



Niagara Anglican

A section of the Anglican Journal

NEWS • PERSPECTIVE • REFLECTION • FOR A GROWING CHURCH • NOVEMBER 2009

Where will you be?

RICK JONES
ARCHDEACON, SECRETARY OF SYNOD

Do you remember where you were during: the moon walk? JFK's assassination? Woodstock? 9/11? Perhaps you remember where you were and what you were doing when your child or grandchild took their first steps, or learned to ride a bicycle, or received their first communion, or got married? There are moments that define our personal and corporate histories; we remember them with joy or sorrow as turning points or landmarks in our stories.

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It seemed like a good idea

FRANCEAN CAMPBELL-RICH
CHRIST'S CHURCH CATHEDRAL

It seemed like a good idea at the time and it seems like a good idea now. The Diocese needs \$750,000 to cover all those costs incurred, in part, when the four parishes left the Anglican church for the Network, together with other shortfalls. Bishop Michael has transformed the whole matter into the greater concept of a Passion for Justice, together with Excellence in Ministry.

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Our topsy-turvy church

MICHAEL BURLSEM
ST. GEORGE'S, GUELPH

By the 4th century Jesus' teaching had become an embarrassing problem for the church; his emphasis on being merciful, loving one's enemies, turning the other cheek, serving the poor, the fatherless, the widow and the prisoner, had become incompatible with a church, no longer the servant of the state, but in league with it. Christianity had become Christendom. God's kingdom on earth, that Jesus spoke about, which was supposed to turn all worldly powers upside down, had itself been turned upside down.

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■ Animated discussions were the order of the evening at the Bishop's Company dinner!

Bringing the vision to life

MICHAEL PATTERSON
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Bishop Michael Bird is inviting the entire Diocese of Niagara to join together at the Hamilton Convention Centre on Saturday November 21, to celebrate the vision for the diocese.

"Following Christ passionately, we pursue excellence, practice justice and grow." This is a vision of... Prophetic Social Justice making, Life Changing Worship, Continuous Culture of Innovation, Outstanding Leadership for Ministry, Generous Culture of Stewardship.

The day will include a variety of experiences that will bring 'our vision' to life. There will be Diverse and Innovative worship throughout the day, guest Speakers, games and activities for children and young people, a ministry marketplace of ideas for living out

'our vision', resources to assist parishes in the implementation of living out 'our vision', a Community Café, Live Music and a Eucharistic Celebration with Bishop Michael.

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Leap and the net will appear



NISSA BASBAUM
RECTOR, TRANSFIGURATION ST CATHARINES

The card arrived in the mail in the middle of September. Upon opening the envelope, I read the message on the front cover: "Leap and the net will appear," it said, followed by a small attribution: *Buddhist Saying*. How is it, I wondered, that so many Buddhist sayings render a message that so aptly describes my Christian faith?

Upon further consideration I realized, that while the source of the quote may have been Buddhist, the essence of the message was neither Buddhist nor Christian nor, for that matter, reflective of any particular religious conviction. Instead, the message is a universal one, describing life in general and what our best approach to life might be. "Leap and the net will appear." For the most part, we've all got two choices: stay where we are in the place which on the surface seems safe and comforting, or leap into the nether land, living in the hope that this leap, as insecure as it feels to be, will ultimately provide a net that contains future promise.

I realize that in the last number of articles I have made mention of our dog Oliver and the impact he has had on our lives. I also realize that, as our children have grown up and are in the process of leaving home (almost but not quite), this reality may reflect some empty nest syndrome on my part and a wistful reaching back for "baby stories." That being said, I have yet another Oliver tale from our time at the cottage which aptly describes my current state of mind.

Upon returning from one of our first cottage walks, Rebekah and I approached the dock. Oliver zoomed ahead of us at a rapid pace. As he reached the end of the dock, he took a flying leap off the edge and landed

unceremoniously in the water. Either he was running too fast to stop—even as he realized the dry land was coming to an end—or he thought the water was too inviting to resist. Judging from his reaction as he found himself completely drenched, I am going to hazard a guess that it wasn't the latter. Other than during controlled situations in the bath, until this event in his life, Oliver had never ventured into the water. It's my guess that, except in the event of more controlled bath time experiences, history is not about to repeat itself any time soon. Put mildly, Oliver hated being wet!

» CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Inviting all Parishes to the Cathedral

Come and help your Cathedral celebrate its 175th anniversary! Choose a Sunday during 2010, come and visit us (as many folks as you want), and we will designate that Sunday as Your Parish's Cathedral Day! Look for details coming in a parish mailing this fall!



OUR DIOCESAN VISION



Meet the Bishop and discuss the vision

SUSAN KALBFLEISCH
ST JOHN'S ANCASTER

In the true spirit of the Fresh Expression movement Bishop Michael is going to where the people are to tell his story and discuss the importance of the Diocesan Vision to the long-term health and future of Niagara. At each local event, attendees, lay and clergy alike, are invited to share their stories and their passions and ask Bishop Michael questions about the Vision and how it will change how we 'do church' in the future. Remember the oft stated phrase, 'the status quo is no longer good enough!' Well, this is your chance to enter into that conversation with Bishop Michael. There is even a Speakers Corner where people can have their stories, questions, suggestions and concerns recorded on videotape, selections of which will be played at the upcoming Synod.

Recently, on Saturday October 3, the Niagara Youth celebrated a Seussical Eucharist at their Gathering where the language of the liturgy was transformed into that of Dr. Seuss. Bishop

Michael and his wife Susan were there for the innovative and life changing worship experience. Following worship, Bishop Michael had a brief presentation about the Vision and then opened the floor for questions. Many of the questions revolved around the intergenerational disconnect that young people feel at the local parish level when it comes to life changing worship experiences that meet their needs.

