



George Deare and Al Backman enjoy the reception following the ordination of Fresia Saborio and Ben Stuchbery. Photo by Janet Best. Lots of pictures in this issue! See pages 4 - 7.

A different Measure of Success - Event-based Ministry

NEIL MANCOR

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

A Case Study

If you came by St Philip's MTL West on a Saturday in early June, you would have seen an astonishing sight; more than 100 people; parents, children and friends all playing and having a great time.

They were bouncing away on the bouncy castle, having their faces painted, delighting in the clowns and music. Some were taking tours of the community garden, and most were eating popcorn, cotton candy and Jamaican patties. There was even a craft station where kids were busy making Pentecost wands with doves.

It was all happening in the church yard of St Philips MTL West!! It was our Diocesan Family Day.

Under the leadership of Lee Ann Matthews, who oversaw the planning with a meticulous level of detail, we created a safe

place for families and friends to get together and have fun. Then it was all over.

This was a one-off event that did not assume that the participants would automatically start worshipping in Church on Sunday mornings, nor did it demand anything of our guests. Instead, it offered something of value to them: child-friendly fun in a safe environment at a time convenient to them on a Saturday, with food included.

There was a lot of planning and organising to do to bring it all together. This was a Diocesan event with resources behind it. But it is worth noting that Lee Ann put in a lot of time inviting people and advertising the event both throughout the Diocese and, equally important, locally.

Was it a success? Was it impactful? It was a roaring success for the most important reasons of all: because people came and had a great time, all at church.

I think this offers a model for our churches to consider. Many of us continue to struggle with the idea that we should be getting more people to come on



Family Day fun included clowns, bubbles and lots of smiles. Photo by Janet Best.

Sunday morning, and preferably to take envelopes. But there is another way to build up our communities of faith. It involves learning to love our neighbours first and seeking to serve them.

Ministry is service, not mathematics

Many people think that ministry is like a mathematical equation with a direct result leading straight to Sunday morning at-

tendance. People often, indeed almost always, ask me: but how do we get them to come to Church? I know this is a cry from the heart as we see our Sunday congregations growing

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Synod 2022: Racism; Listening, Naming, Reconciling



The Ven James Bennett was the featured speaker at this year's Synod. Photo by Janet Best.

NICKI HRONJAK, EDITOR

The 163rd Diocesan Synod took place in Christ Church Cathedral on Saturday, June 18th; the first time the Synod has met in person since June of 2019. The day opened with worship, followed by Bishop Mary's charge.

The Bishop's Charge

Bishop Mary reminded us of the Five Marks of Mission "as a way of orienting and understanding our life and mission as a church". She said that, while all of the Marks are involved in the theme for this year's Synod, number four is foremost: To transform unjust structures of society—and of our Church), to challenge violence of every kind and pursue peace and reconciliation.

The theme for the next three of our Synods will be Racism: Listening, Naming & Reconcil-

ing. The bishop suggested that we start this year by listening which she described as "an action which opens up and transforms the heart, soul and mind of the believer and enables us to repent and grow as believers." She talked about the activities of the Anti-Racism Task Force.

Bishop Mary described the challenges of the upcoming Lambeth Conference (which took place in July of this year after a 2 year delay due to the pandemic) with nearly 1,000 bishops of the Anglican Communion, gathering to discuss church and world affairs, and explore what it means to be "God's Church for God's World". It is hoped that the conversations and involvement will continue afterwards, with a better understanding of the Anglican Communion and its rich diversity.

She went on to inform us about current affairs in the

diocese, including a number of retirements, appointments and transitions.

And, finally, as the bishop will be leaving on sabbatical at the end of September she assured us that the diocese will be in the capable hands of Archdeacon Robert Camara. (For the complete charge, in both languages, go to www.montreal.anglican/synod.)

Listening, Naming: Reconciling

The bishop introduced the Venerable James Bennett who gave a presentation on Racism. Part history lesson, testimony and personal reflection, Archdeacon Bennett first put things in a historical perspective describing the discrimination the Irish suffered under the wealthy Montrealers when they immigrated here in the 19th century. Soon after the Irish

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Message from the Vicar General September 2022

New Beginnings – Fresh Starts

September, and autumn, have in recent tradition been a time of returning. Children return to school, families return from vacations to work and home routines; and for some of us, we return to our church homes after having been away for the summer. New beginnings – fresh starts. The last two and a half years have seen many of us remaining away from our church homes and communities. Some of us have slowly been returning to in-person worship and activities as we continue to learn to navigate the pandemic in a way that keeps us safe.

Meanwhile, around us the landscape has changed so much that the Fall of 2019 seems like a distant memory, barely remembering what life was like pre-pandemic. Inflation, international conflict, and viruses have changed how we see the world and how we interact with it.

A recent study that the diocese undertook with Environics to better understand the demographics and people who are in our church neighbourhoods has provided much insight about the needs and interests of those who live around the streets of our churches and who may not necessarily be active in our communities. But, being active in our community is not necessarily what our neighbours are being called to do. We, as followers of Christ, are being called to be God's church in God's world and that means being engaged with the people around us and the world we find ourselves in.

Archbishop Welby, in addressing the bishops at Lambeth this summer, reminded us that as we face the crises of today, we are being called to a deeper discipleship and to new directions of obedience and holiness. We are being transformed by the realities of the crises we are experiencing and, in turn, we are to transform the world around us. But, in order to do so, we must be present and engaged with the people and the communities that surround us. We must be engaged with the issues, the concerns, the joys, the celebrations, and the challenges that the communities around us are experiencing in order to be transformed by them and help transform the world around us.

If the church is to be relevant, alive and responsive to the needs of the world – and more specifically, the communities around us – we must be a church that stands with the people of our neighbourhoods and communities – and to borrow imagery from Pope Francis, we must 'smell of the sheep' because we are among them and living with them. As followers of Christ we are being called to engage with what is going on in the world and help our communities face the crises in the world. A church that refuses or is unable to engage with what is going on in its neighbourhoods and streets will have nothing to say to a world whose future is being decided by constantly evolving events and realities.

As we return this Fall to our routines, albeit maybe new routines, let us be incarnate in our communities, present and engaged, listening, learning, sharing and participating in the lives of those we are called to minister to and share the Good News. Let us be transformed by what is going on around us so that we may be able to be part of the transformation of our neighbourhoods that will allow us to be God's church in God's world.

Photo by Janet Best.

