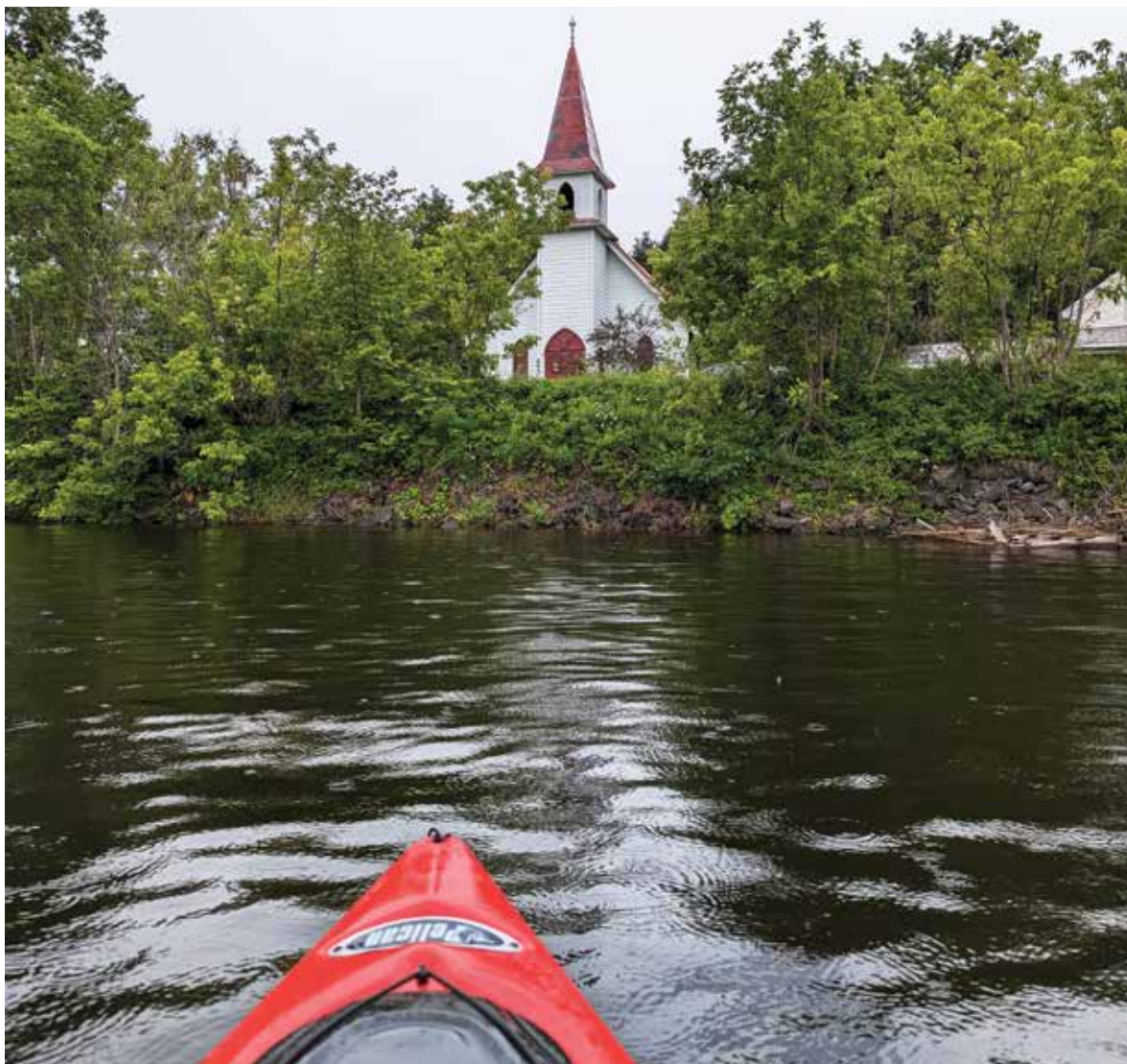


Crosstalk

THE ANGLICAN DIOCESE OF OTTAWA | SECTION OF THE ANGLICAN JOURNAL | JUNE 2025



ADO youth are invited to start their summer at Church of the Good Shepherd, Wakefield on June 21. Story, page 8. PHOTO: THE REV. CAZ DUCROS

Ellwood House celebrates progress in housing expansion

BY DAVID HUMPHREYS

A new sign has been installed outside the Ellwood House property on Braeside Avenue in Alta Vista. Ellwood directors call it “the sign of progress,” advertising as it does, the support of the City of Ottawa and the provincial government for the construction of 38 affordable units for seniors.

After pandemic-related and unforeseen delays the project has successfully overcome a series of hurdles.

Negotiations with the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa and St. Thomas the Apostle parish for a long-term (55-year) lease have been completed. The lease has been approved by a special St. Thomas vestry meeting and the diocese and submitted to Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC).

CMHC has to approve the lease as a condition for the mortgage funding for which Ellwood

has applied. This will complete governmental support, with a shortfall to be covered by a capital fundraising campaign.

Earlier, Ellwood secured \$9.5 million in capital funding, originally through CMHC’s Housing Accelerator Fund. However, the funds are administered by the city and the city decided to finance it from the Ontario Building Faster Fund as advertised on the “sign of progress.”

“The city has given us so much help, support and advice,” Janice Horton, president of the Ellwood board says. “It is really involved in this and other housing projects.”

The support includes additional \$372,000 in pre-development funding, allowing for the completion of architectural drawings, finalization and submitting the application for a building permit.

Looking ahead, following demolition of the old rectory, existing utility connections will be upgraded



Janice Horton and Michele Bédard of the Ellwood House board of directors admire the “sign of progress.” PHOTO: BEV ENSOM

as required by the site plan to correct deficiencies and expand services for the entire campus. It’s detailed work that will take months to complete, but it will be a visible sign of continuing progress.

The extension, intended to help meet ever-growing demand, will more than double the capacity of Ellwood House which has provided safe and affordable housing for seniors since 1987.

BISHOP'S MESSAGE

An abiding sense of Thanksgiving

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED



THE RIGHT REVEREND
DR. SHANE A. D. PARKER
BISHOP OF OTTAWA

In the early weeks following my consecration as your bishop on the Feast of Pentecost in 2020, we were in lockdown, and I was limited to meetings and visits by Zoom. I was drawn to consider a weekly podcast to connect me with the people of our diocese—and to connect people with one another. So began 15 episodes of “ADO on the Move” with moments of great fun, serious reflection, and appreciation of the scope and diversity of our diocesan church (the entire series is still available at <https://adonthemove.buzzsprout.com/> and most interesting to listen to).