The Visioning process is a work in progress and your participation in these conversations with Bishop Michael will provide both a fuller understanding of the Vision and how it can integrate into your parish as well as provide feedback to the various elements – Prophetic Social Justice Making, Life Changing Worship, Outstanding Leadership for Ministry, Continuous Culture of Innovation and Generous Culture of Stewardship. Check the website to find a location near you. If there isn't one nearby, then go to the next closest one and learn more about the Vision.

Fear not



ANDY KALBFLEISCH
MISSION STRATEGY COMMITTEE

For two weeks in September, Sue and I were in England exploring Fresh Expressions of Church as well as visiting a number of ancient churches that have re-imagined what it means to be church in today's world. Much has been written about Fresh Expressions in this paper during the past year so let's focus on how ancient churches are re-inventing themselves to be welcoming to those who have yet to cross their thresholds.

In the September edition of the Anglican Journal, Gary Nicolosi discusses the precipitous decline in Anglican church membership and attendance over the last forty years. And herein lies the problem. As our membership and attendance decline, so do our revenues while in many cases our expenses increase. So what do we do? We focus our efforts on filling the funding gap with ingenious fundraising schemes and asking our ever-dwindling congregations to give more and more year after year. So much so, that over time our attention becomes preoccupied with paying the bills rather than proclaiming the good news of the kingdom! Is this a formula for success or failure? Only time will tell. Looking at the first century church I suspect proclamation trumps fundraising.

The questions that have been asked over and over again in the UK are, 'Is what we do in worship relevant to those we are trying to reach out to?' If

singing was wonderfully enthusiastic at both services. Eucharist is celebrated at the morning service on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays of the month and occasionally at the evening service.

You might say that many churches in England are becoming evangelical; replacing pews with flexible seating, using audio/visual equipment instead of books and copious amounts of paper, adding a band to the traditional organ to increase the variety of music styles so there will be an appeal to a wider spectrum of the community, and spending more time on teaching, testimony and prayer during the service. Furthermore, many of these churches have only one book available during the service—the Bible! How can this still be Anglican you might ask when it has the look and feel of a Pentecostal or Baptist congregation?

We attended Emmanuel Church in Loughborough, a small university/college city in the heart of the Midlands, in the mid 90's. It was a traditional, active church at the time. During our visit this year we were surprised to see that all the pews had been removed and replaced with comfortable chairs, the interior brightened up, a retractable screen as well as fixed flat screen monitors strategically located throughout to cover blind spots and a large computerized audio/visual suite located at the back of the church. That Sunday we attended the morning family service (240 in attendance including 40 children) and the 6:30 pm more informal student service (attendance 180ish during school term). The morning musical accompaniment was keyboard and lead singer, six vocalists, two guitars, two clarinets, one flute and one drum kit and for the evening there was a keyboard and lead singer, one violin, one flute, three guitars and one drum kit.

Singing was wonderfully enthusiastic at both services. Eucharist is celebrated at the morning service on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays of the month and occasionally at the evening service.

So what's the point of all this? Do we need to make similar changes in our own churches? I don't know, but what I do know is that we need to start listening to the community around us and more particularly we need to listen more faithfully to the Holy Spirit and not be afraid to acknowledge what it might be whispering in our ears and hearts or where it might be leading us for that matter. We need to stop saying we can't do it, we don't have enough money to do it, we are not going to talk about changing anything, we are fine just the way we are thank you very much. The reality is that we are not fine just the way we are and that in large part is why the membership and attendance trajectory has been in decline for decades.

Fear not and get on with the real job that we are tasked with—to proclaim the good news of the kingdom, not just to ourselves, but to all those who are searching for answers to the questions of spirituality that haunt them.

In conclusion, I paraphrase Gary Nicolosi, 'there are examples of churches who are bucking the trend (of decline) and growing their flock—i.e. Trinity Church in Streetsville (Mississauga).' Perhaps now is the time to hop in your car and make the short trip to Streetsville and check it out. You might see things through a different lens then again you might ask 'how can this be Anglican?' In any event it may be the way of the future. Only time and God's grace will tell.

Fear not!

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A safe place to become...

A vision for life changing worship Where will you be?



PETER WALL
DEAN, RECTOR OF CHRIST'S CHURCH CATHEDRAL

In the exciting work being done throughout the Diocese on a new vision for our church, passionate excellence in ministry is seen as taking a variety of forms and recognized in different ways. One of those sections or 'petals' of the vision is entitled Life Changing Worship. In many of the conversations of which I have been part, the very title elicits response! What does 'life-changing mean?' What if I'm not quite ready to have my life changed? What if I don't get it? What if I stay the same?

All of these responses are part of the reason why 'life changing worship' is such an appropriate focus for us to include in this new vision. Christian worship has always pointed toward transformation and renewal. Worship is the giving of thanks, the offering of prayer, the hearing of the Word, the meal of Christ's body and blood. Through the rich tradition of two millennia of worship materials and styles, including four and a half centuries of specifically Anglican worship resources, materials, and styles, you and I have been formed by worship which we always hope 'makes a difference.' As our Bishop relates (and as those of us who have the rich privilege of worshipping occasionally in different places and differ-

ent communities can attest), worship in our diocese is diverse, exciting, involving, moving, beautiful and transformative. We are blessed with excellence in leadership and in training which makes this possible. We have the great benefits of all of that (sometimes unique!) Anglican tradition and beauty which we have inherited in the Book of Common Prayer, The Book of Alternative Services, and the other sources which are ours. We are part of a worldwide communion with a host of resources from which we can draw inspiration and materials—from Celtic influences to South Africa to New Zealand to the richness of our own Canadian indigenous traditions.