Message du Vicaire général de Septembre 2022

Nouveaux débuts - Nouveaux départs

Le mois de septembre, et l'automne, ont été, dans la tradition récente, le temps des retours. Les enfants retournent à l'école, les familles reprennent la routine du travail et de la maison après les vacances ; et pour certains d'entre nous, nous retournons dans nos églises après avoir été absents pendant l'été. Nouveaux débuts - nouveaux départs. Au cours des deux dernières années et demie, beaucoup d'entre nous se sont éloignés de leur église et de leur communauté. Certains d'entre nous ont lentement repris le culte et les activités en personne, tout en continuant à apprendre à naviguer à travers la pandémie d'une manière qui soit sécuritaire.

Pendant ce temps, autour de nous, le paysage a tellement changé que l'automne 2019 semble être un lointain souvenir, se rappelant à peine ce qu'était la vie avant la pandémie. L'inflation, les conflits internationaux et les virus ont changé la façon

dont nous voyons le monde et dont nous interagissons avec lui.

Une étude récente que le diocèse a entreprise avec Environics pour mieux comprendre les données démographiques et les personnes qui se trouvent dans les quartiers environnants de nos églises a fourni beaucoup d'informations sur les besoins et les intérêts de ceux qui vivent dans les rues avoisinantes à nos églises et qui ne sont pas nécessairement actifs dans nos communautés. Mais être actif dans notre communauté n'est pas nécessairement ce que nos voisins sont appelés à faire. En tant que disciples du Christ, nous sommes appelés à être l'Église de Dieu au sein du monde de Dieu, ce qui signifie que nous devons nous engager auprès des personnes qui nous entourent et du monde dans lequel nous vivons.

L'archevêque Welby, en s'adressant aux évêques à Lambeth cet été, nous a rappelé que face aux crises d'aujourd'hui, nous sommes appelés à devenir des disciples plus engagés et à prendre de nouvelles orientations en matière de discipline et de sanctité. Nous sommes transformés par les réalités des crises que nous vivons et, à notre tour, nous devons transformer le monde qui nous entoure. Mais, pour ce faire, nous devons être présents et engagés auprès des personnes et des communautés qui nous entourent. Nous devons être engagés dans les questions, les préoccupations, les joies, les célébrations et les défis que vivent les communautés qui nous entourent afin d'être transformés par elles et de contribuer à transformer le monde qui nous entoure.

Si l'Église doit être pertinente, vivante et sensible aux besoins du monde - et plus spécifiquement des communautés qui nous entourent - nous devons être une Église qui se tient aux côtés des gens de nos environnements et de nos communautés - et pour emprunter l'imagerie du Pape François, nous devons "sentir les brebis" parce que nous sommes parmi elles et que nous vivons avec elles. En tant que disciples du Christ, nous sommes appelés à nous engager dans ce qui se passe dans le monde et à aider nos communautés à faire face aux crises dans le monde. Une église qui refuse ou est incapable de s'engager dans ce qui se passe dans ses quartiers et ses rues environnantes n'aura rien à dire à un monde dont l'avenir est décidé par des événements et des réalités en constante évolution.

Alors que nous retournons à nos habitudes cet automne, bien qu'elles sont peut-être nouvelles, laissons-nous être incarnés dans nos communautés, présents et engagés, écoutant, apprenant, partageant et participant à la vie de ceux que nous sommes appelés à servir et à partager la Bonne Nouvelle. Soyons transformés par ce qui se passe autour de nous afin de pouvoir participer à la transformation de nos environs qui nous permettra d'être l'Église de Dieu dans le monde de Dieu.

Joan Shanks 1942-2022

The Rev Canon Joan Edith Shanks, R.N., B.A., B.Th., S.T.M., M.Div. died peacefully on July 10, 2022 at Glengarry Hospital, Victoria, BC, at the age of seventy-nine.

She was ordained Deacon in June 1989 and Priest in March 1990, serving as assistant curate at St. James the Apostle and Acting Editor of The Montreal Churchman. She was priest assistant at Christ Church Cathedral from 1991 to 1996, while also continuing as Editor of The Montreal Anglican. Joan was Editor of the Montreal Anglican for 18 years until she stepped down in 2007.

Over the years, Joan served as Chaplain at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, and as Associate Chaplain at The Royal Victoria Hospital. In 1997 she was appointed to offer Christian Ministry at

Tyndale St. Georges' and in 2001, she was made a Canon of the Diocese of Montreal.

Joan served as Interim Pastor four times in her ministry: St. Margaret of Scotland, Tetreaultville in 1996; St. George's Place du Canada in 2002; St. Peter's Town of Mount Royal in 2003; and St. Matthew's, Hampstead in 2010 until her retirement in September 2010.

From her obituary, which appeared in the Montreal Gazette:

SHANKS, Joan (Edith). Daughter of the late Walter (Wally) and Christine Hinds. She is survived by her children Paul, Penelope, and David, and her grandchildren, Sebastian, Alex, Karen and Jason whom she treasured. Born in Winnipeg on July 27, 1942, she moved to Montreal with her
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ANGLICAN
DIOCESE
MONTREAL

ANGLICAN
MONTREAL

Official Newspaper of
the Diocese of Montreal
Deadline for December
2022 issue: October 28, 2022

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

Portrait of Bishop Mary Welcomes Guests to the Synod Office

NICKI HRONJAK, EDITOR

Sandra Koukou has been the Assistant Archivist in the Diocese since April of 2014. She is a mother and grandmother and a late bloomer in the art of painting with oils. She is also a co-author, with her late father, of *THE BOOK: A Humble Quest Into The Hebrew Scriptures*.

I asked her about the painting she recently completed of Bishop Mary. The painting hangs in the Synod Office above the reception desk.

How did the idea of a painting a portrait of Bishop Mary emerge?

Bishop Mary has forever struck me as ‘the hands-on Bishop!’ It seemed timely to honour her along with previous bishops of the Anglican Diocese of Montreal.

As assistant archivist—and Sunday painter—I wanted to add to the existing collection of portraits, the first of which is the Right Reverend Francis Fulford, who was installed first bishop of this diocese in 1850.

Buoyed by a comment from a prominent member of my own congregation about the portrait I painted of Naïm Kattan (O.C., O.Q., Arts et lettres de la France) that my painting resembled the subject even more than the photo from which the work was drawn, I ventured to approach the bishop.

How did she react when you approached her?

Originally, she was reluctant. While chatting over lunch pre-pandemic, I asked if she wanted a portrait done of her and she showed no interest in the idea. Then, when I pulled out a picture of the one I had done for Mr. Kattan she called me a Rembrandt. Of course, I was delighted by her compliment! Eventually, when I approached her again she agreed.

I’m sure she was too busy to sit for you. How were you able to capture her likeness?

