

# Crosstalk

THE ANGLICAN  
DIOCESE OF OTTAWA

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June 2021



PHOTO: CANADIAN HERITAGE – PATRIMOINE CANADIEN

*Bishop Shane Parker offered a prayer and a blessing as part of the televised national commemoration ceremony for HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, at Christ Church Cathedral. Read more about the service from James Calkin, the Cathedral's director of music, and see more photos on pages 8 - 9.*

## Shaping the future

# Bishop asks parishes to work and discern together as one

BY LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS

Representatives from every parish across the diocese gathered online on April 20 for the launch of a major collaborative initiative to shape parish ministry for the future.

Bishop Shane Parker opened the evening's discussions by affirming the importance of parish ministry. Parishes are "where we experience community and belonging, a sense of place... where we are visibly and tangibly in communion with one another," he said. "It's where we feel our community of faith in the most profound ways. And for that reason, parishes need to be healthy, sustainable and well-resourced."

As critical as parishes are, "parishes are not really our church," the bishop said. "In our Anglican

tradition, our diocese is the church we all belong to." He then went on to explain that a helpful image is to see Christ as the head and the diocese as a body with two arms. One arm represents community ministries — "how we together use our resources and our skill to reach out into our community in the form of ministries that serve those who live precariously, are marginalized or disenfranchised." Parish ministry is the other, equal arm, Parker said. "The work that we're about to do in many ways asks us to think as a diocesan church about our parish ministry as a whole."

Then the bishop sketched the outline of the challenges the Diocese and larger church face. "As there have been changes in population distribution, in the composition

of our population, as there have been social and cultural changes, as secularism and pluralism and relativism have done their work, we have been changed," he said. "The shape of our parish ministry has been changed in many ways without our consent. There has been in the last 10, 15 years about a 30 percent drop in the shape of our parish ministry."

Framing the situation in personal terms, Parker said, "So I don't know about you, but I am not fond of being shaped by change. It's not a good feeling to have your life shaped by other factors than what you would choose. Instead," he said, "I would rather consciously guide change, and I hope and pray that you will join with me in guiding the changes we must make to the shape of our parish ministry at this time."

2021 is the 125th anniversary of the creation of the Anglican Diocese of Ottawa. In his sermon on Easter Sunday at Christ Church Cathedral, the bishop challenged his listeners to honour the past by vitalizing the future. He echoed that challenge to those gathered to begin the work of reshaping parish ministry in the diocese. "Let's think of ourselves as the generation who has been tasked to do this. Other generations in the 125 years of our diocese and before that were tasked with building the structure, the shape of parish ministry, and in many ways we're still living from the vestiges of that structure. But we are the generation that has been tasked to address fundamental issues in the shape of parish ministry," he said.

► Shape of ministry, page 3

FROM OUR BISHOP

# As summer begins and we seek rest...

It is very hard to believe that one year ago, on May 31, 2020, the day of Pentecost, I was consecrated to be your bishop. After the service I went out to the forecourt of the Cathedral to “pray for the city” as is traditional for a new bishop. As I prayed silently by the “Homeless Jesus” sculpture, bathed in the dramatic light of the sunset, I was conscious of the deep, reassuring presence of the Holy Spirit. I upheld the clergy and people of our diocese, letting my mind travel through the deaneries and parishes, and the names and faces that appeared as I prayed. And I knew all will be well, in time.

Since then, I pray daily for you, but the pandemic has allowed very few opportunities to pray with you in person. I have “been in church” on barely a dozen Sundays since becoming your bishop a year ago! However, like most of you, I have been online on Sundays, joining in worship with congregations across our diocese, and appreciating all the hard work that goes into producing “virtual worship” week in and week out.

PHOTO: ART BABYCH



**The Rt. Rev. Shane Parker, Bishop of Ottawa**

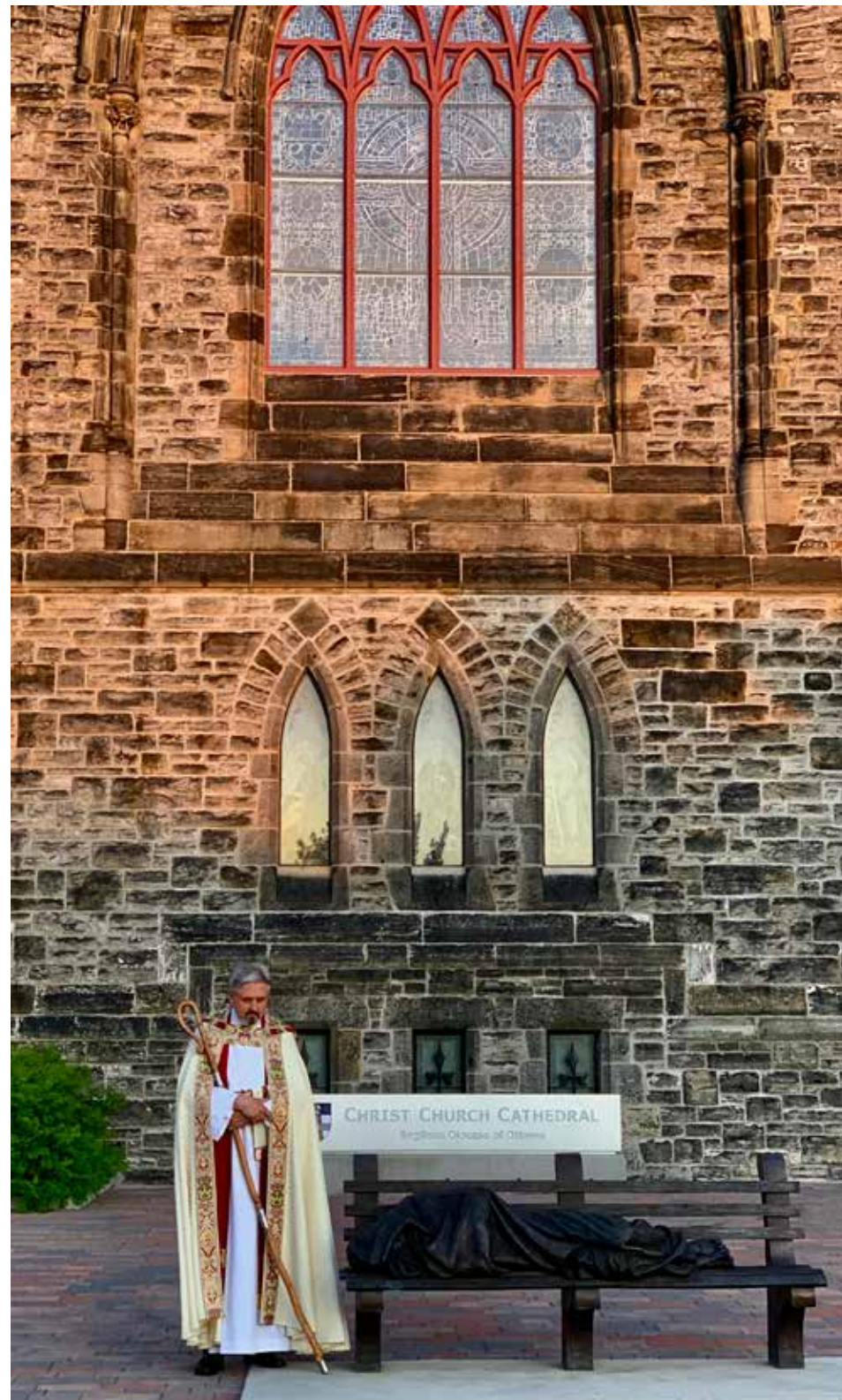
Shortly before I was consecrated, I wrote a pastoral note to our clergy, and offered the following thoughts, which I share now in a slightly modified form because they apply to all of us—especially as the summer begins and as we seek rest and refreshment after another long pandemic winter and spring.

Please be careful with your time and energy. We have all been adjusting and innovating in order to live out our baptismal vows, without the benefit of the familiar rhythms that anchor us. Some of our duties have disproportionately expanded, and the lines between working and not working have likely blurred for all of us.

Pace yourself and keep it simple. Measure what you feel you need to be doing now against what you would normally be doing, and if it seems like you are stressed and spread thin, then aggressively assess what you need to scale back. Stay within your natural gifts and strengths: the most important thing is for people to know that you care about them and are there for them.

If you feel like you are spending too much time in “Hollywood” mode, arrange for your parish to plug into a Sunday liturgy being streamed or offered by another parish. It is okay to take a Sunday off. If you are spending more time checking in, phoning, texting, or “meeting” than you ever have before, step back a bit, trusting that everyone is ministering to one another.

And if you don’t know when you are not working, ritualize your time off: turn off the phone, change your clothes, go for a walk, do something that is only about you (and if you have a partner or family, only about



them). Knowing when you are off work, and being able to say to a friend what that looks like is really important—and if you don’t have a cogent “here’s what I am doing on my time off these days” narrative, then take that seriously.

Take good care of yourselves and one another. If you don’t stay healthy in mind and body in the midst of

a crisis, you will be unable to help others: there is nothing selfish about self-care.

I pray that these summer months will bring many times of rest and relaxation to all, and that the Holy Spirit will visit you frequently, filling your hearts and minds with grace and peace. All will be well, in time.

## CLERGY NEWS



The **Rev. Cathy McCaig** will retire, effective Aug. 20, 2021.



The **Rev. Dr. Jon Martin** has been appointed the Incumbent of the Parish of March, effective July 12, 2021.



The **Ven. Eric Morin** has been appointed Archdeacon of West Quebec, effective June 1, 2021



The **Ven. David Selzer** will retire June 1, 2021. While serving as Interim Dean of St. George’s Cathedral in Kingston, he remains canonically resident in this diocese.



