





In conversation with husband and wife team of the Reverends Sue-Ann and Jeff Ward.



Creation does Matter Sue Carson describes a month-long season when parishes are asked to focus on the environment.





NIAGARA ANGLICA

A Gathering Place and a Sounding Board for the People of the Diocese of Niagara - Since 1955

SEPTEMBER 2018

A section of the Anglican Journal

Summer snaps

Our diocese can be a busy place over the summer. Here are a few of our favourite snapshots submitted over the season.



Golf day ▶

Over 108 golfers participated in the 15th annual golf day and dinner at St. John's Ancaster. With wide support from the community, the event brought together not just parishioners but local business leaders and supporters from across Ancaster, Dundas and Hamilton.



Picnic fun

A limbo contest highlighted the annual picnic at The Church of Our Saviour The Redeemer Stoney Creek in July. The day began with an outdoor church service, and continued with food, a fishing contest, hayride, water balloon toss, hula hoop contest, golf ball relay and more. Photo: Bey Groombridge

■ Summer worship

St. George's St. Catharines provides an awe inspiring back drop for outdoor worship. Advent Café, held weekly during the rest of the year, occurs monthly during the summer, in front of the church on Church Street across from the police station. Its summer menu included music (Infinitely More), prayer, story, good conversation and refreshments. Photo: Hollis Hiscock



Raising the flag

On the International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia, the rainbow flag was raised again this year at St. Christopher's Burlington to mark the parish as a welcoming, inclusive, diverse and supportive community.

Photo: Hollis Hiscock

Cooling off >

An industrial crane had to be used to lift and install a new roof air conditioner at St. Cuthbert's Oakville in July. It replaced the unit which has not been operational since 2016. Considering the extremely hot weather this summer, the new air conditioner provided a cooling effect on all who came to or worked in the parish office.

Photo: Lori Kennedy













Niagara Anglican news

Reaching out beyond print

During recent years the Niagara Anglican (NA) has reached beyond the printed paper to share news and opinions with a wider audience

The nearly 8,000 subscribers who receive both the NA and the Anglican Journal (AJ) are part of a network of over 120,000 subscribers connecting the Anglican Church of Canada from sea to sea to sea.

People around the globe can read the paper online at niagaraanglican.ca/newspaper

The electronic version,

niagaraanglican.news, launched in 2017, received 5,078 views from 3.401 visitors in its first year. It appears that 2018 will surpass these numbers. Last year the visitors came mainly from search engines (20%). So far this year to May 28, Twitter (23%) leads the way, with search engines (21%) a close second and Facebook (12%) in third spot.

Readers can also sign up to receive their NA by email (see accompanying box). So far 140 have opted for this service. One item of content is published each day Monday through

Saturday, around 6:00 p.m. to maximize viewing.

In addition, many individuals share our articles through Twitter and Facebook, which means we are reaching out to audiences outside the church community.

Our words—verbally, digitally and through print and social media—tell the stories of the WORD and what the WORD (Gospel of Jesus Christ) is doing to enhance the wellbeing of God's people. We are using every communication avenue available

Board changes

Two new members have joined the Niagara Anglican Publication Board.

Janet Gadeski from St Christopher's Burlington, recently retired as President of Hilborn, a print and online publisher of educational resources for the not-for-profit sector. Previously, she served as editor and publisher of the Hilborn newsletters, drawing on 25 years of experience as fundraiser, manager and executive director of local and national charities.

Sarah Whitaker, a member of

St David's Welland has a background in journalism, including being editor of the Voice of Pelham. Currently she serves as administrative assistant at Robert Land Academy, a private, military-themed boarding school for boys who are struggling academically or behaviorally, or who need a structured learning environment.

After being a board member for several years, Richard Bradlev from St. Aidan's Oakville becomes chair of the Niagara Anglican Publication Board

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Enjoy.



Sunday, October 21 - 4:00 p.m.

The Anglican service of Choral Evensong will be sung under the direction of Dr. Chris Teeuwsen.

Followed by a recital by our guest artist



St. John's Anglican Church, Ancaster 272 Wilson St. East, Ancaster



admin@ancasteranglican.org ww.ancasteranglican.org





E-mail George at songofthegrand@gmail.com to discuss further

CAROL SUMMERS

Time for change

The Reverend Charles Stirling was very charming and persuasive as he dismissed my serious misgivings and so it was that I put down the phone and stood asking myself what had I done when I agreed to be a member of the Publisher's Advisory Board (PAB) for the Niagara Anglican.

That conversation took place in the early years of the century, a time when we had also moved into the new millennium. We had been through some turmoil as there had been dire warnings of the world-wide collapse of our electronic technology. There is still anxiety about new technology as so many of us took to heart concerns from the likes of Aldous Huxley and George Orwell.

Change is often unsettling. However, that word sums up my time on the PAB—change.

We have had three bishops, four editors and a new name since I joined the PAB, now the Niagara Anglican Publication Board (NAPB). Members have come and gone—at one time there were only three of us, now there are ten.

We faced a financial crunch by hiring an Advertising Manager, who is paid a percentage of the income they bring to the paper. It has worked well and enabled us to continue to work within a small budget.

The number of pages has dropped, also in response to the escalating costs of producing the paper, and the length of the articles has been cut

The biggest change has been in the way we offer the Niagara



Anglican to, well, the world.

When I began my term on the Board we talked primarily about the production and distribution of the paper. That is still a huge part of who we are and what we do, but the web site was developed during this time. Setting it up was a huge project. Articles were posted, and people invited to read them on the website.

Now there are more ways to publish and we have become interactive; people can contribute immediately to the conversation through Twitter.

We also have a Facebook page, again encouraging responses and discussions.

The NAPB is more than a group who see that the paper is produced; it is a communications engine for the Diocese.

The discussions include new as well as old technology; the members are engaged in the work of the Diocese and always looking for the best way to share the Good News, not only within our Diocese but also with the

New members have joined the

Board, bringing skills that will ensure the work continues and the Niagara Anglican adapts to the constant changes in technology and communications.

I have found my time with the NAPB challenging and interesting, but after 15 years I decided it was time for me to step down.

It is time for a change.

Carol Summers is Past Chair of NAPB and a member of St. John the Divine Cavuaa. carolasummers2@gmail.com

(Editor's note: Thank you, Carol, for your marvellous contribution to the Niagara Anglican and the wider church. We look forward to your involvement in the future, including writing for our paper.)



HOLLIStorial

To print or not to print... that's the answer So, what was the question?