Since those early days of my episcopate, we have, as bishop, people and clergy, guided change to give new shape and direction to our Diocese—with clearly expressed priorities focused on helping our parish ministries and community ministries thrive. We have agreed to refresh and renew our priorities using a triennial cycle managed by Diocesan Council and to establish corresponding triennial budgets to achieve the results God has called us to seek.

In this, the second year of our 2024-2026 triennium, we will evaluate the work we are doing to achieve our current priorities and revise our approach as required. In the third year of this triennium, we will work collaboratively to frame



The Reverend Al Budzin, Katherine Shadbolt Parker and Bishop Shane with Brother Thankful at a recent parish visit in St Paul's Osgoode.

our priorities and budget for the next triennium (2027-2029).

A key component our current priorities is to develop and deploy our central financial resources in order to leave more money in our parishes, while increasing practical supports from Ascension House for both arms of our diocesan church: our parish ministries and our

community ministries.

Importantly, our current priorities also involve actively convening and collecting the wide range of talents and knowledge held by the clergy and people of our diocese into our Learning Commons. The Learning Commons will provide training, tools, and resources to develop the eight essential parts of a parish's

life and ministry: worship; spiritual growth; community; pastoral care; contextual mission; leadership & governance; financial stewardship & management; and property management & maintenance. Each part is important because all eight work together to help a parish thrive. At Synod in October, we will see how the Learning Commons has been substantially developed to serve us.

As I reflect back on the last five years of serving as your bishop, I do so with an abiding sense of thanksgiving. When I was preparing for my consecration, I made myself the wooden crozier I carry on all parish visits. I wrote earlier about how the parts of the crozier came from several different places.

The main staff was cut in 1978 on the Carp Ridge, between the villages of Dunrobin and Carp. My brother Barry and I were hired to build a cedar log cabin, and a number of young ironwood trees on the site had to be cleared—and one of them became my walking staff. Barry and I lived in tents at the cabin site for many weeks, and the staff remained with me as a memento of those days.

The crook is made from the limb of a cherry tree felled by a beaver near Sawmill Creek by Brookfield Road in Ottawa, a familiar place for my brothers and me. The sections of threaded steel tubing are from what my brothers and I call “the mall” (known to everyone else as the curb on garbage night).

I called the crozier “Brother Thankful” because the parts of it are strongly associated with my brothers, and because I feel profoundly thankful to God for calling me to a ministry which has allowed me to offer all that I am, and all that I have learned, to serving with each of you as we faithfully guide change and make our beloved diocese thrive.

Save the date

Our annual Diocesan Synod will be taking place October 23-25, 2025.

The event begins on the 23rd with worship at Christ Church Cathedral. The business portion of our meeting takes place at the St. Elias Centre on the 24th and 25th.

The Rev. Dr Sarah Kathleen Johnson, director of Anglican Studies at St. Paul University, will be our guest observer and offer her reflections.

CLERGY NEWS

The Rev. Dr. Jon Martin has been appointed to the Cathedral Canonry of Saint James, effective May 1, 2025.

Diocese appoints Carole Breton as its director of communications and development

In April, Carole Breton joined the diocesan staff at Ascension House as the director of communications and development. With a focus on fostering both internal and external communications, she is working to enhance stewardship and develop new tools that create meaningful engagement across the diocese.

Breton’s work is designed to support the growth and resilience of diocesan ministries and parishes, helping to ensure they thrive now and into the future. Her responsibilities include advancing key projects such as the Learning Commons—available on the diocesan website—, supporting parish vitality, and working to ensure the long-term sustainability of diocesan community ministries.

“The heart of our work is to walk alongside people—with respect, courage, and hope—and to build partnerships that make a lasting difference,” she says. “This role allows me to bring together everything I have learned over the years and to work with real purpose. My goal is to strengthen the ties that unite us, ensure everyone feels valued, and help create a space where all are welcome within our diocesan community.”

Breton, a Gatineau native who is fluently bilingual, brings more than 30 years of experience in strategic communications, philanthropy, donor relations, government relations, and organizational development. She has a proven track record of strengthening organizations and cultivating lasting partnerships. She holds an Executive MBA from the Telfer School of Management at the University of Ottawa and a graduate diploma in Ecclesiastical Administration from Saint Paul University—providing a strong foundation in both strategic leadership and church governance. Throughout her career, Breton has been driven by a commitment to fostering trust, dialogue, and collaboration.

Breton began her career as a broadcast journalist. Her work with Radio Canada on television and radio took her to Winnipeg, Regina, Sudbury and back to Ottawa. She went on to work in communications for Heritage Canada and Canada Council for the Arts, before returning to CBC as a senior advisor and manager of corporate communications and public relations. She was later director of communications at Association des collèges et universités de la Francophonie Canadienne and associate director of marketing and communications for the vice-rectorate, International and Francophonie at the University



Carole Breton

PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Most recently, she served as vice-rector, governance and secretary general at Saint Paul University, responsible for pastoral services; Anglican and Roman Catholic, Indigenous Services; alumni and donor relations as well as governance of the institution.

of Ottawa. Most recently, she served as vice-rector, governance and secretary general at Saint Paul University responsible for pastoral services, Anglican and Roman Catholic, Indigenous Services, alumni and donor relations as well as governance of the institution. She kindly answered a few questions from *Crosstalk* to help everyone in our diocese get to know her a little more:

What drew you to working with the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa?
I was drawn by the Diocese’s deep commitment to community, inclusion, and service. Having worked closely with Anglican leaders in the past, I developed a great respect for the Anglican tradition’s balance of faith in action and open dialogue. This role offers a unique opportunity to use my communications and development experience in a way that directly supports people and strengthens vital ministries. It is also a chance to work within a faith community that welcomes everyone and strives to make a real difference in people’s lives.

and community engagement. Leading communications and development in both Catholic and secular organizations has given me a strong sense of how to foster trust and mobilize people around shared goals. Most recently, my work as vice-rector of governance and secretary general at Saint Paul University deepened my understanding of church administration and mission-driven leadership, which directly informs the work I am doing now.