I picked a photo which Janet Best had taken in the cathedral. The face was a big challenge since the lighting wasn’t ideal for what I had in mind.

Finally, when the Church Home closed and the photographed portraits of the bishops of Montreal came to their final home at the diocese, I found the perfect picture to work from.

And, as fate would have it, I soon found that working from home during the pandemic was the only way this ambitious project could be completed alongside my full time day job.

What did you intend to portray in this portrait?

In essence, it was intended to tell a story...that of a leader placed in the difficult position



Bishop Mary poses with her portrait and artist Sandra Koukou. The portrait hangs above the reception desk of the Synod Office, which is open to visitors Tuesdays-Thursdays. Photo by Lee-Ann Matthews.

to navigate the uncertainties faced by all of us, since March of 2020, when the pandemic gripped the world.

Her kindness has manifested not only as a superior, but also as a mentor, through many practical tips offered through the years; her helpful ideas and advice have in turn, enhanced

my own craft as assistant archivist of the Diocese.

The oil on canvas portrait of Bishop Mary Catherine Irwin-Gibson is my way of thanking the Diocese and our wonderful colleagues at the Synod office for their warm embrace since joining the team in 2014.

How did she react to the finished piece?

It was gratifying to receive her reaction, insisting that it is truly a “work of love.” I am also grateful that this portrait allowed me to push my limits in the art of portraiture.

Synod

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discriminated against those from the West Indies who came in the 50’s to replace the Irish. According to Archdeacon Bennett, racism is another form of discrimination which takes on many pictures in life. People incorrectly lump all people of pigmentation together. He said “I was never a slave in the way you talk about it. I might have been a slave to sin, to disobedience against God. But I was never a slave to you.” If you look at scripture you see discrimination has always been.

Archdeacon Bennett came to this diocese from Guyana, South America in 1984 and became a regional dean in 86. Since that time he has heard the following:

- No little black boy can tell me what to do
- Don’t try it they won’t accept you
- You can’t use our teacups, saucers and cutlery – bring your own.
- Who do you think you are?
- No black priests should be in charge of anything because black people are immoral.
- You better get a banana for him
- Our parish is not ready for a black

Rising above it all he said he learned that its good to be quiet, smile and don’t create a ruckus but silently work for things to happen. God works through each and every one of us. We can all change. He invited us to read Romans, Chapter 5. By suffering, we can all boast of our suffering.

Finance Presentation

Mr Ron O’Connell gave his final presentation as Diocesan Treasurer, as he is retiring this year after serving seven years in that position.

2021 Financial results – last year due to covid and suspension of assessments our loss from operations was close to \$829k. The loss would have been a lot higher without the generous donations, totalling \$115K, from Christ Church Cathedral, All Saints by the Lake, Dorval, St Philips, Montreal West, St Paul’s Greenfield Park and the Church of St Mark and St Peter.

Along with the donations, we made \$1.542M from the sale of two churches and \$1M from return on investments. With these revenues, along with a reduction in expenses, we had a net income of \$1.861M.

Mr. O’Connell then noted that the Forecast for 2022 is tracking very close to plan and that the 2023 budget is almost identical to the 2022 budget.

Details on the budget can

be found in the Convening Circular. Go to www.montreal.anglican.ca/synod.

Rev Deacon Jessica Bickford pointed out that we’re spending over 90% on what’s happening in churches as opposed to what’s happening in the community. She added that “We are in a time where we need to be in and of our community and we need to be visioning what our new reality needs to be.”

Mr. O’Connell responded by speaking about his own experience as a volunteer at Tyndale St. Georges, which receives 28K annually from the Diocese. A lot of the diocesan budget is given back to parishes, which in turn is used at the local level. We need to encourage parishioners to dig deeper and also think about taking care of others.

Following his presentation, Bishop Mary thanked Ron saying, in part “I want to thank you on behalf of the diocese for being our treasurer for these last seven years and for your gentle and generous way of guiding the ship and not taking offense everytime someone asked you why we were doing it that way.”

She offered appreciation for Ron’s composure, sense of humour and his gift of time and presented him with a gift.

Q&A with James Bennett and Neil Mancor

With the conversation being facilitated by the Rev Canon Dr

Neil Mancor, the Archdeacon took several questions from those present at the Cathedral as well as from people online.

In answering the questions, he reminded us that the communities in which we live do not remain the same. They are always changing. So parishes have to stop looking inward and start looking out. If you don’t welcome others from the community, you are actually looking at your gradual death.

Bishop Mary thanked the archdeacon for all he has done in his many years of service and presented him with a gift.

Anti-Racism Task Force

Co-chair Edward Yankie reminded us that white people need to take the burden of fighting racism off the shoulders of the Black community and bring change in the world. He spoke about the unique gifts and contributions of the other members of the Task Force and how each person contributes something unique and uplifting.

Co-chair Dion Lewis asked delegates to look at how we can change and bring hope in the future. He then revealed that The Task Force is planning an event in October as well as a “joy-filled” event next summer with music and food to celebrate cultural diversity. Watch for details on these events on the Diocesan Website.

The West Island Black Community Association (WIBCA)

The Rev. Canon Dr. Neil Mancor facilitated the conversation with Joan Lee and Veronica Johnson.

The WIBCA collaborates with St. Michael and All Angels Church in hosting an anti-racism discussion group (Anti Racism Circle, or ARC) for non-Blacks. Neil asked what people could do to begin helping to confront racism. Mrs. Johnson said we all can help by listening, learning and acting. Ms. Lee added that we need to stop staying silent when someone makes a racist comment. ARC is open to helping other Parishes start their own groups to do this important work.

They would like to see more collaboration between churches and community organisations, for the church to be more aware of what is going on outside its walls and to listen and work at reconciliation.

Following the Members’ Forum, members of L’Eglise de la Nativité lead Synod in Evening Prayer accompanied by uplifting music. Soon after, the meeting adjourned.

This editor would like to thank the secretaries of Synod, Valerie Taylor and Ben Stuchbery, upon who’s notes I relied heavily! For the recording of the Synod proceedings: www.montreal.anglican.ca/synod.



The Ven James Bennett's years of service were celebrated by friends, family, parishioners and colleagues on Sunday, June 26th with a farewell service at St Paul's Cote-des-Neiges. Clockwise, from upper left: Deacon Walter Majola. Mrs Ivor Bennett and the Ven Jim Bennett. Lay reader Irvine Smith. Ms Pauline Cox. Ms Cynthia Jordan Alleyne, the Ven Jim Bennett, Ms Louise Jack and Ms Patricia Smith. Photos by Janet Best.



