



What does
Aslan
have to do
with the
**Anti-Black Racism
Task Force?** See page 9.

Synod Recap “The Challenges of Evangelism: how do we invite people?”

NICKI HRONJAK, EDITOR

For the 2nd year our annual diocesan Synod met virtually. And if it seems as if Synod came quickly this year – you’re right. Because of the uncertainty around the pandemic, last year’s Synod was moved from May to November. So it is impressive that the Synod Planning Committee was able to orchestrate this Conference Synod – made more challenging by virtue of being virtual – in such a short period of time. It all went as planned, on schedule with only minor virtual hiccups.

The Bishop’s Charge

Following the opening worship Bishop Mary delivered her Charge in which she was honest about the challenges of the past year and the future of our diocese in post-pandemic times. Yet she also expressed abundant hope; “I believe that we stand on the threshold of some exciting possibilities in ministry; this is a chance to launch into greater cooperation with God. Let us celebrate God at work! Let us listen closely for his guidance and step out boldly.” She also acknowledged the need for change; “Don’t stop changing and don’t try to go back to where you once felt safe.” For the complete charge go to www.anglican.montreal.ca/synod.

Judy Paulsen on Evangelism

Following the delivery of her charge, Bishop Mary introduced the Rev Canon Dr Judy Paulsen, a Professor of Evangelism and Director of the Institute of Evangelism at Wycliffe. In addition to teaching evangelism she works with churches to help them cultivate a culture of “disciples making disciples”. For the third year, the theme of Synod has been evangelism. Specifically for this year it was “The Challenges of Evangelism: how do we invite people?” Judy posed the provocative question of “How do we proclaim Christ in a world that seems disinterested?” And, “Who is the disinterested world that we hope to share with?”

Citing research from the Angus Reid Institute (<https://angus-reid.org/religion-in-canada-150/>)

she attempted to provide a roadmap for the first question and some clarity for the second. The survey of Canadians in 2017 revealed the following segments of population in terms of views towards religion:

21% are religiously committed (14% in Quebec)
30% are privately faithful (32% in Quebec)
30% are spiritually uncertain (36% in Quebec)
19% are non-believers (18% in Quebec)

With the state of decline in church attendance, and the rise of the two middle groups (the privately faithful and spiritually uncertain) the big question that arises from these statistics is; Is this a crisis or an opportunity? You will notice that these two groups are even larger in Quebec, representing 68% of the population. The comments in the chat during Judy’s presentation revealed that most agreed, this is an opportunity. If you would like to dive into the details of the study (The Angus Reid spectrum of spirituality) I would encourage you to visit the website <https://angus-reid.org/religion-in-canada-150>.

Takeaways from the Research

It is clear from the research that most Quebecers have faith to varying degrees – few (18%) reject it entirely, which means that Quebecers are less hostile to religion than attendance might imply. The privately faithful, especially, are very interested in questions of faith, and while they believe in God and pray, they don’t read the scriptures or attend services. Yet, the majority of the privately faithful want their kids to be formally welcomed into a religious community.

While many of the surveyed see religion’s overall impact as negative and half feel uncomfortable around the devoutly faithful, the majority wish they had a closer relationship with God. For everyone- across all groups –the least positive words (from a list that includes the words karma, morality, religion and salvation) are theology and evangelism.

One thing is certain, the

new reality that these statistics reveal requires us to do some changing. The other thing that is certain is “people like change, but they don’t like to change”.

Time for Change

How do we equip the church for change? Judy suggests that it starts with praying for the privately faithful and spiritually uncertain to come to Christ and trusting that Jesus still calls people to Himself and that God give us a passion to share the faith we have.

Additionally, Judy challenged us to try some experiments to share our faith with people in these groups who we already have in our lives. In particular, she encouraged us to try the Bible Study Project - Invite someone you know with no church connection to read and discuss together 3 stories from the earliest biographies of Jesus’ life. Judy has been challenging people to try this for years and out of the more than 200 who have tried, only one was turned down by the first person he or she asked. This is an opportunity for the spiritually uncertain and privately faithful to ask those questions and get closer to God.

There are also ways to help people you don’t yet know to feel more comfortable around people of faith. Think of opportunities to engage your community by offering fun or educational events. Have a picnic or concert open to the public. Offer programs such as financial seminars, Griefshare and Divorce Care. Try a book club. Most people also welcome opportunities to volunteer. How about asking for volunteers from the community while the “regulars” are there for friendly conversation and trust building?

And remember the children. We have learned that for many Christian education is a vital foundation for faith.

Don’t get trapped into thinking that the problem is too big for our church. We should remember secularism is a public reaction but doesn’t show what is in peoples’ hearts. Evangelism can be scary but it can also be rewarding. You may find that talking about faith is

energizing and joyful.

In addition to the Keynote speaker, there were several conference workshops for attendees to choose from:

Conference Workshops

The Importance of Context: Dr Glen Smith, Presbyterian College
Rethinking Evangelism: Dr Dominic Ruso
Lessons Learned from A New Community: The Rev Graham Singh and Ms Marney Matoga
Emerging Conversations: Ms Lee-Ann Matthews & Mr Andrew Rennie
Lessons from Children and Youth Ministries at the Church of St Mark & St Peter: Ms. June Lashley & Diana Keener
Ministry to Children: The Rev Grace Burson
Ministry to Young Adults: The Rev Jean-Daniel O’Donnada
Le ministère dans le Québec multiculturel: Mr Mark Gibson & Fr Thomas Ntilivamunda

Finance Presentation

Ron O’Connell, the Diocesan Treasurer, had recorded his finance presentation earlier in the week. It is available online at

www.montreal.anglican.ca/Synod. Mr O’Connell encouraged everyone to review the report created by Diocesan Finance Manager Mr Stephen Tam. It is on page 92 of the Convening Circular which can be found online at the same address.

Mr O’Connell was frank about the losses the Diocese incurred last year. The Diocese stopped taking assessments from parishes in 2nd quarter of 2020, paid clergy salaries in the early days of the pandemic before the government support kicked in and lost revenue from investments. These circumstances resulted in a loss of \$1.8 million for 2020. The diocese covered the losses through the use of investments, cash on hand, sale of a property and line of credit. While we are fortunate to have these options, the continued drawing down of our funds will make it more challenging to cover deficits in coming years.

The projected loss for 2021 is \$670k. However, since this projection was prepared it was announced that the government might extend the wage subsidy until the end of September. If

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The Rev Canon Dr Judy Paulsen gave the keynote address at our Conference Synod, Friday, May 14, 2021.

Bishop's Message June 2021

Some of you may remember the children's television show with a lamb puppet that would sing "this is a song that never ends" and the song went round and round to the frustration of everyone else! As I write, we anticipate that the restrictions to meeting together will be lifted as the summer progresses. We have patiently endured the measures that were deemed necessary to keep one another safe. Perhaps we will see the end of the virus spreading. We can pray so and hope that this is the end of lockdown.

What will our churches in the Diocese of Montreal look like when we open up again? How have you changed? As I said in my Charge to Synod, God has not been in self-quarantine. Instead, God has been at work in our diocese, meeting us where we are, and speaking to us. What has God taught us during our time of isolation and meeting online that we can share with others? I invite you to think and pray as congregations about how your ministry will be expressed. What will you keep, what will you let go of, what will you do differently and what will you find new courage to try?

I believe that we have new insight and faith about how to go forward as a church. We need to be praying to be open to what the Spirit is calling us to.

After his resurrection, Jesus met his disciples, the learners – often behind locked doors and sometimes in outdoor locations. He taught them that they would be filled with God's power so that they could be his witnesses. Before he ascended into heaven, Jesus gave the disciples specific instructions: make learners of all nations and races, invite people in, talk to them, pray for them, love them with Christ's love.

Pray for God's power to work in you and them. Want it! Look for it! Be ready to fail sometimes while trying to co-operate with God. Don't stop changing and don't try to go back to where you once felt safe. Ask God to use you each day. Be open to surprising ways. Be open to those who may need grace or hope. Be expectant. Pray and give thanks always. Let God's power fill you and direct you. And Jesus will always be with you.

That's the song that never ends – our call to be agents of Jesus' power of transformation and love and hope.



+ Mary

Message de l'évêque Juin 2021

Certains d'entre vous se souviennent peut-être de l'émission télévisée pour enfants avec une marionnette agneau qui chantait "this is a song that never ends" (c'est une chanson qui ne finit jamais) et la chanson tournait en boucle, à la grande frustration de tous les autres ! Au moment où j'écris ces lignes, nous nous attendons à ce que les restrictions aux rencontres soient levées au fur et à mesure que l'été avance. Nous avons patiemment supporté les mesures jugées nécessaires pour assurer la sécurité des uns et des autres. Peut-être verrons-nous la fin de la propagation du virus? Nous pouvons donc prier et espérer que c'est la fin du confinement.

À quoi ressembleront nos églises dans le diocèse de Montréal lorsque nous pourrons rouvrir nos portes ? Comment avez-vous changé ? Dieu ne s'était pas mis en quarantaine. Au contraire, Il a été à l'œuvre dans notre diocèse, il n'a cessé de nous rencontrer et de nous parler là où nous sommes. Qu'est-ce que Dieu nous a appris pendant notre temps d'isolement et de rencontre en ligne que nous pouvons partager avec d'autres ? Je vous invite à réfléchir et à prier en tant que congrégations sur la manière dont votre ministère sera exprimé. Que garderez-vous, que laisserez-vous tomber,

que ferez-vous différemment et qu'est-ce que vous essayerez et qui nécessiterait de trouver un nouveau courage ?

Je crois que nous avons un nouveau regard et une nouvelle foi quant à la manière d'avancer en tant qu'église. Nous devons prier pour être ouverts à ce à quoi l'Esprit nous appelle.

Après sa résurrection, Jésus a rencontré ses disciples, les apprenants - souvent derrière des portes fermées et parfois dans des lieux extérieurs. Il leur a enseigné qu'ils seraient remplis de la puissance de Dieu afin qu'ils puissent être ses témoins. Avant de monter au ciel, Jésus a donné aux disciples des instructions précises : former des disciples – des apprentis de Jésus – de toutes les nations et de toutes les races, inviter les gens à entrer, leur parler, prier pour eux, les aimer de l'amour du Christ. Priez pour que la puissance de Dieu agisse en vous et en eux. Désirez-la ! Cherchez-la ! Soyez prêts à échouer parfois en essayant de coopérer avec Dieu. Ne cessez pas de changer et n'essayez pas de revenir à l'endroit où vous vous sentiez autrefois en sécurité. Demandez à Dieu de vous utiliser chaque jour. Soyez ouverts à des voies surprenantes. Soyez ouvert à ceux qui peuvent avoir besoin de grâce ou d'espoir. Soyez dans l'expectative. Priez et remerciez toujours. Laissez la puissance de Dieu vous remplir et vous diriger. Et Jésus sera toujours avec vous.

