-05-11>

Branches of Hope

Greening the diocese and supporting a PWRDF partner in Uganda

BY JANET ALLINGHAM

The Anglican Diocese of Ottawa's Branches of Hope project recently moved into action mode when the local working group of the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) began to receive orders for hundreds of young trees that will be distributed throughout the diocese.

Branches of Hope is an "offshoot" of the Communion Forest, a global initiative to plant trees, as well

as conserve, protect and restore ecosystems throughout the Anglican Communion, launched at the 2022 Lambeth Conference. (www.comunionforest.org)

This work began in our diocese when the PWRDF Working Group accepted the challenge of its chair, the Ven. Patrick Stephens, to work toward Lambeth's goal to "renew the life of the earth across the Anglican Communion and beyond."

A generous donation from Christ Church Cathedral enabled the

working group to purchase locally grown tree seedlings—red maple and black spruce—that they will distribute to individuals, families, parishes and community groups. Planting trees here in the diocese of Ottawa will improve the health of communities for years to come.

Branches of Hope also has an international goal in Uganda, where industrialization, wars and wetland destruction have contributed to flooding and soil degradation. Recipients of young trees here in the

diocese are encouraged to donate \$10 per seedling to support this important work.

PWRDF partner Josephine Kizza visited our diocesan Synod in 2023 and explained that she and her family have operated St. Jude Family Projects in Masaka since the 1980s. Today, recognized internationally, the farm attracts students from around the world who are learning the principles of soil conservation and restoration. Tree-planting is also part of the curriculum.

You don't need to own land to receive a tree: trees make excellent gifts. A tree might mark an occasion like a birthday, the arrival of a grandchild, an anniversary or honour the life of a loved one. Some municipalities might also accept seedlings to plant in parks or other green spaces.

PWRDF has been responding to emergency situations and supporting development projects in Canada and around the world for more than 60 years.

To order a tree or trees please contact the Ven. Patrick Stephens (thereverendpatrickstephens@gmail.com) to indicate your preference for either maple or spruce seedling(s) and arrange for delivery.

Donations can be made directly to PWRDF at: pwrdf.org/branchesofhope



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A new website for the OPC

The OPC is excited about the engaging look and feel of our new website. People often seek counselling during difficult moments in their lives. With this in mind, we sought to make this new site intuitive, uncomplicated, and easy to navigate, making it simple to find what is wanted quickly and easily. We think this new website showcases the OPC for who we are: a current, vibrant, positive place with therapists who care and are ready to support those who seek our services. So, please consider this your personal invitation to check us out! Get to know who we are and what we offer.

—Heather Fawcett

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CLERGY REFLECTION

Creating fields of love and new life as followers of Jesus

BY THE REV. VICTORIA SCOTT

The hall at the Church of the Ascension (pictured below) is a testament to my love of things green and growing. The whisper of ferns, the leaves and blooms of hibiscus, trails of ivy and tradescantia: these things remind me of the potential and possibility for growth that is in us, and in our world.

I've got a passion for germinating seeds. Grapefruit, lemon, orange, avocado, mango. When I see a pale little grapefruit seed or hold a smooth brown avocado pit in my hand, I am reminded that so often what looks like nothing much has the potential to be so much more. As I bury those seeds in pots of earth, I pause in the hope that in the darkness of that earth—where I can't see what's happening—roots will sink down, and shoots will spring up. Those little seeds will become so much more as they transform into lush green leaves and bear fruit. I am reminded that what looks like death can be transformation.

Springtime, a season of planting and new growth, new life, offers us an opportunity to revisit Jesus' words in John 12: "Very truly I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." In verse 25 Jesus goes on to speak of loving and losing, hating and keeping life. What do these verses mean for us as followers of Jesus?

If we look to the chapter before these verses in John 12, we see



The Reverend Victoria Scott is Incumbent of Church of the Ascension in Ottawa East.

a movement beginning to gain traction. Jesus has raised Lazarus from the dead. A great swell of people believed in Jesus because of this, and the authorities, concerned about the growing number of people believing and following him, plot to kill him. Jesus could have run for the hills at this point. He could have gone into hiding, living a quiet

life as a rabbi, making a difference locally but not globally. That's not what he did though. He continued to Jerusalem.