The availability of worship materials, of course, is only part of what we need to fully commit ourselves to the wondrous complexities of 'life changing worship'. We must work hard in our local communities on the other parts of this: creating a helpful and appropriate space; crafting liturgies that allow for silence, sound, light, and sensory expression; welcoming people into worship in ways that honour who they are and what they need; recognizing and serving varieties of learning styles; honouring inclusivity of age, gender, and experience; and finally respecting the value of time.

Life changing worship will benefit from the work of preparation and planning in which we are all already involved and to which we are committed. Keeping the rich array of resource at hand will help: for example, do you know that, when

we include the authorized texts of the new Lutheran worship book, we have 22 Eucharistic prayers at our disposal? Do your worship planners look comprehensively at the tremendous variety of hymnody available to us in Common Praise, Evangelical Lutheran Worship, and other sources like Voices United, Gather Comprehensive, the Catholic Book of Worship, and more? How do we welcome people into church? We are now welcoming seekers and newcomers who may have no Christian memory or experience—are we really helping them when they arrive at church, perhaps for the very first time? Are our worship spaces comfortable, inviting, and user-friendly? Do we recognize that silence, and candle light, and music are transcendent and potentially transforming elements of what we offer? Do we acknowledge that Christian worship has power and depth which affects people on many different levels? All of these (and many more) are the issues and questions we need to address and reflect upon as we plan, lead, and carry out worship which can be life-changing.

As we move ahead into this new and exciting vision of ministry in Niagara, one which is so full of hope and promise, we will develop ways of sharing best-practices and techniques with each other. We plan to develop a comprehensive and accessible library (mostly electronic) of resources and materials which will help us all to achieve the best that we can be.

Worship should be life enhancing—even life-changing. Together, we can make it so!

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They define us and we are forever changed by them. There have been many such moments in the 135 year history of our Diocese. If you think about it you may bring to mind some critical moment that changed our church and more importantly your relationship with the church forever.

I am inviting you to be part of another historic and defining moment in the life of our diocese, a moment that has the potential to be remembered as a turning point in the young episcopacy of Bishop Michael, a moment that has the potential to define and shape our diocese for decades to come. I am talking about Saturday, November 21 at the Hamilton Convention Centre where on the second day of the 135th Synod of our Diocese there will be an event that will become part of our history in a unique way. Every single person—whether they've worshipped in their church for 100 years or 1 hour is invited to come be a part of "Living the Vision—A Diocesan Celebration."

Here is only a small sample of what you can expect to see, hear, experience and participate in during this historic day:

- Informative and engaging speakers such as Gary Nicolosi and Annie Kashamura-Zawadi
- A variety of music from traditional to jazz to rock—plus a 'Jam Session' for those who like to make music together.
- Life changing worship, Holy Eucharist with Bishop Michael and our diocesan community.
- A multimedia ministry marketplace that displays some of the best our diocese has to offer.
- A 'Kids-Zone' with activities and resources to engage and nurture kids and families in their faith, so bring the whole family!

It will be an opportunity to not only hear or read about innovation, worship, leadership, justice making and stewardship - we will be able to interact with people and media that will make it real. We will taste and see that God is Good and the Spirit is birthing something new and exciting in our midst. This will be a time to be inspired and entertained, to be challenged and affirmed, to be spectator and participant in the most extraordinary Synod gathering you have ever seen. Did I mention it will be fun and free as well!

Where will you be on Saturday, November 21 2009? Will you be able to say, "I was there when..." And let the Spirit write the rest! Will you be witness to a very new beginning of our Church's story and help to write it.

It was 40 years ago this year that Neil Armstrong walked on the Moon, and I was watching on a black and white TV in my parent's home. The world changed and would never be the same. When I heard about 911 I was on my way to a clericus meeting. One of our clergy had a son who worked right beside the towers, and we waited and prayed together until she got word her son was okay; he had joined the hundreds walking away from the disaster. Many mother's lives changed forever that day, just as the world changed and will never be the same. Last summer I had the privilege of watching my granddaughter learn to ride her bike at the cottage. Her inner and outer world changed and expanded, and will never be the same. On Saturday November 21, at the Hamilton Convention Centre, I plan to be there, with so many others who love our Church, to see the Spirit change us forever. Will you be there? "And they came everyone whose heart stirred them up and everyone who the spirit made willing and they brought their gift's to God's service" (paraphrase 1 Ex.35.21).

Leap and the net will appear

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Reflecting on this story, it certainly would be possible to surmise that "leaping" is not always the best approach in life. Oliver clearly would have been happier staying dry. Yet even as much as he disliked his encounter with the water, it was fascinating for Rebekah and I to watch what happened as he found himself having to deal with this same encounter. It didn't take seconds before instinct kicked in and the two of us observed him dog paddling back to the dock to get out of the mess into which he had got himself. Instinct—the thing which often tells us who we really are and what we're really made of—was Oliver's net, a net that prevented him from drowning in foreign territory.

Right now, I feel a bit like our dog probably did in that one moment when the dock ran out because, as November approaches, my personal "dock" is also about to run out—the safety of the parish and the diocese in which I have been ministering for the past 15 and 25 years of my life, respectively; even the safety of my immediate family as we embark on a year when we will be four people living in three different parts of the coun-

try, with only the occasional airplane trip, and the internet and long-distance phone calls to hold us together. It would be ridiculous to suggest that the immediate changes in our lives were the result of an unthinking and unconsidered flying leap off the dock. Nonetheless, no matter how carefully thought out a leap of faith may be, it remains just this, a leap; an enormous move from what is well-known to what is unknown, from what is safe and comfortable to what is insecure and uncertain. So, what makes us do things like this?