HOLLIS HISCOCK

One Saturday morning in June I am standing outside the main door of Christ's Church Cathedral Hamilton, holding two cameras to snap digital photos.

The picture from the first camera will streak across the internet within seconds of being uploaded. The second camera will store the images for over a month until I decide which ones will grace the story about a bishop cycling across Canada.

It illustrates for me where we are in what is constantly being discussed as the "print-digital divide".

The divide is not a current era Catch-22; it has been faced throughout history, even though the objects and circumstances may vary according to human circumstances and developments.

Perhaps William Shakespeare in his play Hamlet (Act Ill, Scene I) started the ball rolling centuries ago when he penned, "To be or not to be: that is the question".

Supposing William had left out the word 'not'. Then, throughout these years we would have had to ponder and apply the significance of the query, "To be or to be: that is the question." Would his phrase still be quoted in the 21st century? What would scholars deduce? Would it have altered the path of humanity?

Nevertheless, William did write, "to be or not to be" and I have turned his idiom into "to print or not to print". He asked a question, I propose mine as an answer.

Both give options: the choice seems to be either continuing what was happening or confront the existing situation and end it once and for all.

The Anglican Church of Canada, not for the first time, faces a similar situation.

It is exploring whether the Anglican Journal, and by implication nearly 20 diocesan papers, should be or not be printed and mailed, but distributed only in digital format to all church members.

In June 2017, a national working group was established by the Council of General Synod (CoGS), "to undertake a process of research and consultation with Anglican Church of Canada members on how they would like the *Journal* distributed, including a research survey".

Read "Anglican Journal up for review" by Tali Folkins at anglicanjournal.com

In June 2018, CoGS received an update from the working group.

"Their research," penned Tali of the *Anglican Journal*, included "surveying bishops, diocesan editors, General Synod members, CoGS members, national office staff and Canadian Anglicans selected at random using the current Anglican Journal distribution

After pondering their findings, the working group came to some "very preliminary" responses and plan to present "more fleshed out recommendations" to CoGS when it meets in November 2018.

"The Anglican Journal's print edition may be discontinued after a 'lengthy transition period' and," continued Tali, "its mandate as an editorially independent news source may be changed under possible scenarios now being considered by a working group."

By implication the future of the *Niagara Anglican* and other diocesan papers would be directly affected by any decisions made by General Synod during this "lengthy transition period".

We need to hear from you. Elsewhere on this page we are asking you to give us your thoughts and recommendations about the Niagara Anglican and Anglican Journal – what it means to you today, should it continue, what does its future looks like and other thoughts.

We will share your responses as widely as possible.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Our contact information is found below.

"We need to hear from you."

Your opinion matters ...

To print or not to print?

Should the Niagara Anglican and Anglican Journal continue to be printed?

Send us a letter or email (maximum 400 words).

- » Tell us what the papers mean to you.
- » What do you value most and least?
- » What do you like or dislike?
- » Where can we improve?
- » Why the printed papers should or should not continue?
- » Your other thoughts or suggestions?
- » Anything else?

Send your email or letter to the Editor at the address listed below, on this page.

The Niagara Anglican and Anglican Journal thank you for your support and input.



Copyright © 2015 Dave Walker. This cartoon originally appeared in the Church Times.

cartoonchurch.com



The official publication of the Diocese of Niagara, published 10 times a year from September to June as a supplement to the *Anglican Journal*.

The Diocese of Niagara lies at the western end of Lake Ontario, encompassing the Niagara Peninsula, Hamilton, Halton Region, Guelph and portions of Wellington and Dufferin Counties. Publisher: Bishop Susan Bell 905-527-1316 bishop@niagaraanglican.ca Editor: The Reverend Hollis Hiscock 905-635-9463

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

Available online at: niagaraanglican.news (blog) niagaraanglican.ca/newspaper (PDF)

Subscriptions:\$15/year.

Submissions:

Submissions:

Submission information and deadlines are printed elsewhere in the

Mailing address: Cathedral Place 252 James Street North Hamilton Ontario L8R 2L3

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Diocesan editors attend annual conference

HOLLIS HISCOCK

The top ten tips to make the printed word more effective in the social media world was one of several educational sessions offered as part of the Anglican Editors Association (AEA) conference held this year in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and hosted by the diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Medical Assistance in Dying (MAID) and how editors should cover stories of families and caregivers occupied an extended panel presentation. Writers need to say what is happening from a caring, supportive and sensitive perspective, suggested the doctors and chaplains on the panel.

The editors also received a preliminary report and update from the working group on publications, especially the Anglican Journal and indirectly diocesan papers. See more in my HOLLIStorial on page three.



Over 20 editors and staff, as well as representatives from PWRDF and the Anglican Foundation, attended the fourday conference – the 29th in its history. Niagara Diocese hosted the 25th anniversary conference. The Anglican Editors Association held it 29th annual conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia. They posed in front of the sign outside the Cathedral, welcoming them to the diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

Photo: Paul Sherwood

Saint Paul by sea... Bishop Rob by road

HOLLIS HISCOCK

The journeys of St. Paul in the 1st century and Bishop Rob Hardwick in the 21st century have certain similarities.

Paul travelled by ship to bring the message of Christianity to towns around the Mediterranean, and Bishop Rob journeyed by bicycle to bring a message of applying Christianity—unity, healing and reconciliation—to Canadians.

At stopovers along the way, both had comparable experiences.

People gathered on docks or beaches for Paul and in church buildings for Bishop Rob—always to hear inspirational words and to offer up prayers for a safe journey before sending the envoy on his way.

After cycling 4,800 km in preparation for the trip, the Bishop of Qu'Appelle Diocese began his "Living the Mission" campaign in Victoria, British Columbia on May 19, 2018. In addition to his personal achievement and "impacting the lives of others" by cycling over 7,000 km to St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, Bishop Rob hoped to raise a significant amount of money. The funds would help finance a medical centre

in Burundi, a self-determining indigenous church within the Canadian Anglican Church, Habitat for Humanity and continued funding for "mission and ministry initiatives" in his own diocese.

Early on Saturday, June 30th, nearly 50 people gathered in Christ's Church Cathedral Hamilton to meet Bishop Rob and Lorraine Hardwick.

Following breakfast, he told about his encounters cycling across Canada.

Bishop Rob told us of the importance of bicycle spokes. Spokes, he said, are designed in such a way as to balance the wheel—make it "true"—and provide a safer, more comfortable ride for the cyclist. The same is true in life, he added. "We humans are whole only when we consider our holistic makeup of mind, body and spirit with God, each other and ourselves."