C'est la chanson qui ne finit jamais - notre appel à être des agents du pouvoir de transformation, d'amour et d'espoir de Jésus.

+ Mary



Official Newspaper of
the Diocese of Montreal
**Deadline for September
2021 issue: July 26, 2021**

Editor: Nicki Hronjak
Editorial Assistance: Peter
Denis, Wendy Telfer
Circulation: Ardyth Robinson
Production: Nicki Hronjak

Editorial Office: Diocese of Montreal
1444 Union Ave Montreal, QC H3A 2B8
Phone: 514-843-6577
editor@montreal.anglican.ca

Published four times a year. \$10 per year

For subscription changes: Anglican Journal
80 Hayden St, Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2
416-924-9199 or 1-866-924-9192 Ext. 245/259

circulation@national.anglican.ca
www.anglicanjournal.com/subscribe

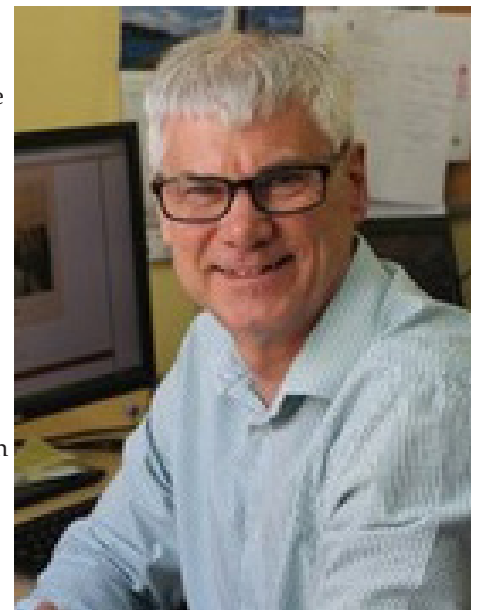
Anglican Journal & Montreal Anglican
A section of Anglican Journal.
Legal deposit: National Library of Quebec,
National Library of Canada.

Printed and mailed by Webnews Printing Inc.,
North York, ON

Paul Clarke of Action Réfugiés to retire this month

Congratulations and every blessing to Paul Clarke as he prepares to take on a well-deserved retirement after 8 years as Executive Director of Action Réfugiés. We are grateful for his passionate and gracious approach. Thank you from all of us! A warm welcome to Carolina Manganelli as she brings her own particular energy and gifts to the position of Executive Director. For more info see pages 6 & 7.

Félicitations et toutes les bénédictions à Paul Clarke qui se prépare à prendre une retraite bien méritée après 8 ans en tant que directeur exécutif d'Action Réfugiés. Nous lui sommes reconnaissants pour son approche passionnée et gracieuse. Merci de notre part à tous ! Nous souhaitons la bienvenue à Carolina Manganelli, qui apporte son énergie et ses dons particuliers au poste de Directrice générale. p. 6 & 7.





The Diocesan Theological College conferred an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree on Elizabeth May, O.C., MP.

Dio Convocation “Grateful to faith”

JENNIFER TOWELL AND
JESSE ZINK

Ms Jennifer Towell wears many hats at the Montreal Diocesan Theological College where the Rev Canon Dr Jesse Zink is Principal

At its annual Convocation on Monday, May 3—held online due to the pandemic—Montreal Diocesan Theological College conferred an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree on Elizabeth May, O.C., MP and graduated eight students from its degree, diploma, and certificate programs.

Ms. May is a Member of Parliament for Sannitch-Gulf Islands and former leader (and current parliamentary leader) of the Green Party of Canada. She has had a long career as a lawyer and environmental activist. She is also an Anglican who has, in the past, considered studying for the priest-

hood. In the degree citation, the college recognized Ms. May’s “consistent, patient, and forthright living of her baptismal calling to proclaim the Christian gospel” in her public and political career.

In her Convocation address, Ms. May said that her Christian faith sustains her in her work in Parliament: “Here we are in a time of plague and fire and famine and drought and insect infestation—it’s a tremendous challenge on the science to whether we can save ourselves. It’s for that that I am so grateful to faith for believing that we can do the impossible, that we have a chance, that we have a prayer.”

She pointed to the diversity of religious leaders who have made climate action a significant focus of their leadership. She recalled being inspired by an address then-Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd

Rowan Williams, at the 2009 Copenhagen Conference in which he argued that Christians have a “preferential option for the earth” that is the same as the “preferential option for the poor.”

Ms. May quoted from the work of the economist E.F. Schumacher, who is best known for his 1973 book *Small is Beautiful: Economics as if People Mattered*. She read from his later book, *A Guide for the Perplexed*. Schumacher wrote: “Modern industry by producing comfort on a scale unheard of in human history, yet almost destroying the real educational function of daily work quite clearly sets the most difficult examination task: how not to lose sight of the spiritual in the face of these overwhelming temptations.” Later he wrote, “This does not mean that we can wash our hands of this worldly failure for only those can triumph who never cease for a moment, no matter what the odds are against them, to fight evil and try to restore order.”

Words like those, Ms. May said, offered her the drive and determination to carry on her work: “You have to keep trying, don’t you, you have to keep fighting, you have to know that the task set is for the individual souls of each and every one of us, for the well-being, yes, for the saving of this miraculous, miraculous planet.”

Ms. May concluded by quoting a passage of Scripture that she says she recalls on a daily basis: “Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine” (Ephesians 3:20).

During the Convocation service, the college conferred degrees, diplomas and certificates on eight graduates:

- Master of Divinity: Jon Jameson, Tevfik Karatop, Linda Moore (with distinction), Fresia Saborio
- Diploma in Ministry: Ben Stuchbery (with distinction)
- Certificate in Theology: Willis Noble, George Ryder, *continued on page 12*

Meet the 2021 Graduates



Tevfik Karatop, Master of Divinity



Jon Jameson, Master of Divinity



Linda Moore, Master of Divinity (with distinction)



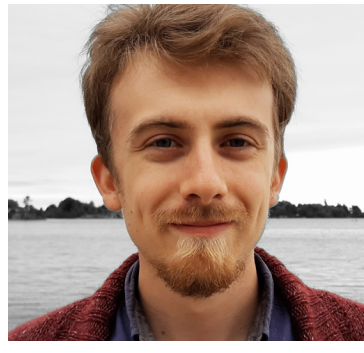
Willis Noble, Certificate in Theology



George Ryder, Certificate in Theology



Fresia Saborio, Master of Divinity



Ben Stuchbery, Diploma in Ministry (with distinction)



Gail Turnbull, Certificate in Theology

Research Reveals an Opportunity for Parishes

NEIL MANCOR

The Rev Canon Dr Neil Mancor is the Congregational Development Officer for the Diocese.

COVID-19 has had a dramatic effect upon charities and communities of faith all over the world. The economic model with which we support our Churches has been drastically challenged.

As we begin to re-open, we will need to adapt to a very different environment. This will pose challenges but also hold possibilities for us. There are important trends that will benefit the local church if we take advantage of the opportunities. The Canada Helps 2021 Giving Report has vital information that I believe will be a source of hope and direction for us.

The hard news: in 2020 overall giving to charities declined

by 10% to 2016 levels. There are a number of reasons for this. For one, as the pandemic took hold people tended to hold onto their resources in an uncertain situation. Secondly, traditional ways to give in-person were not accessible. The lesson here is that as we begin to build back most of us should think in terms of starting from this level.

The good news – and there is a lot of good news. First, online giving skyrocketed by 86% over 2019. This was, of course, a direct effect of the pandemic but also of the Black Lives Matters protests and Giving Tuesday.

As the pandemic took hold and we were confined to our houses, there was a noticeable uptick in online commerce as well as charitable giving. When you think about it this just

makes sense. I had never ordered food via Uber Eats before the pandemic, though my Gen Z kids certainly had. But once we were sequestered this was the only way to eat “out” while staying “in”. Plus it felt like my house became Grand Central Station for Amazon as parcels arrived on a regular basis. We might not like lining Jeff Bezos’ pockets, but ordering items online was the only way to go get some of the items we needed (or, I admit, wanted!).

“...there is strong alignment between what we care about as Anglicans and what we care about as Canadians. This is our opportunity now.”

In the same way, many donors switched to digital forms of giving and were motivated by a strong sense of altru-

ism brought on by the shared experience of the pandemic. This means that churches that provide digital forms of giving have and will benefit from this trend. If you do not already offer a digital means to engage donors you need adapt to this NOW.

As 2020 progressed there was another sharp uptick in online giving beginning with the BLM protests, particularly from younger donors. Then towards the end of the year Giving Tuesday strongly impacted digital and online generosity.

The Canada Helps 2020 Giving Report points to three major areas of donor generosity; Indigenous issues, racial justice and the environment. Indigenous issues, though still comparatively small in overall donations, is the fastest growing area of interest for donors.

THE BLM protests mobilized the generosity of donors in a major way. Likewise donors are typically very concerned about the environmental crisis.

The point here is that these are the issues that Canadians care about. They recognize that when Indigenous communities go without safe water it brings shame upon our country. They are very concerned about systemic racism in our society. And they are very focused on the environment. Though not overtly Christian, they are very important to us as people of faith. Our Scriptures strongly encourage us to care about these issues. This means that there is strong alignment between what we care about as Anglicans and what we care about as Canadians. This is our opportunity now.

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So, You're Considering Hybrid Worship? Some helpful information before you start

BERTRAND OLIVIER

The Very Rev'd Bertrand Olivier is the Dean of Montreal and the Rector of Christ Church Cathedral

Do not worry: The cathedral is still very much focused on the worship of God as incarnated in Jesus Christ and in the power of the spirit. What this article is not about is worship content as - in the good Anglican tradition - we are all probably doing things slightly differently as is appropriate.

What I am describing here is the solution the Cathedral has used to move from Zoom only worship, as we experienced from the beginning of the first lock-down, to a blended technological form which allows us to worship together as one community even though some have returned to the cathedral building, while others continue to join us on Zoom.