The first things that occur to me are not terribly positive. It might be boredom; a kind of ennui or world-weariness that tells us we need to pursue something different, something that will make life a bit more exciting. Or, it might be escape; a desperate need to get out of a situation even if this means we have no idea where this escape will take us.

The decision to leap, however, is not always because things are not panning out as well as they might. Sometimes this kind of decision comes about because things, in fact, have panned out just as they should and once they have done this, there is a recognition that it is not only the *right*

time to make a move but probably also the *best* time. Even as the water looms large before me, this is the moment in which I now find myself.

In my years spent in Niagara and, particularly, at Transfiguration, I have been blessed with endless opportunities to grow both in my ministry as a priest and in my grasp of the Christian faith. Transfiguration is a healthy, thriving community with people who look forward to their future in excited anticipation of what lies around the corner. Indeed, the parish's openness to whatever comes is the linchpin in the risk upon which Robin and I are about to embark. It is they who have embodied for us the faith that when we leap the net will come.

Just over 30 years ago, I took a huge leap of faith when I chose to convert from Judaism to Christianity. Now, 30 years on, I find myself in a not dissimilar situation, one which I can only describe as some kind of inner push that is encouraging me to jump, with the safe assurance that the net will indeed appear. (Could this be instinct kicking in?) I am truly grateful for all that lies behind me, much of which contains those things that actually will now enable what lies ahead to happen.

St. John's Anglican Church, Ancaster

INVITES YOU TO A

Christmas Bazaar

White Elephant Sale, Attic Treasures, Bake Sale, Craft Tables, Lunch and a visit from Santa Claus
Saturday, November 14, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

CHORAL EVENSONG AND ORGAN RECITAL

A BCP service of Choral Evensong, followed by an Organ recital presented by Jan Overduin, Professor Emeritus of church music and organ, Wilfrid Laurier University
Sunday, November 15, 4:00 pm

Dickens' Dinner

A three course roast beef dinner interspersed with readings from Dickens' "A Christmas Carol"
Saturday, November 28, 4:00 pm
Tickets \$30.00

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PARISH NEWS



St. Simon's youth group travels to Belize

HELEN MACKENZIE
ST. SIMON'S OAKVILLE

On July 3, 2009 the youth group from St. Simon's Church of Oakville, headed off on a mission trip to the school "Holy Cross Anglican School", on a tiny island called Ambergris Caye in Belize, Central America. The St. Simon's Youth Group members that went were: Justin Crawford, Tom Frampton, Helen MacKenzie, Aidan Maloney, Laura Maxwell, Alison Maxwell, Kevin Maxwell and Laura Wheeler, with chaperones; Dave Crawford, Rev Canon Darcey Lazerte, Janine Maxwell and Robyn Michell.

For most, this was their first mission trip, and the planning started some many months ago in October, 2008. Over the 10 months between

the first meeting and the group leaving, the group held numerous fund-raising events including a monthly Belize Cafe, selling Christmas tree ornaments, making and selling cloth napkins, a spaghetti dinner, helping out at the church's annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, running the church's annual spring picnic and auctioning off yard work. The group was lucky enough to have many generous donors in their parish and community, who were constantly supporting them financially and spiritually.

After much hard earned money had been raised, the group headed off to Holy Cross Anglican School. Holy Cross Anglican School was founded in 2006 and is being run by the founders, who are a couple of Anglican

missionaries. The school consists of approximately 20 classrooms and 500 children, who belong to the San Mateo community. The San Mateo community is the poorest part of Belize. It's part swamp, part landfill and filled with shacks that were thrown up over a two year time frame before the government took back the land that the previous party had lent to the citizens. Next to no one in San Mateo has plumbing or clean water, and very few have electricity. Holy Cross Anglican School offers a place where all the children of the community can feel safe, and provides clean drinking water and working toilets. The school also offers a meal program which includes breakfast, a mid-morning snack and lunch. These meals are vital to the children

because, for many of them, this is the only food they get all day. The children of Holy Cross Anglican School, along with many people of the community, were very kind and appreciated that the group had come to do good work. The children were always friendly and welcomed the group into their school. They showed them their world, with all the simple pleasures they were grateful for everyday, such as clean drinking water and the chance to go to school.

While the group was there, the days felt long and were hot. In the morning the group teamed up with a youth group from Baltimore, Maryland to run a Vacation Bible School program for the children of the community. Those mornings turned out to

be mornings filled with crafts, songs, games, and newfound friends. In the afternoons the group worked on construction projects such as painting various parts of the school, as well as building and installing hurricane shutters for all 40 school windows. Though their days were busy, the group still managed to find time to enjoy some of the many tourist activities on the island, including snorkelling. The group returned from their life-changing experience on July 12, 2009 filled with memories of all the good times, thoughts of how grateful they were for all they have, as well as many other things to reflect upon. For more information on Holy Cross Anglican School, please visit their website at www.holycrossbelize.org.



St. Luke's Burlington Christmas Market

For over 60 years 90-year-old Marguerite Nye has been making Christmas Ornaments for sale at parish Christmas markets. The parishes of St. John's Winona, St. Matthew's on the Plain and for the last 50-plus years St. Luke's Burlington have all benefited from Marguerite's artistic & organisational skills as she led groups of volunteers in the manufacture of a wide variety of craft items. At the height of her industry five sewing machines and a group of 20 women worked from

9:30 AM to 5:00 PM each Tuesday producing a wide variety of goods suitable for Christmas presents and Christmas decoration. In addition two other groups of 10 met on Wednesday evening and Saturday morning to continue the work. The group is now much smaller but has met every week this year to make crystal Christmas trees and illuminated glass blocks for this year's market.