Jesus knew that setting his face to Jerusalem and continuing on meant that he would die. This offers us an invitation to think about death and dying. It's not about whether Jesus will die. It's about how, and what for. It's not about whether we will die. We are all dying, laying down our lives, minute by minute, hour by hour. The invitation is to think about how we are dying—how we are laying down our lives—and what for.

A grain of wheat cannot grow unless it dies. It has to sit in the darkness of the earth, waiting for its moment to sink its roots, and send up a green shoot toward the sun. If stalks of wheat are left blowing in the field, they will eventually die. Some of the grains may be scattered by the wind and take root and grow. But...they may not.

If you pluck the heads of wheat though, and break them open into grains and plant them, the chances of a good crop are much higher. It's not about whether we'll die. It's about whether we are determined to remain an intact stalk of wheat blowing in the wind, or whether we are willing to be broken open into seeds and buried in the earth to bear fruit. Jesus could have remained an intact stalk of wheat, living life under the radar, blowing in the wind and eventually dying without bearing fruit. That's not what he did, though.

Jesus was willing to be stretched and broken open, willing to be buried, willing to be planted, in order to bear fruit. Jesus was willing to suffer and die so that God could raise him from the dead, showing us that death is not the worst thing that can happen to us. The way that Jesus died, and his Resurrection and Ascension, created a field of wheat—a field of followers—that yields a harvest more than 2000 years later, continuing to point to a way of life that offers endless potential for growth, transformation and love.

How are we to live and die as followers of Jesus? And what is our laying down of our lives and our dying for? We are invited to live and to lay down our lives, willing to be stretched and broken open just as a head of wheat is broken up into grains. We are invited to be willing to be planted. Our lives are for growth. As followers of Jesus, we are invited to live and die in a way that creates fields of love and new life in this world. May it be so!

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED



Full of foliage: the hall at Church of the Ascension.



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DIOCESAN ARCHIVES

St. Leonard, Rockingham Deanery of the Northwest

Romantic Rockingham

BY GLENN J LOCKWOOD

In the late 1850s, Canada West (now Ontario) decided to push a series of colonization roads through the southern portion of the Canadian Shield to encourage settlement. It was a terrible idea. Anyone already living in Ontario knew how bad the land was, so the government had to advertise for settlers in Britain and Europe. It is for this reason that numerous German and Polish refugees were drawn into this impossible landscape.

Among those drawn to the Opeongo Colonization Road in Renfrew County was John S.J. Watson in 1859. He was a remittance man, banished from his home at Rockingham Castle near Corby in Northamptonshire, England by his aristocratic father for marrying a scullery maid named Mary Martin. The castle was an old royal residence fallen to ruin, acquired from the Crown by Edward Watson in 1544 and kept in the family ever since. John Watson was given \$10,000 (\$250,000 in 2024 dollars) and came to Canada with a group of settlers including tradesmen. They established Rockingham in Brudenell Township, with a store, mills, a post office, setting up various trades, and building Saint Leonard's Church before the money ran out.



Here we see Saint Leonard's Church, Rockingham, as photographed on October 8th 2004, 140 years after it was built by John Trant. The congregation began meeting around 1864, and this house of worship likely was constructed at that time for use as an Anglican church, primarily with funds supplied by John Watson. It may possibly have been used as a Union Church in the early years. As late as the mid-1870s, it first appears in the Synod Journal of the Diocese of Ontario when the Rev. Montague Gower Poole of Eganville took services in Rockingham several times a year, leaving the coast clear for clergy of other denominations to visit.

DIOCESAN ARCHIVES 51 R3 7

Another document tells us that a church was in the course of being built here by the Rev. Mackay in 1883, but that building seems to have been put up elsewhere in the mission. Whether built in the 1860s or 1880s, this board-and-batten church with pointed windows epitomizes the romantic legend of the settlement. In what sense was Rockingham romantic? Simply, it may be answered, in that the entire notion of attempting to build an agricultural settlement here was an "extravagant fiction, invention or story, a wild or wanton exaggeration, a picturesque falsehood."