From the beginning, it was important to us that no one should be left behind or feel excluded. Maintaining the integrity of the community was paramount and this is why we decided to go down this particular route.

This solution would work either as a transitional set up for a larger church, or a permanent solution for a smaller building. Whilst it needs someone with some technical knowledge initially, it is pretty easy to run once installed.

Like any other choice, it has pluses and minuses, but it helped us achieve our objectives.

The system allowed us to:

- gather on Zoom and in the Cathedral for the same acts of worship
- enable those on Zoom to see the action at the cathedral and benefit from the liturgy and the music
- enable those on Zoom to continue to be part of the reading and intercession rota and to be broadcast into the cathedral
- enable those in person to see some of the Zoom participants, as well as see and hear Zoom readers and intercessors

How we did it:

- We invested in a Mevo camera (see mevo.com), that has good microphones and can be controlled

through a smartphone. As such, it provides the possibility of changing the view remotely.

- The Mevo app was linked wirelessly to a Mac laptop, allowing the Mevo camera to become a virtual camera into Zoom.
- We ran Zoom on the Mac, choosing Mevo as the Zoom Video and Audio input. The picture and sound from the Mevo camera was therefore broadcast as one window into the zoom meeting.
- We ran another instance of Zoom on a separate laptop, which we linked to two large screens using an HDMI splitter and two long HDMI cables. We duplicated the screen from the laptop to those screens, and used them to show the gallery view of the Zoom congregation, and the reader and/or intercessor as necessary.

It was crucial to stop the Mevo sound on the Mac when someone was interacting on Zoom into the church, as well as to switch back when that interac-

tion finished. Otherwise, it was fairly straightforward once up and running.

In order to work seamlessly, this required a tech operator to operate the two laptops and camera in the church, as well as at least one Zoom host to let people in and to share the bulletin on screen.

Otherwise, this was a pretty easy and relatively low cost system to operate

This system was a very good way of transitioning back to in-person worship for the cathedral community, and it ensured that everyone felt that they were included in the plans. We used it from the start at our three morning services and evensong. People on Zoom enjoyed the interaction, and for many, seeing the altar and the familiar surroundings of the Cathedral was quite an emotional experience after months of seeing the clergy lead and preach from their homes.

For those who were happy to attend in-person worship, it was a reminder that, while we were small in numbers in the building, there was a wider cloud of witnesses joining us through the internet.

Overall, it took a little while for members of our congregation to adjust to a more liturgical format (as opposed to the informality of the Zoom worship) as well as the slightly more echoey sound from the cathedral.

The advantage of the Mevo camera is that it is also a camera with livestreaming abilities, so it can on livestream directly to FB Live or YouTube, providing better editing options than a standard iPhone camera. We used this function to livestream Evensong on our FB page.

For the Cathedral, it is clear that hybrid worship is here to stay, and we have now invested in further professional equipment so that we may continue to gather those who are not ready to come back in person and of course to maintain a connection with our shut-ins and others who had not been able to join us for some time. We are delighted that we have been able to rekindle a connection with old friends of the Cathedral in these strange times. There were some silver linings in the clouds of Covid-19.

Questions? Email me bertrand.olivier@montrealcathedral.ca

Start Thinking BIGG: Believe, Inspire, Goals and Get it Done

JESSICA BICKFORD

The Rev Deacon Jessica Bickford is Co-founder of the Phoenix Community Projects

When you were a child, what was your favourite imaginary adventure? Were you a superhero who saved the world from the evil villain? Were you a fairyland creature that rode on unicorns, flew on dragons and swam with mermaids? Or, maybe you possessed magical powers that made the impossible possible?

When I was a child I remember the days of leaving my house after breakfast and embarking on daylong adventures with my friends. These memories come swarming back today when I hear my daughter in her room creating a world all her own with her favourite toys as her sidekicks.

How many times have you thought "what if", and then just as quickly dismissed the idea as flippant, crazy or even impossible? According to the Canadian Research in Cognitive Neuroscience, people have on average 6,200 thoughts a day. Some of these thoughts are as simple as what to eat or wear, but many of them are our own personal brainstorm. Ideas can be like fireworks; you can almost see a trail of sparks and then BAM a beautiful display of light and colour where there was once a blank canvas of night sky. Like fireworks, the spark of an idea can be hard to hold onto, so how do we make an idea become reality?

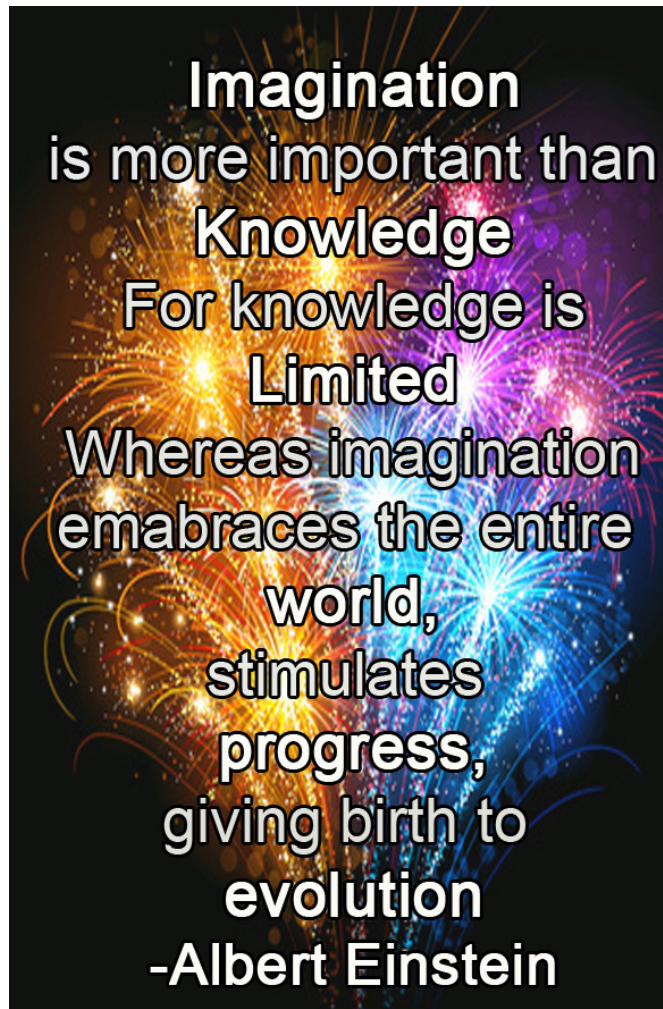
One method that has worked for me in my ministry came from my first rugby coach. At the beginning of our

season he presented a strategy that not only applied to the team, but also as an ideology that we could apply to our lives. This process was called *Thinking BIGG* an acronym for *Believe, Inspire, Goals and Get It Done*.

The first step in Thinking BIGG is to Believe.

For many seeing is believing. How many programs have churches implemented based on the success of other churches? Although this can provide positive results, sometimes the program does not quite fit with our own congregations. And when it does, we are often not sure what to do next and end up waiting for someone else's next success story.

In *Thinking BIGG* we reverse this idea and believe in what is unseen; foreseeing where you want to be and believing you will get there. When we envision new possibilities, we must remember that we are seeing things others can't or haven't. This does not mean that the opportunity does not exist, it just means we will have to find the language to articulate the vision we see. It is amazing how many nay-sayers there are who will negate what you are trying to accomplish. This is discouraging and is why it is so essential to continue to



believe in your vision – and, more importantly, in yourself.

The second component to Thinking BIGG is Inspire. Many times, when we have an idea or a dream, we can also negate ourselves. Thoughts like, "I cannot do this", and "who am I to try this?" can erode our aspirations. Just remember that if others have been able to fulfill their visions then so can you - but you can't do it alone. Almost everyone who have achieved their goals have had

people to support them, encourage them and aid them. As John Maxwell said, "It takes teamwork to make the dream work." For every nay-sayer, there are others who want to be a part of what you are trying to achieve. Focus your efforts on finding these people to collaborate with.

The third component to Thinking BIGG is Goals. This is where we take the steps to implement our ideas. To do this, dreamers need those who are more practical. Jodi Picoult said, "The difference between a dream and a goal is a plan." I have found that the best way to implement

a vision is to utilize individual strengths. What are we good at can be a catalyst to bring a possibility to fruition? If we find we have a weakness, this is when we invite somebody to help fill this void and make our team stronger. Also, like in any great adventure, there are bound to be a few hurdles and mis-directions. This happens because we are venturing into uncharted territory. It may feel like you have tripped but

remember the game is not over. The journey is only truly over when we give up and quit, so be gentle with yourself.

Along with those who see the possibilities, we need people to hear them. For those to whom new ideas and innovations are being presented, how do you hear them? Do you look for proof before the initiative has begun? Do you whittle away at the details? Yes, we have to be practical - especially if we are investing limited resources - but instead of chipping away at someone's idea, we can formulate our questions to encourage their dreams, to help bring clarity and to go deeper, to lay a stronger foundation. This helps to create a culture of collaboration versus competition and defensiveness.

Finally, our last component to Thinking BIGG is GET IT DONE. From life changing dreams to even seemingly simple ones, nothing is impossible. At the end of our weekly service we say, "Glory to God whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine." To allow God's work, we must give space for creativity and imagination for that is where the Holy Spirit resides. We say we are people of faith but how eager are we to step out of the boat, to take a chance to use that faith? It is easy to stay in the vagueness of conditional verbs: the church should, the world could. The true adventure begins when we step out of the world of imagination and take the steps to make it a reality. Do you have the audacity to Think BIGG ?

www.phoenixprogram.ca

Say Yes! to a Bright Future

The Anglican Foundation offers help to youth programmes, coast to coast to coast, this fall



St. George's YouthNet, Halifax, is a youth-focused outreach and three-time AFC grant recipient.

MICHELLE HAUSER

Ms Michelle Hauser is a Development Consultant at the Anglican Foundation of Canada.

"We really didn't know what to expect when we launched the Say Yes! to Kids campaign," says the Rev. Canon Dr. Judy Rois, Executive Director, Anglican Foundation of Canada (AFC). "This is AFC's first-ever peer-to-peer fundraising effort—a new idea for an established charity—and we have been surprised and impressed by the spirit of creativity and generosity with which it has been embraced across the country."

Say Yes! to Kids is AFC's

response to concerns about COVID-19's impact on young people. This national campaign is meant to have local impact by supporting champions for children, youth, and family ministry across the country as we face a post-pandemic world.