The team leading the process includes Anne-Marie Clysdale (co-chair), Ann Chaplin, the Rev. Tim Kehoe, the Rev. Rhonda Waters, Archdeacon Mark Whittall, as well as the Rev. Dr. Jon Martin (co-chair, photo on page 2) and Barbara Gagné.

### Shape of Parish Ministry from page 1

“We must take on this task together as a diocesan church,” he added. “The whole is greater than the parts. The body is much stronger and more resilient than any of the parts, than either arm, and the body needs to take on this task.”

Parker then introduced the team leading the work on the shape of parish ministry. The Rev. Jon Martin and Anne-Marie Clysdale are co-chairs, and the team members are Ann Chaplin, Barbara Gagné, the Rev. Tim Kehoe, the Rev. Rhonda Waters, and Archdeacon Mark Whittall. “They are the team that will facilitate our conversation, to keep us on track, to keep us focused, working very closely with me, over the next 18 months to bring us to the point where, God willing, you will tell me, because we have discerned together, what the shape of our parish ministry is to look like and where we are to have buildings.”

#### Stage 1: Generating a Parish Profile • May 2021 - Oct. 2021

One of the members of the Shape of Parish Ministry consultation team and another person assisting them will come to each of the parishes. “We will be sitting down to learn about your parish and get you to answer some questions for us. At the same time, we’ve also been going through the 10-year summaries of statistical return data for each of the congregations and parishes as well,” Martin explained. “We’re going to ask participants to prepare an approximate age demographic break down of the people on their parish list. ... Once that stage is done, we’re going to send that information back to you and say hey, did we get this right?”

#### Stage 2: Analyze and work with the profiles • Nov. 2021 – Feb. 2022

Martin explained that the team will analyze the data and work with parishes as they go through their profiles to understand them better but also to begin the work of looking at the profiles of their neighbours. “Some of you may assume that when I say neighbours that means maybe the parish next door and that could be the case, however, we’re also going to be looking at our neighbours in the sense of what do we have in common with some of the parishes across the diocese. If your parish offers a magnificent lunch program and someone on the other side of the diocese also does that, maybe the two of you would want to gather together for a conversation about what’s been working, what hasn’t, what the struggles are. ... We will be providing a toolkit to help you process the information you get and start to be curious about the information about other places.”

#### Stage 3: Gather with neighbours and build proposals • March 2022 – Aug. 2022

With support from the SPM team, participants will learn about change processes, and consensus decision making models, develop a curiosity about other parishes, meet with their neighbours very intentionally, and the SPM team will gather and organize proposals for discussion at the upcoming synod in October 2022.

“It’s going to be an intense 18 months of work. It will require all of us to bring our best selves and insights to the entire process,” said Martin.

— From the Rev. Jon Martin’s conversational overview of the 18-month process, presented to attendees before they broke into small groups for discussion.

## Diocesan parental leave policy updated

By Leigh Anne Williams

The Pregnancy Parental and Paternity Leave policy has been recently changed to reflect the ongoing commitment to fairness, equality and the importance of supporting staff during monumental life and family changes.

PHOTO: LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS



Any employee who is a new parent through birth or adoption is eligible for pregnancy or parental leave. Those in Quebec are also eligible for paternity leave according to provincial legislation. The Diocese has a SUB plan—supplemental

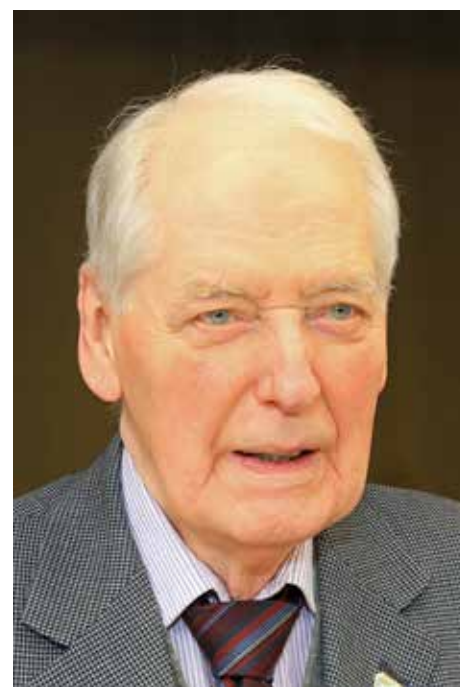
unemployment insurance benefits—in place that now supports every employee taking one of these leaves. The SUB plan allows for the employer to provide penalty-free top ups for employment insurance benefits to recipients of pregnancy, parental or paternity leave benefits. The top up supplements the 55% of salary provided by employment insurance, bringing it to 95% of the employee’s salary for up to 16 weeks while on pregnancy leave or up to 12 weeks while they are on parental leave, and up to 5 weeks while on paternity leave (Quebec only).

The Diocese made this important change to support staff and clergy while they are going through amazing life changes that the birth or adoption of a new child brings.

For more details, the policy is posted on the Human Resources page of the diocesan website: <https://www.ottawa.anglican.ca/images/human-resources/Pregnancy-Parental-Paternity-Leave-Policy-2021-03-HP.pdf?type=file>

## Remembering Canon Alan Winship

PHOTO: ARCHDEACON CHRIS DUNN



Canon Alan Winship provided legal advice to the Diocese for 40 years.

Canon Alan Winship, Chancellor Emeritus for the Diocese of Ottawa, 87, passed away on May 5, 2021.

Winship’s 40-year service to the diocese as Solicitor and later as Chancellor, began in the 1970s and

continued through the tenures of six bishops.

After earning degrees at the University of Saskatchewan, Carleton, Queen’s and finishing his training as a lawyer at the University of Toronto’s Osgoode Hall, Winship began his career in the civil service in the department of Trade and Commerce, including work on the government’s response to needs in developing countries. Later, after earning his law degree at Queen’s University, he worked at the Privy Council Office during the early days of Prime Minister Lester Pearson’s government.

In 1966, Winship left the civil service to article with the law firm of Stuart Wotherspoon, who was also the Chancellor of the Diocese. Wotherspoon was working on revising the diocesan Canons, Bylaws and Regulations. Winship began to help with that work and later led it.

Bishop Ed Lackey appointed Winship as Diocesan Solicitor in 1981. Winship also served as Chancellor from 2000 to 2004 and retired from work as the Diocesan solicitor in 2019.

—Leigh Anne Williams



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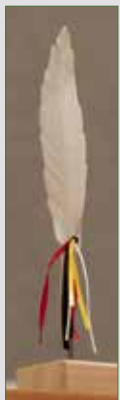
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*Crosstalk* acknowledges that we publish on the unceded traditional territory of the Algonquin Anishnaabe Nation.

May we dwell on this land with peace and respect.



# Dumont named Poet Laureate for the City of Ottawa

**A**lbert Dumont has been named as the English language Poet Laureate for the City of Ottawa. He is the first Indigenous poet to be appointed to the position in the city. A poet, storyteller and Algonquin Traditional Teacher, Dumont is also Indigenous Advisor to Bishop Shane Parker.

He has published five books of poetry and short stories and two children's books, written in three languages. His most recent book is *Sitting by the Rapids* (2018). When *Crosstalk* contacted him after his appointment was announced, he offered the following reflection.

PHOTO: CANADIAN HERITAGE – PATRIMOINE CANADIEN



*On April 17, Albert Dumont offered a tribute to the Duke of Edinburgh as a part of the National commemorative ceremony filmed at the Museum of History in Gatineau, Que. He asked the Creator to bless the Duke for his good work for mankind.*

## Looking forward to two years as Poet Laureate

by **Albert Dumont**

**A**fter giving it considerable thought, I have concluded that one life came to an end for me after I wrote my first poem and another life began. It was in 1993 when I marked five years of sobriety that I wrote a poem titled, "The Path my Children Would Travel." Five years of sobriety! "Only then," said a friend, "does a human being become who he/she is really meant to be in accordance with Creator's plan, after cleansing themselves in mind, body and spirit of the enormous dysfunction severe alcohol addiction brought into their lives." That first poem of mine was

like a goodbye kiss to the demons who had brought so much emotional pain and tears into my life.

You can believe or reject the notion that poetry —the putting together of words, produced by life experiences, observations or coming from the whisper of a human heart—is more powerful than any drug or alcoholic beverage. Poetry is that for me! It is the stone fired from David's sling that made its way to Goliath's forehead, dropping the giant to his knees. No drug nor the strongest alcoholic beverage could kill a grotesque creature. Monsters do not attack other monsters! They are allies, working together to destroy families

and communities! Poetry is the oak shield I needed to defend myself against what was slowly shredding my heart into bits and pieces.

As Poet Laureate for Ottawa, I will do my best to promote what I believe in. The homeless young woman or man suffering from addiction or mental deterioration will find poetry dedicated to them in the journal I will keep over the next two years. I will write poetry touching on areas perhaps never contemplated before by any other Poet Laureate in Canada. The ignored and forgotten people of a Canadian city will have a voice in my poems. Their stories and songs will not be hidden any longer.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

**Dear Editor**

**F**ebruary's *Anglican Journal* article, 'Rethinking darkness and light; Leaders in the Lutheran and United churches on language and anti-Blackness', describes the damaging impact of language and its power to perpetuate systemic racism.

I couldn't help noticing in March's *Crosstalk* the name of this Diocesan document: WEBMAIL-OUTLOOK-SPAM-WHITELIST-BLACKLIST-filters.pdf ...exploring further, I discovered white represents 'trusted' information and black represents spam.

According to the article 'Whitelist,' 'Blacklist': The New Debate Over Security Terminology (dice.com) industry leaders are working towards change. Although still used by some, these terms are no longer used by others, such as the British Intelligence Agency and Cisco's cybersecurity. In fact, as the article explains, the terms are unclear and must be explained to new employees. I imagine people of colour are harmed listening to such explanations and using these terms, while white people continue to hear the message, 'white is best'.

I ask the Diocese to change the document and republish the link in *Crosstalk*.