The Rev Fresia Saborio and the Rev Benjamin Stuchbery celebrate in Fulford Hall following their ordination on June 5th. Photo by Janet Best.



Jesse Zink, Scott Potter and Sarah Wicks at the reception in Fulford Hall following the ordination of Fresia and Ben. Photo by Janet Best.



The Rev Fresia Saborio and the Rev Ben Stuchbery pose with Bishop Mary following their ordination at Christ Church Cathedral on June 5th. Photo by Janet Best.



The Rev Grace Burson, Bishop Mary and Darlene Scott at All Saints by the Lake, Dorval on Sunday, June 5, 2022. Photo supplied.



Marie-Claude Martz, received as an Anglican. Confirmed: Coralie Trepanier, Serena Caplette, Troy Dottin, Peter Burson, Maëlle Éné. Peter Lekx, postulant for ordination; Incumbent: The Rev Grace Burson All Saints by the Lake, Dorval. Sunday, June 5, 2022. Photo supplied.



Stephane Sanon and Gerald C. Toussaint with the Rev Jean Fils Chéry at his induction at St Lawrence, LaSalle Tuesday, May 24th. Photo by Janet Best.



Ms Belvina Weekes at the Tuesday, May 24th Induction of the Rev Jean Fils Chéry at St Lawrence, LaSalle. Photo by Janet Best.



The celebration of the 200th anniversary of St. Stephen's with St. James, Chambly, was delayed until they could have Holy Communion, sing, and share a meal safely together. That opportunity came on May 29th. Archbishop Linda Nicholls celebrated the Eucharist and Bishop Mary Irwin-Gibson preached. Clockwise, from upper left: The Rev Bradley and Denise Hicks. The Primate, Linda Nicholls. Bishop Mary with Anita Young. Group photo. Photos by Janet Best.





Confirmations were celebrated at St Thomas, NDG on May 29th. Clockwise from upper left: Sandra Mugisha. Sophie Masciotra. Simon MacLaren. Sebastien Comtois and Olivia Barnes with son Thomas. Lillian Jackson. Photos by Janet Best.



On May 28, 2022 Michael Curry and David Delderfield were the first same-sex couple to be married at St John the Evangelist. Mthr Wendy Telfer officiated. Group picture from left to right: Garfield DuCouturier-Nichol, Bishop Mary, Rev Marc-Philippe Vincent, Michael Curry, David Delderfield, Rev Keth Schmidt, Mother Wendy, Douglass Dalton, Laura Morisson. Kneeling: Martin Proulx and Bill Doyle. Photographs by Serge Blais.



Celebrating the Rev Linda Faith Chalk's retirement, June 26th. From left to right: sister-in-law Rose, brother Cyril, Linda Faith and Nicole Menard. MNA Nicole Menard and Linda Faith.



At the confirmation of Charisa, Alistair and Liam at St Barnabas, Pierrefonds, Sunday, June 26yh, 2022. Clockwise from upper left: Charisa Lazar, Rev Dorothy Samuel, Alistair Borden Carlisle, Bishop Mary, Liam Borden Carlisle, Deacon Deborah Galt. Jennifer Balde. Charisa, Alistair and Liam. Abigail Stephen. Photos by Janet Best.



Baptism at Church of the Epiphany, Sunday, June 19th, 2022. Bishop Mary, the Rev Amy Hamilton, Daniel Jones-Boule, Daniel Jones and Keith Pine. Photo by Janet Best.

Chelsea Patterson celebrates her confirmation at Church of the Epiphany, Sunday, June 19th, 2022. Photo by Janet Best.



The May 1st confirmation at St Stephen's Lachine. From left to right: Elyla, Rachel, Kamalpreet, Bishop Mary, Jacob, Princess, Robert and Hanna. Photo by Janet Best.

The Rev Shirley Smith with the Mayor of Lachine, Maya Vodanovic, at the 200th Anniversary celebration of St. Stephens, Lachine, June 12th. Photo by Helen Foster.

Decolonizing Fundraising and Empowering Indigenous Communities

ANN CUMYN

Mrs Ann Cumyn, along with the Rev Ros Macgregor, is Co-chair of the Montreal Unit of PWRDF.

What kind of society did you grow up in? We sometimes forget that our lives today are affected by not only our immediate past, but by the societies in which our ancestors lived.

Many of us can claim roots in Europe and the influence of its hierarchical societies. "The rich man in his castle, the poor man at the gate, God made them high and lowly..." reflected society in 1848, when the hymn, "All things bright and beautiful", was written. Although in the 19th century society tended to be divided into rich and poor, today we find many more ways to separate people; education, skin colour, athletic ability to name a few.

Our Anglican Church is not immune, not only with its bishops, priests and deacons but in the division of the priesthood versus laity. Those in the 'higher' levels of a society tend to feel superior and to make rules for others.

The worst in all of this surfaced in the treatment of Indigenous people by the settlers (colonizers).

There are many situations where Jesus' commandment

DIOCÈSE ANGLICAN MONTRÉAL
PWRDF

Décoloniser les levées de fonds

Diocèse de Montréal
Projet PWRDF 2022 - 2023

À l'appui du Fonds de subventions pour des projets des communautés autochtones qui déterminent leurs besoins et leurs priorités dans les catégories suivantes:

- Action pour le climat
- Santé communautaire
- Autonomisation des jeunes
- Eau potable

Lancement 2 octobre
Journée nationale de la vérité et de la réconciliation (Journée de la chemise orange)

Vous pouvez soutenir ce programme en faisant un don par l'intermédiaire de votre église ou directement en ligne au pwrdf.org/indigenousgrants, ou en indiquant « Indigenous Grant » sur votre chèque et envoyez-le à l'adresse suivante : PWRDF, 80 Hayden St., 3ème étage, Toronto, ON, M4Y 3G2

"Love your neighbour as yourself" has not been fully understood. It is not just providing food for the hungry or contributing to a charity; it is learning to understand one's neighbours;

it is learning to understand the effect of our actions on others and asking how we would feel if we were the recipient of our own actions.

PWRDF's Indigenous

DIOCÈSE ANGLICAN MONTRÉAL
PWRDF

Decolonizing fundraising

Diocese of Montreal
PWRDF Project 2022-2023
in support of PWRDF's
Indigenous Responsive Grant Fund

Indigenous-led communities determining their needs and priorities in:

- Climate Action
- Community Health
- Empowering Youth
- Safe Water

Launching October 2
National Day of Truth and Reconciliation (Orange Shirt Day)

You can support this program by making a gift through your church or directly to PWRDF at pwrdf.org/Indigenousgrants, or indicate **Indigenous Grant** on your cheque and mail it to: PWRDF, 80 Hayden St., 3rd Floor, Toronto, ON, M4Y 3G2

Responsive Program provides funds from which an Indigenous community can apply for a grant for a local project. Instead of this project becoming a PWRDF project, with overtones of colonial-

ism, ownership now stays with the Indigenous community.