"Children have had to endure so much as a result of the pandemic," says Canon Rois, "social isolation, limited recreation, exposure to disharmony at home, depression, sleep difficulties, and emotional struggles. Say Yes! to Kids will ensure there is money available for homework clubs, nutrition and food security, private and group tutoring,

safe outdoor recreation, mental health supports, and the many other courageous and creative ministries our church has the capacity to offer."

Between online and offline donations, the campaign is nearing the \$20,000 mark of its \$100,000 goal. "It is an ambitious target," says the Very Rev. Peter Wall, Gift Consultant for AFC. "But an achievable one. It is all that more achievable thanks to an extraordinary matching gift of \$25,000." Wall explains the matching donation will be applied to the Say Yes! to Kids peer-to-peer portal and double the efforts of online fundraisers."

To date there are close to ten

Say Yes! to Kids fundraising teams registered, championed by Bishops, Diocesan Staff, AFC's Diocesan Representatives, and individuals who are passionate about ministry and outreach to young people. "These teams are putting the fun in fundraising," says Canon Rois. "From community cleanup initiatives to Epic Online Game Nights, Canadian Anglicans are Saying Yes! to Kids in so many creative and wonderful ways."

In some dioceses, teams are rallying around specific ministries they hope will benefit from the campaign. "In our meetings across the country, we are seeing the emergence of

a national story about outreach to children and youth," says Wall. "It's a story about compassion in the face of crisis. There are tireless champions for young people across the Canadian church who have been undeterred by the pandemic. They know exactly where and how new investments can be used to make an impact."

In the Diocese of Montreal, the campaign has benefited from the skills and expertise of The Rev. Gwenda Wells, who serves as AFC's Diocesan Representative for Montreal, and translated the Say Yes! to Kids campaign case—Dites oui! aux jeunes—to make the peer-to-peer site bilingual. According to Rev Wells, "Montreal donors are already championing this cause and informal brainstorming has begun about possible projects in keeping with local priorities."

Helping to strengthen existing ministries is only one goal of the campaign. "We are working through our network of volunteers at the diocesan level to get people thinking about pilot projects," says Wall, "and what they might do if they had some extra funding. In this way Say Yes! to Kids has the potential to both seed and sustain ministry."

Since 2011, and the launch of the Kids Helping Kids Fund, AFC has invested over \$1 Million in ministries that benefit children, youth, and young adults in Canada. Canon Rois says AFC will rely on the strength of its granting program to quickly turnaround Say Yes! to Kids campaign proceeds by funding a Request for Proposals (RFP) for youth-focused initiatives in fall 2021.

Say Yes! to Kids launched on April 6 and will run until June 30. For more information email foundation@anglicanfoundation.org. To join a Say Yes! to Kids fundraising team, or to make an individual donation to the campaign, visit www.anglicanfoundation.org/kids.

Le nouveau site web fait ses preuves! (Une vraie histoire)

MARK GIBSON

Mark Gibson est le co-fondateur de la CMAQ

Imaginez que vous êtes une anglicane, arrivée de l'Amérique latine comme demandeuse d'asile au Québec avec quelques membres de votre famille. Vous parlez espagnol. Le gouvernement vous fournit des classes de français pour vous aider dans votre intégration. Vous vous y appliquez, mais ça prend du temps, malgré vos efforts et votre intelligence évidente.

Vous êtes heureuse de trouver qu'il y a une église anglicane à quelques kilomètres de chez vous. Vous appelez et vous leur rendez visite, mais non seulement est-ce que personne ne parle espagnol, il semble que c'est difficile de trouver quelqu'un qui parle français. Quelqu'un vous pointe vers une communauté chrétienne évangélique avec des

personnes qui parlent espagnol. Les membres vous offrent un soutien exceptionnel pendant une période très difficile.

Mais l'Église anglicane continue à vous manquer. Finalement, après un an de recherche, vous repérez la (toute nouvelle) adresse web fr.montreal.anglican.ca. Dans la liste des communautés, vous identifiez une communauté orientée spécifiquement pour les nouveaux arrivants comme vous. Ça se passe sur Zoom. Vous vous branchez au groupe de discussion. Dans votre français cassé, vous essayez de vous introduire et de connaître un peu quelle est cette communauté.

À la fin de la rencontre, ayant bénéficié de beaucoup de sourires d'encouragement lors de vos efforts pour vous expliquer, vous êtes épuisée, mais enthousiaste. Peut-être que vous avez trouvé votre famille chrétienne québécoise?



CMAQ--Communauté multiculturelle anglicane du Québec

Nous sommes une communauté chrétienne de louange et de partage de foi pour les nouveaux...

Visualiser davantage

Pour de plus amples informations, visitez fr.montreal.anglican.ca

New French Website Doing Its Job!

MARK GIBSON

Google has found the diocese's new French website, and because of it, at least one person has found and connected with one of our congregations. If you meet French-speakers who are interested in worshipping or learning with Anglicans, remember to mention the site at fr.montreal.anglican.ca.

Because the diocese does not have the personnel to maintain two online resource libraries for our members (French and English), please continue to refer to the main site at montreal.anglican.ca for all French versions of forms, handbooks, committee information and Synod documents. **Veillez noter que les formulaires, guides, rapports et documents pour synode vont continuer à être présentés sur le site anglais, en offrant un lien vers une version française si elle existe.**

Mission Updates

Tyndale St-Georges - a refuge for the people of Little Burgundy

SHAUNA JOYCE

Ms. Shauna Joyce is the Executive Director of Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre.

People need people, it is as simple as that. After a year of social distancing and severely limited social gatherings, we are all craving human connection. Now more than ever, we need to re-establish and strengthen our connection to our neighbours and our support networks.

Thankfully, Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre was able to re-open last July, (with restrictions) and is now providing programs in-person to all participants except seniors.

The pandemic and the public health guidelines that were implemented have frayed the fabric of many communities such as Little Burgundy whose large, recently-immigrated population struggles with language, cultural, and financial issues as well as an acute sense of isolation. For this community, Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre has been a refuge.

One young single mother, Zoubaida, an Asylum refugee claimant, shares her recent experience as a new member of the Tyndale family.

'My eldest daughter Sofia (age 4) joined Tyndale's Early Childhood Department in November... and my youngest daughter,

Chloe (age 1) joined this spring semester. Both girls are extremely happy and excited to be part of the program. As an Asylum refugee claimant, my children had no access to nursery school. Tyndale did not just help us ... they showed us that good people do exist and that there is goodness in the world.

The girls lived the Christmas spirit thanks to Tyndale St-Georges. I will never ever forget the looks on the girls' faces when they saw the gifts they received. I am so grateful for the Christmas gift basket of groceries that we also received, it was so hard to be away from my family and support system, but I was able to manage because of the support from Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre.

Tyndale is helping the girls adapt and they have helped me (through the Parent's Support Group) by providing me a place to share all the ups and downs of parenthood. Whenever I need guidance, I reach out to Tyndale St-Georges. We hope to be part of the Tyndale family for a long time, and I will never forget all the love, support and motivation they gave us.'

Tyndale St-Georges' Childhood Department has been operating for over 20 years, offering educational support for families with young children ages 0-5. In a safe and nonjudgmental environment, the Department focuses on the power of play, storytelling, and early stimulation as well as nurtur-



Zoubaid's daughters unwrapping Christmas gifts donated to the Tyndale St-Georges families. Photo contributed.

ing secure attachment with caregivers to foster healthy childhood development.

Typically, around 75 children (often accompanied by their parents) are presented with various learning opportunities, including language

acquisition, socialization, fine and gross motor skill development. Along with early literacy, these skills significantly improves their school readiness. Early Childhood activities provide children and their parents opportunities to

bond, communicate and grow as a community, and to feel a strong sense of belonging. The families served by the Tyndale St-Georges' Early Childhood Department represent 45 different countries and languages, creating a diverse mosaic of experience and knowledge. Tyndale St-Georges plays an active and significant role in contributing to better futures for the children who participate in the Early Childhood Department while providing much needed support for their families.

Communities and Community Centres play an important role in every aspect of our lives. Being a part of a community helps us feel safe, secure, and united, especially during a crisis. A strong community of people looking out for our best interests can ease stress and feelings of loneliness and provide opportunities for growth and experience. This is what Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre has been doing for over 90 years; providing residents of Little Burgundy with social and academic support and fostering a strong sense of belonging through programs that inform, empower, unite, and reinforce wellbeing.

The pandemic has provided us the opportunity to better understand our essential human needs. We are grateful that technology enabled the

continued on page 9

Action réfugiés Montréal NOMINATION d'une nouvelle directrice générale

Le conseil d'administration d'Action réfugiés Montréal est heureux d'annoncer la nomination de Carolina Manganelli à titre de Directrice générale, et ce en date du 3 mai 2021. Madame Manganelli détient un Baccalauréat en Sociologie, obtenu avec distinction, ainsi qu'un Baccalauréat en droit civil (BCL) et en common law (JD) de l'Université McGill. Elle a poursuivi ses études supérieures et a obtenu une Maîtrise en droit (LLM), avec spécialisation en Droits de la personne, de la University College London, obtenue avec la mention « mérite ». Elle est membre du Barreau du Québec depuis 2005.

Madame Manganelli s'exprime en quatre langues. Elle a longuement œuvré dans des cabinets privés d'avocats; au sein de la fonction publique fédérale; avec des organismes à but non lucratif; et elle a aussi fondé et dirigé son bureau juridique. Parmi son implication auprès des personnes réfugiées on peut compter deux ans en Bosnie-Herzégovine à la suite du conflit armé, où elle facilitait le retour et la sécurité des personnes déplacées. De plus, Madame Manganelli a été Membre

décideur au sein de la Commission de l'immigration et du statut de réfugiés – Division de la protection des réfugiés, où elle rendait des décisions sur des demandes d'asile. En 2016, elle a été nommée Membre Assesseure au Tribunal des droits de la personne du Québec, où elle travaille en collaboration avec les juges pour entendre et décider les plaintes portées en vertu de la Charte des droits et libertés de la personne.

Carolina a été directrice générale par intérim de Dress for Success Montréal, un OBNL qui vise à accompagner les femmes dans le besoin vers leur indépendance économique. Grâce à sa feuille de route impressionnante sur le plan académique, son importante expérience professionnelle ainsi que son travail sur le terrain, le conseil d'administration est confiant que Carolina mènera avec brio les programmes d'Action réfugiés ainsi que les efforts de plaidoyer au nom des réfugiés.