What are some of the challenges for the communications and development ministry?
One of the key challenges is finding ways to amplify the voice and visibility of our ministries in an increasingly fast-changing communications landscape. We also need to ensure that stewardship is not just about fundraising but about nurturing long-term, faith-based relationships that are grounded in trust and shared purpose. Another challenge is supporting parishes and ministries with the tools and confidence they need to tell their own stories in ways that resonate with today’s audiences—both within and beyond the church.

What are your favourite things to do outside of work?
I love spending time outdoors and traveling with my two boys, especially exploring new places that open our eyes to different cultures and histories. I am also a proud hockey mom, often cheering from the stands at their games. Walking has become a personal practice for reflection and renewal—I completed a 100-kilometre stretch of the Camino de Santiago last year, which was a deeply meaningful experience for me. At home, I enjoy quiet moments with a good book or catching up with friends over coffee.



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Visiting Mādahòkì Farm and the Spirit horses

A group of parishioners from St. John the Evangelist in Ottawa made a trip to Mādahòkì Farm on a chilly, grey day at the end of April. It is a working farm on land leased from the National Capital Commission on Hunt Club Road in Ottawa, and it has a mission to bring Indigenous community, artists and knowledge keepers together with the broader community to help educate and share knowledge of Indigenous cultures.

Kimberly Breen-Johnson, St. John's Indigenous engagement co-ordinator, said the group started their visit sitting inside a tipi with a fire, listening to a knowledge keeper's teachings about Indigeneity, particularly focused on Ojibwe or Anishnaabe culture. "He drummed us in, in ceremony, and then he taught us. It was very interactive because of our group were asking him questions and he was very open to our questions."



Clockwise from top—Meeting the Spirit horses; parishioners gather by the Madahoki sign; art from Indigenous artists depicts Spirit horses
PHOTOS: PAT FISHER AND THE REV. CANON GARY VAN DER MEER



Using paintings from an Indigenous artist, the knowledge keeper taught the group about Spirit horses, which are a now rare breed of horse. Spirit horses the only breed that is indigenous to Canada, and they are sacred to the Indigenous peoples, but they were hunted almost to extinction during European colonization. The population was down to only four registered horses, but efforts to protect and breed them have brought that back to about 150 horses. The St. John's group enjoyed seeing some of these beautiful animals as a part of their trip to the farm and learning more about Indigenous cultures. — LA Williams



Crosstalk

A publication of the
Anglican Diocese of Ottawa
www.ottawa.anglican.ca
The Rt. Rev. Shane Parker
Bishop of Ottawa
Publisher
Leigh Anne Williams
Editor
Jane Waterston
Production

Crosstalk is published 10 times a year (September to June) and mailed as a section of the *Anglican Journal*. It is printed by KT Web Printing, Toronto, and mailed by Elite Bindery and Mailing Services, Scarborough.
Crosstalk is a member of the Canadian Christian Communicators Association and the Anglican Editors Association.

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For new or changed subscriptions, please contact your parish administrator or visit: www.anglicanjournal.com
Suggested annual donation: \$25

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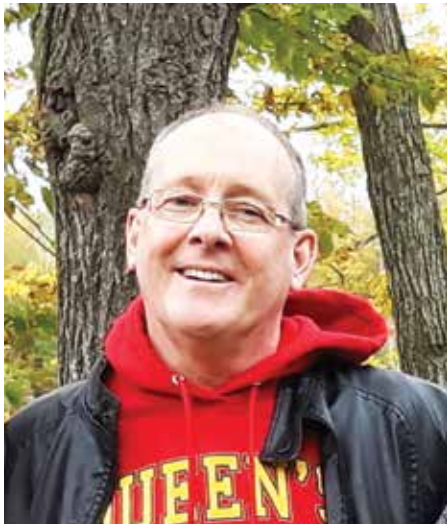
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Crosstalk acknowledges that we publish on traditional Anishinàbeg Algonquin territory. We recognize the Algonquins as the customary keepers and defenders of the Ottawa River Watershed and its tributaries.



The Rev. Canon Ken Davis in action: (left) preaching at an ordination service at Christ Church Cathedral, (middle) with the other members of the Community Housing Initiative Perth; (right) casual and ready for life in Kingston.

The Rev. Canon Ken Davis retires after spearheading Perth housing project

BY DAVID HUMPHREYS

The Rev. Canon Ken Davis is ending his decade of ministry at St. James the Apostle Perth with the mixed emotions of disappointment and gratification.

Disappointment to be leaving before the 15-unit affordable housing project in central Perth that St. James initiated is completed but gratification in knowing all barriers have been overcome.

“I was hoping that by the time I reached retirement I would see people moving in,” he says. He retires on July 1, about the same time as the contractor, the Saumure Group, connects the property to utilities. Construction is due to begin soon afterwards.

While he can’t imagine more roadblocks encountered over four years — Covid-19, repeated delays at town hall, neighbourhood opposition — “thank God, the project is moving forward; that is gratifying,” he said.

The project arose out of St. James’s success in meeting the challenge of the Syrian refugee crisis back in 2015. Homes were found for four families and several adults.

Incredible as it may seem, that initiative drew criticism. Davis says

he was asked, “Why can’t we do more to help people right here? There are lots of people who need our help.”

He and David Kroetsch, chair of St. James Outreach Committee, began putting together a small group with modest objectives: finding and renovating suitable housing, perhaps a “tiny home” like another in Lanark County. The Anglican Diocese of Ottawa put up \$10,000 in seed money.

Over time, it became clear that the nature of the project should change. Most significantly, the St. James group reached out beyond the parish to recruit a steering committee, Community Housing Initiative Perth (CHIP). And in 2022 CHIP partnered with Carebridge Community Support, a Lanark County non-profit with a successful track record in affordable housing and social service.

Davis has said that the partnership is what moved the project to the point of success. “Carebridge is incredibly keen and supportive.” But Carebridge says the project would not have happened without CHIP, that it’s the first time a community group, as opposed to a municipality, has initiated a project.

Claire Smith, co-chair of the CHIP

fundraising campaign, credits Davis himself. “He has been significant in spearheading the initiative and in keeping the momentum going.”

She hopes the work he has done at the municipal level will set a template for others to follow. “We’re hoping this goes beyond our small footprint. Ken has opened the door for responsible development for affordable housing for other organizations.”