After praying for their well being we commended them into God's care and protection for the next leg of their pilgrimage.

We then gathered outside the Cathedral as Bishop Rob, accompanied by 15 cyclists, headed east to accomplish the 76 km ride to St. James Cathedral in Toronto — making several





refreshment and rest stops during the day.

During his "Living the Mission" campaign, Bishop Rob cycled about 7,300 km over 73 days at an average cycling speed of 24 km per hour through 22

The day before leaving Mile Zero, Victoria BC, Bishop Rob penned his hope that "in some small way this ride would inspire many and help in the unity, healing and reconciliation of many peoples".

The day (July 31, 2018) he completed his bike ride in St. John's Newfoundland, he wrote, "What a journey ... we have accomplished more than

Above: Jana Shaw and Gary van der Meer model the "Anglican Cycle of Prayer" jerseys, which were made by a little group of Anglicans in Toronto Diocese who ride together to encourage bicycle fellowship. Toronto Bishop Riscylla Shaw joined Bishop Rob for this portion of his Canadian pilgrimage.

Below: Bishop Rob, accompanied by 15 cyclists, head eastward from Hamilton to Toronto – 76 km away.

Photos: Hollis Hiscock

we could have ever asked or imagined. After my heart bypass surgery at the age of 62, I never thought that I would be able to do something like this, but God did ... however, it is imperative to note that the journey to unity, healing and reconciliation is just beginning, it has to be ongoing, we cannot give up. Pray for it, believe it, and do all in your power to live it."

For more information about Bishop Rob's "Living the Mission" campaign, go to quappelle.anglican.ca

We would see Jesus

WAYNE FRASER AND ELEANOR JOHNSTON

On a group tour of Israel with Dr. Judy Paulsen, Professor of Evangelism at Wycliffe College, we discovered the sheer numbers of pilgrims and tourists which overwhelm the venerated places of Jesus' birth and death. Spiritual reflection at the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem is virtually impossible with the press of crowds.

What did we expect by being there? Does the star embedded in the floor really mark the place of Jesus' birth? Jesus was more likely born in Nazareth, not Bethlehem. We were amazed at pilgrims kneeling to kiss the stone where Jesus' body supposedly lay. The Via Delorosa winds along crowded market streets—the route could have been elsewhere.

In any case, to worship such places, even to call the land holy, invites a kind of idolatry, because the Creator "blessed all that he had made." All of creation is eacred

Still, we found it meaningful to gain a sense of Jesus' movements during his last week. The Mount of Olives and the Garden of Gethsemane have remained in the same place for 2,000 years, we think. According to our guide, Dr. Steven Notley, Professor of New Testament on the New York City campus of Nyack College, thousands would have camped out in those hills around Jerusalem at Passover. Judas' kiss would have indicated Jesus' campsite to the Romans.

Pilate's quarters and Herod's palace were near neighbours. Jesus was easily shunted back and forth—a hurried trial, torture and crucifixion, all done before dawn. The temple authorities wanted this trouble-maker gone before the common folk awoke. Recent excavation of the home of a high priest demonstrates the fabulous wealth of collaborators with Rome. Tax collectors and Pharisees had a vested interest in the status quo.

Still drawn to come closer, we walked on what Notley claimed was millenia-old pavement



Wavne and Eleanor in Jerusalem.

outside the old Eastern Gate.
This moment felt authentic as
he explained how Jesus and his
disciples would have crossed it
every time they entered and left
Jerusalem.

The Temple Mount itself was a revelation. Jews pray at the Western Wall to be near the Holy of Holies. Muslims believe God brought Mohammed from Mecca to this place. Christians have no specific interest in the Mount—one less player in centuries-old conflicts.

We learned the strategic importance of the river valleys crisscrossing the excellent agricultural soil, providing as well easy travel along the trade routes joining Egypt to the East, hence the reason for battles

among warring tribes.

Photos: Submitted

The tour made vivid historical and scriptural connections. At Shiloh, the Israelites placed the Ark of the Covenant under a tent and worshipped there for centuries. Confident God was on their side, they carried the Ark into battle against the Philistines, but lost both. Centuries later Jeremiah incorporated this calamity into his prophecy against the corruption of the temple in Jerusalem: "Remember Shiloh!" Jesus then echoed Jeremiah in his challenge to the temple authorities: "You have made of my house a den of robbers."

At sunrise on our first morning, we climbed the Roman rampart to Masada. The view was



Wayne and Eleanor at Jacob's Well

magnificent from this important place in Jewish history. When the thousand zealots saw that the Romans would enter the fortress on the morrow, all but a handful, left to tell the tale, committed suicide.

This event in 73CE marked the end of Israel until its new creation in 1948. All that time Jews prayed "Next year in Jerusalem."

The tour taught us the lay of the land and we saw how scripture emerged from the contexts of the writers and their times.

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Women's Groups in Niagara Diocese

All Saints Lutheran Anglican Church Guelph

Marilyn Bleach-Schranz writes:

We are the Women of Faith at All Saints Lutheran Anglican Church Guelph, a blended parish of two faith communities.

The ladies, along with Pastor Jeff Smith, meet bi-monthly. After a time of fellowship over a brown bag lunch, we have a short meditation, followed by a business meeting.

Our group is small in numbers (about 12, just like the Apostles), but big in spirit.

For parishioners who are sick, have surgery, are shut-in or grieving, we send a get well or thinking of you card. Those who are over 90 receive a birthday card.

At Christmas, our shut-in members receive gift baskets, personally delivered by our ladies. For shut-ins and those unable to get to church, we provide, at Christmas and Easter, transportation to church for a Eucharist, lunch and a small treat.

Fundraising events are orga-



nized so that we can donate to the work of Hospice Wellington, the Saturday Night Suppers (for the marginalized), the Read and Run Program (an incentive program for youth in poverty), the Community Market and other worthwhile projects. We also contribute to the needs of

the church, such as supplies for the Altar Guild and the kitchen.

The past couple of years, our Mother-Daughter Dessert Party was extremely well received. The ladies were treated to decadent desserts and entertainment.

At various times throughout the year we also organize evenings with an interesting speaker from the community.

We are active with women's groups from other faith communities.

Together with the ladies from Holy Rosary Church, we celebrated 500 years of the Reformation. The Catholic Women of St. Joseph's Church invited us for their Christmas Banquet. Annually, we get together with other Women of Faith from the region of Kitchener-Waterloo, Elmira, Cambridge and Guelph, for a day of fellowship and spiritual enrichment.

To end our busy year, we have a social time over a potluck meal, hosted at a member's country farm.