Since 1985 attendance at the St. Luke's Christmas Market has been a

tradition for both parishioners and citizens of Burlington. This year's event takes place in the parish hall 1832 Ontario Street 9:00 AM on Saturday November 28. In addition to Marguerite's unique Christmas ornaments there will be a variety of Christmas treats such as home baked cakes and pies, hand rolled beeswax candles, expertly crafted wooden gifts and much more. With a lunch room and a pub the market offers a pleasurable start to anyone's Christmas shopping.



■ St. Stephen-on-the Mount held a fund raiser entitled Aloha from St. Stephens, featuring an award winning Elvis tribute artist, Mr. Dave Stewart from Guelph. The event was sold out a month in advance.

Getting ready for Justice Camp

COLLEEN SYM & TERRY DEFOREST
PROJECT CO-CHAIRS

From May 9-14 2010, the Diocese will be hosting a Justice Camp. Justice Camps are a program of the Anglican Church of Canada. Camps are hosted, organized and led by local coalitions.

The theme of Niagara's camp is community development. This builds on the foundation laid by four prior camps hosted by the Dioceses of Rupert's Land (Food), Ottawa (Advocacy), British Columbia (Environment) and Nova Scotia/Prince Edward Island (Poverty). Preparations for Community Justice Camp: Live the Change You Want to See are underway.

As part of the preparation, eleven members of the organizing coalition attended the 2009 Poverty Justice Camp in Halifax in August. This was the occasion for profound learning and significantly moving experiences for all members of the "Niagara delegation", who came away from the Camp, deeply:

- Blessed by the people we met;
- Grateful for the gracious hospitality of our hosts and extraordinary labours of our leaders;
- Honoured that so many shared, with courageous vulnerability, their life stories and circumstances with us; and,
- Challenged by the justice issues with which we struggled.

Community Justice Camp will be a six-day, in-residence (with some "day-campers") opportunity for fun, music, biblical reflection, creative worship, contact with local issues, site visits,

outdoor activities, training and organizing workshops, and storytelling.

At the core of the week is a small group three day "immersion" experience, going deeper with some aspect of our theme. We expect that 80-100 participants will come, in roughly equal numbers, from this region and across the country, and, will include people both under 30 and over 30 years of age.

Your participation in Niagara's Community Justice Camp will enable you to meet the Bishop's challenge to focus on the essence of what Christ calls us to do—feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and love our neighbours.

Please reflect on how you and your parish might engage in this important project. Financial support and volunteers to aid in the organization and running of the event are needed.

Here are some ways to help:

Awareness raising

- Promote the Camp in your parish, at your regional councils, clericus meetings, and with local/regional social justice coalitions
- Post and distribute Community Justice Camp posters. Copies will be available at Synod;
- Invite one of the Justice Camp Co-Chairs or other Coalition representatives to visit and share the Justice Camp story.

Recruiting

- Recruit camp participants, leaders, Coalition members and resource people for immersion groups.



■ Niagara delegation at Justice Camp in Halifax.

Volunteering

- Assist with driving participants arriving at and departing from the airport;
- Assist with audio-visual technical support;
- Assist with advance preparation and assembly of participants' materials
- Assist with staffing the registration desk, greeting;
- Assist with serving as a Camp

photographer;

- Assist with setting up and taking down plenary and worship spaces

Hospitality

- Host an immersion group (of 10-14 people) or even the camp for a meal.

Financial support

- Raise funds for this event through inviting individual donations or

- Through designated fund-raising by groups and parishes.

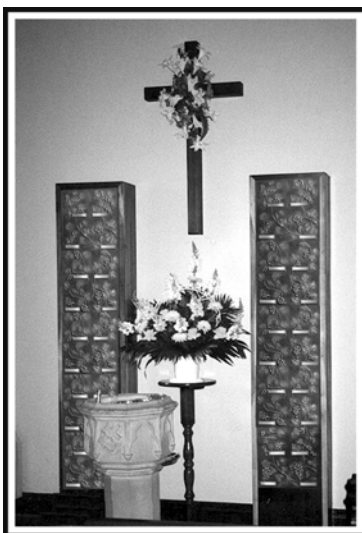
Creative ideas

- Share with us your creative ideas, partners and opportunities we haven't thought of yet.

We thank you in advance for your partnership in prophetic justice-making, in the broader diocesan vision, and particularly in the Community Justice Camp.

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Other highlights of this tour will include **WINE TASTING** on the Weinstrasse; a **MUSICAL & FOLKLORE SHOW** in Prague; **TOUR, DINNER & CONCERT** at Schonbrunn; **HUNGARIAN DINNER & FOLKLORE PERFORMANCE**.

Contact: Canon Gordon Kinkley 905 934-1020 OR kinkley@sympatico.ca OR ROSTAD TOURS 1-800-361-8687

An information meeting will be held at St. John's Church, 80 Main St. (Port Dalhousie) St. Catharines Sunday October 25 at 2PM. Early booking discount until October 31st.



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Diocesan golf tournament a great success



BOB MCKINNELL
DIOCESAN TREASURER

The 8th annual diocesan golf tournament was held on Friday September 18 at Chippewa Creek Golf and Country Club in Mount Hope. A group of 102 golfers gathered around 11:00 AM with a best ball format and a shotgun tee off at 12:00 noon. It was a wonderful day, with a brief shower while we were golfing followed by a bright sun.

The tournament was a fund raiser for the Bishop's Company Endowment Fund. This fund is deposited with the Anglican Church Ministries Foundation, Niagara. The capital of the fund is retained, permanently, while the interest is made available to the Bishop to assist clergy and their families in need.