Major financing for the project comes from a forgivable loan of \$2.5 million from Lanark County, a \$600,000 grant from Ontario Building Faster Fund and pending support from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

Smith feels there is momentum for the campaign to raise \$300,000, of which a little more than 10 per cent has been achieved. “We know there are some deep philanthropic pockets in Lanark County and we are reaching out to them.”

She adds: “I want to give kudos to the Anglican Church for the immense influence and support that the church has given right here on the ground. I think it’s amazing.”

Davis is taking steps to ensure continuity and commitment endure after he leaves to retire in the Kingston area.

One comes out of St. James refugee settlement experience, recognizing the benefits of having trained volunteer “along-siders” support first-time tenants when they move in. An organizational meeting of volunteers with training staff from The Perth Table Community Food Centre is planned.

Bishop Shane Parker said he “will be encouraging Davis’s successor to continue the parish’s engagement with the project and to offer leadership.” He sees the project as an excellent example of a parish engaging with its wider community, which fits well into the priorities of the Diocese as a whole. Davis has provided for continuity by assuring the steering committee it can continue to meet at St. James.

In the future, Davis says, the general public won’t know that St. James had any role, never mind the key role, in housing 15 households. “We are not doing it to aggrandize St. James. We are doing it to glorify God and to help people find homes.”

Construction is expected to be completed within a year, with staggered occupancy throughout 2026.

Donations: www.perthhousing.ca

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COMMUNITY MINISTRY NEWS

Day programs struggle with increasing need and rising costs

BY LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS

Rising costs and increasing numbers of people in need of their services made 2024 a very challenging year for Belong Ottawa and Centre 105. Both Anglican Community Ministries ended up with deficits for the year.

Centre 105 expanded its service from serving breakfast and providing for other basic needs such as showers and laundry from three to four days a week in 2024 and now serves about 450 meals per week. “The demand on our services continues to grow,” said executive director Taylor Seguin. “Simply put, the demand for our services (free meals, social space, laundry, showers), is outpacing our ability to bring in adequate revenue.” Centre 105 had a 2024 deficit of just over \$127,000.

Economic pressures have reduced donations, Seguin told *Crosstalk*. “Although the Cornwall community is incredibly generous and supports Centre 105 financially, 2024 was a challenging year to raise funds, including via individual donors. Many of our existing donors have let us know that life has become exponentially more expensive in the past year, which is unfortunately affecting the amount that they are able to contribute to charities/non-profits.... In some cases, donors were forced to stop donating altogether, especially seniors on a fixed income. A significant portion of our donors are seniors.”

Seguin added that he and the Centre 105 team are making every effort to keep costs down. “I always assure our existing donors, as well as potential donors, that Centre 105 has always been a very “lean

machine,” meaning that we have very little overhead costs,” he said of the operation which is based in the parish hall of Trinity Anglican Church. “We rely heavily on the work of our large volunteer team, which allows us to operate with a very small staff team of 3 full timers and 1 part timer. Although we do purchase some food, a large amount of our food is received through donation partnerships with local grocery stores and restaurants.”

The Rev. Canon Peter John Hobbs, director general of the Anglican Community Ministries, said that since Centre 105 opened in 2019 there has been a constant increase in the call for its services. “More and more people are going to Centre 105. And in a sense that demand has outpaced the fundraising that we’ve done,” he said.

“It’s great and amazing that that we have such incredible support from individuals and households in that area and across the Seaway,” but Hobbs added, “we need to diversify our revenue streams beyond an over-reliance on individual donations.” He was quick to gratefully acknowledge that Centre 105 has also been supported by the United Way and a number of service clubs, businesses, community and family foundations. The United Way has provided funding to Centre 105 but recently announced changes to the way it will provide funding, moving away from granting funds for operating expenses.

It is important to note that Centre 105 has been able to apply for and has received small grants of \$8,000 to \$10,000 from the City of Cornwall annually, but it does not receive core funding as Belong Ottawa and Cornerstone

PHOTO: LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS



Thanks to a strong team of volunteers, including Shelly Seguin, Wendy Lewis and Nate Terriah (above), Centre 105 does amazing work with a very small staff.

Dave, left, is a regular day program visitor. He says, “Centre 105 is my second home. I love that I can rest, eat, and just be, with people who care.”



PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

Housing for Women do from the City of Ottawa. There is some hope, however, that the municipal government might consider providing more funding. Bishop Shane Parker, Hobbs and Maria Crosby, the chair of 105’s management board and Seguin met with the mayor of Cornwall and the top municipal administrator. “It was very encouraging,” said Hobbs. “There’s nothing certain yet, but [there was] just an openness to have a conversation about a partnership agreement that hopefully would result in some funding from the City of Cornwall to Centre 105.”


Even with core funding from the City of Ottawa, 2024 was a challenging year for Belong Ottawa, which is an amalgamation of three former day programs — Centre 454, St. Luke’s Table and The Well—and still operates in all three locations in downtown Ottawa. Its operating deficit was \$622,000 at the end of 2024, but using its reserve funds reduced the deficit to \$102,500.

Belong Ottawa faces similar increasing demands for its services — meals, facilities for people who are homeless or precariously housed to shower and wash their clothes, help navigating government social and health systems, and important social connection and support from staff and other participants in the programs. The number of people coming through its doors and accessing food and services increased by 30 percent between 2023 and 2024, and that growth has continued into 2025. Belong Ottawa now serves about 500 people a day and has extended its hours of service.

Hobbs says the deficit was a result of a confluence of factors. That 30 percent increase in service impacted finances in a number of ways including increasing costs for food, utilities and staffing. He added that there was also an important recognition that Belong Ottawa was previously not creating budgets that accurately reflected the actual costs of the delivery of services.

Shauna-marie Young, who was hired as the new executive director of Belong Ottawa in October 2024, told *Crosstalk* that she and

► Financial picture, to p. 7



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Belong Ottawa and Cornerstone feel the impact of supervised consumption site closure

BY LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS

Anglican Community Ministries in downtown Ottawa are witnessing the consequences of a provincial government decision to close the Consumption and Treatment Service (CTS) in the Somerset West Community Health Centre on March 31.

The supervised consumption site was one of 10 locations in Ontario closed because they were within 200 metres of a school or daycare. The health centre’s services are changing to become a Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment (HART) Hub, which still provides “basic needs services, including shower facilities, essential supplies, lunch every day, wellness activities and client engagement.” The government has promised that future phases will add direct connections to primary care, mental health support, treatment programs, permanent supportive housing linkages, and rapid referrals to withdrawal management and medical stabilization beds.