Women's Groups

We want to hear from you.

ACW, Altar Guild, Mothers' Union, Daughters of the Church and Women's Auxiliary are some of the names of women's groups in the Anglican Church.

Write a short piece about who you are and what you do in your parish (400 words or less) and forward to the Editor (see page 3). Don't forget to include photos.

In conversation with ... a husband and wife team:

The Reverends Sue-Ann and Jeff Ward

For the past seven years, Sue-Ann and leff Ward were Co-Rectors of Grace Waterdown and St. Luke's Palermo. Recently leff became Rector of St. Cuthbert's Oakville and Sue-Ann Rector of Grace Waterdown. St. Luke's Palermo is seeking its own Rector.

They are one of a few wife and husband priest teams who have ministered together in the same parish in the Anglican Church of Canada

The Niagara Anglican presents their conversation in a two-part series over the next two months

Niagara Anglican (NA): Describe your ministry journey leading to your Co-Rector appointment.

Sue-Ann and Jeff: After graduating from Trinity College and being ordained together in 2005, .Ieff served a six-month interim at St. Paul's Westdale before becoming Assistant Curate at St. Simon's Oakville. Sue-Ann served her interim placement at St. Aidan's Oakville before becoming Assistant Curate at Christ's Church Cathedral

of St. Luke's Palermo while Sue-Ann became Executive Director of HARRRP and Vicar of Christ's Church Cathedral.

occurred with Bishop Michael Bird regarding Sue-Ann and Jeff engaging in team ministry. Eventually we became Co-Rectors of St. Luke's Palermo and Grace Waterdown.

NA: Why did you accept the joint appointment?

Sue-Ann and Jeff: Attending seminary together had been a very positive experience for us and we often talked about how wonderful it would be to serve together at a parish.

When we shared this dream with Bishop Michael, he laughingly responded that it had better turn out to be a good dream and not a nightmare.

NA: How did you organize your ministries working as a married couple?

Sue-Ann and Jeff: The ministry began to unfold with us alternating Sunday worship services at the two parishes, so parishioners would experience worship leadership from each of us every other Sunday. Other ministry

areas were divided between us.

Jeff took primary responsibility for adult Christian education, cemeteries, buildings, pastoral care, men's ministry and seniors' ministry for both parishes.

Sue-Ann took primary responsibility for children, youth. family and young adult ministry, worship, outreach and community engagement, grant writing and reporting, stewardship, women's ministry and hospitality for both parishes.

Both of us participated in Corporation, Parish Council, the management of finances, social gatherings and building projects at Grace and St. Luke's. During the seven years of our team ministry, we jointly oversaw, along with outstanding lay leaders, a \$450,000 accessibility and greening renovation project at Grace, and the construction of a \$3,000,000 parish community centre at St. Luke's.

effectively than we had when serving at separate parishes.

We learned from each other and were able to utilize our own and each other's strengths in various situations.

We were able to bounce ideas off each other, both knowing the nuances of the parishioners and other ministry elements involved.

Challenges could be faced together, and there was not the sense of aloneness or isolation that some clerics experience at various times in ministry.

Much laughter, wonderment, joy and satisfaction were experienced as we served God side by side with each other, and alongside so many faithful and loving Christians at the two parishes and in the diocese.

NA: What were some of your challenges or adjustments?

Sue-Ann and Jeff: There were some things that felt difficult at

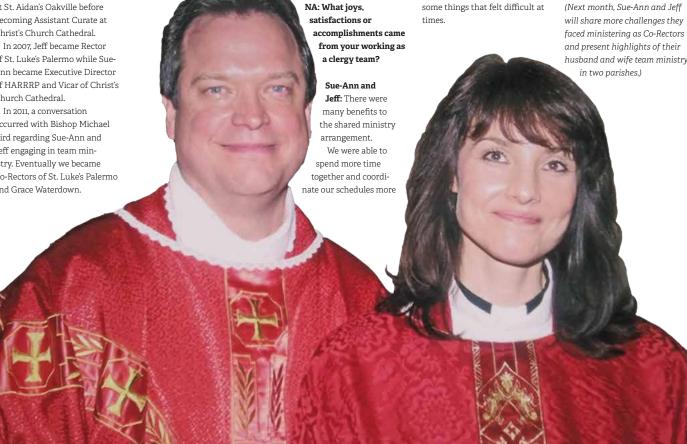
It was hard not to feel like we were engaged in ministry all the time, rather than just having time together as a couple.

Evening walks and romantic dinners out would often turn into debriefing sessions, where we would update each other on parish happenings.

For a few years, St. Luke's parish gatherings of every kind (meetings, socials, morning prayer, bible study, Christian education sessions, youth gatherings) happened at our home because the church was either being prepared for construction or under construction.

The benefit of this was that parishioners came to feel very much a part of the family. But at times it was challenging for our children to have parishioners in our small townhouse morning, afternoon and evening as they tried to engage in the typical activities of home life.

(Next month, Sue-Ann and Jeff will share more challenges they faced ministering as Co-Rectors and present highlights of their husband and wife team ministry



Parish recognized for welcoming and providing jobs for special education students



Jan Charters (right), St. Michael's church secretary, was unable to attend the awards dinner, so CEC Chapter 289 executive member Maria Trotta made the presentation at a Sunday morning worship service in June.

Photo: Sue Chawford

SUE CRAWFORD

St. Michael's Hamilton was presented with the Business, Agency and Community Award from the Council for Exceptional Children Chapter 289 at their annual dinner and "Yes I Can!" awards night.

The award recognizes a business, agency or community partner who promoted and provided for the enhancement, awareness and employment of individuals with exceptionalities to support or promote their full participation within the community.

Just over five years ago, St.
Michael's was contacted by the
Hamilton-Wentworth District
School Board's Transitional
Workplace Experience Program
co-ordinator Marian Chisholm.
She was looking for a community partner who would welcome special education students
from the local high school on
a weekly basis by providing
jobs. Our church secretary Jan
Charters, after consultation with
Rector Sheila Van Zandwyk,
agreed.

The students from Sherwood spend Thursday mornings help-

ing with a variety of jobs. They have set up for the Thursday night euchre, created decorations for Pentecost and stamped designs on paper tablecloths for Maundy Thursday dinner. The best job of all, though, is setting up for the community soup lunch.

From the work chart Jan prepared, each student chooses a task. They are very fast at everything they do! Before we acquired our fancy new printer they even folded the bulletins. They enjoy their time, especially interacting with the parishioners. We have mutually benefited greatly from their presence.