**Karen Luyendyk**  
(she/her)  
St. Paul's in Almonte

*Editor's note:*  
Thank you for bringing this instance to our attention. The document has been edited to rely on the terms Trusted Sender and Spam Sender. The new link for instructions on how to increase email security is : [https://www.ottawa.anglican.ca/images/Notices/trusted-sender\\_spam-sender.docx](https://www.ottawa.anglican.ca/images/Notices/trusted-sender_spam-sender.docx)

## PARISH NEWS

# StMartins@Home: Bringing 'Church' Home

By the Rev. Dr Mary-Cate Garden

Over the past year of lockdowns, clergy and parishes have responded with a variety of inventive online solutions to bring church to parishioners. Yet, for all the creativity there is one group who has remained out of reach. St Martin's, like most parishes, has a number of parishioners who are unable to access online worship. This was a deep concern for us especially as these isolated people were some of our most beloved and long-time members.

In the midst of St Martin's quest for a solution, there came a moment of serendipity. Last Christmas, a promotional brochure landed on Ian Marsh's desk at work. Ian is a Warden at St Martin's. Instead of a glossy paper bulletin this was something new: a video brochure. The brochure came in the form of a book which when the cover was opened a video began to play. Being engineers, Ian and his colleagues took apart the brochure, figured out how it worked and then tossed it into a drawer. Shortly after that, Ian came up with a simple but brilliant plan. What if, he proposed, we were able to source these brochures and could figure out a way to upload our Sunday services to these devices and deliver them to our parishioners? It was so simple and yet so innovative.

Just in time for Easter, two of the younger members of our congregation, Bridget and Margot West, delivered video brochures to three parishioners who had agreed to be testers. For them it was a bit of a leap of faith. After all, it's one thing to hear that you simply open the cover, and it is an entirely different thing to find out that's exactly what happens. As one of our parishioners said "I wasn't so sure about it but I opened it up...and there you were Rev'd Mary-Cate!" This parishioner is now one of the biggest fans of what we call StMartins@Home.

The video brochures are easy to use. Think of those greeting cards that open up and play 'Happy Birthday': it's that simple. Our devices have three buttons: volume up/down, pause and play. Each time they are shut the video restarts automatically making it possible to use them without ever pushing a button. Setting up the brochures each week is straightforward. They are rechargeable and with 2 GB of storage each brochure easily holds a Sunday service.

One of the keys to this ministry is the delivery. Each participant has two dedicated machines; when a new one

PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



**Each week, parish volunteers deliver the Sunday service in the form of a video brochure to members unable to access online worship.**

is dropped off, the old one is picked up. We have StMartins@Home members who live in houses, apartments and retirement homes. Each delivery is a bit different and tailored to the type of residence.

When we began 'StMartins@Home,' our goal was to develop a way for people without computer or Internet access to share in the Sunday worship but, like all good ministries, that was only the beginning.

Bridget and Margot use StMartins@Home for their Grade 11 volunteer hours and towards the Duke of Edinburgh awards. For them it is "super nice" to get out and safely see people. Most of all, they like seeing how pleased people are to receive StMartins@Home. Ian often thinks of his own mother who wasn't able to use computers. For Ian, StMartins@Home is "just so nice [after all] how often do you get to brighten someone's day?"

Each of our members uses their video brochure in a way that suits them. Most save it for Sunday

morning and watch at the same time we met in person. Many watch the service more than once. One member reported that StMartins@Home is "absolutely splendid and I am so thrilled" whilst another said, "It is a very good thing... I may not be in church but at least I am taking part."

That is what makes this ministry so wonderful: people can take part in the services. They see a familiar place and familiar faces in the priest and readers and they hear the words and music that they know and love and need.

Is StMartins@Home a perfect solution? Of course not, there are some limits to the device, but StMartins@Home is a simple, relatively affordable and highly-effective way of bringing 'church' to people. StMartins@Home may not be a perfect solution, but it is a near-perfect ministry. It is a joyful, Spirit-filled endeavour, and it is a ministry of hospitality. Not only are the members gaining, they are offering back. As I write this, St Martin's received a donation from one member as a thanksgiving and so that others could benefit.

In these days of high-tech offerings StMartins@Home also reminds us of the value of even simple ways of reaching out. For our parish seeking a way to care for our community, a moment of serendipity became an Holy Spirit moment. Out of that, a vital ministry emerged as St Martin's sought to live out their faith, loving and caring for each other as we ourselves are cared for by God our Creator.

*For more information about the video brochures or for ordering information please email the Rev. Mary-Cate Garden [megarden@stmartinsottawa.ca](mailto:megarden@stmartinsottawa.ca)*

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The Anglican Church caring for the Community

# Affordable Housing: Diocese looks back and beyond 2021

BY DAVID HUMPHREYS

The diocese's Homelessness and Affordable Housing Working Group (HAHWG) is moving into a new phase that is expected to place greater emphasis on partnering with other denominations and stakeholders and expanded communications.

The group met in April to begin looking beyond 2021 and the campaign to create 125 housing units in celebration of the diocese's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. Bishop Shane Parker, who has called on the diocese to "embrace the challenges that face us" will participate in a meeting with the group in June to discuss plans for the future.

The visioning exercise will consider ways to add value by offering unique and effective support to parishes. The eight-member group will be building on experience of the last six years with its original mandate clear in the rearview mirror. They will also look at how best to engage with potential partners and the community.

## Report Card

Parishes in the diocese have been supporting affordable housing for many years. In 2014, Diocesan Synod formalized the cause by calling for "systematic consideration of homelessness and affordable housing in our stewardship and disposition of church property and real estate, engaging with the world through cooperation with ecumenical and interfaith partners and non-profit organizations in projects, advocacy and prayerful consideration of the needs of the homeless and inadequately housed."

Among the specific responsibilities that the Community Ministries Committee proposed in 2015 for the working group are those to:

- develop a plan to engage all parts of the diocese in action, advocacy, learning and prayer.
- establish an inventory of projects related to homelessness and affordable housing in which diocesan groups were already engaged.
- consider ways in which the Community Ministries' day programs could play a central role in a diocesan strategy.

The collective experience of the eight-member working group bodes well for implementing the co-operation and partnership anticipated in the Synod resolution on a person-to-person basis. The Chair is Sue Garvey, retired executive director of Cornerstone Housing for Women. Members are the Rev Canon PJ Hobbs, the diocesan director or mis-



**The groundbreaking ceremony for the housing project at Christ Church Bell's Corners was a milestone in efforts to create 125 units of affordable housing in time for the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Diocese.**

sion; Moira Alie, project coordinator at Alliance to End Homelessness Ottawa; Jim Davison of the diocesan Real Estate Working Group; Archdeacon Kathryn Otley of Christ Church Bells Corners; Joyce Potter, retired vice president of Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation and director at City of Ottawa Housing; Gay Richardson, a founding director of Multifamily Housing Initiative (MHI) and David Humphreys, a retired journalist and government relations consultant (writing this report).

Since 2015, the working group's main focus has been support for projects initiated by parishes and the day programs while encouraging and supporting new initiatives throughout the diocese.

Affordable housing projects are underway or in the final planning process at Christ Church Bells Corners, Julian of Norwich in Nepean, St Thomas the Apostle (Ellwood House extension) in Alta Vista. When completed they will allow the diocese to achieve its goal of creating 125 units for the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

In 2019, the group organized a forum attended by 71 delegates from parishes across the diocese. Its purpose was to help parishes participate regardless of circumstances. Workshops covered all aspects for parish participation: how to get started even if the parish has no money or land to offer, rural considerations and innovative partnerships.

More recently, St. John the Evangelist Smiths Falls, St James Perth and St. James Carleton Place have all begun to explore innovative projects in partnership with community stakeholders.

At least 14 parishes are members of Multifamily Housing Initiative, a coalition that builds affordable units in Ottawa. The parish of Good Shepherd Barrhaven has played an instrumental role in the development of The Haven, a 98-home project in Barrhaven that opened in 2017. Anglicans have been active in the development of the newly-completed MHI Veterans' House on CFB Rockcliffe Airbase Lands. MHI is also a principal partner along with the Diocese in the Julian of Norwich project. Back in the mid-'80s Anglicans were founding members of West Nepean Ecumenical Residential Projects, which built Harmer House, providing 60 apartments for seniors' independent living. Several parishes participate in MHI's annual fundraising walk, notably teams from St. John's Elgin St. and St Bartholomew's New Edinburgh.

Many parishes have demonstrated support for the homeless by providing meals, safe daytime space and counsel. Others have provided affordable housing on an individual basis. The Parish of the Valley in Pembroke supports the community food bank and the Renfrew County Poverty Action Network. St. Paul's Almonte rented a house at highly subsidized

rent to a refugee family and is looking at more long-term reimagining of its entire property. St. John's Richmond renovated its rectory, also to house a refugee family. Trinity Ottawa near Carleton University rented its rectory to up to six students. St Mary Magdalene Chelsea raises funds for the Chelsea Housing Corporation's current project, 12 units of affordable housing for seniors as well as for the Quebec Association for Independent Living. St John's South March leased land for the Blue Heron Cooperative that provides 81 units in Kanata North and is actively engaged with the cooperative.

## Moving forward

The Homeless and Affordable Housing Working Group began planning for a workshop to address the myths about affordable housing captured in the acronym NIMBY, not in my backyard. Yes in My Back Yard (YIMBY) was being designed to help build community engagement for affordable housing. While the demands of the pandemic have intervened, YIMBY remains as a project in progress. Work is well advanced, in line with the group's initial mandate, on an inventory of housing initiatives broken down by categories.

As well as the parish-initiated projects that are under way, some parishes have leased land for developments that revert back to them at the end of a lease. In addition to the Blue Heron Co-op these include Beek Lindsay Seniors Residences in Cornwall, lease reverting back to Trinity Cornwall in 2024 and Serson Clarke Apartments, reverting back to St Luke's Ottawa in 2031. One parish, St. John's Elgin Street, sold land outright to a developer who built the 119-unit Somerset Gardens, some units classified as affordable.