Raising funds to help provide grants is the focus of the Diocesan PWRDF for this year. Please join us in supporting this campaign.



Carol Hutton, Roslyn Macgregor, Edelmera Harrison, Grant Power-Williams, Trinity Church lawn, June 5th

Celebrating Ros Macgregor's Thirty Years as a Priest

EDELMEERA HARRISON

Ms Edelmera Harrison is the Rector's Warden for Trinity Church, Saint Bruno.

On June 5, 2022, the congregation of Trinity Church Saint Bruno celebrated with Reverend Ros Macgregor her achievement of 30 years as a priest.

Following the service, we held a picnic on the lawn of the church. The picnic gave us all a chance to socialize not only among ourselves, but with her. Thirty years in the service of the Lord is a remarkable feat!

Reverend Ros came to Trinity Church as priest after serving in Chambly. She brought with her such dedication to her profession in addition to being a caring shepherd of her flock. She displays immeasurable love for each member of the parish,

and provides guidance whenever and wherever needed. She tries to understand where each of us is as we travel on our separate spiritual journey.

Reverend Ros displays exceptional creativity, which is evident each Sunday in her liturgy. She brings props along as her sermons demand and members of the congregation become willing participants.

During the tribute, we thanked her for her selfless ministry and inspiration which she brings to her work. We particularly love Ros' inclusiveness. Each week, her liturgy package always includes work for the young children. The colouring pages, based on scripture readings, are always so enticing - even for an adult.

While Covid-19 was a challenge for church, Ros kept us

together through zoom coffee hour during the week. The weekly liturgy was always emailed to parishioners as Reverend Ros kept open the line of communication between her and her flock.

Reverend Ros' ministry has touched thousands of people, directly and indirectly. Her work with PWRDF is inspiring; she is the Diocesan Representative and tireless and passionate co-chair of the Montreal Unit. In addition, she is Chaplain of the Mile End Mission in Montreal; a community which she is completely devoted to.

The parishioners are extremely grateful to have Reverend Ros as priest. We look forward to the challenges of the future with her as our leader. God knows her work is not done even after 30 years as a priest.



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Please Note - Submissions for the December issue of the *Anglican Montreal* are due by October 28, 2022. To make a submission, email Nicki at editor@montreal.anglican.ca.

Finding God in the Present: An Intern's Perspective on the Montreal Mission Internship

EMILY STUCHBERY

Ms Emily Stuchbery is the Communications Coordinator for the Montreal Diocesan Theological College.

In late May, thirteen young people from across the country arrived in Montreal for the Montreal Mission Internship.

This summer internship, offered by Montreal Dio and the Montreal School of Theology, provides interns with individualized (and paid) service work placements at service organisations around the city, and a program of spiritual, vocational, and community growth led by program director Alan Ma and program mentor Rev. Fresia Saborio.

MMI is meant to give young people meaningful work experience while offering them opportunities to reflect on God's call in their life and build community through weekly workshops, activities, prayer, and reflection.

Here's the story of one participant.

Kristee Kuz is from Winnipeg and had never been to Montreal before this summer. She experienced a summer of immense personal and spiritual growth. *"This program has really challenged my perspective. I've changed the way I view myself and view others and the work that I do."*

She worked at three different organisations during the summer. She started at Li-ber-t house, a recovery home for women, and ended the summer working at St. Michael's Mission and Tyndale Community Centre, the former of which provides essential services to people experiencing homelessness, and the latter provides programs and



2022 Montreal Mission interns. Kristee Kuz appears in the bottom right of the picture. Photo by Janet Best.

services to the community of Little Burgundy.

Kristee comes from an evangelical background and was initially surprised by the type of mission work that she ended up doing as part of MMI. *"I was struggling at the beginning because I felt like I wasn't doing enough at the placements because I come from a background where mission work is literally evangelizing and praying for people. I definitely know now that I'm doing enough though whether I'm doing dishes in the back or interacting with people."*

During group reflections and her one-on-one time with Alan and Fresia she was able to delve deep into the challenges she found herself facing at her placements. *"The biggest challenge is being able to still have a servant's heart even when the people you're serving don't seem to be appreciating it. In one-on-one sessions with Alan we really dove in, questioning why I need to be seen by other people, and changing my perspective by asking 'why do I need to be seen by other people when God is seeing me?'"*

A theme she kept coming

back to is the idea that we are human beings not human doers.

Many of the activities Alan led focused on presence and observation. During orientation week, for example, the interns were sent out on scavenger hunts in different parts of the city. *"He was really intentional with saying 'make sure you observe, see the demographic in the area, look around at what you see, but don't think about why.' It wasn't just to know Montreal, it was to change our perspective. I really liked that activity because it made me remember to go into*

my placement and observe, take it in, be in the moment, be present." This mentality has helped challenge her and the other interns to find God in which-ever moments they can at their placements.

For her, the heart of the program has been the community of interns and the theological reflections. *"I think some of my best moments so far have just been going places with everybody. As much as it looks like you're just going to work all the time you're also around community all the time. You meet people from all over, and you're all growing together. Every person that is here is coming from a faith background and coming from a place of wanting to meet new people."*

Every Wednesday, the interns met together with Alan and Fresia to share a theological reflection. *"It's very open-ended. It's supposed to be about an experience in our placements, but could be about something you experienced while walking home. When someone presents their reflection, the others will ask them a question to make them think more about it and see what's actually going on. It could be the most simple thing like washing dishes but then it turns into a thirty minute conversation that gets incredibly deep. It's about those surface moments that we notice, that we feel, and going deeper into them to find what God is teaching you in that moment."*

As the program draws to a close, Kristee feels immense gratitude for her time in Montreal with the other interns. *"I would literally do this program like ten times! I went to a new city, and I'm being paid to do awesome work for the community."*

We are already making plans for MMI 2023 and look forward to continuing this program for years to come.

Event-based Ministry

cont. from p. 1

smaller over time. The same question arises when discussing children & youth ministry. But how do we get them to come to Sunday school?

The people who come to church on Sunday mornings are those who find value in that discipline. Parents who bring their children to Sunday School tend to be those who find value in what Sunday School has to offer. They are willing to make the effort, usually because they themselves grew up in Church.