Both the coordinator and teachers have nothing but praise for the church.

In support of the nomination they wrote:

"As a result of this placement my students have learned job specific skills as well as invaluable social skills. Most importantly they have developed a great sense of pride and accomplishment in their abilities as well as feeling connected to the community in which they live", and ... "They interact with many church members and feel a great sense of accomplishment and pride when people tell them how much their work is appreciated. Even our 'wheel chair bound' students participate and feel a part of the 'work group'. That is so important to those of us that support these students. Because of St. Michael's, our students are expanding their social skills, their work skills and learning that they too are striving to reach their full potential."

Since Jan was unable to attend the dinner, Anne Young, the soup lunch co-ordinator, accepted the award on her hehalf

On a Sunday in June, another presentation by Maria Trotta from CEC Chapter 289 was made enabling parishioners to honour Jan for this and all she does within the parish.

Sue Crawford is a member of St. Michael's Hamilton. scrawford6@cogeco.ca

What new thing just happened in Niagara Huron Cursillo?

SUSAN LITTLE

When over a 100 people converged in Waterloo, Ontario for the Canadian Anglican Cursillo Triennial Conference at Renison College, little did they expect to get so much faith-building in one short weekend!

On Friday night, Bishop
Susan Bell brought greetings from Niagara Diocese as she addressed people from
Newfoundland to Vancouver
Island, all gathering for a weekend of "renewal and encouragement". She recounted how "the virtuous circle of renewal leading to mission, leading to renewal and back to mission begins with the sharing of faith stories and reflecting about how God is and has been active in our lives".

In casual conversations, small group sharing or large group presentations, people's stories provided a source of reflection throughout the weekend.

Bishop Susan's closing words, advocating "more collaboration, more service, more love" reinforced what Christians seek—"a shared commitment to equip, empower and encourage one another as we seek to live out our baptismal covenant ... loving our neighbours as ourselves."

On Saturday afternoon people attended workshops, choosing from Spiritual Journaling, the Labyrinth or Discerning God's Call. These workshops, plus a variety of displays, engaged and challenged the participants to grow in the words of the theme: "to do a new thing". (Isaiah 43:19)

On Saturday night, Bishop Linda Nicholls welcomed people to Huron Diocese. She expressed her gratitude for this opportunity to encourage and support Cursillo, which she believes enhances leadership in parishes, deaneries and regions. She spoke about how each person, by taking large or small steps in response to life's challenges, can



During the Cursillo weekend, Primate Fred Hiltz spoke about the three stages of the life of St. Peter — as a friend to Jesus, then a disciple and finally a leader of the church.

Photo: Susan Litt

accomplish great results.

Throughout the weekend, our Primate Archbishop Fred Hiltz used the model of St. Peter. He looked at Peter in three stages: as a friend to Jesus, then a disciple and finally a leader. He examined the episodes of Peter's life, especially those surrounding Good Friday and the resurrection appearances. He emphasized that Peter often failed to

do what he was supposed to do, but he was always able to get back up and begin following Jesus again. Likewise, our own journey often involves a similar pattern of failure and success, so we are not to be discouraged.

With his accustomed wisdom, insight and wit, Archbishop Fred spoke of God's deep and abiding love for all who seek him.

By Sunday morning,

Cursillistas were ready to take their faith journey to the next level. As the Eucharist concluded, Archbishop Fred laid his hands upon people, affirming them as they returned to their homes from across Canada. With lively singing provided by guitars, keyboard and drums, the momentum of joy and enthusiasm continued to grow until the final dismissal.

As the last chords of music faded, the words of the final song filled the air, "Build your Kingdom here, we pray". With our new bishop at the fore, there is good excitement about what new thing will characterize our diocesan life in the future.

Susan Little is a Lay Director of Niagara Huron Cursillo. salittle208@gmail.com

Evangelism – Part one

A glimpse into its history from an Anglican perspective

DARCEY LAZERTE

There has been a lot of talk, in recent years, of Anglicans being more missional.

Some embrace this idea, many struggle with it and it is in recognizing this that I would like to share a conversation I have several times a year. After the person found out I did my doctorate in evangelism and that I teach it at Trinity they say something like "Evangelism, at Trinity? Shouldn't that be taught across the street?" (referring to Wycliffe College).

This exchange is reflective of the fact that, as Anglicans, not all of us are comfortable with evangelism.

So, with the understanding that not all mission is evangelism but that the principles of mission apply to evangelism, I am going to share with you three articles that look at the history, modern day realities and some approaches going forward to help us understand a little more about evangelism as it relates to mission.

The history of evangelism for Anglicans can be found in the phrase "Gain and Gospel", turned by Stephen Neil in his



"This exchange is reflective of the fact, that as Anglicans, not all of us are comfortable with evangelism"

seminal book Anglicanism. It is the understanding that as the British Empire spread, the English church spread and took hold across the Empire.

With a uniformity of thought, heritage and the Book of Common Prayer there was a consistency of religious practice across these churches. Added to this were the role of the Missionary Societies. most notably for Anglicans

"The Society for Promotion of Christian Knowledge" and "The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel" (created in 1699 and 1701 respectively).

Their mission can be found in the Dean of Lincoln's sermon which spoke of the purpose of the SPG as being to take care of the religion "of our own people" abroad and "the conversion of the natives".

The final piece historically which needs to be mentioned is "The Christian Missionary Enterprise" which crossed denominational lines, was born of the 19th century renewal movements and which became the great cause of the Protestant church

The climax of the Missionary Enterprise was The Edinburgh Conference of 1910, of which Anglicans and our missionary societies were full participants. Here it was declared that the final onslaught against the heathendom beyond the frontiers of Western Christendom was the church's next sten

As the twentieth century unfolded, the acceptance of the Christian Missionary Enterprise faded and there came a call for these newer churches to be "selfgoverning, self-supporting and self-propagating".

The result of this is that in the 20th century, Christians in Africa grew from 10 million to 360 million. Additionally, in the last century, it has gone from 80% of Christians living in North America and Europe, to today, where 60% live in Africa. Asia, Latin America and the Pacific.

The center of Christianity is moving!

Where does this leave us then? Quite frankly, the fact that evangelism and colonialism are so intertwined means that we

do not have the historic skills for this ministry. Paradoxically, much of the growth of the Anglican church today is found amongst those who were colonized.

The Reverend Canon Darcey Lazerte is Rector of St. Simon's Oakville. darcey@stsimon.ca

(Next month in the second of his three-part series on Evangelism. Darcey will examine practices today in evangelism.)