« Je me réjouis de diriger l'équipe d'Action réfugiés Montréal » affirme Madame Manganelli. « J'y vois une continuité des efforts de plaidoyer et d'accompagnement sur le



L'Évêque Mary et le vicaire général Robert Camara ont eu le plaisir de rencontrer par Zoom la nouvelle directrice générale d'Action Réfugiés, Carolina Manganelli en présence de Paul Clarke qui prend sa retraite en fin de juin.

terrain des personnes réfugiées, ce pourquoi l'organisation est si bien reconnue. »

Madame Manganelli succède à Paul Clarke, directeur général en poste, qui prend sa retraite après avoir dirigé Action réfugiés durant huit ans.

Action Réfugiés Montréal est une voix forte pour les personnes réfugiées à Montréal et ailleurs.

Notre objectif est d'obtenir justice pour les demandeurs d'asile et les personnes réfugiées. Nous faisons la promotion de partenariats entre les personnes réfugiées, les communautés religieuses et la société, dans une optique d'autonomisation mutuelle. Grâce à nos programmes, nous apportons de l'espoir et de l'appui tout en éveillant les consciences sur

les droits des personnes réfugiées. Fondée en 1994, Action réfugiés Montréal reçoit du financement du Diocèse anglican de Montréal et de l'Église presbytérienne du Canada. L'équipe est composée de sept personnes.

Pour de plus amples informations, visitez actionr.org.

Mission Updates

“Dignity: Christ in Me, Christ in You” Video project shines light on spirit of Mile End Mission

LINDA LOU HACHEY

Ms Linda Hachey is the Executive Director of the Mile-End Community Mission.



Phoenix Community Projects logo

This past March, the Mile End Community Mission was invited to participate in week four of a five-week Lenten study organized by The Rev'd Jessica Bickford of Phoenix Community Projects in collaboration with Revd's Chris Belle, Nick Forte, Amy Hamilton and Roslyn Macgregor. The study, called "Hope and Promise: Companions on the Journey, aimed to explore ways in which hope and God's promise accompany our spiritual journeys.

As honorary Chaplain of the Mile End Community Mission, Roslyn Macgregor agreed to take the lead on two of the five baptismal promises the Lenten study sought to review: to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

With countless stories of individual and collective struggles for peace and justice unfolding at the Mile End Mission on a regular basis, Ros thought that it would be interesting to develop a little video to help portray a sense of what dignity means to some of our members. In doing so, she felt it might also help open the door to discussion during this Lenten study about some

of our shared feelings, experiences and understanding of dignity. Thanks to Nancy Greene-Grégoire, Vice President of the Mission's board of directors and her husband Jean-Charles, filming and editing of the video soon began.

The video called: *Dignity: Christ in Me, Christ in You*, grew out of a few conversations on the topic with a group of Mile End Mission's staff and members. The final version was then presented to the over twenty participants from various churches/parishes who took part in the "Hope and Promise" Lenten study session, shedding light on many different and interesting reflections.

In the video, the creator of the Mile End Mission's Community Art program, Joanne Racette and a couple of regular participants, Lynda S. and Mary M. discussed dignity through their experience in the art group. The many comments they raised all seemed to point to how "we're the same when we're all at the same table" ...everyone with their empty canvases, surrounded in an atmosphere of non-judgement.

"Non-judgement is such an important part of showing dignity", said Linda S. If you are judging someone, how can you be treating them with dignity? "Even though some days were very hard during the Mission's art group with people transmuting a lot of different energy and behaviours," Mary M. also observed that "there's no judgement at the Mission". Promoting this non-judgemental approach through her approach to art itself, Joanne R. exclaimed "It's the spirit of the Mission!"

Another member, Linda L., brought up one of her biggest fears - not being remembered, which stems from not having children, getting older, and not having many family members left. During the pandemic,



Members of our Food Bank crew- giving with dignity. Photo supplied.

however, she said, "all of you hadn't forgotten me at all". That is what the Mission means to me. "They are there to help you carry your cross" and "they do it with dignity", "respecting people's boundaries and limits". This reminded me of when Nancy Greene-Grégoire said that part of dignity for her is being remembered each year by the gang at the Mission to come in and bake cookies for the Open House. Could it be as simple as that? Inclusion!

"Ours is not a typical food bank scenario, to be sure. It's more like a celebration of food, the harvest, sharing, community and caring. Dignified."

Linda further recalled the dignity she's felt through her many interactions over the years with Doris R., who is head of the Mission's friperie. In essence, Doris' approach to life has helped Linda see that "you may be poor but you can still be proud".

For Carleen T., a long-time member of the Mission and head of our meals and Food Bank program, the need to just be human with other members

by asking them how they are, by remembering their name, by treating them with kindness as we would all like to be treated is crucial to showing dignity. Thanks to Carleen, in non-pandemic times, the Mission's Food Bank most often appeared like a family gathering with coffee and food being passed around to members as they sat waiting comfortably for their names to be called to pick up their weekly grocery bags. When Gilles É. would come by with his guitar, he'd often get me and others to sing good old country songs with him to amuse everyone while they waited.

Recently, a local mother of three called to ask if we give out food to people in need. We offered her three big bags of groceries and she was so shocked that it was all so easy. She was expecting the third degree and lots of red tape. Ours is not a typical Food Bank scenario, to be sure. It's more like a celebration of food, the harvest, sharing, community and caring. Dignified.

Setting a proper table with table cloths, salt and pepper shakers, nice napkins etc.

shows our members that we truly care and that no matter their circumstance, "they are our people and they are home", says Lori Olson, the Mission's Program Manager and Members' Advocate. For Missy Olson, our Housekeeping & Food Storage Coordinator, the feeling of joy from giving a homeless person a sandwich, is priceless.

There is joy in dignity! Dignity is non-judgemental. It's inclusive. It's kind and compassionate. It's respectful. It's love, isn't it?

As Christians, we are supposed to see Christ in all people, loving our neighbours as ourselves. One of many 'Christ moments' at the Mission came to us not long ago as a man who was completely at the end of his rope was talking about suicide. When he told us his story we couldn't help but cry, especially when he said how much he knew it would hurt his mother. We gave him some money to get to a shelter for the night. It was a sad moment, but at the same time it was a beautiful moment. I think he was as surprised by our sadness for him as we were concerned about his future. While we don't know what happened to this man, we know that he felt listened to, and that really meant something to him.

Discussions in the five break-out groups following the video presentation were very interesting and touching as many of us shared personal stories and thoughts about dignity. While we didn't have time to return to the larger group to share what we'd discussed in the break-out groups, it seemed clear that each one of us related to the preciousness of treating others and being treated with dignity. Could this seemingly simple act help lead the way to justice and peace among all people?

New Executive Director at Action Réfugiés, Carolina Manganelli

The Board of Directors of Action Réfugiés Montréal is pleased to announce that Carolina Manganelli has been named Executive Director effective May 3, 2021.

Ms. Manganelli holds a BA in Sociology, with Distinction, as well as a Bachelor of Civil Law (BCL) and a Juris Doctor (JD) from McGill University. She pursued graduate studies and obtained a Master's of Law (LLM) in Human Rights Law, with Merit, from the University College London. She is a member of the Barreau du Québec since 2005.

Fluent in four languages, Ms. Manganelli has extensive experience in private law firms, running her own law practice,



Carolina Manganelli will succeed Paul Clarke as Executive Director of Action Réfugiés Montréal

in the federal civil service, and with not-for-profit organizations. Her work with refugee

people includes 2 years in post-conflict Bosnia and Herzegovina facilitating the return and protection of displaced persons, and deciding asylum claims as a Member of the Immigration and Refugee Board - Refugee Protection Division.

In 2016 she was appointed a Member of the Quebec Human Rights Tribunal, where she works in collaboration with judges to hear and decide complaints brought under the Quebec Charter of Human Rights and Freedoms.

Carolina was the Interim Executive Director of Dress for Success Montreal, a not-for-profit which empowers women to achieve economic independence. Thanks to her impres-

sive academic background, varied work experience, and grassroots-level intervention, the Board is confident that Carolina will energetically lead Action Réfugiés' programs as well as its advocacy efforts.

"I am looking forward to leading the team at Action Réfugiés Montréal", said Ms. Manganelli, "as it represents an opportunity to continue the advocacy efforts and grassroots accompaniment to refugee people for which the organization is well-known."

Ms. Manganelli succeeds Paul Clarke, the current Executive Director, who is retiring after eight years as the leader of Action Réfugiés.

About Action Réfugiés

Action Réfugiés Montréal is a strong voice for refugee people in Montréal and beyond. We seek justice for asylum-seekers and refugee people. We promote partnerships among refugee people, faith communities and society for mutual empowerment. Through our programs, we provide hope and assistance while raising awareness of the rights of refugee people. Formed in 1994, Action Réfugiés Montréal receives core funding from the Anglican Diocese of Montreal and the Presbyterian Church in Canada. There are seven employees.

For more information, go to actionr.org.

PWRDF

Pay it forward
with →

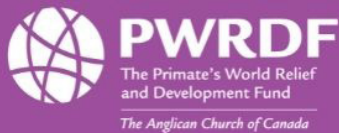
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When you get your jab,
donate to PWRDF's
VACCINE EQUITY FUND.

Your gift will support our
partners all over the world
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spread of COVID-19

Go to pwrdf.org/give-today
and click on Vaccine Equity Fund
or mail your cheque to PWRDF at
80 Hayden St. 3rd floor, Toronto, ON, M4Y 3G2



DIOCÈSE ANGLICAN MONTRÉAL

ANN CUMYRN

Mrs Ann Cumyn is Chair of the Human Resources and Anglican Board of Management committees

A few years ago we were introduced to the concept of paying it forward. (If someone does you a good turn you do someone else a good turn; ideally one similar to the good turn you received.) We can benefit the whole world by exercising this concept now!

The good turn is vaccination against Covid-19; in particular, Vaccine Equity. Did you know that, at the time of writing this article, approximately 80% of the vaccinations against Covid-19 occur in high or middle income countries!?

There are three main causes for the lack of vaccination:

- The Vaccines are not available.
- The cost. Even if vaccines are provided cheaply, they still have to be transported from the airports to where the people are.
- The country's internal politics.

So, how can we help?