We need to realise that in many cases there simply aren't enough people living in the communities around our churches who have experienced traditional church patterns. Many of those that do live very busy, highly scheduled lives.

Does that mean we should abandon all hope of reaching new people? Certainly not! But we do need to recognise that we must need to start from a different place. A missional place. We need to get to know

people and let them get to know us. That begins with embracing the truth that ministry is about serving people without the assumption that they will necessarily start coming to Church on Sunday. It is not a mathematical equation: it is service.

Scattering Seeds

Jesus encourages the ministry of scattering seeds, which I think is an important metaphor for us today. *"A farmer went out to sow the seed. Some of it fell in rich earth and produced a bumper crop"*

For us in the Church now, our task is to re-connect with an entire generation of people who know very little about God or Church and thus do not see value in what we have to offer. We need to think of our mission of scattering seeds in people's lives by building friendship and positive associations with Church. The Dioc-

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Time to start being literal in our interpretation of the Christian Faith

BRENDA LINN, PhD

Ms Brenda Linn is the coordinator of the Ecological and Social Justice Group at Christ Church Cathedral. The views expressed in this article are hers alone and do not represent an official position of the ESJAG or of Christ Church Cathedral.

Ecological journalist and founder of the international environmental movement 350.org Bill McKibben tweeted recently, "The existential threat to our civilization is just treated as a kind of bothersome add-on to their real work by the powers-that-be." He was talking about government, but in church circles, the situation isn't much different. The existential threat to our civilization – and in fact to much of life on Earth – is seen as just one concern among many.

This is not how it should be. We should be treating the climate crisis the way some churches are treating Ukraine – with a prayer at the beginning of our service. With a dedicated icon. With special fundraising. With a special notice, front and centre on our websites and our Facebook pages. With the explicit outspoken support of both clergy and of lay leadership. With a support group for those wrestling with climate anxiety and climate grief.

The ecological crisis is not the kind of situation we face once in a decade, or a century or lifetime. This crisis that is upon us is unique in the history of the planet. After many false alarms, we are now indeed living in the End Times, unless there is a miracle. We need to be willing to be part of that miracle.

Our whole focus needs to be on the meaning of this moment, unique in human and even in geological time. We should be wearing sackcloth and ashes. We should be repenting, not just for the mess we have made, but for our lack of hope, our lack of determination, our reluctance to join fully in humanity's last battle.

It is not just a matter of survival – though it is that. It is not just a matter of social justice, though it is that as well. It is a matter of learning to see



Lightstock

the whole of creation in a new way, as an interdependent, interconnected web of life through which the love of God is revealed in its numinous fullness. Within this delicate web every creature has a place, has rights of its own, and makes a unique and irreplaceable contribution to the well-being of the whole. We need to understand that Jesus on the cross was pleading for the whole creation, not only the human, and that the whole Earth is the sacred body of Christ.

For our entire lifetime, and in fact, throughout the whole history of the Christianity, Christians have sung beautiful hymns about offering all that we have, all our treasure, time, and talents, to work for the coming of the kingdom. But now, when the willingness to sacrifice "all the vain things that charm us most" is required more urgently and literally than ever before, we are wor-

rying about not overdoing it, keeping a balance, being realistic, not getting carried away.

But if we are to stand up to the forces of evil and the forces of oil, we need to strengthen and deepen ties within our own local church communities. We cannot and will not get through this on our own.

We do need to sing (Heb.12.1). But we need to do more than sing. We need to share reasons for hope – news of concrete action and progress. We also need to share accurate information about reasons for panic. We need to be reminded that love is expressed in every tree planted, every wetland saved, every indigenous community protected from the violence of the extraction industry. We need to be reminded that every time we put on an extra sweater, or choose to take the

bus, we are actively living out our faith, and expressing our own love for our Creator, our fellow creatures, and our common home.

At the same time, we need to be reminded that these little gestures are not enough – not nearly enough. We should sign every single worthwhile petition that appears in our inbox. We should write to our PMs, our MLAs, our mayors. We should, if we are able, show up at protests and rallies. We should, as a church, support the international Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty, which has been signed by 1,300 institutions including the cities of Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver, London England and the Vatican, as well as thousands of individuals around the globe.

To be effective in the Climate War, and the war against extinctions, we need to strengthen our ties with other Christians and people of other

faiths who are walking on the same path. We need to accept in gratitude and humility the resources that are being offered to us by the wider church, the National Anglican church, the world-wide Anglican communions. We need to be inspired by the Lambeth calls on the environment, which are being discussed as I write. We need to draw upon the shared resources of our sister denominations, and the many ecological and social justice organisations with whom we are affiliated. There is comfort in the knowledge that we belong to a mighty company of all faithful people, and that, working together, with God's help, we are strong.

"We" here means everybody – people of all backgrounds, people of all ages. But "we" especially needs to include younger people, who will bear the brunt of what their elders have unleashed.

"We" in this context also means people of all races, cultures, classes, abilities, genders, and sexual orientations. Inclusion and equity are not separate issues competing with the issue of climate change. Particularly but not only, in the developing worlds, it is women who struggle to till the parched land, transgender people who are turned away from shelters, indigenous people whose water has been poisoned. Cradle Christians have heard all their lives that they are called to serve. Are we ready to put ourselves at the service of those on the front lines, who see clearly what needs to be done but struggle to find the means to do it on their own?

Our baptismal vows call us to resist "the evil powers of this world, which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God." This is a phrase that we also need to start taking literally, as this BBC article on the discrediting of science makes horrifyingly clear. But if we are to stand up to the forces of evil and the forces of oil, we need to strengthen and deepen ties within our own local church communities. We cannot and will not get through this on our own. ("If "evil " sounds like too

continued on page 12

Spirituality Expressed in Contemporary Art Forms at Christ Church Cathedral

NORMAN CORNETT

Professor Norman Cornett is a religious studies scholar who specializes in the relationship between the arts and spirituality.

Christ Church Cathedral celebrated life beyond the pandemic by hosting free, public events at the height of jazz fever in Montreal.

At vespers at the Cathedral on Sunday, July 3rd, renowned songstress Rane Lee delivered a profound homily on spirituality and jazz, while prize-winning pianist Matt Herskowitz played several solos.

A sizeable crowd attended and the YouTube recording of this innovative service attests to its ongoing interest.

At concerts on July 5th and 6th Matt Herskowitz further delighted audiences by accompanying singer Mille Balladin.