After an exciting round of golf, we enjoyed a great steak dinner with wonderful fellowship. Bishop Michael Bird joined us for golf and said the grace at dinner. A trophy, for the lowest foursome score, was presented by Bishop Bird on behalf of the Welch family in memory of their father Robert K. Welch a former Chancellor of this Diocese and Deputy Premier of Ontario. Bishop Bird also thanked the organizers and all who took part in the tournament.

The lowest team score was achieved by Rick DiPronio, Kevin Shepherd, Jeff Saunders and James Morgan. Also recognized were the closest to the hole for men (James Morgan) and women (Theresa Chabot) and the closest to the line for both men (Wayne Thorsteinson) and women (Carol Witcher). All

participating golfers received a prize. A special thanks to the many corporate suppliers and service providers that donated prizes for golfers.

Many people contributed time and talents to make this tournament so successful. A huge thank you to Wendy Duncan our Controller who did a great job in organizing the tournament and helped obtain prizes and sponsors. Wendy's contribution was critical to the success of this tournament. Thanks to the staff in the Diocesan Finance area who registered golfers; handed out information packages; sold tickets for mulligans and draw prizes; took both team pictures and action shots. Others joined in and helped as necessary. A big thank you to everyone who helped, contributed and played. It was great having Y108 attend the event and we thank them for their individual promotional packages.

We encouraged both companies and parishes to sponsor holes for a contribution of \$150.00. The response was overwhelming with 13 business sponsors, 1 parish and 2 individuals. There were also 6 business sponsors of golf carts who each contributed \$250.00. Included above were 6 major sponsors who contributed \$500.00 each and a major sponsor who provided the golf brochure. Next year, we hope more parishes will participate given the good cause this tournament is supporting. All of the sponsors are listed below.

This year the golf tournament raised over \$7,000 and the five year total now approximates \$35,000 that has been given to the Bishop Company Endowment Fund.

We have already booked Chippewa Creek for next year. The 9th Annual Diocesan Golf Tournament will be held on Friday September 17, 2009 with the same format as this

year. Mark it in your calendars now to make sure you don't miss it.

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It seemed like a good idea

» CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Certainly the four departing churches and the attending legal costs have brought forth courage and caused stress at the top level of the diocese.

So it cost the diocese reserves \$750,000 in lost revenue and investment income, in continuing pastoral care and operating support for the four departing churches. Stewardship consultant Jim Newman suggests that if 750 people could feel passionate enough to come up with \$1,000 each, the diocesan resources would be replenished and all would be well.

Which sets one thinking. If 1,000 people came up with \$750 each, the same sum could be raised. If 10,000 gave \$75 each, the passionate gift would be the same. I ran this idea past Elaine Hooker at the Bishop's Company dinner and like a bolt from

above we took a stab at the number of Anglicans in the whole Niagara diocese—100,000—which would mean \$7.50 each. "I'd go for that", said Elaine, "and add a couple more to it." Except that Karen Nowicki who knows about these things sets the figure at 14,000 Anglicans in the Diocese of Niagara, working out to \$53.57 per person.

Plainly, a little creative thinking was in order. It came, soon enough, in the form of Lynne Corfield, the master of ceremonies and animator of the dinner itself: a lottery, the winning ticket worth a solo standup performance by La Corfield herself.

Assuming, of course, that Ms. Corfield would be willing to perform at an appropriate function of her choice, or perhaps at the next diocesan synod, steps would move up, or down, from there. Bishop Michael might be pre-

vailed upon for the winning ticket of a lesson in curling, or in baggage playing. A third winner might enjoy a dinner for four cooked by Bishop Spence, with culinary comment to follow in the Niagara Anglican. And for a truly exciting thrill, Jim Newman, a secret racing driver and enthusiast, would surely oblige, with goggles and helmets.

Minor details and ticket prices, sales, and oversight would naturally be forthcoming from the financial offices of the diocese, who presumably provided the facts and figures to date. If not, then I myself, and possibly Elaine Hooker, might offer my little black book method of daily entry of expenditures that has served me well for some twenty five years.

As I have said, it seemed like a good idea at the time. It still does.

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The Diocese of Niagara

The Diocese lies at the western end of Lake Ontario, and is defined roughly by the Niagara Escarpment from the Niagara River in the east to the Dundas Valley in the West and north to Shelburne, Mt. Forest and Orangeville.

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

■ Congratulations to Bill and Wendy Tyre, long time and faithful members of St. Cuthbert's Church Oakville, who celebrated their 65th Wedding Anniversary on September 2.
■ Congratulations to Nancy Clause as she joins Sue-Ann Ward in providing leadership to HARRRP. Nancy will

make the transition from the Finance Department to HARRRP on October 15. We wish Nancy all the best as she moves to this new position.
■ Congratulations to Canon Paul Taylor and Diane Taylor as they celebrated their 35th Wedding Anniversary on October 18. They were mar-

ried at St. John's Ancaster by Bishop John Bothwell.
■ The Reverend Max Woolaver has accepted the appointment to be rector of St. Andrew's Church Grimsby, effective November 1.
■ Congratulations to Canon Richard Rokeby and the Reverend Jane

Rokeby, as they celebrate their 50th Wedding Anniversary on November 21.
■ The Reverend Aaron Orear, Rector of St. Alban's Glen Williams, was elected Regional Dean of Trafalgar for a three year period, effective October 14.