PWRDF, together with the Anglican Church of Canada, has launched a campaign to Pay It Forward. To do this, everyone who has been vaccinated against Covid-19 is encouraged to donate to the Vaccine Equity Fund. Even if you are waiting for your vaccination, please consider donating. No donation is too small!

To donate please go to pwrdf.org/give-today and choose Vaccine Equity Fund. Or mail a cheque to PWRDF, 80 Hayden St. 3rd Floor, Toronto, ON, M4Y 3G2. PWRDF will provide tax receipts.

To learn more about the Montreal Unit of PWRDF go to www.montreal.anglican.ca/pwrdf. You are welcome to join us at our monthly meetings which, for the time being, are being held virtually.

For more information contact Nicki at the Programme Office (514-843-6577 ext 244) She will be happy to put you in touch with one of the Co-chairs, Ann Cumyn or Ros Macgregor.

NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE



The Rev Linus Buriani from Masasi will study at Dio this fall.

Committee to Support Divinity Student from Masasi

THE PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE DIOCESE

The Partnership Committee is pleased to provide an update on the support being planned for the Diocese of Masasi in Southern Tanzania. As a reminder, this partnership began under the auspices of Bishop Barry Clarke and Bishop Patrick Mwachka and has continued under Bishop Mary and Bishop James Almasi.

After much discussion between bishops and members of the Partnerships Committee, we decided to sponsor the education of one of their clergy

who will attend the Montreal Diocesan Theological College for two years to obtain his Bachelor's degree in Theology. We felt that this support of one priest would help to upgrade the knowledge skills of many while saving on future costs to study abroad.

The candidate is the Rev. Linus Buriani, a priest who is well known by members of our committee. Following his studies, he will return to teach at St. Cyprian's Theological College. The Diocese of Masasi has plans for St. Cyprian's to become a regional centre for theological training. Father

Linus has strong English skills.

This is a major financial commitment on the part of the Partnerships Committee and serious fund-raising efforts will be required. They are actually under way:

- As the committee will not be making any trips to the partner dioceses due to COVID-19 restrictions, the amount budgeted for such trips is set aside for the project

- The parish of All Saints by the Lake has graciously agreed to contribute their Paul Busing Bursary Fund (around \$4,500) to support the education of a theology student from the developing world

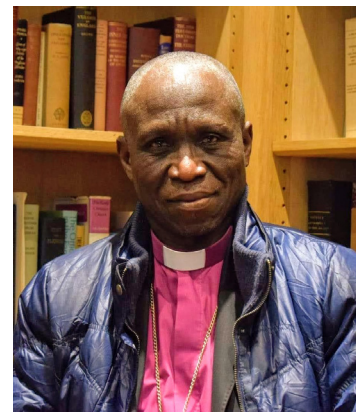
- The corporation of StStephen's Chambly has been asked to offer a thousand dollars a year for two school years

The Partnerships Committee will also receive contributions from the 2021 Bishop's Action Appeal as the Bishop recently announced. We hope to also receive funds directly from individual parishes, many of whom have benefited from visits by the bishops (Patrick and James) and development officer (Father Geoffrey Monjesa who was ordained deacon in Montreal by Bishop Barry).

We thank all of you in advance for your generosity.

To learn more about the work of the Partnership Committee or if you are interested in joining, please contact the Rev Andy O'Donnell at wryce2024@gmail.com.

Future partnership with Kinshasa in the DRC being considered



Bishop Achille of Kinshasa

THE PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE OF THE DIOCESE

The Partnerships Committee of the Diocese has been very active in spite of the roadblocks put in place by COVID-19. We feel it is important to reach out - even if only in prayer - to the wider community. To that end, we, in Montreal, have managed to maintain strong connections to four dioceses from around the world.

As most of the diocese is aware, we have an ongoing partnership with the Diocese of Jerusalem, where we provide moral and prayerful support. In addition, there are two other dioceses with whom we have been learning and supporting one other through visits and the occasional financial contributions; the Diocese of Masasi in Southern Tanzania and the Territory of the People

in Northern British Columbia. These relationships are ongoing and have been in place through multiple bishops.

This year we began discussions on a possible fourth partnership, this one with the Diocese of Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo. It began with a personal relationship between our Bishop Mary and their Bishop Achille. After some correspondence between the Bishops and between Bishop Achille and our committee, we (together) identified an urgent need that we could help with. Their Diocese was being badly hit by COVID-19 and there were very few resources available to help fight it. The Bishop decided to visit all the parishes of his diocese in order to share information on preventive measures, including the preparation and distribution of simple documents teaching good health practices. Though their own efforts they were able to finance approximately one third of the costs of the program and we, the Diocese of Montreal, provided the remaining financial support needed, amounting to \$3,850 (Canadian).

The Partnership Committee was particularly pleased to help as Bishop Achille and his diocese were being as self-reliant as they could; we just provided the final resources to get the program under way.

Aslan Is On The Move: Focus on Racial Justice Begins

EDWARD YANKIE

Mr Edward Yankie is a member of Chirst Church Cathedral and co-chair of the Diocesan Anti-Racism Task Force

I arrived at the cathedral on Palm Sunday to be a steward for the mere twenty folks who were allowed in. It was my first time back to church in person since Christmas morning, and I was wearing my Black Lives Matter mask. A friend I hadn't seen in months approached and said, rather adamantly, "ALL lives Matter."

I looked at him and blinked. There was a Black Lives Matter banner hanging right behind us over the doors of the church.

"ALL lives matter," he repeated with pronounced emphasis, as if to correct my mask.

"OK," I said. "But you do understand, right?-- why people are saying black lives matter?" I couldn't help address him a bit like a child. I'm still a Christian in training.

"Yes."

"Good." Case closed. Moving on. I had been growing tired of exchanges like this, most of them outside the culture of the church. Another example of white people socially policing themselves.

"It's because of a few idiots!" he said, and turned and went back into the church.

This struck me at the time, as it does now, as the official Quebec narrative from the top down; Systemic racism is a figment of the imagination in misguided, militant, shrill people. Nothing to see here, folks. Move along.

At that time, the verdict of Derek Chauvin trial was still pending and that same week, here in Montreal, two separate and disturbing videos were circulating online. One was of an out-of-control police officer punching the face of a black man who was being held down on the ground in Mount Royal Park. The people watching the



Photo by Lightstock.

incident were shouting at the police and protesting. Then in another horrific piece of footage from in the Metro, an STM officer repeatedly punched a woman who was being held down. This time, bystanders not only protested but intervened. The officers were defended by their superiors. But in both incidents, the footage speaks for itself.

The conviction of the murderer of George Floyd brought shock and sighs of relief to many; the fact that we did not expect justice is in itself a telling fact of history. But within twenty-four hours of the verdict, six more people in the U.S. had been killed by police. And the grim incidents in the past month have not abated. In Canada the violence involves fewer guns, but plenty of fists. And reading the comment section on the recent videos in Montreal is not an uplifting or edifying experience.

We still have a serious problem in our culture that goes way back. And historically, of course, the church has always been immersed in this culture.

Writing about this, talking about it, is not easy for anyone of any hue. Talking about the history of the sin of racism

within the church, be it about slavery, social segregation, or the subtle microaggressions often experienced by many, is a difficult task, taking us outside our collective comfort zone. All of us, with our various backgrounds in the Anti-Black Racism Task Force, can agree on that. It's one of the easiest things to agree on. Nevertheless this conversation is taking place. Because the Holy Spirit so often pushes us outside our comfort zone - into the place where change for the good happens.

One evening, during one of our zoom meetings, Bishop Mary was with us as we were talking about our plans for racial justice work within the context of the challenges our church faces during the pandemic. During a pause, we asked her what she thought. She said: "Aslan is on the move."

Aslan, of course, is the lion who represents Jesus Christ in C.S. Lewis's Narnia Chronicles. And he is pretty good at pushing people outside their comfort zone. In the face of all this social turmoil, change, and much-talked-about pandemic upheaval, Aslan is indeed on the move.

One of the things we've learned in the past year, as the

great lion nudges us along, is that in order to be true Christians, we - all of us - must be anti-racist. And as Ibram X. Kendi points out in *How To Be an Anti-Racist*, there is no safe, neutral ground of simply "not racist" in the struggle between racism and anti-racism. Being anti-racist is active, not passive, and at the very least we need to speak out and not be silent (and thereby complicit).

Recently the Task Force sent out a survey to the clergy, lay leaders and students of theology to determine just where the diocese is on anti-racism work, and to what degree we are passionately engaging in it.

The results have come in; some churches, like the Cathedral, are examining themselves and their history with gusto; others would like to start, and have asked for resources, while a small minority think it's a non-issue - we hope to change their minds.

To answer the need for resources, among other things, the task force is creating an online resource (attached to the Diocesan website), and also a Facebook page, both called Montreal Anglicans for Racial Justice and Equity. The title indicates that we want to be for something and not merely against something. Along with this comes the following mission statement:

"To educate and increase awareness in the Anglican Diocese of Montreal of the history of racism and the church's participation and complicity in racist practices, that we may properly repent. To equip and enable members of the diocese to confront and dismantle systemic racism and white supremacy inside and outside the church. To honour Christ in all persons by building bridges, and by promoting and celebrating diversity in the church and the world."

Yes, it's a mouthful. But it gets the idea (of the necessary work) across. And despite being serious, uncomfortable, and

challenging, it's a joyful thing to repent. And do justice. And build bridges. Not to mention celebrate. To our delight, Bishop Mary and the Synod Planning Committee have decided that the diocese will focus on this particular mission with great intention over the next three years. And a diocesan learning session for church leaders is being prepared for early October. Something to celebrate indeed.

More recently, the Most Reverend Linda Nicholls, our Archbishop and Primate, reached out to my friend and co-chair Dion Lewis and invited him to speak at The Council of General Synod, along with other distinguished guests, on the topic of Dismantling Racism. She understood that for Dion to speak on a personal level regarding his own encounters with racism would take tremendous courage. But courage is not lacking in Dion. On May 8th he shared some personal stories with the Council and added:

"I have been affected by subtle racism from some very well-meaning people in my own parochial activities. These subtle biases, subconscious actions, and sometime conscious actions cause pain. Personally, I have had to learn how to just ignore and forgive these actions to continue to share my gifts and talents with the community at large. We need to stop causing this pain to each other and most importantly not do it again... Love is our greatest gift, but if we are called to clear the way for God, we all need to start levelling and clearing the path. Part of this shared task involves not throwing obstacles onto the cleared road." He concluded by saying that we need to learn from what we've done and do better.