Further, a group exhibit entitled Art in the Cathedral took place in the sanctuary from June 29th to July 10th. It drew daily visitors from Italy, Germany, France, Columbia, Belgium, Great Britain, South Korea, Japan, USA and throughout Canada.

The incomparable pianist Oliver Jones acted as Guest

of Honour for this exhibition which he visited on July 6th. He surprised everyone by playing *When You Wish Upon a Star* – a favourite tune of the curator Prof. Norman Cornett, who also collaborated with the Christ Church Cathedral staff in organizing the above musical activities. As a religious studies scholar he sought thereby to evidence the variegated expressions of spirituality through contemporary art forms in the historical setting of Christ Church Cathedral.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=MrwRrEk1RfA



Monique Leclerc, Rane Lee, Oliver Jones, Matt Herskowitz, Rev Dr Deborah Meister, Professor Cornett. Photo by Alvaro Pacheco.

St. Barnabas Pierrefonds to Host Alpha Course this Fall

JACQUES DIOTTE

Mr Jacques Diotte is the Parish Coordinator for St Barnabas, Pierrefonds.

You may have heard about the Alpha course as it has swept across America and is rapidly spreading around the globe. Many denominations are using it to introduce new believers to the Bible and biblical doctrines; but it is really for everyone.

St. Barnabas Pierrefonds is happy to host an in-person, eleven week Alpha beginning September 14, 2022.

The brainchild of the Holy Trinity Brompton Anglican church in London in the 1980's, it was created for new believers and has been hailed as a way to explore the meaning of life.

Alpha is used widely in churches, homes, prisons and universities. In fact, over 35,000 courses have been offered in over 170 countries and almost 20 million people have taken the course.

The Alpha Course attempts to answer many of the questions new Christians have like;

- How do I read the Bible?
- How can we have faith?
- Does God still heal today?
- In what ways does God guide us?



- Who is Jesus?
- Why did Jesus have to die?
- Who is the Holy Spirit and what is His role in the believers' life?

St Barnabas' Alpha Course will take place at the church (12301 Rue Colin, Pierrefonds) on Wednesdays at 6:30pm starting September 14th. The course is open to all, so if you – or a friend or family member – feel you may benefit from it, please contact the Church office

at 514-684-4460 to register.

If you have questions, someone in the Church office will be happy to answer them or he or she will have someone from the organizing committee get back to you. We are happy and extremely thankful to have the Rev. Neil Mancor leading the course for us. We hope you can join us.

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Matthew 7:7

Sing a New Creation, the Anglican Church of Canada's long-awaited official hymnal supplement to *Common Praise*, is now available. With new hymns and service music settings.

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CHURCH PUBLISHING INCORPORATED

Summer Returned to the Mile End Mission!

LOU HACHEY

Mrs Linda Lou Hachey is the Director of the Mile End Community Mission.

Well, we certainly were back in business this summer with a wonderful Open House and community BBQ in June, and group outings to Yamaska National Park beach, the Verdun beach, the Granby Zoo and water park in July and August.

Through generous funding received from our friends at the Marcelle and Jean Coutu Foundation as well as the Organix Foundation, and thanks to the efforts of our lovely staff: Lori, Missy and Trevor, these intergenerational outings were a great success

And, of course, throughout the summer we enjoyed many fun and relaxing days with our members; simply socializing, playing music and eating watermelon and popsicles out on our peaceful sidewalk-terrace.

After two years of not being able to enjoy any of these activities, we were all so thrilled to be able to get back in the swing of things, be with each other and have fun!

Serving our meals both indoors and on the terrace, our three fabulous summer-program staff, Kai, Paige and Sequoia helped make sure that everyone received welcoming hospitality and care during the lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer.

The Mission's fabulous Leadership team of volunteer-members continued to ensure



On the road again... Folks from the Mile End Mission embark on another adventure! Photo supplied.

that our friperie Joyce, our Community Art group, our weekly food bank and our free meals program ran as smooth as usual.

Through the generous funding of the Anglican Foundation of Canada we were able - for the first time - to send children to the Quebec Camp Lodge in Hatley, QC. Walmart Canada helped us equip the kids with sleeping bags and other camp necessities. In fact, we actually sent 14 kids to overnight camp. We were also able to send Paige who joined the kids and

volunteered her services in the camp kitchen for a week!

Bringing TLC to the Mission on a regular basis, our Chaplin, Rev Ros Macgregor brought us lovely cards of encouragement, little gifts for special occasions and again helped us get our garden blooming in the spring. With the sudden passing of three of our dear friends at the Mission this past winter and spring, Ros made sure to offer her care and support to all who needed a shoulder to cry on.

While we did have a bout of COVID-19 at the Mission dur-

ing the summer, thankfully, it was a mild case for the majority of people who had it.

While none of us know what's in store for the fall in terms of Covid-19, we're planning to move forward with a visit to the apple orchard and pumpkin picking fields in September. As the fall unfolds, we'll continue as always to try and find ways to help our community through whatever may come - with compassion, care, dignity ...and fun too.

Shanks cont. from page 2

family as a teenager. She worked as a nurse at the Royal Victoria Hospital where she met her late husband, John (since divorced), and many lifelong friends. Her desire to care for others led her to a second career as a priest with the Montreal diocese. She moved to Victoria to be close to her son and his family.

In May of 2007 The Rev Canon Joan Shanks penned a farewell to the readers of the Montreal Anglican as she retired as Editor after 18 years. *"It has been joyful, it has been stressful, it has been satisfying, and always challenging. There have been sleepless nights and days blessed with feelings of accomplishment, and always a sense of serious responsibility to you, the readers, who are the sole reason for the existence of this newspaper. Ultimately The Montreal Anglican belongs to you."*

Following a lengthy list of thank yous she went on to say, *"And to you, essential readers, without you this newspaper would have so little purpose, thank you for your time and your support and your responses..."*

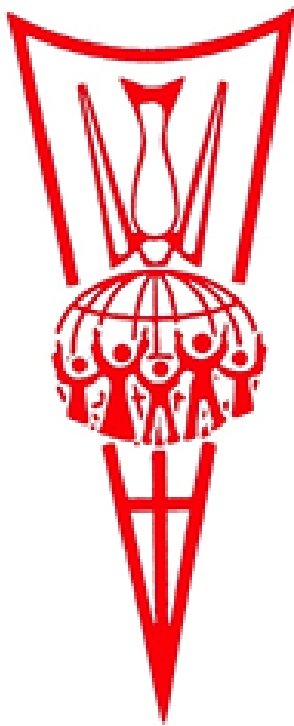
To the new editor, as yet unknown, I wish great joy, great creativity and much success and satisfaction in this difficult and worthwhile vocation.