Cornerstone Housing for Women has two supportive housing residences in the neighbourhood on Booth and Eccles streets. Senior program manager Ashley Jordan told Crosstalk that Cornerstone and its residents see the effects of the CTS closure close-up in multiple ways.

For some of the residents, “it has been challenging adapting to not having those supports across the street,” she said. “They depended on the community there, so as a result, we are seeing that residents are spending more time isolated in their apartments. ... It’s beneficial that they’re living with us because we do still have harm reduction supports here, and we have Naloxone available and so we are able to do increased checks on them to make sure that they are okay and well.”

The CTS closure has not reduced the number of drug users in the neighbourhood, Jordan explained. “They live here, so while they may have closed down the safe consumption site, that doesn’t mean that those people left.” In fact, she said, now that there is no supervised

PHOTO: LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS



The opiod crisis has meant that Naloxone kits to reverse overdoses have become fixtures at Belong Ottawa and Cornerstone Housing for Women locations as well as at Centre 105 in Cornwall.

place to use, they are more visible. “We’ve definitely seen an increase in the public presence of people just in front of the building and in our parking lot and just in the community in general.... I’ve definitely seen people using on the streets, and we have witnessed overdoses in the community,” Jordan said.

Drug use is not permitted on Cornerstone’s property, and that means there are increased duties for staff as they try to monitor the area outside their buildings and sometime rush out to administer Naloxone to people who have overdosed.

“We will do what we can to support people and support the community, but we are definitely concerned ... because the opioid epidemic is not

going away anytime soon,” she said. “Unfortunately, the reality is that people will die as a result of the closure of safe consumption sites.” Another safety concern is that there’s been an increase in materials such as needles found on the ground and in public spaces, Jordan said. She noted, however, that there is a needle exchange box at Cornerstone’s Booth street residence that anyone can access. It is maintained in partnership with the City.

Belong Ottawa’s locations have seen big increases in demand for their day program services since the CTS closure.

The Bronson Centre, where St. Luke’s Table relocated after a 2022 fire at St. Luke’s church, reports a

significant surge in service users. Breakfast numbers have doubled, and there has been a notable increase in the demand for lunch services. The use of cots and respite spaces has also risen substantially. When cots are unavailable, service users are resorting to sleeping on the floor. Many of the new participants are individuals previously unknown to the service system, indicating a shift in the population accessing support.

Similarly, Centre 454 has seen a substantial increase in the number of new service users. They report that staff have had to acclimatize these new individuals to the centre’s expectations and guidelines, including the maintenance of a substance-free environment on the property.

Monica Patten, chair of the Community Ministries Committee for the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa, says the closure of the CTS at Somerset increases pressure at Belong Ottawa and Cornerstone. In terms of staffing, she said, “We’ve never fully recovered from COVID...Staff are stressed and overstretched. It’s hard to fill positions on an ongoing basis because this is hard work...and when a service that is really helpful gets shut down, our work gets harder. And I think that that’s part of what we’re facing in our community in general and in community ministries, as well as other frontline organizations.”

Patten acknowledged that the CTS did pose concerns for people around it. “It wasn’t a panacea, but it was work that broke a little bit of the tension that’s out there, made it possible for people to consume safely.” She added that she feels that many people in the community, even Anglicans here in the diocese, don’t know the depth of what is happening in community ministries. “They know that we provide meals, but it’s so much more,” she said. People “go for lunch, sure, but that lunch is only part of how they are healed and loved and supported.”

“At the centre of the story is compassion,” Patten said. “These are not just social service ministries. These are ministries that save lives. They save lives through their compassion, through offering nutrition, through offering safe places.”

► **Financial picture, from p. 6**
director of operations Michael Howard did a deep analysis of the finances and true cost of running Belong Ottawa. Presenting those new figures to the City of Ottawa resulted in receiving \$900,000 more than in the previous year. She added that four previous contracts with the City of Ottawa have now been amalgamated into one contract, which will make it much easier to control, track and report. Young said that analysis of staff scheduling has led to changes and a more efficient

system that avoids costly overlap. The financial review also showed that a reduced apportionment grant and a drop in donations from the Today for Tomorrow fundraising campaign, which is transitioning to new initiatives, also contributed to the shortfall. Since Young’s onboarding, intentional and focused appeals, fundraising activities, contribution and grant seeking, and donor management are all high priorities for action. “We receive generous funding from the parishes through the

apportionment grant, and of course from individuals and corporations, so there’s a lot of revenue streams,” said Young. “Even though it’s been very generous, it hasn’t met the escalating costs and needs of the community ministry.” She added that Belong Ottawa will shift the focus of its appeals to the community from in-kind donations such as winter clothing to requests for financial donations, which are much more efficiently managed and benefit participants in the programs more effectively.

On that note, Young was excited to report that preparations are underway for a new flagship fundraiser for Belong Ottawa. On Oct. 4, Belong Ottawa is encouraging parishes, community groups and all friends of Belong Ottawa to join the Ride for Refuge, an in-person bike/walk event, which will raise funds to support Belong Ottawa’s work to compassionately care for vulnerable people in our midst. For more information go to <https://rideforrefuge.org/home>

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Qui suis-je ?

LE RÉV. CHANOINE KEVIN FLYNN

À la fin de mon adolescence, j'ai participé à un programme d'été organisé par l'Ordre of the Holy Cross, la Society of St John the Evangelist, deux ordres religieux anglicans. Comme les participants venaient de tout le Canada et des États-Unis, il y avait plusieurs exercices destinés à briser la glace et à nous aider à nous connaître les uns les autres. Le seul dont je me souviens aujourd'hui nous demandait de nous asseoir avec une autre personne qui nous demandait à plusieurs reprises : "Qui es-tu ?". Nous devions donner une réponse différente à chaque fois. Essayez. Au bout d'une minute, il devient de plus en plus difficile de trouver quelque chose à dire.

Je me souviens que cet exercice m'a laissé perplexe et m'a étrangement stimulé. J'ai pris conscience du mystère de mon "je", de l'unicité et de la singularité de mon moi. Personne d'autre ne pouvait être le "moi" que j'étais, et je ne pourrais jamais être le "moi" qu'ils étaient. Malgré toutes les façons dont j'ai essayé de répondre à la question - "Je suis le fils de mes parents", "Je vis à tel ou tel endroit", "Je suis un lycéen" ou même, plus pieusement, "Je suis l'enfant de Dieu" - le sentiment qu'il y a plus que ce que nous sommes à chaque instant, et que nous devons trouver cette pièce manquante, a subsisté.