The central role of day programs has never been in doubt. As homelessness has increased in the diocese, the Community Ministries' programs have expanded services to meet ever-rising demand. In Ottawa, Centre 454, The Well and St Luke's table pooled resources and partnered with the City of Ottawa during the pandemic. In Cornwall, Centre 105 substantially increased its supply of meals, added staff, and renovated washrooms for general use.

The Diocese's commitment to housing is echoed nationally and even internationally. The Anglican Church of Canada committed to action, advocacy and prayer on the issue in the Joint Assembly of 2013. The Archbishop of Canterbury's Commission on Housing, Church and Community has called for homelessness and affordable housing to be a major element of the church's mission in the coming years.

PHOTOS ARCHDEACON CHRIS DUNN



*Gay Richardson, Canon Sue Garvey and Rev. Monique Stone spoke with passion about affordable housing projects at a Housing Forum in May, 2019.*

# Perth housing proposal sparks interest

By David Humphreys

Lanark County, struggling to find more badly needed affordable housing, is welcoming a proposal from St James Perth that would lift a barrier to expanding rentals in the town.

The county has a waiting list for affordable housing of 773, of which 362 are in Perth (population 6,000). There are no plans to build more units in the town this year, and St James's proposal represents the only affordable housing initiative.

Emily Hollington, Lanark's social services manager, said the county reached out to area landlords and came up empty. A big part of the problem is landlord concern that subsidized tenants will damage property and will be without the means to cover repairs. At a time when rental rates have escalated there is little incentive for landlords to help. A similar outreach in Ottawa last fall fell far short of its goal of housing a hundred households, in part for the same reason. A campaign led by the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness Ottawa to enlist landlords succeeded in housing 30 families.

PHOTO ARCHDEACON CHRIS DUNN



*St. James Perth*

Nine hundred calls were made to landlords.

The St James proposal is very interesting, Hollington said, because

it would respond directly to one of the landlords' main concerns. "Our subsidies always go to the tenants while St. James are looking at how to help the landlord."

The Perth campaign is spearheaded by St James rector, the Rev Ken Davis, David Kroetsch, chair, and the parish outreach committee. They aim to adapt from a successful refugee housing program in which the parish played a significant role. Building on that experience, they are proposing to identify landlords with suitable space or with upgrading potential, sign agreements with them whereby the program would bring the units up to code if necessary, oversee the property during the rental tenure and, critically, guarantee to the landlord that the property

would be returned in the same condition in which it was rented. The proposal relies heavily on volunteer time and labour and the success of a fundraising drive.

# Cornerstone Housing for Women hopes to extend time at new location

By David Humphreys

Cornerstone Housing for Women's new Physical Distancing Centre came through the pandemic winter free of COVID-19 outbreaks, successfully providing safe and secure housing for 125 women.

The last of several vaccination clinics in April lifted the spirits of both residents and staff, executive director Sarah Davis says. "The hope is coming back."

The distancing centre, established with the support of the City of Ottawa, will be maintained at least until the end of July. Davis is working with the city to extend the tenure until a permanent solution is found. There is no question of returning to the shelter's O'Connor Street location which was overcrowded for 61.

The women are happy in their new quarters. Since she came to Cornerstone in January Davis has found a "resoundingly favourable response" from the residents.

She has spent an intense three months in what she describes as a steep learning curve, talking to staff and residents under COVID-19 restrictions to understand the impact of the move last December.

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# Music helps overcome pandemic limitations at national commemorative service

PHOTOS: CANADIAN HERITAGE – PATRIMOINE CANADIEN

BY JAMES CALKIN

On April 17, Canada observed a national commemoration of the life and legacy of HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. The service, broadcast live nationwide and online around the world, originated from our own Christ Church Cathedral. As the Anglican Cathedral in Canada's capital, Christ Church, its clergy and musicians have long played an important role in shaping and leading national commemorations and state funerals.

Within hours of the announcement of the Duke's death on April 9, coinciding as it did with the third wave of the pandemic and some of the most restrictive public health measures imposed thus far, it was clear that this particular state service (like its counterpart in the UK) would be very different from its antecedents and, more to the point, the one conceived over many years of planning. There would be no large in-person gathering of clergy or faith leaders, of officers of state or politicians, of ordinary citizens.

There would be no large processions, no live performances by guest musicians. And there would be no choir.

In line with our own Diocesan rules and government advice, the decision was taken to staff this national commemorative service with just two cantors: Assistant Director of Music Andrew McAnerney and Stephanie Manias, one of the most exciting and versatile professional singers in Montreal's choral and early music scene, with myself as the Cathedral's director of music at the organ.

We were fortunate that much, though not all, of the music originally envisioned for this service was able to be re-imagined and to maintain its place.

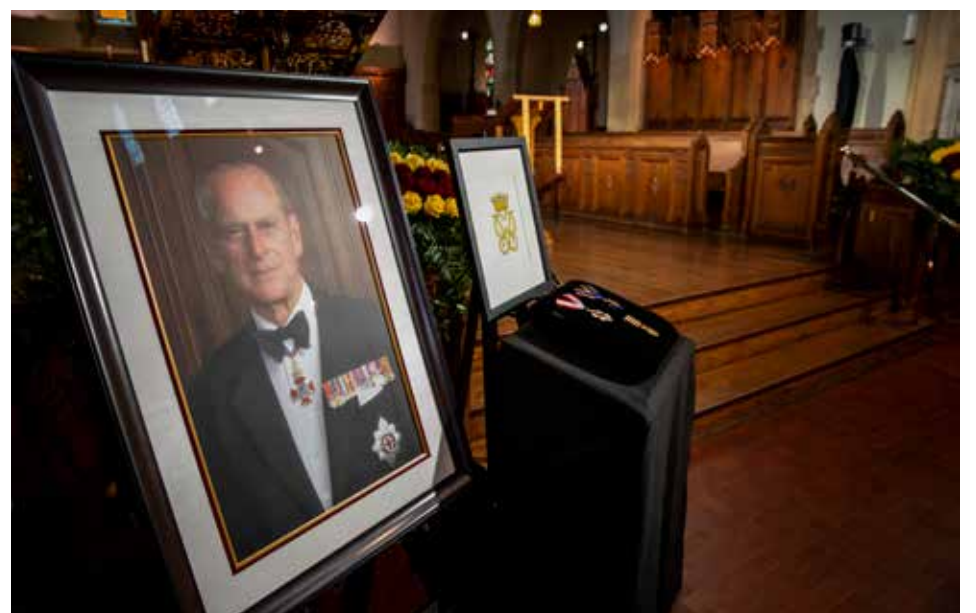
► Commemorative service, p. 10



*The cathedral's chancel was the focus point for a commemorative display in honour of the Duke of Edinburgh. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Former Governor General David Johnston both paid tribute to Prince Philip via broadcast messages from other locations during the televised service.*



PHOTOS: CANADIAN HERITAGE – PATRIMOINE CANADIEN







**Commemorative service  
From p. 9**

All of it had been carefully chosen to reflect not only the Duke individually but also his place as consort to Elizabeth II, Queen of Canada as well as the cultural resources and heritage of this country.

The service began with “Kontakion of the Faithful Departed” by Toronto-based composer Stephanie Martin. With words from the Eastern Byzantine rite the piece was a reminder of the late Duke’s Greek heritage and the Orthodox Christian faith into which he was born.

The psalm chosen for the day was Psalm 139: 1-11 (from the BCP *Forms of Prayer to be Used at Sea*) sung to a chant by Parry – an acknowledgement of the late Duke’s naval service and maritime associations.

Maurice Duruflé’s exquisite setting of the “Notre Père” was performed by Ms Manias as part of the general intercessions that day. Appropriately for a state event both official languages were well represented in the service music.

The hymn “I Vow to Thee My Country”, national and royal anthems and a postlude by the 19th century Canadian composer Samuel P. Warren completed the live musical offerings that day—all of it a reminder of the transformative power of art, even in these dislocating and isolating pandemic days, to give shape, form and voice to moments of collective thanksgiving, remembering and celebrating.

**Below – Musicians James Calkin, Stephanie Manias and Andrew McAnerney filled the cathedral with music for the broadcasted service.**

PHOTOS: CANADIAN HERITAGE – PATRIMOINE CANADIEN



## 20th Anniversary of the Cathedral Girls’ Choir

The year 2021-2022 will mark the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Cathedral Girls’ Choir by Bishop Shane Parker, who was Dean of the Cathedral at the time. It remains to this day the only all-girl liturgical choir in Canada and is an integral and vibrant part of the Cathedral’s music ministry and outreach. Under the leadership of founding director Tim Piper and (since 2012) myself, the Choir has grown in its confidence and capacity, toured the UK and Europe (2012 & 2016), Asia (2019) as well as the US and Canada and, like our Choir of Boys, been a gateway for countless girls and young women to a life of faith, service and leadership. Notwithstanding COVID-19 and the restrictions currently in place, planning will soon begin to mark and celebrate this milestone!

—James Calkin

### New beginnings for Christ Church Cathedral’s choirs

As we have read in the COVID Communiqué of late there are hopeful signs that the pandemic and the protective restrictions we have lived under for over a year will, with increasing vaccinations, soon wane. The drought we have all experienced in our community-building and music-making may, God willing, soon be over. We in the Cathedral Music Department are ready and are excited! If you would like to share in this new beginning, to share your voice, talent, ideas, and energy then Andrew McAnerney and James Calkin want to hear from you!

The Cathedral Choirs offer an unparalleled professional level musical education, a dynamic pace, a welcoming, supportive community, opportunities for travel, and for leadership development. We have places for boys and girls from age 8 and, in our mixed-voice adult ensemble, for experienced and keen choral singers.