Not until 1883 was the Mission of Brudenell created, with churches at Combermere and Rockingham. It was renamed Combermere in 1884. In 1904, this mission consisted of Bangor, Bell's Rapids, Combermere, Craig Mount and Rockingham. The following year Rockingham is listed in the Synod Journal as including an outstation at Jessup's.

In 1922, the Mission of Combermere listed stations at Bark Lake, Barry's Bay, Centreview, Combermere and Purdy, but not, tellingly, at Rockingham. Rockingham reappeared briefly in the Synod Journal of 1945, only to disappear from its pages thereafter. Tradition indicates that the last regular service held at Saint Leonard's was in the summer of 1941.

On 14 May 1967, Bishop Ernest S. Reed of Ottawa performed the Act of secularization of Saint Leonard's Church, Rockingham. A stay of demolition was made on this building until 30 April 1996, and an agreement was made to sever the property from the cemetery. Title to the property was transferred to the Friends of the Rockingham Church 30 years later.

If you would like to help the Archives preserve the records of the Diocese and its parishes, why not become a Friend of the Archives? Your \$20 membership brings you three issues of the lively, informative Newsletter, and you will receive a tax receipt for further donations above that amount.

A TIME OF PRAYER

Diocesan Time of Prayer gathering introduces online resources

Clergy and parishioners from across the diocese came together for the first online Time of Prayer gathering on March 20.

Launched at Synod 2023, the Time of Prayer is an initiative that Bishop Shane Parker described as "a critical first step as we seek to engage in contextual mission." He explained to those gathered online that the term contextual mission is about serving the world that God loves. "We need to be in a place where we can see how God is already at work in the world before we can discern how we may be called to participate in God's work in the world. We must listen in a new way to the Holy Spirit," he said. "And so, at this time, in this time of prayer, we are listening for sparks that draw our attention to the places and people and situations where we might be called to offer our resources as a church, to enable the light of Christ to be present in our context." He added: "And we will get to that only by taking a time

apart to pray."

The Rev. Simone Hurkmans, who co-chairs the Time of Prayer Working Group with Paul Mugarura, introduced other members of the working group — the Rev. Canon Ken Davis, the Rev. Elizabeth December, Paul Dumbrille of the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer, Archdeacon Mark Whittall, and Daniel Jerusalemiec. She also thanked Karen McBride, a postulant of the diocese, who was instrumental in preparing materials.

The Rev. Elizabeth December offered a tour of the Time of Prayer resources available on the ADO website, which include videos from the launch at Synod and new resource materials posted monthly. The monthly resources have four sections:

Pray – an opening prayer

Listen – a Bible study guide, which includes PowerPoint slides that can be modified and adapted to each context and the groups that are

using the resource

Consider – a theological reflection related to the the Bible study

Inspire – an example of contextual mission from another parish's experience

Several people shared examples of the ways that they are making use of the monthly resources.

The Rev. Canon Ken Davis said St. James the Apostle Church in Perth is using the Time of Prayer resource as a monthly Bible study resource in the parish. The prayer is incorporated into the Prayers of the People at Sunday worship, and a shortened version of the Bible study was used at Parish Council. They also began their vestry meeting with a Bible study in small groups. "There was a proposal made before the end of vestry. It was very exciting," he said.

December said she has been using the Bible study resources at Julian of Norwich, where she serves, at their pastoral care team meetings,

education planning meetings and other parish gatherings.

The Rev. Rosemary Parker sent word that St. Aidan's parish has been using the Time of Prayer resources as the focus of a joint Bible study with a neighbouring Lutheran parish. "My thought was that we are in the same geographic area, are in full communion, and who knows what divine sparks might come from it," she said.

Hurkmans led those who attended the online gathering through the Time of Prayer resources for April, using a *lectio divina* (divine reading) format for the Bible study to familiarize everyone with the resources.

More diocesan gathering are planned throughout the year.