Les grandes traditions spirituelles du monde insistent sur la nécessité de la découverte de soi. Par exemple, la première et pratiquement la



Le révérend chanoine Kevin Flynn est le pasteur de la paroisse St-Bernard-de-Clairvaux

seule consigne que le grand sage hindou du 20e siècle, Ramana Maharshi, donnait aux chercheurs était de se demander "Qui suis-je ?". Ces traditions peuvent avoir des conceptions radicalement différentes du soi, mais elles s'accordent sur le fait que les êtres humains, tels qu'on les rencontre généralement dans cette vie, souffrent de perceptions déformées et d'auto-illusions qui obscurcissent notre véritable moi. En termes chrétiens, nous pouvons dire que nous sommes créés à l'image et à la ressemblance de Dieu, mais cette image est comme un miroir brisé qui renvoie un reflet défectueux.

Notre quête spirituelle n'a pas pour but de nous rendre plus sages, plus intéressants ou même plus "saints", mais de nous rendre réels. Certaines personnes sont convaincues que la voie de la véritable connaissance de soi se trouve dans la psychothérapie et l'analyse. En ramenant à la conscience les souvenirs oubliés et surtout les blessures subies au début de leur vie, elles pourraient réparer

les dégâts et devenir vraiment elles-mêmes. Cette voie peut être très utile aux personnes qui s'y engagent. Elle peut faire une énorme différence entre la santé mentale et la détresse émotionnelle.

La vérité de nous-mêmes est cependant cachée plus profondément que n'importe quelle pensée ou thérapie ne peut nous amener. C'est un mystère plus profond que les mots ne peuvent exprimer. La véritable connaissance de soi n'est pas un produit d'idées, mais une manière de prendre conscience de soi, d'être attentif à soi-même : non pas à ce que nous pensons être, ou espérons être, mais à ce que nous sommes vraiment. Il ne s'agit pas seulement de prendre conscience de sa propre personnalité ou de son ego, le plus souvent dans l'espoir de le corriger ou de l'améliorer. Ces dernières années, les chrétiens se sont de plus en plus familiarisés avec un sens plus large de la prise de conscience de soi. De plus en plus de groupes se réunissent pour pratiquer des formes de méditation chrétienne qui mènent à la conscience de soi.

Cette pratique ne consiste pas du tout à être centré sur soi, à se concentrer exclusivement sur ce qui se passe à l'intérieur de soi. Elle vise plutôt la capacité d'être présent à ce qui est réel, à ce qui est maintenant. La tradition biblique indique clairement que nous ne pouvons pas trouver notre véritable "moi" - la vérité du cœur de notre être - à moins de le chercher dans la présence et la lumière de Dieu. Nous ne trouvons notre véritable moi que dans une relation avec Dieu, qui seul est le véritable but et le sens de toute existence. Lorsque le psalmiste demande :

« Qu'est donc l'homme pour que tu penses à lui, l'être humain pour que tu t'en soucies ? » (Psaume 8, 5), il ne pose pas une question philosophique. Il réfléchit plutôt sur Dieu et exprime son admiration pour la gloire divine qui brille dans toute la création.

Les chrétiens partagent la perspective du psalmiste mais ajoutent une autre dimension étonnante à cet enseignement. Ils insistent non seulement sur l'autorévélation divine de Dieu par des maîtres et des prophètes inspirés, mais aussi sur le fait que "dans la plénitude des temps", Dieu a pris notre chair et s'est fait l'un de nous. Le Christ, le Dieu incarné, la personne humaine parfaite, a fait sienne notre réalité la plus intime. De manière étonnante, cela signifie que le mystère de notre personne est devenu le mystère du Christ. C'est le don promis par le Christ comme fruit de l'amour : le don de Dieu "demeurant" en nous (Jean 14,23).

Cet immense mystère ne peut être approché que dans la foi. Nous ne pouvons pas en faire l'expérience par nous-mêmes. Nous ne pouvons que le chercher et prier pour l'entrevoir. Si nous en faisons l'expérience, ne serait-ce qu'un instant, nous commençons à pouvoir dire avec saint Paul : "Ce n'est pas moi, mais le Christ qui vit en moi" (Galates 2,20). Une fois que nous y avons goûté, nous ne pourrions jamais nous satisfaire d'un chemin de connaissance de soi qui n'aurait pas pour cœur et pour but final la recherche de Dieu qui habite au cœur de notre être et qui nous remplit de vie.

An English translation is available on Perspective: ottawa.anglicannews.ca

Diocesan youth invited to a summer gathering



PHOTO: THE REV. CAZ DUCROS

Youth from across the diocese are invited to come together on June 21 at Church of the Good Shepherd in Wakefield, Quebec.

"It's a beautiful church nestled in the Gatineau hills, and it is a great opportunity for youth from different parts of our diocese to get to know one another and to share their experiences of church," said the Rev. Caz Ducros, who is the incumbent of the church and is co-ordinating the event with the Rev. Victoria Scott.

It is also an opportunity to mark National Indigenous Peoples Day together.

The event will begin at 10 am with prayer, and then they plan to go on a walk to enjoy the first day of summer together in scenic Wakefield, which is on the Gatineau River and is surrounded by forest.



Church of the Good Shepherd Wakefield will host ADO youth gathering in June.

Organizers ask anyone who wants to attend to let them know by email [gsw@anglicansinthehills.ca or ducrosrevcaz@gmail.com]. They also ask anyone planning to come to let them know if they have any mobility challenges so that they can accommodate everyone at the church, which is an older building accessible by stairs, and so that they can choose a route for the walk that is appropriate for everyone attending.

When they return to the church, lunch will be provided and there will be time to socialize before everyone heads home about 2 pm. [Please specify any dietary restrictions in advance by email as well.]

ADO youth events are for anyone aged 12 to 18. Come out and have some fun!