If you want to be a part of this world-class choral community or would like more information then drop a line to James Calkin, Director of Music at: [james.calkin@ottawacathedral.ca](mailto:james.calkin@ottawacathedral.ca). Inquiries are always warmly received.

## FAITH • FILLED GENEROSITY

The Episcopal Network for Stewardship (TENS) is presenting free webinars in 2021 as well as many up-to-date Stewardship resources



2020 was a different year. This year The Episcopal Network for Stewardship (TENS) will present free webinars featuring experts and their advice for 2021 based on knowledge learned from 2020 – a pandemic year.

A TENS webinar consists of 60 minutes of content presented on a slide deck. Included will be up to 30 minutes of an optional Q&A session.

If you would like to learn more about TENS, please visit [www.tens.org](http://www.tens.org). The username is 1PETER, and the password is FOUR:10.

Now is the perfect time to begin your Stewardship ministry planning for 2021. Look for workshop and registration details. These resources will be very helpful!

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Centre 105 (Cornwall), Centre 454, St Luke's Table, and The Well are four day programs providing nutritious food and essential services. Cornerstone Housing for Women is a network of women's shelters - including temporary and permanent housing. Ottawa Pastoral Counselling Centre offers digital counselling to people suffering from mental health issues. Our Refugee Ministry supports people to transition from perilous situations in their home countries to the safety of Canada.

*“ I give because I believe in our ministries, and every drop in the bucket makes a difference. I give because I can. ”*  
(Claire M.)

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**TODAY 4 TOMORROW (T4T) provides funding for these important ministries: All My Relations (AMR) and the Youth Internship Program (YIP).**

**All My Relations** engages people in a journey of listening, truth-telling, and reconciliation with Indigenous People and seeks to heal our shared history through blanket exercises and study groups.

Our **Youth Internship Program** is offered digitally during the pandemic. It is a paid internship program for youth ages 17 – 21 and provides social connection, faith formation, leadership development, and meaningful work. It also includes resources to address the mental health crises that many of our youth are experiencing.

*“ For I know the plans I have for you... They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. ”*  
(Jeremiah 29:11)



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### HOW COVID-19 HAS IMPACTED OUR COMMUNITIES

- estimated 200 people sleeping outside in fall 2020 and homelessness crisis worsens
- since October 1,900 people including children sleeping in shelters
- more people served by our day programs now homeless – 80% compared to 50% before the pandemic
- calls to the Ottawa Pastoral Counselling Centre for crisis mental health intervention double in 2020



*The number of people living on the streets has spiked during COVID. I came across a young man lying shivering on his sleeping bag, poorly dressed and in great distress. I find this social reality very disturbing. I am trying to figure out how I can help.*

(Jane M.)



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# Trinity Old Ottawa South says farewell and thanks

PHOTO JUSTIN TANG



In 2013, Trinity Anglican Church in Old Ottawa South welcomed their new priest, the Rev. Arran Thorpe. Eight years later, his faithful, kind and important work has touched many people and made a big impact in the community. Among highlights of his tenure, Trinity became home to a program to help seniors stay connected, has helped and supported 62 Syrian refugees, and its walls have become canvases for two murals created by Indigenous artist Micque Michelle and local youth.

In 2019, I came to Trinity looking for a volunteer opportunity during my summer off from journalism studies at Carleton. Later, when a communications position opened up, Arran, as he is affectionately known by everyone, encouraged me to apply and advocated for me. It's been an experience that has changed my perception of what a church can mean to a community. As Arran moves to a new parish, many people are expressing their thanks and appreciation. I have been fortunate enough to help a few of them share these stories.

—Paige Kahkonen

When I first met Arran in 2013, he was interviewing to be the Incumbent for Trinity Anglican Church. ...

Two years later, I became Rector's Warden and began to work more closely with him. He was the leader

who empowered people, he never told you what to do.

Growing up as a young child and going to church with my father who was a Warden like myself, I always knew and thought of a priest as an old, traditional, and powerful man.

I realized over the years that when kids go to church, they don't question their belief. It is not until you get older that you start to question your faith. It made me realize that I needed someone like Arran, a young priest who offered some skepticism of it all, yet held a belief that was almost unshakeable.

He helped me to break down the definition of priesthood and to look at it quite differently as a calling. He helped me renew my faith, in a very special way

—Heather Maclachlan  
Churchwarden

In 2016, I fled my home country of Burundi, leaving behind my pregnant wife, son and unborn child as I tried to start a life for us in Canada.

I was looking for somewhere to go to church, and someone referred me to Trinity Anglican Church. This is where I first met Arran. He took me in as if I was his child. I had been living at a shelter, and Arran mobilized the community and found me a place to stay. He gave me an office and connected me with people

to help me pursue the studies I had left behind in my home country. He helped me set up my WhatsApp account, and let me use the church's wifi so I could communicate with my family. He gave me winter boots. Looking back, I couldn't have made it and lived in Canada if I hadn't met Arran.

It was because of Arran I was able to bring my family into Canada in 2020 and was able to hold my son for the first time in four years. It was because of Arran that I met my second son, for the first time ever.

Arran and the church helped mobilize everything to make me happy. Even now, they help me pay for my house while I finish my studies.

Everything I have here in Canada, my family, my studies, my house, it's because of him. If I try to describe Arran, I don't think he is a pastor, or a priest. I think Arran is a messenger from God because through him, I can see God's love.

—Guido Niyokwizigira  
Burundian Refugee

In 2018, when I was working in the daycare at Trinity, I was trying to help bring my nephew and his family who lived in Iraq to Canada and was expecting the process to take four or five years. My supervisor suggested I talk to Arran. That conversation changed everything...

I explained my situation. Immediately, he began to help me —whether it was reminding me to fill out certain paperwork in an email late at night or messaging me early in the morning telling me the address of an office I needed to go to with my documents. Arran was with me every step of the way.

We were approved a week after we applied. From then, it took only one year and three months until my family arrived in Canada.

There were so many things I didn't expect. I didn't expect Arran to be there for me at any time in the day...

to help me with the entire process ... to fill out my paperwork personally. I know it wasn't just me, there's a wall in the church with the names of all the families that the church has been able to help sponsor. Now that wall is almost covered.

Arran gave me a gift, and I know one day if I can, I will help someone else the way Arran helped me. It didn't matter that we were of a different religion, or that we spoke a different language, or even the difference in our complexion. Arran taught me that no matter who is in front of you, if you can help, help.

—Alwand Majeed

Daycare Worker at Trinity Church

It was 2014, and the hashtag #boringmajor was trending on Ottawa Twitter. It had become so popular in the city, that eventually someone had even sent me a custom shirt, letters bold across the front.

I was scheduled to meet Arran outside of Trinity Anglican Church to unveil their first mural, and Arran had asked me to wear my #boringmajor shirt. When I got there, I could see that he was wearing a t-shirt that said #boringpriest. He had made the matching shirt, in what I suspect was an attempt to make me feel better about myself, which was really thoughtful of him.

I've never been a parishioner of his, but I could tell the love that people had for him.

—Ottawa Mayor Jim Watson

I honestly don't think I did that much. I just said yes to people.

I remember someone once said, 'the church is one generation away from extinction', and in order for us to continue, we need to grow. I think moving forward, there's lots of ways the church can change to become more accepting. I think we have room to be more accepting of the LG-BTQ2+ community, to the BIPOC [Black, Indigenous, people of colour] community, to young people, and make space for them.

That's really hard to do, and I think I could've done better. You can always do better, I guess that's just how I feel.

I hope that as I leave, the church continues to be mindful of those who live on the margins... to be community-focused,... to practice love, and love of your neighbor. The neighbor, not necessarily meaning the one who is next door to the church but people who are far away as well.

Thinking back about my eight years here, I am so thankful, and it's been a pleasure and a privilege to be the priest and pastor at Trinity. It's a small church with a big heart.

—The Rev. Arran Thorpe

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# Tracking energy use in church buildings

By Leigh Anne Williams

The Ottawa chapter of Greening Sacred Spaces (GSS) is encouraging Anglican parishes to register in its Energy Benchmarking project, which aims to help faith communities understand and reduce their energy consumption.

Participating faith groups allow GSS to access their utility records in order to produce a report charting energy consumption, and next year, GSS also plans to provide a peer comparison chart that “will rank the churches that are participating in the program based on their energy usage intensity along with some other factors,” Hannah Morgan, the benchmarking program lead, explained. “And it will tell you if you are in the red zone, green zone, if you need improvement.”

She hastened to clarify that the benchmarking reports are not energy audits, “which is where you would see exactly what areas need improvement in the building. This is more just how the building is operating in general,” she said, offering an example of a local Anglican church that saw its usage skyrocket by 20% between 2017 and 2018. “They might not have been aware of that or realized how much it had gone up, so by having this report, ... [they can look at] what was different between 2017 and 2018? Was it just because they started doing more in the church, was it open more? Or did an HVAC system malfunction? You see where the abnormalities are and try to figure out what happened. Or on the other side, if you reduced usage, you can look at what you did. It gives you that starting point,” she said.

According to Morgan, some of the benefits of benchmarking are:

- **Supporting stewardship.** By reducing energy consumption and your energy budget you are encour-



How green are you?

PHOTO LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS

aging members of your faith group to become stewards of their building and community

- **Addressing climate change and targeting carbon consumption.**

Buildings account for 42% of a typical faith community’s carbon footprint. Reducing your building’s carbon footprint can make a significant difference and aligns with provincial and federal targets to help reduce climate change and greenhouse gas emissions.

- **Saving energy and money.**

Benchmarking alone and becoming aware of how your building is doing, usually helps reduce energy use on average of about 2.4% per year. It doesn’t seem like a lot but just being more aware can change behavior and habits.

- **Guiding investments and operations.** Parishes that might be planning to do a retrofit or a renova-

tion or some sort of upgrade can use this information to figure out next steps.