And now, in peace, I take my leave."

A celebration of life will be held in Victoria in 2023.

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

Gracious God, we thank you for the work of the 15th Lambeth Conference of the Anglican Communion. Its theme, "God's Church for God's World", and focus on 1 Peter were effective tools in unifying your faithful Bishops and inspiring them to perpetuate the Good News around the globe.



God of opportunity and design, we give thanks and rejoice that you brought the Bishops together again after the pandemic delay and a pause for reflection. It was exciting to see them engage with great enthusiasm in fellowship, discussion, and learning. We pray that this exchange rooted in deep faith and diverse culture will yield many creative ideas and wise observations on how to spread your word and encourage others to follow Jesus. We pray also for the connections these Bishops made with each other and for the knowledge they shared. We call on your guiding wisdom to help them infuse the day to day life of their respective dioceses with all the lessons learned and the stories told.

God of healing and hope, we pray that the broader theme of "God's Church for God's World – walking, listening, and witnessing together" was truly experienced by all. While we celebrate the great joy and faithfulness in the Anglican Communion, we recognize there is also hurt. We give thanks for those who bravely chose 1 Peter with its themes of belonging, alienation, exile, hospitality and reconciliation as the scriptural guide for the conference. We pray that your Holy Spirit was at work in all their hearts to ease any pain and to create a lasting path forward. Your 21st Century Kingdom is suffering and all hearts, minds, and souls are needed to bring your healing touch to the world.

We graciously thank you, Lord, for all your blessings, especially for the love and joy shared in the diversity of your Kingdom. Amen.

God bless, Valerie and Stacey

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

Time to be literal *cont. from p. 10*

strong a word, you may want to have a look at Jane McMullen's article, "The Audacious PR Plot that seeded doubt about climate change", published by BBC News online, on July 23rd, www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-62225696.)"

St Paul writes of "building each other up" (1 Thess. 5.11), although all too often he has been quoted in a way that puts people down. It is crucial in this crisis that we do not put each other down, or judge each other, but rather that we encourage each other in authentic friendship, trust and caring.

We are all children of God, and all children as well of a mother who is critically ill. We all need special consideration and love. But we need to be careful about focusing on grief. The patient isn't dead yet. We need to direct our energy towards healing her, not resign ourselves to her passing.

We need urgently to think about ways we can support one another and help each other fight against denial and despair. In each of our parishes, we need to provide opportunity for discussion, for questions, for study, for prayer. We might

even think about working with artists in our communities to make a Way of the Cross for the Earth. We might participate in the world-wide Communion Forest initiative launched this week at Lambeth.

Through it all, we need to take literally St Paul's warning that the time is short (1 Cor 7:29) and that we are called, all of us, to respond to the crisis to the full extent of our ability. And beyond. Each of us needs to remind ourselves, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Phil.4.13).

FLAME PRESENTS



Rev. Canon Simon Bell

October Fri.14, Sat.15, 2022

FLAME 2022 presents, Rev. Canon Simon Bell for a weekend (Friday evening/Saturday October 14/15) of spiritual enrichment, refreshment and fellowship for Men at any location you have access to a computer or phone. Although gathering virtually there will be opportunity for in-person participation as provided last year. For further details and registration:

Toronto and Montreal **FLAME** Conference

Andre Hammond in Montreal at 438-492-9569

Greg Goldsworthy of Toronto at 705-443-9093.

Website: <https://www.flameconferencetoronto.ca>

FLAME is an acronym for Fellowship and Learning for All Men Everywhere.

Although nominally an Anglican-based conference it is open to all men seeking fellowship with other Christians.

Notables

St. Paul's in Greenfield Park, (321 Empire in Greenfield Park) will hold the following events this Fall:

FALL FEST

Saturday, October 15th from 9:30am – 1:30pm

We will be selling all things autumn, including pumpkin and apple pies and other baked goods, slippers, blankets and tickets for our great Raffle. There will also be a luncheon available for \$10/person.

COUNTRY CHRISTMAS SALE

Saturday, November 19th from 9:30am – 1:30pm

The sale will include home-made jams, baked goods, candies, chocolate pretzels, Christmas items, blankets, knitted items, raffles, a nearly new table, and much more. Hot lunch with choice of home-made soup, sandwich, dessert and beverage, all for only \$12/person.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS OUTREACH

Saturday, December 3rd from 9:30am - noon

All children ages 2 and over are welcome. Come spend a morning learning about the true meaning of Christmas. There will be games, crafts, cookie decorating, puzzle solving and much more. Lunch will be served.

For more information on these events, please call.450 678 2460.

Notable

Église St. Philip's Church

Vente de garage Communautaire!

7505 Sherbrooke St. W

Samedi le 10 September 9:00 am – 3:00pm

Books and lots of other articles on sale.

Vente de livres et beaucoup d'autres choses.

Event-based Ministry *cont. from p. 9*

esan Family Day did exactly that.

Consider how important it is for the participants to go to church and for the Church to serve them in a way that was appropriate to them. How important it is that families were all playing and having fun in a Church context. Seeds being scattered: church is fun. Others there saw the community garden. That is a great point of contact around a shared purpose. People might be interested in getting involved. These are some of the way ways in which the Church can develop relationships with the people who live around our buildings.

The Environics maps we commissioned tell us a great deal about the kinds of people who live in our neighbourhoods. We can give you specific information about your neighbourhood. With this information we can think more about not attracting them to Church but serving them in ways that are relevant to them and putting on events that offer them something, rather demanding something from them.

- People have social needs, for there is much loneliness and isolation in many communities. Would you think about offering a community meal or dinner church at a time people can make?

- Many have spiritual aspirations. I was checking out a yoga group recently started by

someone trying to meet the need for "spiritual fulfilment" in their community. Many are finding ways to meet their spiritual needs in many diverse ways. You could think about offering meditation or reflection groups in your space, even yoga.

- Families are often looking for enrichment opportunities for their children. If you don't want to do a whole Messy Church, think about putting on a Harvest or Thanksgiving event. If you have pie-makers in your congregations, try an apple pie making event for children. Imagine children going home with the apple pies they made in Church.

The sky is the limit if you have enough imagination. Event-based ministry can be a way to minister to diverse people in a way that is meaningful to them and encouraging for you. Who knows - you might just make some new friends along the way.

Next Steps

1. Ask us for more information about your community MAP. You may be surprised to see how much potential there is around your Church,

2. Come to our special webinar on Saturday September 10th on Event-based gatherings. There will be a free e-book and a panel of very experienced speakers.

3. Then let your imaginations run wild.