The Church of the Good Shepherd is located at 693 Riverside Road, Wakefield, QC, J0X 3G0

CLERGY REFLECTION

Listening to and following the Holy Spirit

BY THE REV. MARGO WHITAKER

In what the Rev. Dr. Jesse Zink, principal of Montreal Dio College, calls this time of polycrisis, we are still called to rejoice in the Spirit. In an interview in the Montreal Anglican newspaper, in December 2024, Zink said: “Christians are called to form communities that resist the powers and principalities and offer to the world a different way of life that is ultimately more, well, faithful, creative, and hopeful than much of what we find around us.” As we approach the day of Pentecost, on June 8, 2025, when the church remembers



The Rev. Margo Whittaker is Anglican chaplain at St. Paul's University



the coming of the Holy Spirit on the first followers of Jesus, there are opportunities for us to gather and live faithfully, creatively, and hopefully.

Churches in our diocese will celebrate Pentecost 50 days after our Easter Sunday celebrations, wearing red, to signify the tongues of fire that first rested on all the disciples on the first Pentecost.

The Holy Spirit will help us as he reminds us the good news of Jesus' resurrection. We celebrate the resurrection of Jesus each Sunday in our churches, and we are sent out to love and serve the Lord. Even while the climate crisis rages, communities of faithful Christians can join their neighbours celebrating in the month of June with weddings, and barbeques, and canoe trips! Rejoice in the good weather, the gardens blooming, and the sun shining.

June 15, 2025 is Father's Day. The Holy Spirit, who dwells in every Christian, offers gifts to children and fathers. Does your father demonstrate love and kindness, goodness and faithfulness? Rejoice in the power of the Spirit in your father's life. Rejoice in the lives of those men who have been father-figures to you. Again, our churches might celebrate the men in our congregations who are fathers with a BBQ, and certainly in the prayers on Father's Day.

The month of June is National Indigenous Month, when we celebrate the cultures, languages, knowledge, histories, and traditions of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis. June 21, 2025 is our National

Indigenous Day of Prayer. Within the Collect for that day, we pray, that empowered by the Holy Spirit we may be strengthened and guided to walk toward justice and wholeness.

During June 23 to 29 the Anglican Church of Canada will join for General Synod, at RBC Place London in the Diocese of Huron, and elect a new Primate. The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, will empower those who vote to elect one of the candidates: National Indigenous Archbishop Christopher Harper, Bishop David Lehmann, Archbishop Gregory Kerr-Wilson, or Bishop Riscylla Shaw. May the grace and wisdom of the Holy Spirit guide the minds of those who vote.

The Holy Spirit dwells within us, guiding and teaching us; the Holy Spirit is a course of wisdom and revelation; the Holy Spirit is our comforter, and giver of good gifts. In our weakness, the Holy Spirit helps us. While the news around us is frightening, the Good News gives us hope. As we gather during the month of June, let us celebrate with trust in the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Godfrey Hewitt's choral music published

A new book has just been published containing all of the sacred choral music composed and performed by Dr. Godfrey Hewitt through his nearly five decades as organist and master of the choristers at Christ Church Cathedral, Ottawa, from 1931 to 1980.

The book was a labour of love for Frances Macdonnell, its general editor. Hewitt was her first organ teacher, she told *Crosstalk*, and she served as his assistant organist for the last few years of his working life at the Cathedral before she succeeded him as organist and music director at the Cathedral in 1980.

Born in England, Hewitt nurtured and influenced generations of young church musicians, singers and organists in Ottawa and beyond. He was one of the only four church musicians in Canada ever to be awarded an honorary Lambeth Doctorate by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Macdonnell said.

“Godfrey never published any of his music (except a couple of descants in various hymnbooks — one of them is in *Common Praise*.) But during the last two years, I have led a group of musicians who had all

been singers in Godfrey's Cathedral Choir in earlier days to re-create this music and get it published,” she explained.

The new book, *Sacred Choral Music of Godfrey Hewitt*, includes all of Hewitt's choral music for the Eucharist, Matins, and Evensong, his original Psalm chants, descants, and an Introit. “It also for the first time publishes his reharmonizations of hymn tunes,” she said.

“All his working life, Godfrey played his own reharmonizations of the final verses of hymns—but he never wrote them down. They are wonderful and should be more often played. Their movement and harmonic development always completely illustrate the mood and meaning of the words,” said Macdonnell, who re-created these reharmonizations from her own memories of Godfrey's playing over many years.

The music was all engraved by Ross Jewell, a former Cathedral Choir member and retired electrical engineer, who took up music engraving as a retirement project.

The academic preface to the book, describing Hewitt's life and work, was written by Dr. John Brough, a

member of the Cathedral choir as a boy and young man, who now teaches music at the University of Alberta. His doctoral thesis was written on the history of church music at Christ Church Cathedral, Ottawa.

The publication of this book was made possible by the Godfrey Hewitt Memorial Fund, established through the Royal Canadian College of Organists (RCCO) after Dr. Hewitt's death in 2002, Macdonnell said. This fund helps to produce the highly trained organists the Canadian church needs for the future by providing:

- an annual scholarship of \$6,000 for a graduate student in organ
- a bi-annual grand prize of \$6,000 for the RCCO national organ-playing competition
- an annual grant of \$3,000 to the RCCO's Summer Academy for young organists
- an annual grant of \$2,500 to various organ recital series in Ottawa and across Canada

All this is made possible by donations to the fund in Godfrey

PHOTO: MALAK KARSH



Godfrey Hewitt at the cathedral organ

Hewitt's memory and in aid of the training of young Canadian organists. Donations to the fund are very welcome and eligible for charitable tax receipts.

To make a donation to the fund or to purchase a copy of the book (\$30, plus \$5 for postage), please contact Frances Macdonnell by email: fbmacdonnell@sympatico.ca or by mail at 303 - 3099 Carling Avenue Ottawa ON K2H 5A6.

DIOCESAN ARCHIVES

Church of the Ascension, Ottawa
Deanery of Central Ottawa

Bucolic Landscape,
Unbucolic Finances

BY GLENN J LOCKWOOD

It is a truth universally acknowledged that if context in most situations is everything, setting may also reveal a great deal. It is no accident that this 1920s photograph of the new Church of the Ascension features the Rideau Canal in the foreground. That setting was the only thing that this parish had in common with its beginnings.

This photograph of the Church of the Ascension dates from the second quarter of the 20th century. But Ascension’s history begins much earlier than that. It started out as a small brick church named Holy Trinity, Archville, built in 1877 near where the main cut of the Rideau Canal in downtown Ottawa near the University of Ottawa turns southward to wend its way to Dow’s Lake and the navigable part of the Rideau River. Holy Trinity was unique among Anglican churches built in late Victorian Ottawa for featuring rounded arches, as opposed to pointed ones.