Energy use audits are usually the next step that GSS recommends, and it offers a free 60-page Do-It-Yourself audit to help faith groups identify what improvements are needed in their buildings. GSS is also collaborating with Carleton University to have engineering students do site visits and offer advice to faith groups. GSS also offers fee-for-service audits that usually range from \$200 to \$2000.

There is no cost to faith groups for the energy benchmarking reports. GSS Ottawa is a program of the interfaith organization Faith and the Common Good. The Ontario Trillium Foundation has provided a grant for 2019 to 2022 to help support education and awareness of energy usage and environmental sustainability, Morgan explains. “Our target for the Ottawa area is 50 faith communities.” When she spoke to *Crosstalk* in late April, she said 34 faith communities had signed up and others were expressing interest. GSS could produce benchmarking reports for more than 50 groups, Morgan said, but in order to receive the annual reports in 2021 and 2022, GSS needed the groups to sign up and get started before the end of August.

## Local parish experiences

St. Thomas the Apostle in Ottawa received its first benchmarking report from GSS in March. Derwyn Sangster, chair of St. Thomas’s Stewardship Committee, said he is anxious to see the peer comparison chart, which won’t be available until next year when GSS has more participat-

ing groups to include in its ranking. “If we compare poorly to others, for example, it gives us a potential sense of urgency for energy-saving renovations,” he said. “Over time, it would clearly allow us to monitor the energy impact of any renovations we do.” In the meanwhile, however, he said, GSS had provided some preliminary information and comparisons to help interpret the results in St. Thomas’s first report. He noted that St. Thomas had already done an energy audit with GSS about eight years ago and some renovations had been done. “This report will provide some background information that can be taken into account as we look at renovations planning for the parish,” he said.

All Saints Westboro is also participating in the program and received its first report in the fall, said Warden Gaetan Hache. All Saints also did an energy audit some years ago and has done a lot of the type of renovations that are often recommended. “I’m not sure exactly where we’re going to go with this because we have done a lot of the big stuff,” Hache said.

“There’s not much you can do with a building that’s 100 years old, but it is nice to compare ourselves with others and certainly, now that we have a baseline, we’ll be able to see [the results] if we start making other changes.”

Hache mentioned that during the pandemic, All Saints had added insulation to the floor of the chapel, the oldest part of the church, where people’s feet used to freeze in the winter. “That will be a little reduction, whether it will show up on the numbers or not,” Hache said. “From now on, when we do things like that, we should be able to see some kind of improvement to the numbers.”

## How to sign up

Register your faith community with the Faith and the Common Good online national network. Create an account, put in your community’s building address and contact information.

Log into that account and fill out the online building information/energy benchmarking form. It asks for more specific details specifically about the building — age, square footage, type of renovations done in the last 10 years.

Fill out the consent forms from the utility companies (Hydro Ottawa, Enbridge, Hydro One) and email them to GSS. GSS will send the forms to the utility companies to get the data. (Unfortunately, this is only in Ontario, but if there are Quebec parishes that are interested, GSS Ottawa will assist and can also connect parishes with Green Churches Network, which is based in Quebec and is a partner organization.

TO FIND MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR ENERGY BENCHMARKING PROGRAM AT GSS OTTAWA AND HOW TO BECOME A COMMUNITY PARTICIPANT

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PARISH NEWS

# Creatively mixing church and community

Sue Evans, co-ordinator of the Centre for Creative Living in Almonte, Ont., describes the Centre as “an interesting experiment that has taken hold.”

There have been some interruptions and accommodations during the pandemic, but five years after it took shape, the CFCL is living up to its name and mission offering “contemplative practices to nurture body, mind and spirit and to increase the natural ability in everyone to live and work more creatively, compassionately and joyfully.” People come to explore six programs: drawing, painting and mixed media; contemplative photography; creative writing; Feldenkrais, meditation and yoga.

The Centre (CFCL) is now a permanent program and integral part of St. Paul’s Anglican Church, but it didn’t start out that way. It wasn’t part of Evans’ plans when she moved to Almonte after retiring from her work in Ottawa as executive director of Multifaith Housing Initiative (and previously as a chaplain at Ottawa West End Community Chaplaincy). When she began attending St. Paul’s, the Rev. Pat Martin, knew of her experience with affordable housing and asked if she would facilitate conversations about possible projects for St. Paul’s. There was some interest in providing housing for artists who could not afford to move into seniors’ residences.



**Sue Evans**

In the course of her conversations with local artists, however, Evans asked them a question close to her own heart: Did they see their work in art as a spiritual practice? Almost everyone she asked said yes, which inspired her to start a small group exploring contemplative photography, a personal passion of hers. Photographer Alan Mirabelli also agreed to be a mentor for the group. Evans also organized a photography retreat. “I decided to try this concept to see if it would get traction and then out of that, maybe the church would see some approach to providing housing or community space.”

She also gathered artists and others from the community into an advisory group. As the photography group got established, Evans met Jessie Carson, a local writer and a yoga teacher, who agreed to facilitate a creative writing group and a yoga group.

St. Paul’s also said yes to the idea of a pilot project using the church hall as space.

“I nurtured each of the groups to be self-sustaining. I did not want a job,” said Evans. She modelled the idea on AA meetings—“there’s a process. People know what’s going to happen, and if somebody’s away it doesn’t matter.” That was important, she adds, because many of the participants were retired people who might travel at any time of the year. Gradually, the other programs were added. The groups operate collaboratively. “Some are more skilled than others and they are very happy to share what they know and do.”

## On Turning Seventy

Is there life still,  
some holy aliveness  
yet to be born  
within the midst of misplaced keys  
and names hidden beyond the  
horizon  
of fickle memory?

Are there things to do still,  
not some list of bucket pleasures  
but fertile seeds  
sprouting in our troubled hearts  
while we gulp aspirins  
and duly exercise to stay fit?

Do we have dreams  
worthwhile for tomorrow,  
seeking light of day  
even as we toss fitfully  
frustrated with the clock  
that blinks one lost minute after  
another?

Yes, let us be artists still  
giddily in love with all creation,  
souls ready to paint with light,  
for this will keep us wise,  
dancing with one another  
in sacred step, until our good night.

— Sue Evans

## Funding model

The Centre is funded by annual membership fees of \$100. If paid instructors are brought in for a workshop, participants pay a fee for the workshop. The yoga and Feldenkrais classes have paid teachers, so participants pay \$10 per session. “It’s nickels and dimes, really,” says Evans, but it has worked with 30 to 40 members.

► Creatively, page 15



This abstract is alcohol ink. — Rosemary McGinnis

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I have always been attracted to the fine art of watercolour and thought to myself that one day, I would explore this medium. That day finally came when a friend offered me a watercolour kit for my 70th birthday. Although watercolour is very challenging, whenever I put my hand to the brush and paper I am amazed at the way I get lost in my creativity; hours go by, stress is melting and problems simply dissipate. While my art is very much influenced by the beauty that surrounds me and by the myriad of memories etched by my travel adventures, I sense that it is also a reflection of my personality and flair.

Being very new to watercolour and graphic arts in general, I confess that practicing it has been a humbling experience. But, I took comfort when I read somewhere: “Never despair if things are not quite right the first time; regular practice will improve your technique”. Through practicing I have discovered that I love exploring my creativity, improving my drawing skills, deepening my knowledge of the watercolour techniques and intricacies. I also take pleasure at imagining how others would “read” the products of my newly found passion. Finally, I feel very blessed to be in company with such inspiring and talented people who share that passion for the art.

— Carmelle Gaudet

A wise mentor told me once that “the picture of a flower is just a flower” unless you’ve captured something that speaks to you (tells a story) and/or evokes an emotion. “Look and see, really see”.



I zoomed in to the centre of this beautiful Iris and laughed. It was sticking its tongue out at me. I snapped the picture and return to the photo quite often (it has attitude). I smile.



I decided to snap this photo from the underside of the red Poppy. The moisture there created droplets like tears reminding me of Remembrance Day. (Emotions of gratitude and sorrow).

— Nancy Deschenes

**Creatively. from p. 14**

The yoga group has 12 to 15, the Feldenkrais has fewer. Evans set aside 20% of the income for the church to cover costs, such as heat and lights. She also saved a smaller percentage to subsidize people who might not be able to afford the yoga class, for example. The groups hold on to a portion for supplies and to subsidize workshops.

Two years ago, St. Paul’s decided to bring the Centre under its umbrella as a permanent program and to integrate the finances. The Centre has brought money to the church, but Evans says St. Paul’s has always said that she should not feel pressured for it to be a fundraiser. “I have really appreciated that,” Evans said.

**Pandemic impact**

Evans says she has not advertised or promoted the CFCL as she normally would have during the pandemic, but the groups that can have continued to meet online and to support one another. “The groups that are

meeting now have developed connection. Some have been part of it from the beginning. We have been through some difficult times. Alan Mirabelli had cancer and died, and the photographers group walked with him through that whole time, and he with them. There are people having operations, spouses who are not well, because we are seniors.” They have supported one another artistically and personally.

**Creative outreach**

The Centre is also helping to build the relationship between the church and the community.

Some people who are members of the CFCL are not comfortable with churches or religion. Evans says there have even been tensions around the word contemplative. “What we want is for people to be very comfortable with who they are and what they believe or don’t believe and to feel they have got a safe space to come from that place. I think we’ve been able to maintain that balance. I would call it an ethical space— where people can

be creative, share with one another what they are doing and what it means to them.”

Evans says the Centre has also helped St. Paul’s to see that church at its core is the worshipping community, “but we have friends of St. Paul’s who feel some connection, who at times will even volunteer if we are doing something like a harvest supper,” said Evans. “And my thought has been, ‘We are an aging congregation. We are a shrinking congregation. We need to increase our capacity.’ And this is one way of doing that with no agenda about getting them into church [although] that has happened occasionally.”