2009 Order of Niagara Recipients

Barbara Adamson, St. Luke's Burlington
Henry Allie, St. Stephen's Hornby
June Andrews, St. John's Nassagaweya
Terry Bennett, St. Paul's Glanford
Ina Brown, Christ Church Flamborough
Derek Brunt, Christ Church Woodburn
Barbara Bryant, St. Alban's Glen Williams
Pearl Enid Georga Butler, St. Elizabeth's Burlington
Irene Campbell, Resurrection Hamilton
Susan Chapman, St. George's St. Catharines
Alison Clarke, St. George's Guelph
Michael Curtis, All Saints Erin
Howard Davis, St. David's Welland
Lillian Dougherty, Christ's Church Cathedral Hamilton

Lesley Edwards, St. Andrew's Grimsby
George English, St. John's Stewarstown
Sylvia Farrell, St. Paul's Hamilton
Jean Fitzgerald, St. Paul's Dunnville
Doris Fraser, St. James St. Catharines
Margo Gray, St. George's Homer
Joanne Henry, St. James Guelph
Bill Holbrook, St. Aidan's Oakville
Lanny James, Christ Church McNab
Arnold Lowenberger, St. Saviour's, The Brock Memorial Church, Queenston
Peter Marsh, St. John's Ancaster
Peter Mauro, St. Alban's Beamsville
Derek Moore, St. Alban's Grand Valley
Doris M'Timkulu, St. John's Elora
Wayne Orr, St. James Fergus
Kathy Penton, St. John's St. Catharines
Connie Price, St. Matthew's Burlington
Frances Richardson, St. Paul's Fort Erie

Gillian Regoeczi, St. James Dundas
Judith McBain Ryan, St. Paul's Caledonia
Ed Shaw, St. John's Burlington
Cecil Shipley, Holy Trinity Hamilton
Roy Shoalts, Christ Church Wainfleet
Thomas Skinner, Christ Church Niagara Falls
Diane Slack, St. George's Lowville
Tim Standish, Nativity Hamilton
Lee Steels, St. Simon's Oakville
Dean Sutton-Greenhalgh, All Saints Hamilton
Denise Taylor, St. Thomas St. Catharines
Dorothy Tong, Our Saviour the Redeemer Stoney Creek
Helen Tylee, St. Luke's Smithville
Bill Van Mol, St. Luke's Palermo
William Van Nort, The Dunn Parish

Elizabeth Veinotte, St. John's Winona
Rita Ward, Grace Church Milton

Bishop's Appointees

Wayne Barnes
Sonya Bolek
Patricia Burt
Ted Clarke
Paula Esteves
Keith Halliwell
John Janisse
Beryl Parker
Gwen Pleydon
Brandon Prodger
Sarah Scapinello
Joan Shipley
Ian Smith
Colleen Sym
Ken Taylor

Our topsy-turvy church

» CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

So much for The Lord's Prayer! In this new world 'thy kingdom come; thy will be done, in earth as in heaven,' had been relegated to some time in the future, not the here and now, but to 'eternity.' This would be ushered in when we die or, when Christ would return in glory. One could taste this life only by acknowledging Jesus as Savior and Lord. This is not the truth that Jesus taught, but rather a parody of it.

This summer I read of some Red Letter Christians. Intrigued by who they were, I read Tony Campolo's *Red Letter Christians*. It's written for Americans prior to their recent election; to encourage them to first vote, but also to vote responsibly, considering such hot button issues as the Environment, War, Gay rights, Gun control, Abortion, Immigration and Crime; not just from where the Bible stands, but from where Jesus stands. His words are recorded in red letters in a Red Lettered Bible—hence the name Red Lettered Christians. His words guide us in interpreting the whole

Bible. A Red Lettered Christian is one who takes his words very seriously, and at their face value. Red Letter Christians believe that the Sermon on the Mount should be lived literally in the present, not some time way off in the future.

Red Lettered Christians are concerned about justice, especially justice for the poor and the underprivileged, the marginalized. Where the authorities over tread justice, they stand up against them. They defend the weak and defenseless, the widow and orphan, and the stranger, even the immigrant worker who is in the country illegally. They visit those in prison. They believe in restorative justice, not just punitive justice.

Red Lettered Christians, as Campolo himself has been since the Viet Nam War, are peace activists. He has a bumper sticker, "When Jesus said, 'Love your enemies,' He probably meant we shouldn't kill them." He discusses the Just War theory, but even he cannot quite say that a just war is an oxymoron.

Red Lettered Christians are pro-life, but they are consistently pro-life. Thus,

they're against any thing that denigrates the sanctity of life, such as war, capital punishment or the lack of universal health care. This was the position first promoted by the late Cardinal Joseph Bernardin of the Catholic Diocese of Chicago, who referred to it as 'the seamless garment,' the garment which Christ wore.

Campolo has good Evangelical credentials, but he takes great pain to state Red Lettered Christians are not Right Wing Evangelicals. There are some Red Lettered Christians who are not even Evangelical; and I suspect many who are liberal, rather than conservative Christians. It's amazing how well they get along—for now at least. If one truly has the mind of Christ there's no room for hubris that creates countless problems, ruins relationships, erodes unity and impedes the forward progress of his ministry.

I would assume that Campolo is a natural optimist, but realistically when Red Lettered Christians look out on the world they must at times become discouraged. The world that we see with our natural eyes is certainly not the

Kingdom of God. However, Red Lettered Christians doggedly insist that Jesus Christ has redeemed it by his blood. They must look on the world with very different eyes than most of us. But these are the eyes of God, of Christ, the eyes of faith. Those who develop these eyes will persevere as Red Lettered Christians, but those who do not will fall by the wayside. I believe the early church had eyes of faith, whereas we, for the most part, do not.

Those who do see with the eyes of faith see the world already reconciled to God. The battle is already won! When Jesus said, "it's finished," he meant it. If Red Lettered Christians can open our eyes of faith to see this, and to really believe it, and if we are humbled before God to become more like Christ, (two big ifs) then 'thy kingdom come' would mean that it has come, not will come. (Jesus was speaking from the other side of Calvary from us.) Only then our topsy-turvy church would be set right side up again, and Christendom once more become Christianity.