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Foundation supports migrant workers



JUDY ROIS

For the average migrant worker, the labour can be back-breaking, especially for those in farmers' fields and greenhouses. Giving months of their time each year to help farmers, migrant workers are a vital part of every growing season in Ontario.

2016 marked the 50th anniversary of Canada's Seasonal Agricultural Worker Program which brings 30,000 labourers annually from Mexico, Jamaica and other Caribbean countries to reap and sow our crops.

Many are Spanish speaking—about 600 of them in the Grimsby, Lincoln and West Lincoln area. You can see them lined up for a free meal put on by the people of St. Alban's Beamsville.

Many work 10-12-hour days for 5-8 months to support their families back home.

During that time, they can go to a Community Centre where they see a Spanish-speaking volunteer nurse or doctor. They can get free winter clothing, a bicycle, helmet and vest. They can participate in a Spanish worship service, access free WIFI and use the free Internet Café to call families in their home country. They can participate in English classes, socialize and get their taxes done.

For three years, the Anglican Foundation has funded this amazingly important work with grants totalling \$30,000.

For migrant workers—working long and laborious days—all these things are a great gift. And where would Niagara's economy be without its farms, wineries and farm supply industries?

Dr. Jennifer Connors is a doctor who volunteers her time to treat patients in St. Alban's basement. Nearing the end of her career, and knowing a bit of Spanish, Jennifer thought she could help. And helping is exactly what she is doing. She is available at the church on Sundays for workers to come, be treated and if need be, fill their prescriptions. "I'm just nearing the end of my career," says Jennifer, looking to transition

into retirement. "I think you get out of life what you give back." It brings tears to even the scroogiest among us.

When the Reverend Javier
Arias arrived in Beamsville
from Columbia, he had no idea
there were migrant workers in
Niagara Diocese where he would
be serving. He quickly realized
they needed transportation,
coats, toiletries, food and help
learning English. "As migrant
farm workers, they're not really
recognized," says Javier. He and
the people of St. Alban's know
differently. These workers are a
vital part of Canada's economy.

So why are these workers lined up in Beamsville?

To receive the love of Christ and the respect and appreciation of their brothers and sisters as they come to reap and sow our crops, while their families far away wait for their return.

The Reverend Canon Judy Rois is Executive Director of the Anglican Foundation of Canada. jrois@anglicanfoundation.org

Growing the migrant workers ministry

BISHOP SUSAN BELL

I'm so grateful for the support in recent years of the Anglican Foundation of this important missional initiative to help St. Alban's respond to the practical, pastoral and spiritual needs of local migrant farm workers during their stay in Canada.

In recent months, Bishop Bird and our diocesan staff have been working with parish leaders at St. Alban's Beamsville as well as our new ministry sites at St. John's Jordan and Christ Church MacNab, about a proposal to grow and transform the migrant farm workers ministry into a sustainable, parish-based, regional outreach ministry of the diocese, and I fully support and share in this exciting vision.

Over the summer, as you may have heard, the Reverend Javier Arias tendered his resignation in order to seek ministry opportunities beyond Niagara. I want to thank Javier for all he has done in Christ's name to establish a thriving ministry to the migrant farm workers in our diocese.

While his departure changes our initial proposal, the foundation that has been laid is strong and vibrant. We are working on a revised ministry plan that includes a stand-alone missioner position to tend to the needs of migrant farm workers throughout the Niagara peninsula.

I hope to be able to share more about this with you in time for the 2019 season of our ministry with migrant farmers.

In the meantime, I ask that you please keep this ministry and all involved in your prayers.

Spong's advice is dangerously misleading

ROBERT HURKMANS

In the May 2018 Niagara Anglican (page 2) there was a review of John Shelby Spong's latest book, Unbelievable.

The review suggested Spong "provides a way into the future" by encouraging the church to "change or die". This change means moving beyond literalistic readings of the Bible, denying the creeds, ditching atonement theology and rejecting reformation insights.

This, according to Spong, is the path toward a brighter future: "Neither the ancient creeds nor the Reformation can produce a living faith today," and

"there can be no 'substitutionary atonement' in the Christianity of tomorrow".

I believe this advice is dangerously misleading. Furthermore, Spong's advice denies reality. The reality is that Spong's version of Christianity already inhabits many dying mainline churches across our national

A recent article by Haskells et al. ("Theology Matters: Comparing the Traits of Growing and Declining Mainline Protestant Church Attendees and Clergy," Review of Religious Research, 58:4, 2016) studied growing, vital churches in Canada and found one common

characteristic: these churches read the New Testament literally and proclaimed a gospel which included the saving death and resurrection of Jesus.

Some might call this "conservative theology" but, like it or not, this was the key predictor of church growth and health. These aren't wacko, "fundamentalist" preachers catering to gullible parishioners: these churches are spiritually healthy, growing and making a difference in their communities.

Ironically, to embrace Spong's idea of a futuristic Christianity would lead mainline churches in exactly the wrong direction, diminishing their effectiveness

in the world and hastening their demise.

Furthermore, embracing a non-literal view of Jesus Christ and his saving work isn't just bad advice, its bad scholarship. The life, death and resurrection of Jesus were reported as actual events by the very first eyewitnesses (Jesus and The Eyewitnesses by Richard Bauckam). If we spiritualize the resurrection merely to glean some "spiritual" truths from it, then we have done a great injustice to the text itself.

Just like you and me, those first century eyewitnesses could tell the difference between a spiritual experience and a resur-



rected saviour, and what they tell us is that Jesus was raised from the dead. (The Resurrection of the Son of God by N.T. Wright).

What makes Christianity vital and true is not that it offers helpful, spiritual advice on how to live your life. Every religious system does that. Christianity is built on something different: its founded on good NEWS, not good ADVICE. The gospel writers are desperate to tell us that something happened in HISTORY, which has changed the world forever.

This is the message that the church was built on, and the church of the future will be built on the very same foundation.

The Reverend Canon Robert Hurkmans is Rector of St. James and St. Brendan Port Colborne. portanalican@amail.com



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Book Review

A novel parable with a story message

Shaking Parkinson's, by Eleanor Johnston (Michael Terence Publishing, 2017)

HOLLIS HISCOCK

I decided to review Eleanor's novel because my father had Parkinson's Disease, and perhaps to vicariously relive our family's experience. Also, I admire her writings and knew it would be worthwhile, thought-provoking and enjoyable.

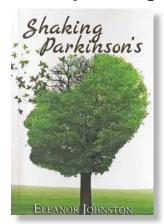
A novel can be like a parable—a story with a message. Eleanor's *Shaking Parkinson's* is an excellent example. The story immediately captures and holds the reader, and its message, according to Robert Kirk, is one of "hope and joy".