The overlap between the two communities is “the understanding that at the heart, human beings are creative, made in the image of God whether they would use that language or not,” says Evans. “But the creativity that comes, comes in a way that has a certain mystery to it.”

*Photos and commentary courtesy of Centre for Creative Living*

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## STEWARDSHIP

# Giving thanks

By Leigh Anne Williams

Many readers will have received a phone call thanking them for their donations to the Today for Tomorrow (T4T) campaign, which raises funds to support the Community Ministries and outreach ministries of the Diocese. Elizabeth Reicker called 200 people in May. *Crosstalk* asked her a few questions about why she volunteers.

**How did you get started with this volunteer work?** I volunteered of course. I was a member of the Diocesan Stewardship Subcommittee until 2020 and am a strong T4T supporter, so I offered to help in any way.

**Why do you call?** Thanking people, who are much more than just donors, is important and a best practice. I have been on Cornerstone Housing for Women's thank-a-thon team for three years so have experience.

Last fall, at Jane Scanlon's request, I phoned almost 300 donors who had given to T4T in 2019 and enjoyed chatting with people about their lives and answering their questions. So, when Jane offered me another list of people to thank, I said yes. I do not know how the list was generated or anything about the amount of the gift, just that everyone is generous.



Elizabeth Reicker, volunteer extraordinaire



**What do you find most challenging about phoning?** Nothing but finding time to phone. I do try to say thank you in the first sentence, so I have not been hung up on. Many messages were left also, and I am pleased that some people called me in return to say more about their church and T4T experience.

**What did you enjoy most?** It is always a pleasure to phone and reconnect with people whom I may have met or know from other diocesan events. These days when so many of us are isolated, having a chat with a new person is a pleasure. I have made some "new friends" across the diocese and hope to meet some of them in person.

**What are your other volunteer activities?** Not much these days. I miss Cornerstone, where I have visited residents at 515 for 20 years and being on the Booth Street reception desk. As part of St Martin's Pastoral Care team, I do write or call people. I do plan to return to visit residents of the Salvation Army's long-term care residence Grace Manor soon. I hope the Literacy Table at Parkdale United's In From the Cold program will return in the fall, but until then everyone must continue trying to stay safe.

*To learn more about Today 4 Tomorrow (T4T) please visit [www.today4tomorrow.ca](http://www.today4tomorrow.ca), or to make an online donation to T4T through Canada Helps visit [www.ottawa.anglican.ca](http://www.ottawa.anglican.ca). The ministries T4T is supporting this year are featured in this paper on pages 10-11. Thank you!*

## YOUTH MINISTRY

# Coping with the pandemic at home and work

By Jennifer Omoike

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused many hardships for everyone, whether it is affecting people directly or they are empathizing with the pain a loved one is feeling. For those who work in health care, the additional stresses at work and home collide. Uzo Onochie, a parishioner at Epiphany Anglican Church, has experienced the pandemic from multiple perspectives — as an essential frontline worker, a pharmacist with the Ottawa General Hospital Cancer Centre providing care for patients, and as a mother helping her children deal with the impact of the pandemic in their lives. *Crosstalk* asked her how she and her family have coped.

From the early days of the pandemic, Onochie like other workers in the hospital, had to adjust to a new routine and safety protocols. Every day of work, every worker must complete a COVID screening test to ensure they are safe and healthy to work. For many people this has meant they must come to work much earlier than the start time of their shift to ensure they have enough time to do the screening. There are many people who begin their shifts at the

same time, and they must all come in through very specific doors. Onochie had to get used to wearing protective gear (PPE) all day, which can be uncomfortable. However, those procedures help her feel safe. The hospital does a very good job at enforcing steps to follow to ensure the safety of staff and patients, she says. "I could be even safer going to the hospital than going to the mall," she says she reassures herself.

As a pharmacist at the Ottawa General Hospital, Onochie helps care for patients in the cancer centre. During the first wave of the pandemic, many patients, especially the elderly were afraid to come into the hospital to have their cancer treated or to have minor sickness treated, presuming that the hospitals might be a likely place where one could contract the virus. They stayed home with the belief that they could overcome whatever they were facing. Some of the people who waited too long became very sick and needed to be admitted to hospital. This made it really hard for the doctors, nurses and pharmacists to treat them, according to Onochie, who was relieved that people began to feel more comfortable coming to the hospital for treatments as researchers learned more

about the virus and how people could protect themselves and others.

Onochie is the mother of two children; her son is in high school and her daughter started university in September. The pandemic has had negative effects on both of them. Onochie's son plays competitive baseball, and it is very important to him. Unfortunately, all the games were halted and not playing ball has been very difficult for him.

Social interaction is vital in the development of youth. Restrictions and systems such as sending students to school one day and learning online the next has proven to be a challenge... The schools have separated students into cohorts, so friends may be separated from friends in another cohort.

It's also been a challenging year for Onochie's daughter, who was excited about living in residence and having the full experience of her first year of university. Her excitement crashed down when she had to do all her classes online in isolation from home.

Onochie understands the challenges her children are experiencing but is thankful that they continue to be safe and healthy. Due to the increased time spent at home, they have more opportunity to share how

they feel with each other. She adores their family time, and the pandemic has given their family more time to spend together.

Onochie feels that her church, Epiphany in Ottawa, has done an amazing job providing support to its members and keeping them all connected. When the church was no longer allowed to hold indoor services, the Rev. Alana McCord and the choir leader every Sunday came together to do a live service for the faith community. She says that Rev. Alana also kept everyone informed and connected by email. This spring, the Epiphany parish had a change in clergy, saying goodbye to Rev. Alana and welcoming the Rev. Arran Thorpe. "I have been able to attend a couple services with Rev. Arran. I think he's doing a fantastic job, especially under these circumstances," said Onochie. "I can't wait to get to know him more when the pandemic comes to an end!"

That's the moment we've all been waiting for. Until then, Onochie, like many people, continues to deal with the impact of the pandemic and to look for the good things it brings along the way.

*Jennifer Omoike is a YIP intern with Crosstalk.*





## PRAYER MATTERS

# Companions on the Journey

By Paul Dumbrille

One of my favourite contemporary Christian songs is “Companions on the Journey” by Carey Landry. As I listen to that song my mind goes to the story in the Gospel of Luke, Chapter 24, of the Disciples walking on the road to Emmaus after Jesus’ death and resurrection. The Disciples are “Companions on the Journey” who experience Jesus in three powerful ways.

Early in the story the companions walk and share the recent happenings in Jerusalem. Jesus, whom they do not recognize, teaches them using Scripture: “Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.” (V. 27). Jesus is teaching them and engaging their minds and thoughts. When we read and pray with Scripture, and when we seek out teachers, writers and speakers who stimulate our minds, we can experience Jesus. As we pray and contemplate these things, we are led to a better understanding of who God is, how God works, and how we are changed by the Divine Presence. We are experiencing what one might call the “Jesus of the Head”.



**Paul Dumbrille is diocesan representative to the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer.**

Later, after Jesus disappears, and the Disciples said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” (V. 32). Their hearts were burning; they had experienced the “Jesus of the Heart”. They have felt the love of Jesus. When we pray, we pray in love for God, and our response is to love others. It is easy to love others we like, but much more difficult to love others we dislike or disagree with. In prayer we realize that everyone is loved by God and is

deserving of our love. In loving God, and others, we are experiencing the “Jesus of the Heart”.

During the story, Jesus and the Disciples stop for the night, and the companions sit down to eat. “When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight.” (V. 30-31). When he breaks bread with his hands, they experience the “Jesus of the Hands”. When we use our hands and the rest of our bodies to share what we have with others, we are following the way of Jesus. Prayer is not just understanding God in our minds and feeling it in our hearts, but it is also taking action in how we live our lives; how we reach out and help others; how we view the world. We are called to live a life of compassion. When we follow Jesus and do what God would have us do, we are living a life of prayer.

As companions, we too can experience the Jesus of the Head, the Jesus of the Heart, and the Jesus of the Hands.

It is not easy in these COVID times to travel together in prayer with companions. We are challenged to find new ways to be companions on

the journey. In my case, when I, and others, realized this pandemic was not going to be over soon, we established a weekly 30-minute prayer time via Zoom. This has now become a regular part of my life. I have also joined people from across Canada in a monthly online hour of prayer organized by the Anglican Fellowship of Prayer. Participating in a twice weekly prayer time with the L’Arche Ottawa community provides me with an opportunity to be companions on the journey with those with developmental disabilities. None of these opportunities existed before the pandemic. These are examples of taking advantage of what is accessible to me. I encourage those of you who may be without the opportunity, ability, or technology, to do these sorts of things, to seek the help and company of the companions on your journey. Together you can find opportunities of travelling your road to Emmaus and experience Jesus as he travels with you from your Head to your Heart, and into your Hands.

In the words of Carey Landry’s song “*No longer strangers to each other, no longer strangers in God’s house; we are fed, and we are nourished by the strength of those who care, by the strength of those who care*”.

## ACW

## Baling out bales!

Again this year, sadly, due to the pandemic, we are not able to pack bales that have been waiting patiently for two years in the cupboards of our churches, to be sent to the North. In last month’s *Crosstalk*, we offered suggestions about packing and send the bale in your own parish to Baffin Island, (with our help of boxes and labels) or sharing the beautiful gifts of clothing, quilts and dry goods with local outreach projects, social services areas and shelters, in the communities where you live. We have heard from several parishes where they have followed through with both ideas!

One exciting piece of news we received earlier this month was from Peter Ouellette in Edmonton, who has for the past five years taken our bales for the Mackenzie River communities and delivered them along with their own shipment of goods from St. Vincent de Paul. Last year, when we were not able to pack any bales, he very graciously emailed us to say that he was willing to purchase some of the essential clothing and goods required by the five Anglican communities and deliver them for us. We were delighted and sent him a

cheque for the amount of the purchase. Bless his heart, he is sending a shipment north again this year and has offered to do the same shopping for the five communities! We are thrilled to have been able to take him up on his offer. Our funds will cover the cost of purchasing the goods plus an amount to assist with transportation. God is good!