After the meeting, our Primate Linda responded with a beautiful letter of thanks which ended, "The only way forward for all of us will be by listening and learning together."

I think Aslan would agree.

Crosstalk Ministries Day Camps 2021

VALERIE TAYLOR

Ms Valerie Taylor is Director of Day Camps at Crosstalk Ministries and Lay Secretary of Synod

Come and join us as we look at 5 stories from the Gospel of Matthew and meet people of all ages who chose to "Follow the Leader".

For summer 2021, CTM is offering this fun-filled program packed with songs and stories, games and creative activities.

Options include 2 models for In-Person, Locally-led Day Camps, plus a Virtual Experience Package for use in a home environment. Please note:- as



a result of COVID 19 CTM is no longer offering Travelling Team-led Programs.

Basic Day Camp Experience-400\$ (Includes Planner, Program Manual, Supply list, Poster Template, Registration Template, PowerPoints & Training Video.)

Super Day Camp Experience-550\$ (Includes all of the

above plus a Mentor Partner who will be available online to assist in daily planning meetings and on the spot support during your Camp week.)

Virtual Experience-250\$ Purchase provides host churches and communities with a secure link that is then shared with families who register. The Link includes audio-visuals,

small group materials, supply list, activity instructions and more!

Crosstalk Ministries
3491 Hingston Ave.
Montreal, QC, Canada H4A 2J5

Phone: (514)-484-1414
www.crosstalkministries.ca
lambodaycamps.blogspot.ca

Tyndale St-Georges

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continuation of services for some of our programs. However, the truth is that technology alone is not the panacea for a future crisis. People need people. Studies have shown that in-person services especially in education and social services are more effective than virtual services, the magic is in the human connection.

Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre's programs strengthen family bonds, educate, and offer valuable community information, connect families in the neighborhood and improve the wellbeing of participants. Your continued support of Tyndale St-George's youth programs ensures that these young families have the community and academic support they need for the healthy development of the next generation.

Community Garden a Labour of Love



Volunteers prepare the black earth for the vegetables which will help feed the local community.

CHRISTOPHER BELLE

The Rev Christopher Belle is the Incumbent of St Joseph of Nazareth Church

Saturday, May 08, 2021 marked the beginning of a new project for St Joseph of Nazareth Anglican Church with Mission Nouvelle Generation. The church has offered a portion of the church yard for use by the Mission. We have decided to start a Community garden.

A number of volunteers from the Mission, St. Joseph's, and the surrounding neighbourhood, worked together from 9:30 am until 2pm (with a one-hour lunch break) to pour and spread the black earth (some 30 yards worth). We hope to plant radishes, spinach, tomatoes, jalapenos, beans, and other delights. The plan is to eventually yield sufficient produce that would be then distributed to people who are in need.

Volunteers left their names on a duty roster, vowing to visit the garden and do any necessary weeding and watering.

It is hoped that this initiative will bring people together that might not meet otherwise. Some are intrigued by the opportunity to help others, while some just love gardening. Some are just looking forward to eating. Either way, it was a joy to work and chat together, praising God for such a wonderful spring day.



Watercolour of St Stephen's with St James Church by Mr Tom Ramsey.

A Year to Remember

KIM BRIAND & GLORIA KIDD

Ms Kim Briand is the People's Warden and Ms Gloria Kidd is the Rector's Warden at St Paul's Church in Greenfield Park.

This past year has been a terrible time for us all. While saying that, we here at St. Paul's in Greenfield Park, have been kept busy by opening our hearts to those in need.

When the pandemic started in March 2020, it was brought to our attention that there were many people in need in our community. So, with God's grace, starting in the spring and continuing through the year we were able to help by providing food gift cards to families in need and treats for the children at the Women's Shelter, making frozen food for seniors and – along with St Margaret's of Antioch - providing for our Breakfast program for two local schools.

The Women's Craft group has knit hundreds of hats, scarves, etc. for schools and slippers and blankets for a local men's shelter. This not only helped the schools and shelters but kept these ladies busy while being isolated in their homes.

During this pandemic the Lord has laid many requests upon our hearts, but one of his biggest challenges was to help those who are in isolation and lonely and need support. Many of our parishioners and friends have found this pandemic very stressful and when the Lord laid it upon us to take this time of idleness and do some more, the flood doors opened wide.

The children of St. Paul's sent out Easter cards with a beautiful, encouraging message written by Isabel, an 11 year old from our Sunday school. It spoke of her feelings of sadness and also of encouragement to all for the future. This message

was included in each of the 178 cards sent out and were so truly appreciated.

We are currently making sandwiches for the homeless in Montreal. The request for help was from a young woman who attended St. Paul's as a child and is now part of an organization in Montreal called "Bread and Beyond". They supply over 2000 sandwiches/month to several different shelters on the island of Montreal. We called our parishioners and friends and were able to supply 25 loaves of sandwiches and other goodies the first week. We now have over 30 men and women from our community who have offered to contribute on a weekly basis.

The Lord has truly blessed us during this pandemic. We have come together as Christians to do what the Lord wants of us, and we, with God's help, always find a way to succeed.

These projects are not only helping those who benefit from our donations, but it is also helping us to keep busy and forget our problems for a while by helping those in need.

So even though the pandemic has been very difficult and very isolating...it has also given us something good, it has made us look deep inside ourselves and to realize we are not on this earth just to survive, but to survive by giving of ourselves to those less fortunate and to come together as Christians to help those by giving of ourselves. But the most important message from this is that we could not have done or continue to do any of this without the help of our Lord and Savior therefore all "Glory" goes to Him, our one and only God...

Please stay safe and give of yourselves, with God's help, at this time and always .

Delayed 200th Anniversary Celebration in Chambly planned for September

ANITA YOUNG

Ms Anita Young is the Parish Communicator at St Stephen's with St James Anglican Church

SAVE THE DATE!

Delayed 200th Anniversary Celebration in Chambly (hopefully) set for September Historic St. Stephen's with St. James Anglican Church in Chambly, Quebec, was set to celebrate its 200th anniversary in May 2020. The pandemic put an end to that plan, but a new date has been set: September 12, 2021.

Understanding that the unexpected may recur, a "rain date" has also been decided: November 21, 2021.

The celebration of St. Stephen's 201st year will be attended by Archbishop Linda Nicholls, Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada, and Bishop of Montreal Mary Irwin-Gibson. Further details

will be given closer to the date.

St. Stephen's, first envisioned to sit snugly next to Fort Chambly, was built across the road in 1820 so as not to crowd other government buildings.

It was one of the so-called "million churches" built from a million-pound British fund established in 1818, as thanks for the victory at Waterloo.

Perhaps to avoid the fate of the original Fort, which was built of wood and burned to the ground, the church is made of fieldstone. Described as "old colonial" style, it is a building of graceful proportions and original fittings that houses an imposing, still working, pipe organ bought for £189 in 1854 and beautifully rendered stained-glass windows in the Renaissance style that depict Biblical scenes and sayings.

Basic Income: What is it and how can it help?

NANCY GREENE-GREGOIRE

Mrs Nancy Greene-Gregoire is a member of a Montreal working group on Basic Income as well as a member of Diocesan Council

(Editor's note: you will find many links in this article; to make it easier for you to locate sources it will be posted on our website www.montreal.anglican.ca click on the Social Justice link, scroll down to the Homelessness/Food Security to find the link to Guaranteed Basic Income Resources)

After church on April 11, the Cathedral's Ecological and Social Justice Action Group (ESJAG), teamed up with a local working group (Nancy Greene-Gregoire, Rev. Deacon Peter Huish, Terri Burman and Caroline Jondahl), and invited Sheila Regehr, co-chair of Basic Income Canada Network <https://basicincomecanada.org/> to talk to us about basic income.

When the pandemic threw so many people out of work in March 2020, the Canadian Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) kicked in quickly. As a result, we have seen the social and economic advantages of providing a basic income for so many people.

Yet those on social assistance have not received anything extra. Instead, they face intrusive conditions for assistance that must be met, never have enough to cover more than the bare minimum needed to survive, and are discouraged from making any income since it results in an immediate drop in benefits and a lag in benefits if the income is not sustained.

Studies show that when Basic Income is implemented, mental health improves, visits to emergency rooms are reduced, crime is reduced, and people remain motivated to work. Employers like it because healthy employees are



Photo of Sheila Regehr is by Sarah McCormack in Ottawa

better workers and turnover isn't as high. Recipients like it because they can take the time to retrain if needed and find a job they can commit to keeping.

At the event on April 11th, Sheila brought us up to date on Federal initiatives.

Bill C-273 requires Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland to create a national strategy for a Guaranteed Basic Income, including potential partnerships with provinces to determine how best to structure and implement a Basic Income. You can register your support for the bill here: <https://www.ubiworks.ca/basicincomebill>.

Since Sheila talked with us, NDP Leah Gazan's Motion 46, which calls for the CERB to be converted into a permanent Guaranteed Livable Basic Income, (<https://www.leahgazan.ca/basicincome>) didn't pass but it had widespread support and will contribute to the growing momentum of the movement (https://www.leahgazan.ca/statement_from_leah_gazan_on_motion_46).

Our Diocese has prepared templates for communica-

tion to both Federal MPs and Quebec MNAs: <https://www.montreal.anglican.ca/social-justice>

The recent report from British Columbia (<https://bcbasicincomepanel.ca/>) showed that provinces cannot do this alone: they need the backing of the Federal government.

Sheila suggested we could advocate for basic income by contacting our local municipal representatives since cities reap the benefits of a population receiving basic income. Why not take a moment and write to the Mayor of Montreal <https://mairese.montreal.ca/en/send-message-mayor>?

People had more questions when the live session ended, and Sheila answered them by email:

Does the Basic Income Network advocate for a specific model of UBI? If so, what are the details of that model?

Sheila Regehr: Yes, we do. People can find everything we have to say about different models and what matters most in a report (https://www.basicincomecanada.org/policy_options) we released just as COVID was hitting Canadian shores in January 2020.

There are three designed, costed and funded options in the report. We did not try to design an ideal but rather to show governments they have options. Option 1 is for 18-64 year olds and Option 2 includes seniors. Both are based on the same kind of model of current income guarantees for seniors and children where benefits gradually reduce as other income increases. Option 3 is the full, individualized Universal Basic Income (UBI) where the same amount goes to everyone.