Just as Jesus' parables came from his observation of human experiences, so does Eleanor's "novel parable".

It tells the story of Joyce Saunders as she—with her family, friends and colleagues—face and struggle with Parkinson's Disease, and how it impacts and revamps their own attitudes, behaviours and relationships.

In the preface, Eleanor describes her own personal journey with Parkinson's Disease, as well as a "greater insight into the emotional and psychological repercussions of what is often called this dread disease".

I found the sequence interesting—to get the facts and then read the story. At first, I



thought it should be reversed, but as I read the novel I found my thoughts going back to Eleanor's preface. After completing the novel, I went back and reread the preface to get further insights.

I enjoyed the quotes from William Shakespeare, A.A. Milne and others at the beginning of each chapter, and searched for their relevancy and application as I delved into Joyce's story.

According to the back cover, you should read *Shaking Parkinson's* because, "This is a larger-than-life novel, one that tweaks your conscience and helps you address the challenges of Parkinson's Disease in your life"

Read Eleanor's novel parable for its story; any message you garner will be a bonus.

Our health, environment, finances Living Better on Less

ANN CHIDWICK

Are you concerned about climate change and the environment? Your health and dealing with toxins in your home? Your finances?

Living Better on Less (LBoL) is an eight-week series designed to help reduce our impact on the environment, reduce the toxins we use in our homes and help us control our finances.

Developed over the past 10 years at St. Matthias and St. James the Apostle Guelph, participants who come from all income levels, with diverse needs, enjoy making new friends. The purpose is to develop skills which empower you to take control of your own living better on less. We also learn how to access many community resources.

Living Better on Less is highly successful and could be easily facilitated in your community.

Some people must live on less because they are out of work, on a low income or retired. Others live on less by choice, simply to leave less of an environmental footprint.

LBoL topics identified by participants include practical skills. These vary from identifying values, financial planning, healthy eating on less, creative giftgiving, holiday planning, healthy homes, ways to save, transportation, preparing nutritious affordable meals, as well as alternative skin and personal care

products.

A hands-on community kitchen, where participants cook and take home healthy and inexpensive meals, is an option.

Additional sessions—partnering with Community Health, Legal Aid, Community Police Services, Volunteer Centre, Employment Services, Family Counselling or Support Services and Financial Planning—bring together resources already in the community.

A Facilitator Guide is available for people wanting to set up a LBoL community program, as well as a Personal Guide for those who cannot attend the group program.

Facilitator training is scheduled for St. Andrew's Grimsby on Saturday, October 20th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Registration (\$25) includes the guides. Please bring your own lunch. Beverages will be served.

You will be introduced to the program and have hands-on experiences so you can take the program back to your community. Promotion, evaluating the program and fundraising will be covered. Bring someone who can help you make it happen in your community.

LBoL has been highly successful and we are excited to share it with others.

More information can be found at livingbetteronless.ca. To register: Ann Chidwick at ann@chidwick.ca.



Anglican Journal Appeal

The General Synod of The Anglican Church of Canada



Keep the conversation going!

As we mark the 25th anniversary of the Anglican Journal Appeal, please consider joining your fellow readers in supporting this vital vehicle that links the Anglican family across Canada.

For decades, the Journal and your diocesan newspaper have been a vital communications link between parishes, dioceses and the national Church.

Together, we have shared stories, ideas and opinions from a faith perspective in a way that has helped us put that faith into action.

Whether encouraging a response to human need, educating about the care of creation, or helping readers discover new ways to reach out and grow the Church, these publications have sparked compassionate conversations in an increasingly secularized world.

Please give generously to the Anglican Journal Appeal this year. With your help we can keep the conversation going!

Please fill out and return the enclosed postage paid donor reply card or call 416-924-9199, ext 259.

Alternatively, you can email mross@national.anglican.ca or go online to canadahelps.org and make your gift today.

If you have already sent your donation, thank you.

Creation does matter

SUE CARSON

Once a month a group of a dozen Canadian Anglicans connect by conference call; we may be scattered geographically across the country but are united by our passion for the environment.

The Creation Matters
Working Group of General
Synod (CMWG) is co-chaired by
Dean Ken Gray from St. Paul's
Cathedral Kamloops and Nancy
Harvey from Huron Diocese.

Our mission is to help Canadian Anglicans meet our commitment to the fifth Mark of Mission, "to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth."

One of the most pressing issues of our time is climate disruption. We are all experiencing changes such as higher than normal spring floods, massive forest fires, invasive insects and unusual temperatures. We urgently need to reduce or eliminate our use of fossil fuels, and so reduce our carbon emissions.

One way to educate how human impact is affecting the earth is through our church

Recently our CMWG discussions have been centered on raising awareness in the church



on ways to celebrate the beauty of our earth during the Season of Creation—September 1st to St. Francis Day, October 4th.

There has been global awareness of the need for more time spent celebrating our beautiful world. Celebrating our world for five weeks, rather than just Earth Sunday, is gaining popularity over all continents. CMWG feels there is a need for more liturgical examples that focus on Canada's problems with climate change and prayers unique to

our eco systems and animals.

Ideas on how to celebrate the Season of Creation can be found on anglican.ca/publicwitness/ season-of-creation/

More liturgical sources, prayers and other ideas will be added to help parishes with planning for the Season of Creation. We are hoping particularly to increase material for youth activities and have been discussing these ideas with Ryan Weston (lead animator of public witness for social and

ecological justice) and Sheilagh McGlynn (animator for Youth Ministries).

CMWG hopes you will consider celebrating the Season of Creation for at least one week in 2018, with the hope that some parishes might be able to worship with an environmental theme for all five Sundays.

We would welcome feedback and other resources that we could share

Sue Carson is Chair of The Greening Niagara Committee and a member of St. James Dundas.

d.carson@sympatico.ca

DIOCESE OF NIAGARA CALL FOR NOMINATIONS for GENERAL SYNOD

The Synod of the Diocese of Niagara is calling for nominations to the General Synod which will meet July 10-16, 2019 in Vancouver.

Niagara is entitled to elect (4) clergy delegates, (4) lay delegates and (1) youth delegate. Youth Synod nominated their delegate and alternate in April, 2018 at Youth Synod in Action

Individuals must be members of the 2018 Diocesan Synod in order to be eligible for nomination. The consent of a nominee must be given prior to his/her name being submitted. Members of Synod may self-nominate.