Even though the Diocesan ACW Executive has disbanded, we want you to know that Leslie and I are here to be of any assistance required by groups. Please do not hesitate to contact us. As you know, our Diocesan ACW bank account has been amalgamated into one account which is held by the Consolidated Trust Fund. If any of the ACW groups are still able to contribute to our funds, which will enable us to fulfill our diocesan commitments, please send your donation to Marni Crossley, 705-540 Cambridge Street South, Ottawa, Ontario, K1S 5M7

Stay safe, dear friends,

*Marni Crossley*

crossley\_72@sympatico.ca  
613-294-9984

## Reflections for the pandemic

In this time of pandemic where we are once again locked down, I thought we might look at some ways to stay focused on wellness both in mind and spirit!

For me, I have been loving my walking outdoors in this beautiful sunny weather, watching Mother Nature come into bloom! I love the first bed of tulips on the driveway, the fresh yellow banks of forsythia, the awesomeness of watching the buds of green break forth on the trees and the yellow of the weeping willows. Others are doing so many things to keep active, I know— puzzles, reading, decluttering, letter writing, biking around the city, etc.

I want to focus for a moment on the spiritual care each one of us could be doing, and I have found these habits helpful for my own journey. This taken from St. Ignatius of Loyola— a paraphrase: Prayer and reflection are important in all our lives and they remind us to recognize God’s footprint in our lives and help us to identify what is truly good in us. ie—what increases Hope, Faith and Love.

**Habits of Thoughtful Reflection** are encompassed in:

**Stillness** - allowing us to become aware of God’s presence

**Gratitude** - reviewing the week in the gratitude of God’s blessings

**Awareness** - recalling the moments this week that stand out for you

**Reflection** - choosing the strongest emotion of those moments and reviewing what was said, done or felt

**Hopefulness** - looking forward to the next step in God’s plan

### A Prayer for Generosity

Lord, teach me to be generous  
To serve you as you deserve  
To give and not to count the cost  
To fight and not to heed the wounds  
To toil and not to seek for rest  
To labour and not ask for reward  
Except that of knowing that I do your will.  
Amen.

Stay safe, dear friends, and Blessings to each of you in these tough times.

*Marni Crossley*

**DIOCESAN ARCHIVES**

**Ottawa East Deanery  
Orléans, Saint Helen**

By Glenn J Lockwood

**Name That Style**

Planners for the national capital were concerned by the 1990s that growth in the urban core was getting increasingly lopsided. Two generations earlier, in the 1950s, the greenbelt was developed to contain the urban core and give breathing room between the congestion of the core and the suburbs out beyond the greenbelt. Urban growth in Ottawa-Carleton's far west end caused that end of the city to grow faster than planners had anticipated.

From the 1970s on, the Orléans area grew as a counterbalance to the west end. Those coming to live in Orléans touted that it was closer to the countryside. Those commuting back and forth to work downtown claimed they did not endure the sun being in their eyes when they drove to work in the morning and again when they returned home at the end of the day.

At that time no one imagined that all cities and townships of Ottawa-Carleton would be amalgamated. Orléans was beginning to develop from a village to a major suburban community on the boundary between the east end of the city of Gloucester and Cumberland Township.

As there was a substantial distance between Saint Mark's, Cumberland



DIOCESAN ARCHIVES, BRIAN GLENN FONDS OE06E100 51 07 3

and the nearest churches in Gloucester, attempts were made to develop another congregation. The first one was known briefly as Queenswood Anglican Church in the late 1960s. It was followed in the 1970s by Saint David's and Saint Hilda's, which a generation later amalgamated to form Saint Helen's Church. The house of worship we see here was built on the crest of a hill at 1234 Prestone Drive in 1993. We see it as a parishioner, Brian Glenn, photo-

graphed it on 2 October 2008, before an addition incorporating a servery ("we're not allowed to call it a kitchen") was built eight years later. Care was taken to have it conform with the architecture of the larger structure.

Which raises a question. How exactly do we describe the architecture here? Some readers who feel this writer is too focussed on Gothic Revival (Hello Judy Marples!) may assume this is not Gothic Revival. But if not, pray tell, what style is it?

Could we say it is a generic low slung suburban building that takes its cue from the shallow pitch of roofs on the tract housing we see in the distance? The pitch of roof on the church is steeper, it is true, but the banks of white and black brick emphasize its horizontality. The sloping outer walls of the entrance gable imply a modern version of buttress. And yet, the main entrance has a pointed arch reminiscent of the chancel windows at Christ Church Cathedral and Saint Matthew's, Ottawa. Could we deem this a type of Gothic survival? Within that entrance arch there are green spokes suggesting a sunrise, as if to echo the yellow circle around the cross in the main gable. Can we term this New Age Gothic? Post Modern Gothic? What?

This we must take pains to assert, was a building designed by a professional architectural firm. Indeed, the Diocesan

Archives has in its collection a scale model made of pasteboard, the roof of which lifts off, in order that one may see the proposed interior layout at one glance.

*The Archives collects documents for parishes including parish registers, vestry reports, service registers, minutes of groups and committees, financial documents, property records (including cemeteries), insurance records, letters, pew bulletins, photographs, paintings, scrapbooks and parish newsletters.*



DIOCESAN ARCHIVES 51 07 3

**Correction:** In the May issue of Crosstalk, the wrong photo was published with the Archives article about Trinity Church in Ottawa South. This is the correct photo. The editor sincerely apologizes for the error.

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## CALENDAR

PHOTO LEIGH ANNE WILLIAMS

### June 26

#### Canadian Anglican Cursillo Triennial General Meeting

1 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
The Canadian Anglican Cursillo Secretariat (CACCS) invites Cursillistas to attend the 2021 Triennial General Meeting on June 26, 2021 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. EDT. (The meeting is on Zoom, but it is hosted by Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.) A meeting link will be sent prior to the meeting. Only those confirmed will be admitted to the meeting. To register send an e-mail to [bkhobson52@gmail.com](mailto:bkhobson52@gmail.com). Space is limited (by Zoom license). Register early to ensure a spot. [anglican-cursillo.com](http://anglican-cursillo.com)

#### 200th Anniversary Celebration of the Ellacombe Chimes

11:30 a.m. to 12:15 pm (EDT)  
Churches around the world are preparing to take part in special celebrations this summer to mark the 200th anniversary of a unique invention which allows just one person to ring all the bells in a tower. Trinity Church in Cornwall will be participating starting at 11:40am by the ringing the historic "Mountain Chime." Hosted by St. Mary's Church/Bitton Parish History Group, South Gloucestershire, England.

### July 19 to 23

**Summer Fruit for Souls**  
The Lay Readers Executive of the Diocese of Ontario will host virtually. The keynote speaker will be Dr.



*Silver Lake*

Sylvia Keesmaat and her topic will be "On Earth as it is in Heaven: the Coming of the Kingdom." When we pray "Your kingdom come, on earth as it is in heaven," what exactly are we hoping for? Beginning with our calling to live as a community of God's image bearers on earth, Dr. Keesmaat will explore how the future hope for God's kingdom on earth nourishes and sustains our calling in the present."

#### Diocesan Altar Guild Meeting delayed

As there is still much uncertainty due to the COVID-19 situation, the Annual General Meeting of the Diocesan Altar Guild will not be held this fall (once again). We look forward to our meeting scheduled for the fall of 2022 at St. John the Evangelist, Smiths Falls.



I shall ask God mercifully to protect us. Then I shall fumigate, help purify the air, administer medicine and take it. I shall avoid places and persons where my presence is not needed in order not to become contaminated and thus perchance inflict and pollute others and so cause their death as a result of my negligence. If God should wish to take me, he will surely find me and I have done what he has expected of me and so I am not responsible for either my own death or the death of others. If my neighbor needs me however I shall not avoid place or person but will go freely as stated above. See this is such a God-fearing faith because it is neither brash nor foolhardy and does not tempt God."

– Martin Luther, concerning the Black Plague death of his day

### July 6 – 7

#### Anglican Lutheran National Worship Conference

The theme of this year's conference, which will be held online, is "Disruption and Grace: Learning Edges in Liminal Times."



#### Keynote speakers

**Archdeacon Rosalyn Kantlah<sup>^</sup>nta' Elm**, Chaplain to Her Majesty's Royal Chapel of the Mohawks, Brantford, Ont.;  
**Rev. Dr. James Farwell**, professor of theology and liturgy, Virginia Theological Seminary;  
**James K.A. Smith** - author and cultural critic

#### Workshop leaders

**Elisabeth Cherland**, choral conductor  
**Elsbeth McEwan**, member of the Cathedral Labyrinth Guild, Diocese of Ottawa  
**The Rev. Rhondda MacKay**, retired priest of the Diocese of Ottawa  
**The Rev. Maylanne Maybee**, principal of the United Theological College within the Montreal School of Theology, and member of

the Joint Anglican-Lutheran Commission.

**Todd Townshend** is Bishop of the Anglican Diocese of Huron

#### Conference musician

**Joshua Zentner-Barrett**, minister of Music at Kanata United Church

#### Special guests

**The Rev. Susan Johnson**, National Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada  
**The Most Rev. Linda Nicholls**, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada  
**The Most Rev. Mark MacDonald**, first National Indigenous Anglican Bishop for the Anglican Church of Canada

**More information** and registration: <https://www.nationalworshipconference.org/>



# TODAY 4 TOMORROW

@delivering hope in our communities

The Building A Community of Hope Fundraiser and Silent Auction for the Community Ministries will take place

## HOLD THE DATE

October 21, at 12 noon