After CERB was introduced and the pandemic was raging, BICN made a decision to declare a preferred option for government in the interest of saving lives and preserving well-being: That's Option 1 focused on 18-64 year olds, at the level of CERB's \$2000 per month which, adjusted for inflation, is very close to our benefit level of \$22K per year (in 2017 dollars). We were very happy to see the government recognize that this was a reasonable dollar amount for people to try to get by on and that they recognized the importance of cash delivered rapidly. Other elements of CERB design, however, involve conditions and penalties for employment, which mean that it is not a basic income.

Are there any models that show how much money people would receive for Basic Income and the policy for reducing it as people earn income on top of Basic Income?

SR: As you'll see in the report, we chose a benefit reduction rate of 40%. We debated this for a long time and wanted to ensure that the benefit reduction was more gradual than

other models we'd seen (for example the Ontario pilot rate was 50% and this Ontario formula is what the Parliamentary Budget Office has costed out). Our more gradual rate assures that people benefit well up into the middle income brackets to provide more security. Our funding sources ensure that higher income earners are the ones who pay a fairer share of the cost of the program, especially the very wealthy.

What research is there on the effects of UBI on the environmental crisis we face? For example, less deforestation in Indonesia, more people engaged in environmental activism, less need to promote environmentally destructive industries (e.g. manufacturing unneeded items to keep people employed and fuel the economy), less short term budgeting leading to low quality, soon to be replaced purchases, healthier and also more ecological food choices, avoidance of environmentally destructive jobs, etc.

SR: These questions about the environmental/basic income intersection are great and I don't have direct answers to them. But they are most welcome and certainly timely so many thanks to the person who raised them. BICN is working with The Energy Mix (<https://theenergymix.com/>) and other partners on a project this year to bring people together in different kinds of communities across Canada to discuss these very issues and report to government on our findings.

You can watch the March 11 talk with Sheila Regehr on the Cathedral YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/osgweRWUjLg>

For more resources about Basic Income see page 12.

Opportunity for Parishes

continued from page 3

Each one of our churches has the potential to take up a common cause with their local community. Discuss amongst yourselves where you want to focus your energy and then invite the interest and engagement of those who live near your church.

For example, say you decide you want to raise money to support Pikangikum to gain access to safe water. Make that a project not just for your church but for your community. Hold information sessions; get the word out, partner with local service organizations. Work with others to raise the funds and make it a campaign. Have a bake sale, not for your church but for Pikangikum. That way you will create constructive engagement and positive energy between your church

and community. If you are known as the Church that cares about Indigenous justice and does something about it you are showing leadership in your community around issues everybody cares about.

There are significant opportunities for all of our churches to engage in a positive way with the communities in which we live to the benefit of everyone. Now is the time to take those opportunities, and show just how relevant our churches can be.

For more information contact me at nmancor@montreal.anglican.ca.

Share your Spark! New initiative to connect Anglicans across the country in conversation, prayer and discovery



Message from the Primate

We recently passed the one-year anniversary of the declaration of a global pandemic. This has been a time of extraordinary upheaval in our lives and the life of our churches. It has also been a time of discovery. We discovered the pain of many losses—personal and communal. We discovered that we are more resilient and more creative than we may have previously thought. We discovered God in our midst—and we have been Surprised by the Spirit.

I invite you to gather again, as you did in early 2019, in 'Conversation Circles' to explore your discoveries and surprises, and to listen for the voice of the Spirit in your midst.

For more information visit www.spirit.anglican.ca.

A Prayer from the Diocesan Representatives The Anglican Fellowship of Prayer - Canada

God of compassion and wisdom, in 1958 you brought Canadian Anglicans together to answer a call for local assistance that is now reverberating around the globe. We lift up to you in praise and thanksgiving the executive director, the staff, the volunteers, and the members of the board of directors who work to make the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund (PWRDF) such an awesome organization. Through strategic planning, thoughtfulness, and sacrifice they ensure that the funds entrusted to them are reaching their partner organizations for the most impact. We ask you gracious God to bless these individuals and continue to guide their vital work.

God of community and knowledge, we thank you for PWRDF's Public Engagement Program and its offering of bi-weekly prayers. This precious time has strengthened our understanding of PWRDF's mission and afforded us an opportunity to purposely



pray for those who benefit from its good work. We ask for your blessing on those who facilitate these gatherings and on each reflector who gives his or her testimony on how PWRDF is making a difference.

God of hospitality and hope, we pray for all the PWRDF partner organizations around the world and

here at home that are mandated with helping the most vulnerable among us. During these pandemic times, their services are so essential yet are offered under extraordinary and stressful circumstances. Please be with the staff and volunteers as they go about their important work with a deep love and willingness to help those in dire need. We pray also for their clients that this assistance will come at the right time and in the right way.

God of abundance and obligation, you call us to tithe and give alms to those in need. We acknowledge that PWRDF's activities cannot be executed without the help of generous donors. We thank you for their generosity and ask that more individuals will come forward to support these diverse initiatives. As the good news of PWRDF grows, we pray that this increased awareness will bring concrete change to the world around us.

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

God bless, Valerie and Stacey

For more information on AFP-C, contact Valerie Bennett and Stacey Neale at valstacey@bell-net

Healing of Memories Workshop at Christ Church Cathedral

BRENDA LINN

On May 15 and 16, Christ Church Cathedral sponsored a "Healing of Memories" workshop, following a process that grew out of Truth and Reconciliation in South Africa, and has now spread around the world. The workshop was developed was led by Father

Michael Lapsley, an Anglican Priest who opened a letter bomb from the Apartheid regime. Fr Michael's work as a wounded healer is now known on all continents. His workshops gather very diverse people – often from bitterly opposing camps – who become the healers of each other. Fr Michael's May 2nd sermon

can be found on the cathedral website.

<https://www.montrealcathedral.ca/sermons/healing-of-memories/>

And in French

<https://www.montrealcathedral.ca/fr/homelies/la-guerison-des-memoires/>

Resources on Basic Income

- Recent brief to the Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Science and Technology, by Sheila Regehr (search for Standing Senate Committee on Social Affairs Sheila Regehr to find the report)
- Patriotic Millionaires, web

site <https://patrioticmillionaires.org/about/>

- Should Canada adopt universal basic income?, Interview with Wayne Lewchuck of McMaster University, April 10, 2021, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SXYyw--YluU>

- The Case for Basic Income: Freedom, Security, Justice, by Jamie Swift, Elaine Power, available at BTL Books <https://btlbooks.com>
- Basic Income for Canadians: From the COVID-19 Emergency to Financial Security for All, by Evelyn L. Forget

Dio Convocation *continued from page 3*

Gail Turnbull

In addition, student achievements during the year were recognized with a range of prizes and awards. The Gault Award for the graduating student who in the opinion of the faculty has the most readiness for ministry went to Linda Moore of the Diocese of Vermont. The Bancroft Prize, for the strongest essay, was presented to Tefvik Karatop of the Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada. The Robert Reford Prize for the leading of worship and the Alys L.G. Slater Memorial Bequest for excellence in Anglican Studies were awarded to Ben Stuchbery of the Diocese of Montreal. The Bishop Russel Brown Award is voted on by the students and present to the student who has made a significant contribution to community life. It was awarded to Alex Griffin. The Rev. Canon Dr. Lettie James Prize, awarded for an essay in feminist or pastoral theol-

ogy, went to Sarah Wicks for an essay she wrote on feminist eschatology.

It was, Principal Jesse Zink noted in his opening remarks, a year unlike any other in the 150-year history of the college but one in which the integrity of the community and its worship life remained in place and students were able to continue to learn and grow as Christian leaders for the church and world.

It was the second year the college held its Convocation ceremony via Zoom. This year, there were even more participants (nearly 150 Zoom connections) from an even larger number of locations in Canada, U.S. and internationally. Guests quickly got the hang of applauding via hand gestures and extending congratulations to parents, children, siblings, classmates and friends via the chat feature. There was also the opportunity to "visit" with each of the graduates in a personal breakout room after the ceremony.

Synod *continued from page 1*

so, the Diocese may continue to suspend assessments. If Synod approves the continued suspension of the assessments then the loss for 2021 will be over \$1 million.

There was discussion about the details of the wage subsidy policy. Mr Tam explained that if we charge parishes for assessments and don't collect them, it is still considered income and would affect our ability to receive the wage subsidy.

It was suggested that parishes would benefit from a discussion on "dreaming big" and alternative models of doing church and using resources. Diocesan Council will pursue this suggestion at its next meeting in June.

The Board of Trustees of the Anglican Balanced Fund has been researching and interviewing investment firms and will announce a new investment manager soon.

Results of Elections

Lay Secretary of Synod - Ms Valerie Taylor
Clerical Secretary of Synod - Rev Sophie Rolland
Diocesan Treasurer - Mr Ron O'Connell

Diocesan Council Members:

Clergy
 Rev Grace Burson
 Rev Nicholas Forte
 Rev Tania Lesack

Lay

Ms Nancy Greene-Gregoire
 Ms Danica Meredith
 Ms Susan Winn

General Synod clerical delegates:

Ven Dr Victor-David Mbuyi-Bipungu
 Rev Canon Dr Jesse Zink
Alternates:

Rev Amy Hamilton
 Rev Tyson Rosberg

General Synod lay delegates:

Mr Dion Lewis
 Ms Susan Winn

Alternates

Mr Randy Gates
 Ms Nancy Greene-Gregoire

Youth Delegate

Ms Eden Mancor

Members' Forum

Following the Finance presentation we heard from the following:

The Rev Gwenda Wells, our Diocesan Representative to the Anglican Foundation, shared a video from the Foundation and introduced the new initiative supporting youth programs: Say Yes to Kids. For more on this see page 5.

Dion Lewis, Co-chair of the Anti Black Racism Task Force, gave an update on this working group's efforts, including a series of seminars happening this fall. For more on the task force see page 9 for Edward Yankee's article. Their report can be found at www.anglican.montreal.ca/synod.

If you would like to know more about the Anti Black Racism Task Force, email antiracism@montreal.anglican.ca.

The Rev Canon Dr Neil Mancor encouraged everyone to participate in the latest project from Primate Linda Nichols called *Share your Spark*. For more on this initiative see page 11.

Our next Synod with an emphasis on Anti-racism will be held on June 18, 2022. In person, God willing.

ANGLICAN
FOUNDATION OF CANADA



Foundation Forward podcast in June

Featuring ideas on the topic of
generosity from young children
all across Canada



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