Deadline for nominations is September 15, 2018 and must include Name, Parish, Location, email address, phone number and the completed nomination form available

The ballot will be presented to the November 2018 Diocesan Synod. Nominations will be accepted from the floor conditional upon the consent of the nominee, who will be given time to answer their questions on the standard nomination form for consistency. Further information about this volunteer opportunity is available upon request.

Please send nominations to:

The General Synod Nominations Committee

- The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell Secretary of Synod marni.nancekivell@niagaraanglican.ca
- Mrs. Mary Anne Grant Administrative Assistant maryanne.grant@niagaraanglican.ca
- Cathedral Place
 252 James Street North
 Hamilton ON L8R 2L3

R 2L3 Fax: 905-527-1281





For more information on this volunteer opportunity, nomination guidelines and nomination form, go to: niagaraanglican.ca/synod/general

Deadlines and Submissions for Niagara Anglican

Deadlines:

November – September 25 December – October 25 January – November 20

Submissions:

News, Letters, Reviews

(books, films, music, theatre) – 400 words or less

Articles - 600 words or less

Original cartoons or art – Contact the Editor.

Contact the Editor.

Photos – very large, high resolution, action pictures (people doing something).

Include name of photographer.

Written permission of parent/ guardian must be been obtained if photo includes a child.

All submissions must include writer's full name and contact information. We reserve the right to edit or refuse submissions.

Questions or information:

Contact the Editor at editor@niagaraanglican.ca or 905-635-9463.



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An Idea to Share

A silent retreat to raise funds, learn and enjoy

DONNA ELLIS

Every year the young people of St. John's Ancaster go silent for 24 hours.

They do it to raise funds for the ministries of St. John's and for the Primate's World Relief and Development Fund's work in community-based mental health programs for Indigenous youth.

During their 2018 retreat

the young people spent time creatively reflecting on teen suicide, playing games silently, homework, walking the creation labyrinth during earth hour, participating in compline worship, watching movies and eating well.

On Sunday morning they wore black t-shirts which they had decorated with "silent for a cause," so parishioners would remember the youth were unable to speak to them.

They took part in worship. Afterwards the church had a luncheon where everyone counted down the last 10 seconds of their silence.

"This is a meaningful retreat every year for the youth and for the folks of the parish," concluded Donna Ellis, "They support the youth and encourage them in their ministry. The youth enjoy the challenge, the support and the feeling that they are helping to make a difference in the lives of youth in other communities."

Donna Ellis is Youth and Children's Ministry leader at St. John's Ancaster. donna.lellisi@gmail.com Contact her for assistance in setting up a youth retreat in your parish.



The young people at St. John's Ancaster cover their mouths to remind themselves and others than they are on a 24-hour retreat for a cause.

Photo: Donna Ellis

Bishop Susan is guest speaker at her first Bishop's Company dinner

"I am thrilled to announce that our new bishop, the Right Reverend Susan Bell, will be the guest speaker at this fall's annual Bishop's Company dinner," said former Diocesan Bishop Michael Bird in a letter to members of the Bishop's Company in Niagara Diocese.

"Leadership for the Church of Tomorrow" will be the focus of Bishop Susan's comments

Bishop Michael urged members to "mark the date of Monday, October 15th, on your calendar as I know you will not want to miss this exciting opportunity to hear Bishop Susan speak to our diocesan family and enjoy a wonderful evening of fellowship".

The evening will begin with a reception at 6:30 p.m. with dinner beginning an hour later.

Again this year the event takes place at Michelangelo's Event and Conference Centre, 1555 Upper Ottawa Street, Hamilton.

The Bishop's Company is both a community of members and a discretionary fund to assist Anglicans in the diocese in need, with a primary emphasis on clergy and lay workers and their families.

The fund was established by Bishop Walter Bagnall in January 1951 and was supported by the "Bishop's Men" who gathered to raise funds, share fellowship and network with one another. Over time both the group and the discretionary fund have become known as the Bishop's Company.

Bishop's Company members and their guests gather every autumn at a fundraising dinner to hear an engaging speaker and renew their connections with one another.

In addition, each winter sees excited curlers from across the Diocese gather for a fundraising bonspiel to support this much appreciated discretionary fund.

This is an exciting and rewarding way to support the work of our Bishop in Niagara Diocese. It is also a way of joining together with your sister and brother Anglicans to



Photo: Michael Hudson/Diocese of Niagara

witness to our important mission in society. $\,$

Reserve the date and join us as we celebrate with our diocesan family and welcome Bishop Susan to her first Bishop's Company dinner.

For further information or to register your membership and attendance at the dinner, visit our website at niagaraanglican. ca/bishops-company/ or contact Registrar Mary Anne Grant at

maryanne.grant@niagaraanglican.ca or 905-527-1316. ext. 380.

In Memoriam

The Reverend Canon Jean Archbell

Following her brief illness, "members of St. James' Dundas, with many others in the diocese, were shocked by Jean's death on July 1st," wrote the Reverend Canon Peter Davison.

Her funeral in Christ's Church
Cathedral — where she was ordained a
Deacon in 2001 — was "attended by some
400 people and reflected Jean's deep
faith," he continued.

Niagara's Bishop Susan Bell praised Jean as "a passionate advocate for the most vulnerable people of our society, particularly refugees and newcomers."

Jean served as a Licensed Lay Worker at St. Christopher's Burlington (1996-2001) and continued there as a Curate following her ordination. She was Rector of St. Elizabeth's Burlington (2005-2014) before becoming St. James' Rector, where she served until her

Jean "accomplished much in her four years," wrote Peter, who is now serving as Priest-in-Charge of St. James, "especially the excellence of her pastoral care.

"Parishioners are both grieving her death and looking forward to building on her legacy. May her strong Easter faith live on in all of us".

CHRIST MAS STORIES AND IDEAS WINTED

The *Niagara Anglican* invites you to share Christmas with our readers.

In 300 words or less ...

- recall a special Christmas worship
- compose a Christmas song (with or without music)
- relate a humorous Christmas happening
- * retell a Christmas experience in poem or prose
- relive a Christmas tradition or memory
- write a Christmas poem or prayer
- reflect on what Christmas means for you

share your idea to make Christmas special.
 You can also draw a Christmas picture or cartoon.

Get your children and youth to submit their items.
Send us a high resolution picture or your head shot photo.

We need your submissions by October 25 to be included in our December paper.

Send your item to editor@niagaraanglican.ca or Editor, Niagara Anglican, 710 Ashley Ave, Burlington, ON, L7R 2Z3 or talk to the Editor at 905-635-9463.