Touring Niagara by bike

STEPHEN MURRAY
RECTOR, CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION

I consider myself a 'child of the Diocese of Niagara'. There aren't many churches where I haven't slept on the basement floor or been to a meeting. So it was a shock to discover on a summer cycling and camping trip with my wife and father how little I knew our diocese.

It started with a quote from Pierre Trudeau, "we know who we are as Canadians because of our connection to the land." But are we still connected to the land? What does it mean for our sense of identity if we aren't? What could be learned about our diocesan identity by connecting with the land? So *Tour Niagara* began to take shape.

It wasn't going to be possible to visit every church in the diocese, so

we planned a route around the perimeter that ended at the Cathedral. It also seemed appropriate to start riding on Canada Day, so we arrived the night before at St. Paul's, Shelburne with our bikes and gear and camped on the rectory lawn.

Day 1: St. Paul's Shelburne to St Stephen's, Hornby

A hard day of riding with lots of beautiful scenery. Walked our bikes through the Canada Day parade in Glen Williams and saw the rector and parishioners waving from a float. Camped out in a graveyard!

Day 2: St. Stephen's Hornby to Jordan Valley Campground

Suburban Oakville and Burlington

were quite a contrast from the day before and the traffic on Lakeshore Ave. didn't know what to make of us. Enjoyed a swim in the campground pool, although I lost my wedding ring... again.

Day 3: Jordan to St Paul's Fort Erie

We could feel the historic roots of our diocese along this route. Several churches had open doors and helpful tour guides. We enjoyed the Friendship Festival in Fort Erie, but especially liked the hospitality of the pub and morning coffee in the rectory.

Day 4: St. Paul's, Fort Erie to St John the Divine Cayuga

Followed a great rail trail nearly all the

way to Port Colborne. My personal highlight of the trip was a stained-glass window in St. Paul's, Dunnville where Jesus has 6 fingers! We were grateful for the Rector's warm hospitality in Cayuga and two kind souls who brought us ice cream!

Day 5: St John the Divine Cayuga to Christ's Church Cathedral

Started the day with Eucharist at 8:00 AM. As we headed north from Cal-edonia we could feel the pace of life getting faster and busier. Arrived at the Cathedral at noon and celebrated a successful trip. Trip Statistics: 425 km, 26 red cardinal mail boxes, 25 churches, 4 rainy nights, 0 flat tires.

Our diocese looks different when we don't take the highways. There

are also so many different contexts in which ministry takes place in our diocese. It was fascinating to see each community and to realize how differently the gospel can, and should be, expressed by its people. Something every Anglican Church had in common was their beautiful gardens and great hospitality. Everywhere we went that we were welcomed with open arms, doors and hearts.

Intrigued and interested in learning more about our diocese? The land? Yourself? Your faith? Plans are underway for Tour Niagara 2010 with options for campers and day-trippers. For more details contact the Reverend Stephen Murray 905-389-1942.

Bringing the vision to life

» CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
The keynote speakers will include:

Ms. Annie Zawadi.
A native of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Annie Kashamura Zawadi was sponsored by Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Thornhill to come to Canada as a refugee with her five children in 1999. The following year, Annie founded Arising Women Place /L'Éveil des Femmes, a bilingual charitable organization that provides support to women and girls who are experiencing or have survived abuse. Speaking last year to the National House of Bishops, Annie recalled that before arriving in Canada, she had nothing left but her faith. Now, Annie said, "I am your success story".

Reverend Dr Gary Nicolosi
The Reverend Dr. Gary Nicolosi, is presently the Congregational Facilitator for the Diocese of British Columbia. He has served in parishes in Quebec, New York State, Pennsylvania and in Southern California. He has conducted seminars on stewardship, church growth, evangelism, and congregational development in twelve dioceses in the United States and Canada. He is also the author of more than 100 articles in church periodicals, diocesan and community

newspapers. In 1995, Dr. Nicolosi was invited by the Archbishop of Canterbury to participate in the international video project The Many Faces of Anglicanism, which explains the evolving nature of the Anglican Church.

As well, parishes are invited to be part of the celebration by sharing their ministry stories with everyone at the festivities. Which of your ministries are transforming the people in your community? What are you doing that has people excited? People around the Diocese want to know what your parish is doing and where your parish's faith journey is leading you!

We believe that this day will be an opportunity for parishes and individuals to learn what the vision for the diocese will mean for them in their own communities. It will provide a means by which people can learn how and where to begin to make this happen and further explain what the five 'petals' of this vision actually mean and look like at the local level. Without understanding and passion that this is truly in God and of God, this vision will never become our reality. It is up to all of us to make this part of who we are at each and every parish in the diocese. The status quo is no longer an option for us as a church in the 21st century; we believe we are

being directed by the Spirit of God into a new beginning and era.

We encourage all of you to come to be part of this celebration and to share together the vision and direction for our Christian family in Niagara. This event is open to all members of our Anglican family, not just lay delegates, so pass on the word and bring your friends and neighbours.

A limited number of display tables are available on a first come, first served basis on Saturday, November 21 for parishes wanting to share their ministry stories. People are asking how to share their stories. You might run a video loop on a laptop, display photos on tri-fold board, create a brochure that gives the steps for starting a program or activity, have a clown passing out a candy along with parish information, highlight a dramatic skit every half hour, bring some people from your new music group to sing on the hour—you're limited only by your imagination and our space (and the number of electrical outlets)!

Reservations or more information is available through Karen Nowicki at 905-527-1316 x380.