The first rector appointed to Holy Trinity, Archville, appropriately enough, was a well-rounded individual, the Reverend Thomas Dowell Philipps. Note the 3 ps. He had trained for the Anglican ministry, but he also was a teacher of some repute as shown by his being the mathematical master at the Ottawa Collegiate Institute (Lisgar Collegiate). He had other talents. So proficient was he at playing cricket that on his 80th birthday he made a century—which in the arcane lingo of that sport means he batted a hundred runs, no mean achievement.

The arrival of the Rev. Robert Jefferson as rector in 1916, came at a critical time. The growing congregation in a small church,



DIOCESAN ARCHIVES 51 010 2

lacked room to expand. They faced up to the challenge of building a larger house of worship amid wartime restrictions. This new much larger building was built within parish boundaries on a site overlooking the Rideau Canal in 1916. The bell for Ascension is said to have come from a locomotive on J.R. Booth’s Canada Atlantic Railway.

From this view we can see that the Gothic Revival design favoured by Anglicans had been pared down to a practical (as opposed to steeply pitched) roof that did not rise high above the perpendicular windows. The parish hall was located beneath the house of worship. We see the church here from the west, with its great west window already filled

with stained glass.

The new name, Church of the Ascension, was chosen because there was another Holy Trinity church in the city. The more spacious new setting conformed with the policy of the Federal District Commission (forerunner of today’s NCC) of having appropriate private and cultural buildings prominently featured on the new parkways being built in Ottawa. The fencing and mowed turf along the canal spoke to this development. The willow tree and lilac bush in the foreground probably both had been planted by the FDC at the turn of the century. Even so, even in this view, there were railway tracks running along the side of the canal to link up with Union Station

downtown. Beside the church, we see the rectory for the Church of the Ascension.

Bucolic setting aside, it would be a long painful slog for the parish to pay off the debt of building this church in wartime conditions. It was not until 9 May 1956, that the Church of the Ascension was consecrated by Bishop Ernest S. Reed.

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.

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CALENDAR

PHOTO: LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS

June 7
Experience the Living Presence with the Lord's Prayer in Aramaic
Church of the Ascension
(253 Echo Drive, Ottawa)
10 am to 12 pm
Facilitated gatherings offer opportunities for chanting in Aramaic and responding with contemplative silence, movement and creative art (materials provided). Familiarity with the book Prayers of the Cosmos (1990) by Neil Douglas-Klotz is helpful but not required. Similarly, participation in previous sessions not required. Info: <https://churchoftheascension.ca/experience-the-living-presence-with-the-lords-prayer-in-aramaic-2/> (613) 236-3958

Tailgate Sale
St. Mary Magdalene Church,
Chelsea, QC, 537 Route 105
30+ vendors selling treasures from the trunks of their vehicles, plus yummy home baking, plant sale and much much more. Admission is free!

June 14
Choral workshop with Andrew Balfour



Christ Church Cathedral
(414 Sparks St., Ottawa)
9 am to 12 pm
Juno-nominated Cree composer Andrew Balfour will lead a choral workshop at Christ Church Cathedral. Music will be four of Balfour's works; Ambe, Qilak, Four

Directions, and Ispiciwin. Everybody is welcome to attend as a singer or observer. (June 10, 7 pm to 8:30 pm — Open rehearsal to learn music ahead of the workshop with associate music director Andrew McAnerney.)

Calling Out the Calls: An Act of Reconciliation
Christ Church Cathedral
(414 Sparks St., Ottawa)
9 am to 1 pm
Everyone is welcome to attend and participate in a ceremony marking 10 years since the Truth and Reconciliation Commission released its 94 Calls to Action. The ceremony will include performances of music from the morning workshop.

June 15
National Indigenous Day of Prayer

June 21
National Indigenous Peoples Day

July 1
Canada Day

July 6
Nunavut Day BBQ
St. Margaret's Anglican Church
(206 Montreal Rd., Vanier, Ont.)
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm
Enjoy a burger, music, and candy toss!

ADO Learning Commons

Clergy, churchwardens and other parish leaders attended a Learning Commons workshop on governance and human resource issues held at Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Pembroke, Ont. on May 3. Executive Archdeacon Linda Hill offered insight on the responsibilities of churchwardens, and roles of parish and congregational councils, central parish committees, annual vestry meetings and special vestry meetings. Paul Lex, director of human resources, presented information on employment contracts and ways to support the ministry of volunteers.



The Rev. Christine Muise and the Rev. Nicholas Forte attended.

Below— Paul Lex



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF THE REV. MATTHEW BROWN

COFFEE COMPANY & CONVERSATION

SPRING SEASON 2025
a weekly gathering for seniors in the community
coffee, goodies and featured activities
SENIORS - COME & JOIN US
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10:00am to 12 noon

St Mark's Anglican Church
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For more information contact: St Mark's at 613 224-7431

UP-COMING ACTIVITIES

- June 5

June 12

June 19
- Bridge, Games - and/or - Koffee Klatsch
Koffee Klatsch - and/or - Creative Writing Readers
End of Season **Lunchette** to celebrate CCC and the Summer Solstice

Request to share memories

The Rev. Christina Guest, a retired priest of the Diocese and an honorary assistant at St. John the Evangelist on Elgin Street in Ottawa, invites people who knew her father, the Rev. Bruce Pellegrin, to share their memories of him with her as she compiles material for a biography of his life.

Pellegrin was the Dean of Divinity at St. John's College, Winnipeg, before he came to Ottawa in 1980 to serve as Director of Special Ministries (now Anglican Community Ministries) from 1980 to 1985. During his time in Ottawa, he wrote grant requests to help fund the first shelters for women and to strengthen the ministry of Centre 454. He helped establish the Anglican Studies Program at St. Paul University. He consolidated the organizational framework of the Ottawa Pastoral Centre and taught several times at the Ottawa Pastoral Care Training Program. As incumbent of Trinity Church in Cornwall, he launched the construction of Beak Lindsay House.

Pellegrin wrote a book on the ministry of the laity in the 1970s, presented his book on homosexuality to the House of Bishops in the 1980s and made many contributions to the life of the national and diocesan church.

Guest is collecting anecdotes about her father's time in Ottawa and Cornwall. She would be most grateful if those who would like to contribute to this endeavour would contact her at guest.christina.r@gmail.com.

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