Further information is available at: ottawa.anglican.ca/resources/a-time-of-prayer/

—Leigh Anne Williams

CALENDAR

May 4

Art in the Pews

11 am to 4 pm at Holy Trinity, Pembroke (68A Renfrew St.)
A curated art show featuring art of all kinds crafted by members of the Parish of the Valley and our community. At the discretion of the artist, some art may be available for purchase. Join us in the Church Hall for High Tea, featuring the music of Zephyr. There is no entry fee for the art show. High tea is \$15. Email: office@valleyanglicans.ca Phone: 613-732-4658 More Info: <https://www.valleyanglicans.ca/events/art-in-the-pews--342>



PHOTO: THE VEN. CHRIS DUNN

May 11

Stepping Forward for Earth: Labyrinth Walking and the Work that Reconnects

1 pm to 5 pm at Christ Church Cathedral (414 Sparks St.) (See story p. 10) Register before or by May 3. Space is limited.

companions who yearn for peace” to walk in prayerful solidarity with the people of Gaza. “Walk or roll together in your own community before May 13. Pray for a ceasefire; pray for more than a ceasefire, for a just peace for all in Palestine and Israel. Then, if you can, join national church leaders for the final leg of their pilgrimage, converging on Parliament Hill on May 22.” For more information: <https://www.kairoscanada.org/gaza-ceasefire-pilgrimage>

Jazz and Tapas

4 pm to 6 pm at St. Matthew’s Anglican Church (130 Glebe Ave, Ottawa.) . (See story, p. 6)

May 22

Gaza Ceasefire Pilgrimage: Canadian Churches for a Just Peace
Kairos, an ecumenical social justice organization, is inviting everyone—”church leaders, people of faith,

June 1

St. Helen’s Fine Art Fair

10 am to 3 pm at St. Helen’s

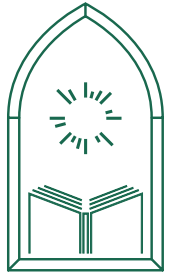
Anglican Church, (1234 Prestone Dr., Orleans). (See story, p. 7)

Celebration!

10 am to 4 pm at St. James, Manotick (1138 Bridge Street, Manotick)
Come explore and learn in our new Indigenous Minaadendamow-in Healing Garden, created as one of our efforts toward truth and reconciliation in our community. Ottawa Doors Open and our church will have a self-guided map available to let you stroll and have a moment of reflection as you learn a little about our history which dates to 1876. We will be grilling hot dogs and

PARISH LEADERS TRAINING

May 4 and 11
Governance, Safe Church & Employment Issues for Clergy and Churchwardens



ADO Learning Commons

9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at St Aidan’s, (934 Hamlet Road, Ottawa)

A free workshop on governance and human resource issues for churchwardens with advice from Ascension House staff: Paul Lex, director of human resources; Canon Henry Schultz, diocesan chancellor; and Executive Archdeacon Linda Hill. (Workshop is offered on both May 4 and 11. Register for only one session.)

hamburgers all afternoon, and there will be delicious rhubarb crisps for sale. The Kiwanis of Manotick will also be celebrating the founding of Manotick — Dickinson Day—all day Saturday with craft and food vendors.

For more information: office@stjames-manotick.ca

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*Research conducted by Willful and Arbor Memorial Inc. in a 2020 survey.

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UP-COMING ACTIVITIES

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| May 2 | Book Sharing and/or Coffee Klatsch |
| May 9 | Bridge / Games or Coffee Klatsch |
| May 16 | Meg Stikl from A.I.M. Fitness and Rogers TV : Presentation & Demonstration on Fitness & Healthy Aging for Older Adults |
| May 23 | Bridge / Games or Coffee Klatsch |
| May 30 | PLAID with Leslie Worden & Friends : A lively musical group with guitars, ukulele, accordion and songs |
| June 6 | Creative Writing Group / Bridge or Coffee Klatsch |
| June 13 | Brenda Chapman : well known Crime Fiction Writer (author of over 20 books), and member of Crime Writers of Canada and Capital Crime Writers |
| June 20 | End of Season Celebration Lunch |

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